

ANOTHER BOER LEADER KILLED

Lord Methuen Surrounds a Force of Burghers and Makes Many Prisoners.

BRITISH SOLDIERS OVERWHELMED.

Five Companies Captured by the Enemy Near Bethany—Lord Roberts's Official Dispatch—A Notable Soldier of Fortune.

(Associated Press.)
London, April 6.—The British war office this morning discloses nothing, and correspondents at Roberts's headquarters have not been heard from for two days or more.
The lapse of time has not rendered the military situation in the Orange Free State less secure.
This is the twenty-fourth day since Roberts's arrival at Bloemfontein, and the absence is beginning to make the British public rather fretful. Two conjectures are favorites. One is that the silence covers an important British attack, the presumption being that Roberts is already in the field. The other is that he

Enforced Inactivity

is on account of the lack of draught and saddle animals, and must continue for some days, and therefore nothing is happening.

The situation so far as London goes, is as it was two days ago. Boers in unknown numbers are hovering around Bloemfontein out of range of the British guns.
This quiet telegram comes from Kimberley: "April 5.—Since the departure of the main body of troops, Lieut.-Col. Chamier remains in command of garrison here."

The departure of any considerable body of troops has heretofore been unmentioned in the censored cables. Lord Methuen was last reported at Kimberley ten days ago, and the supposition is that he has

Advanced With His Main Force

from Kimberley and gone to the relief of Mafeking.

Mr. W. P. Schreiner, the premier of Cape Colony, and R. Solomon, Q.C., attorney-general of the colony, are reported from Capetown to be engaged in serious controversy with the other bondholders, and the premier's resignation is looked upon as being a possibility.

The Duke of Marlborough has gone to Delfontein, south of De Aar. Uptington has been occupied by the British.

LATEST FROM THE FRONT.

London, April 6.—The war office at about 4 p.m. posted a dispatch from Lord Roberts announcing Lord Methuen's capture of fifty-four Boers and the killing of General Villobois Mareuil, the chief of staff of the Boer army.

A few minutes later a second telegram was bulletined reporting the loss of five companies of British infantry.

Both dispatches were issued in time to be printed in the last editions of all the evening papers.

The lost companies are probably part of the force guarding the railroad from Bethany, thirty miles south of Bloemfontein.

The Boers are evidently operating in Force Near the Railroad

and there is a possibility of the line being interrupted for a brief period at any time.

In the death of Gen. Villobois Mareuil the Boers lost their best instructed soldier in continental methods of warfare.

As the late General Joubert's chief of staff his brain devised the Boer doings against Gen. Buller's advance at Ladysmith. He was the best notable of all soldiers of fortune serving the Boers.

As the captured British soldiers were in a position to defend themselves for nearly twenty-four hours and were then forced to surrender, the

BOERS MADE PRISONERS.

Fighting Must Have Been Severe.

The Boers were in force yesterday 60 miles south of Bloemfontein. They had a brush with the British patrols.

Advices from Springfontein, dated 6 p.m., April 6th, announces that the Boers have been sighted west of the railway.

It is officially announced that the British companies in the Boer ambush near Sannas Post, total up 450, including 174 missing.

BOERS MADE PRISONERS.

London, April 6.—A rumor was current this afternoon that Lord Methuen

has gained a victory over the Boers, but the war office was unable to confirm the report.

London, April 6.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, April 5th:

"Methuen telegraphs from Boshof, in the Orange Free State a little northeast of Kimberley, as follows: 'Surrounded Gen. Villobois Mareuil and a body of Boers to-day, none escaped. Villobois and 7 Boers killed, 8 wounded, 50 prisoners.'"

"Our losses were: Killed—Captains Boyle and Williams, both of Yeomanry, and two men of Yeomanry. Wounded—About seven men.

"The attack lasted four hours. The corps behaved very well. Our force was composed of Yeomanry and the Kimberley mounted corps, and the fourth battery of artillery."

Mareuil was chief of staff of the Boer army. He was fifty years old and is said to have been responsible for many Boer successes. It is said that he entered the Boer service merely because war was his trade. He went through a number of campaigns in the French army.

FIVE COMPANIES CAPTURED.

London, April 6.—Lord Roberts reports that five companies of British troops have been captured by the Boers near Bethany.

London, April 6, 4:08 p.m.—The following is the text of Lord Roberts's dispatch to the war office announcing the capture of five companies of his troops:

"Bloemfontein, Thursday, April 5.—Another unfortunate occurrence has occurred, resulting, I fear, in the capture of a party of infantry consisting of three companies of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and two companies of Ninth Regiment of Mounted Infantry near Reddersburg, a little eastward of Bethany railway station, within a few miles of this place.

"They were surrounded by a stronger force of the enemy with four or five guns. The detachment held out from before noon on April 5th, until 9 a.m. on April 6th, and then apparently surrendered, for it is reported that the firing ceased at that time.

"Immediately after I heard the news, during the afternoon of April 5th, I ordered Gatacre to proceed from Springfontein, his present headquarters, to Reddersburg, with all possible speed, and I dispatched the Cameron Highlanders thence to Bethany.

"He arrived at Reddersburg at 10:30 yesterday, without opposition, but could get no news of the missing men.

"There can be no doubt the whole party has been made prisoners."

BOER PRISONERS ESCAPE.

Capetown, April 7.—A determined attempt to escape was made by Boer prisoners at Simonstown, and fourteen of them succeeded in getting away.

Later.—In the confusion one of the prisoners was killed and another wounded. One man was recaptured but 14 are missing.

Sentries have been placed at different parts of the town, and the station is under military supervision.

A Letter of Sympathy.

The Hague, April 7.—Queen Wilhelmina has sent a personal letter of sympathy to Gen. Joubert's widow.

FRENCH WON THE RACE.

London, April 6.—The Times publishes extracts from the letters of a British cavalry officer, who accompanied Gen. French throughout the march from Modder River to Koodesdrift. He says: "On the night before the start, Roberts told the cavalry that they were about to have an opportunity to uphold the cavalry traditions of the British service. General French's men were surprised at their task. They had expected to be employed on General Cronje's communications, while the rest of the army worked around to Kimberley, but Roberts told them that the situation at Kimberley had become desperate, while Lord Kitchener added that they must get through if it cost half their forces. With these words ringing in their ears, they started on the most exciting ride of the war. It was a race for the drift on the Riet, which

General French secured by a clever feint and by hard galloping he won by only five minutes.

"The last day's work before Kimberley was relieved also put them to severe test. Soon after starting they found that the positions on their front, left front and left rear were held by an unknown force of the enemy, and that they were almost surrounded, but General French's quick eye discovered a gap in the left about 13 miles away. Through this gap he launched two Lancer regiments, who were received with a heavy fire, and before the dust had cleared he let everything go in after them. It was a piece of splendid daring which might have failed, but it succeeded completely, and by its success raised the siege."

A DESPERATE STAND.

London, April 6.—The Capetown correspondent of the Standard gives details, hitherto obscure, of the surrender of a squadron of Kitchener's Horse on Feb. 15th. This was the day of the relief of Kimberley.

The squadron had been left to guard a farm on the Riet River, while French advanced to the besieged town. The object of leaving them on the river was to hold a well pending the arrival of another column. The latter, however, never came, and the troopers found themselves besieged for four days by a body of 400 Boers.

There were but 50 men, but they pierced loop-holes in the walls of the farm house and made a desperate stand for three days. They fought gallantly and without food, but on the fourth day they caught a goat, which they devoured. There was not a blade of grass on the veldt, and their horses died of starvation.

On the fourth day General Dewet sent a messenger calling on them to surrender within a few minutes. The situation was hopeless. The Boers had two 12-pounders with them, and the squadron was in the last stage of exhaustion. Seeing that there was no chance of relief, they agreed among themselves to surrender.

HONEYMOON IN A LAAGER.

New York, April.—The World correspondent at Pretoria, Howard Hillegas, has sent a long letter in which he gives an interesting and thrilling story of the case in which the Boer women are helping their husbands, sons and brothers in war. The World knows no finer example of heroism than that exhibited by 14 women on one of the five days' fighting at Spion Kop, he says. A strictly family party of Boers, 14 men and their wives, were entrenched in one position, and held it with amazing bravery against a small force of British. For a long time the men fought incessantly and kept their wives busy loading their rifles. Finally 50 British soldiers with fixed bayonets charged on the entrenchment. As they came closer, closer, the Boer men crept over the earthworks, and, while the wo-

men began shooting with the butts of their rifles began to hammer the British soldiers. Before their wives' eyes every one of the fourteen Boers were killed, bayoneted or shot. The fourteen women, so quickly widowed, never thought of surrender, but fought most valiantly and bravely for half an hour until the British surrounded them.

"Try to imagine a bride and groom going to war on their honeymoon. When I left Pretoria for the front a friend introduced me to a young Boer couple who were going on the same train and who had been married but a week. I thought my friend was joking when he told me they were going to fight the British, although both the Boer man and wife had Mauser rifles and each wore three bandoliers, two over the shoulders and one around the waist. When the train reached the end of the line, a short distance north of Ladysmith, Mme. Boer alighted with her husband, assisted in taking two horses from the last car of the train and rode away toward one of the laagers in the distance.

The presence of the women puts spirit into the men and keeps them from becoming homesick or despondent. These warrior women were the first to insist that the Transvaal should resist England. Now they are sharing the burden.

Raad Adjourned.

Pretoria, April 4.—The Free State raad adjourned sine die after passing the President's speech. Twenty-six members were present.

Rhodes in England.

Southampton, April 6.—Cecil Rhodes, who sailed from Capetown on the 21st of March, arrived here to-day.

Col. Otter's Report.

Ottawa, April 6.—Lieut.-Col. Otter's report covering the battles in which the Canadians were engaged and giving a description of the wounds received by the Canadian soldiers has reached the militia department. It is being typewritten, and will be published in militia orders. The report also gives a list of the killed.

There is very little that has not been covered by letters from the front, yet the documents is, nevertheless, an interesting one.

London, April 7, 2:35 p.m.—The Boers have been reinforced at Wepener, north of Smithfield, Orange Free State, and are threatening Gen. Brabant's colonial division, the main body of which, with the artillery, is at Wepener.

Boer Movements.

A telegram which left Maseru, Basutoland, north of Wepener, at midnight, described the Boers as being in great force, and as afraid to make a frontal attack, but it is added that they were endeavoring to turn the British position by crossing the Basutoland frontier by a road skirting Caledon river, the road emerging south of Wepener.

Protecting the Frontier.

The Basutos are excited. Assistant Commissioner Griffith, with a force of police, left Maseru on Friday, going where the Boers are about to trespass.

and the tribesmen engaged for railwork work at Bloemfontein are deserting to protect their villages.

Reports reach Maseru hourly of Boer activity in the Orange Free State.

Troops at Bloemfontein.

The latest unofficial dispatch from Bloemfontein, dated Thursday, says: "The Boers continue to show great activity, and a number of British troops are arriving daily."

Ill-treating Farmers.

The alleged ill-treatment of the farmers who gave up their arms has called to the front the Friend of the Free State, published by the correspondents under military supervision. In its comments it says: "When the question of settlement comes, those who are responsible for the outrages will be called to account. We show leniency and tolerance towards rebels, and we expect our example to be followed by those directing the enemy's affairs. We shall exact from the two presidents full reparation for cruelty and inhumanity. The army people at Bloemfontein are depending on water drawn from the wells."

Arrived From Pretoria.

Sergeant-Major Broker, who, it now appears, escaped from Pretoria with Capt. Haldane and Lieut. Lemeuier, has reached Lorenzo Marquie. He lost his companions at Etands River, obtained a situation as barman at a railroad station and eventually made his way to the frontier.

Naval Contingent for the Front.

A small contingent of gunners from the British battle ship Monarch left Capetown for Bloemfontein on Friday.

More Men.

Though Lord Roberts lost nearly a thousand men this week, he is stronger relatively, as four times as many men have been landed at the Cape.

BOERS NEAR ROUXVILLE.

Alwal North, Cape Colony, April 6.—The colonial division at Wepener has captured five prisoners and four hundred rifles.

The Royal Irish Rifles are falling back on Beestkraal from Rouxville.

The Boers are reported to be moving east and west of Rouxville, and a number of them are reported sixteen miles down the Orange River.

A town guard is being formed here.

LOSSES AT REDDERSBURG.

London, April 7.—Roberts's report to the war office is as follows:

"The casualties at Reddersburg were: Officers—Killed, Capt. Casson and Lieut. C. R. Barclay, of the Northumberland; 2 wounded, 8 captured; non-commissioned officers and men, killed 8, wounded 22. The rest were captured.

"Our strength was 167 mounted and 424 infantry. The enemy was said to be 3,200 strong, with five guns."

INSURGENTS CAPTURED.

Carnarvon, Cape Colony, April 6.—It is reported that 200 insurgents, who were not aware that Sir Ohas, Parsons had occupied Kooberst, rode into that place and were captured by the British troops.

The Canadian artillery has returned here from Van Wyksjyle.

STEYN NOW LEADER.

London, April 7.—All the news regarding the affair at Reddersburg which has been allowed to come through was contained in Lord Roberts's dispatch. It is impossible to form an opinion as to what has happened.

Meanwhile the British public is beginning to realize the immense difficulty to be overcome before Pretoria is reached, and is revising premature ideas with respect to the time when the war will be over. No one now believes that it will have ended by the beginning of June.

The latest event more particularly illustrates the heavy work involved in holding the railway. This body of some five hundred British troops, without guns, which disappeared so completely within 35 miles of the great British army, had for its business to guard a section of nearly 90 miles of railway between Bloemfontein and Springfontein.

It is said that the Boers belonged to Olivier's command. If so he has not retired north and hopes are expressed that he

May Still be Cut Off.

It is asserted that 4,000 rebels surrendered during Clements's march northward.

The Boers will do their utmost to hold Ladybrand and Thaba Nchu, both being rich ground and productive districts.

The Morning Post correspondent at Springfontein telegraphing on Thursday, says he is glad to be able to report that increased precautions have been taken in patrolling the railway. He says most of the prisoners captured are foreigners.

The reports that Mr. Steyn has been appointed to the command of the Free State and that the Free State has arranged a loan from the Transvaal for war purposes, are both confirmed.

Another Boer version of the fighting with

Col. Plumer's Force

says that thirty men were taken prisoners at Ramathabama. It appears that the names Cecil and Granville, which were supposed to indicate two of the officers captured at that time, should

have been read together as the name of one officer.

As the numbers of prisoners now held on both sides are about equal, the question of exchange was mooted in the House of Commons last evening. This elicited the reply that the government had no intention of proposing an exchange.

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing on Thursday, says: "The Boers apparently are making an attempt to retake Bloemfontein. A considerable force has moved south through Thaba Nchu. Gen. Tucker's isolation at Karee is more apparent than real, since the open ground north of Bloemfontein offers small opportunity for tactics. They may possibly engage him to distract attention from operations elsewhere."

THE RELIEF COLUMN.

Boers Hoisted White Flag and Then Killed a British Officer.

London, April 7.—Telegraphing from Boshof on Thursday the Daily Telegraph correspondent says:

"Lord Methuen's Mafeking relief column was concentrated here to-day. The Boers are in force a few miles distant on the Vaal river. This town is practically deserted, all the men being with the commando under Commandant Duplessis who controls the district. Lord Methuen commanded in a spirited little action a few miles to the southeast, where he surrounded the Boers on a kopje. Not a man escaped. We took 54 prisoners, 60 horses and a quantity of baggage. Gen. De Villebois Mareuil was killed during the action. A Boer hoisted a white flag and then fired immediately after, killing a British officer. The murderer was instantly shot."

MOVING TO THE SOUTH.

Twelve Thousand Burghers Reported by British Scouts.

London, April 7.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Telegraph telegraphing on Thursday, says: "A serious meeting was summoned by Transvaal emissaries for to-day at Leonberg, but nobody attended.

"Boer patrols from Brandfort have cut the telegraph wires between here and Boshof.

"The British troops reported yesterday that a force of some 12,000 Boers had been seen beyond Bosman's Kop moving from Thaba Nchu to the south. The enemy by appeals and menaces are vainly trying to induce the burghers to take the field again."

Ordered From the Transvaal.

Lorenzo Marquie, April 5.—All British subjects have been ordered to quit Pretoria and Johannesburg immediately, except some 400, who are permitted under law to remain in the Rand. Those who are expelled number six hundred.

Sharpshooters Sail.

London, April 6.—Dunraven's Sharpshooters started for South Africa to-day amid the usual scenes of enthusiasm. Lord Dunraven at the last moment decided to accompany the force, and has been posted as a supernumerary captain on the battalion staff.

The corps is formed of men chosen for their shooting capabilities. In one company alone seven of the men had figured in the final stage of the Queen's prize at the Bisley shooting tournament.

Colonial Advance Guard.

Toronto, April 6.—A Star cable from Bloemfontein dated April 4th, says there has been a reorganization of the Mounted Infantry corps of the army under Lord Roberts, a new division thus constituted being put under the command of General Hamilton. One brigade of this division is formed of Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders and other colonial units, and has been placed under command of Lieut.-Col. Hutton, late commanding officer of the militia forces in Canada. A second brigade, made up of regular and volunteer Imperial troops will be under command of Major Midley.

They will act as an advance guard of scouts patrolling and clearing the country in advance of the main army.

THE CANADIANS.

Wounded British Columbians—The Report on Battle of Paardeberg.

Ottawa, April 6.—Col. Otter's reports on the Paardeberg fight were read in the House this afternoon and greatly applauded.

The details of the British Columbia wounded are as follows:

Fifth Regiment—Andrews, left thigh, slight; Beach, thorax, serious; Dickson, discharged from hospital; Finch-Smith, thigh, slight.

Sixth Regiment—Lohman, face and chest, serious; Niebergall, leg, slight; Thompson, shoulder, serious.

The parade state of the regiment for March shows: "Effective, 748; killed in action, 25; died of wounds, 8; transferred, 4; still in hospital, 134; on command, 33.

Toronto, April 6.—Mr. Hamilton, the Globe correspondent with the first contingent in South Africa, sends a letter giving a detailed account of the battle of Paardeberg which shows that the Canadian ranks had been pretty well depleted since leaving Halifax. The regiment landed at Capetown 1,039 strong; sickness reduced the number so that it left Belmont only 890 strong, and when it entered the field at Paardeberg there were only 872. "A" Company had but two officers, Capt. Arnold, of Winnipeg, and Lieut. Hodgson, of Nelson, B.C. Lieut. Blanchard, of Victoria, was left behind at Klip Drift with a strained tendon, and Lieut. Layhorn, of Winnipeg, had joined Col. Broadwood's Mounted Infantry force as quartermaster.

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The War in South Africa

It is Reported From Bloemfontein That Gatacre Has Engaged the Boers.

Burgers Planning to Outflank Buller in Natal—Force at Kroonstadt.

London, April 7.—The only news received from the front to-night came from Bloemfontein relating to an engagement with Gen. Gatacre at Reddersburg, which seems to have been held back by the censor.

It will be remembered that Lord Roberts reporting the unfortunate occurrence at Reddersburg said that General Gatacre had arrived there on the morning of April 4th. Hence he may have succeeded in engaging the Boers later in the day.

It is strange, however, that Gen. Gatacre's subsequent movements have not been mentioned in Lord Roberts's dispatches of the 4th which was dated the evening of April 6th.

In Natal.

It is reported from Ladysmith that the Boers are beginning to construe General Buller's inactivity as a sign of fear or inability to resume active operations. Hence they are showing much activity particularly around Biggarsburg and are said to be planning to outflank General Buller by an advance in force by way of Helpmanker. Since the plan is known it is not likely that the Boers will find Buller unprepared.

Boers at Kroonstadt.

The Boers state that the Colesberg and Stormberg commandos, numbering 6,000 men and ten guns have reached Kroonstadt.

Were Disappointed.

Speaking at an annexation meeting at Winberg on April 6th, former Premier Sir John Gordon Sprigg declared that he had been informed by a member of the Afrikaner Bond who had just returned from Pretoria that the executive of the Republic at the commencement of the war expected the active assistance of 40,000 colonials. He learned also of documents incriminating a number of leading colonials in machinery with the governments of the republics.

Boers as Fighters.

Mr. Chamberlain is reported to have said seriously: "I think we are dealing with better fighters as individuals than any regular soldiers of the continent. The Boers seem to me to have both caution and dash."

The Scarcity of Horses.

The disposition to find fault with the war office for not having anticipated the necessity for the enormous number of horses seems unjustified, for it is learned that before the dash to Kimberley and the destruction of horses which caused by the surrounding of Gen. Cronje, the war office wired to its agents all over the world, particularly in North and South America, giving them power of buying horses unlimited until further notice. The obstacles in the way of assembling and transporting the animals were such that horses bought a month ago can hardly reach Lord Roberts before June.

Cheques for Prisoners.

Bankers are transmitting gold or its equivalent regularly to the paying cheques of British officers who are held prisoners and the Standard Bank of Pretoria honors all such cheques. Therefore, as no limit is placed on the amount bought by the prisoners, they live in much comfort. In fact their messes are probably much better provided than are those of the officers at Bloemfontein. Some of the captives who have been there for months have regular services in Hamburg and London, which are bought by the prisoners, they live in much comfort. In fact their messes are probably much better provided than are those of the officers at Bloemfontein.

Reported Engagement.

Bloemfontein, April 4.—(Afternoon.)—General Gatacre had an engagement with the enemy at Reddersburg to-day. Details of the affair have not been obtained.

Contribution From Lloyds.

Winnipeg, April 7.—A cable from London says that the committee of Lloyds's patriotic fund have informed the Canadian high commissioner of their intention to make a substantial grant to the Canadian patriotic fund.

The secretary of the British fund for the Canadian contingents has received three large packages of warm clothing from the Princess Louise, which are being forwarded immediately to South Africa.

London, April 9.—The amazing activity of the Boers southeast and southwest of Bloemfontein continues, the Boer commandos seemingly going and coming throughout a wide region as they please, but taking good care not to throw themselves against bodies of the British.

Communication Cut Off.

The retirement of the Irish Rifles from Rouxville to Alwalwa leaves General Brabant without communication with the British forces. He has 2,000 to 3,000 colonials holding a fine desolate country, but he is apparently invested so far as London knows.

Nothing for Publication.

Telegraphic and railroad communication with Bloemfontein are kept up as usual, but nothing comes through for publication.

Cavalry at Bloemfontein.

Lord Roberts's last dispatch was dated April 6th, and the last official message bore date of April 7th. The last official message notes that the good spirits at Bloemfontein are continuing, and two fresh cavalry regiments.

Lord Roberts now has about 15,000 mounted men altogether.

In the Orange Free State the situation

is complex with scanty material for forming a correct estimate of the condition of affairs and the afternoon papers, not being in the confidence of the war managers, are criticising the conduct of affairs as they see them.

A FIGHT IMMINENT.

Maseru, April 7.—The Boers who were massed last week near Ladysmith to the number of 10,000, after seizing Thaba Nchu and the Modder River water works, broke into strong divisions and they are now raiding in the south of the Free State recouping the small towns which were evacuated by the British.

The Boers' policy seems to be to make rapid movements with little transports, looting English storekeepers freely for provisions, and cutting the communications of the British forces.

Gen. Brabant's colonials are mostly at Wepener. They are a splendid force, capable of great striking power, and used to cross-country riding, and are able to deal roughly with the Boer commandos now roaming about the country.

A squadron of Brabant's Horse carried 400 rifles near Wepener. His outposts are reported to be in touch with the Boers and a fight is regarded as imminent.

Persistent reports are being circulated that the Boers are preparing to retake the British position at Wepener, and thus to secure entrance into Basutoland. Such an attempt will be resisted by the Basutoland government, which is believed to have made every preparation.

Meanwhile the approach of the Boers to Basutoland produces much excitement among the natives, necessitating the utmost vigilance on the part of the local officials.

BOER FIRE SILENCED.

Warrenton, April 7.—Yesterday evening the British shelled Fourteen Streams, which was crossed by a force of Boers. This morning the Boers placed in position a big gun, which they fired ineffectively. A fusillade of Maxims followed at intervals throughout the day.

The British dropped kettles and shrapnel shells into the Boer position, finally silencing the enemy's fire and driving off the snipers.

THIRST.

London, March 31.—Everybody remembers the famous picture of thirst, which portrays the gaunt, half starved lion in the midst of the desert lapping up the few remaining drops of moisture from an impoverished pool, but a correspondent in the Morning Post tells us that though the British soldiers "have thirsted in the thirstiest corners of the globe," he admits the order to be a fresh experience.

Aden, India, Egypt, the Sudan, but here is something hotter; not drier, not dustier, but less endurable. Men who have lived in Kimberley, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein and Natal are only now while campaigning, acquiring the experience—the army with its incessant tramping and the ceaseless fog, and dust that hangs about its camps, and to that must be added the

Compulsory Life in the Sun, the sun at its hottest, driest, hours. The entire absence of shade, the parching section of the sand, which is chair and table.

Here, where when one knows by tired limb the weight of what one drinks, the thought of water flowing through pipes seems a dream of paradise and such water—water through which one could see—which left no mud at the bottom of the mug, and which did not stain what it was split on. One remembers that in England they analyze that kind of water.

At Ramdam there was a big pond, which was left of a moist dam. The water was very shallow, but the mud there was black and deep. One sank to the knees if one tried to walk, and so the gentry half in mud and half in brown sryrup, and

Thanked God for Water.

Rose from it with the green leeches hanging about one's body like bits of seaweed, and with a sprinkling of other less known insects.

Horses looked askance at that pool, but the men drank of it greedily, and drank of it where the horses hoofs had churned it into a blackish green liquor, thick as soup.

Let everyone who turns to drink a water-tap in England give a thought to those who are dropping buckets in South Africa, and be grateful for an exceeding privilege.

VIGNETTE FROM THE BATTLE-FIELD.

"Twenty yards to the left a man is lying pressed flat against the ground. He is very much the color of the ground, and occasional whiffs of dust over him have aided the disguise. There are little tufts of withered scrub which help to hide him though but a few inches high. The sun has been blazing on his back the whole day, but he has not moved, and the veiled wavers confusedly in the glare of heat.

"The man on the left feels gingerly for the tin bottle which lies under his left elbow. His fingers spread over its felt covering, and give it a gentle shake. The shake is repeated, and he begins to draw the bottle slowly under him, keeping his body rigidly stiff. The job is a long one because the bottle strap catches in his accoutrements and

He Dare Not Move

to free it. When he has it at least beneath him he begins to turn over, as slowly as he done all else. He lifts his foot a few inches to balance himself, and the next instant there is a spot dust from the sand beside him, not much more than an arm's length away. He keeps his eyes on the mark the bullet has made and remains for some moments as if it had turned him to stone, then, with a more laborious patience he resumes his movement, till at last he is on his back and has the bottle above him.

"It only holds a few drops, but he thought he had drained even them an hour ago, and his tongue is like a piece

of fur in his mouth. He got with a rush to the place he occupied about 8 o'clock in the morning, when

A Sudden Crackle

from the river in front of him laid the whole line on its face, where it has remained with occasional wriggling forward ever since. He is on the right of his company and alone for the man next him after chaffing the Boer shooting for half an hour, begun suddenly to whimper, and has been still ever since.

"He felled himself to take the bullets humorously, but he grew used to them, till one came between his face and the ground, he never sees. Besides, if he lost all other feelings in the awful sense of thirst.

"He knows the action is going on still, for he can hear the steady pounding of a battery of guns beyond the river to the left. He knows too from those hateful

Spills of Dust

that the Boer is still behind the bushes in front of him, but the Boer is always behind something, and he is tired of trying to shoot and being shot at by a man whose name he never sees. Besides, if he lifts his rifle the dust begins to jump again, and the rifle barrel is scalding hot, the varnish is sizzling on the stock as though it stood before a fire, and to touch it seems to quicken his unbearable thirst.

"He tries to guess the hour, and he guesses on his left side. He writes names on the sand with his finger, and rubs them out. At last, while there are still some three hours of daylight, the patter of rifles along the dongas on the further bank grows loud and continuous. A last determined disastrous attempt; it being made to push back the enemy's right. The Seaforths, Cornwalls and Canadians, mixed together, are

Clambering, Leaping, Blundering

forward across the deep intricate channels of the donga beds. If things have gone well there will be fresh orders probably, but no orders come.

"At 6 o'clock he has been twelve hours under fire. His last meal was a biscuit, brownish grey, black when he began to fall in at three in the morning, after marching all the day before. But he is aware neither of weariness or of hunger in the fever of his thirst. The flesh of his face, stained walnut brown by exposure to the sun, has a dry, twisted look, like a parched strip of scrub, as though all the moisture had been wrung from it. One grows to know that look out here. His fingers never leave his water bottle, nor his eyes the green fringe of bush along the river. Another hour and the guns about him cease firing, and

A New Fight

seems to be beginning far away on the right. The sun is going down and he can see nothing to the left of him, but a hot gold glare of dust.

"The battle grows louder on the right. A Howitzer battery has come into action, brownish grey, black when he began to fall in at three in the morning, after marching all the day before. But he is aware neither of weariness or of hunger in the fever of his thirst. The flesh of his face, stained walnut brown by exposure to the sun, has a dry, twisted look, like a parched strip of scrub, as though all the moisture had been wrung from it. One grows to know that look out here. His fingers never leave his water bottle, nor his eyes the green fringe of bush along the river. Another hour and the guns about him cease firing, and

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Northern Railway

Debate in the Dominion House on the Comox and Cape Scott Bill.

The Employment of Chinese—Mr. McInnes Proposes Their Exclusion.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, April 9.—There was a lengthy debate in the House this afternoon on the Comox and Cape Scott Railway Bill, of which A. Morrison has charge. He moved an amendment that the road should be built to run on to Cape Scott, instead of at Comox district, as the bill stated. It was through a mistake that the bill did not include this. The lawyer who framed the bill should have included it, and in this way direct railway communication would be had from Victoria all along Vancouver Island to Cape Scott, at the extreme north. Between Comox and Wellington there was a distance of 90 miles, which would have no railway connection.

Mr. Morrison did not believe so. Mr. McInnes read from the statute of 1888 that the Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway could extend from Nanaimo to Comox.

Mr. Morrison—But not from Wellington. Mr. Morrison said he would let the bill go through as it stood.

Mr. McInnes then moved that a clause be inserted in the bill to prevent the employment of Chinese on the railway at a penalty of \$5 per day for each day any Chinese person was employed. He said that since 1888 such clauses were being passed by the legislature of British Columbia. The reason why Mr. Dunsmeuir came to Ottawa for this charter was to evade this clause.

Mr. Morrison was as much opposed to Chinese being admitted into Canada as Mr. McInnes, but there was no use of playing with the question. It was not constitutional to insert such a clause. If British Columbia put them in, Ottawa would have to throw them out. If Ottawa did not, the result would be the same, as such legislation was ultra vires. The Dominion government was to bring down a bill this session dealing with the whole question of Chinese, and that was the proper time to deal with the matter. The Dominion could legislate against one man in favor of another on the same subject. He never met the Dunsmeuirs and cared less about them, but that was not the point.

The debate is being continued. Later—Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the government was going to deal with the Chinese question this session.

The House divided on the motion of Mr. McInnes, when it was lost by 21 for, 33 against, majority against, 22.

ARRESTED IN LONDON.

(Associated Press.)

London, April 9.—Nathan Moscher, who was arrested and detained here charged with forging notes in New York city and securing \$20,000 on them, was committed for extradition in the Bow street police court to-day.

INCREASING THE SQUADRON.

(Associated Press.)

Kingston, Jamaica, April 9.—News has been received here that the British North American and West India squadrons are to be increased by a battleship, two cruisers and several torpedo boats.

FRENCH DUELLIST WOUNDED.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, April 7.—A duel between Comte de Dion and M. de Saint Alery, the respective seconds of Comte de Lubersac and Baron Edouard de Rothschild, in their quarrel, was fought this morning in the Hippodrome at Neuilly. Saint Alery was slightly wounded. The duel then stopped.

THE NEW NILE.

Greatest Engineering Feat the World Has Ever Seen.

"When the Nile reservoirs planned by the great Willcocks were first made known to the world, and it was found that he, although offering six or seven sites for his cyclopean designs, really only highly recommended one, the construction of which would wipe out the island of Philae, the latest spot on the Nile, there was a universal howl of opposition. This got to such a height that Sir W. Garstin and his engineers may have felt a grim kind of relief when they found that the French would allow them no money from the Cairo to realize their schemes for starting the blessed water, and they had for a time to abandon the whole affair. So when, one fine morning, Mr. John Alder, Sir Benjamin Baker, and their friends, unexpectedly called at the office of works in Cairo, and offered to make any amount of Dams, Canals and Locks,

wherever they pleased, for no present cash payment, in accepting their wonderful offer the government cut down the level of the great reservoir by nearly one-half, Willcocks wanted to store up 120 feet of water. Sir Benjamin Baker was told to content himself with twenty metres (about sixty-five feet) of Nile storage, and so the great reservoir was abandoned, and the general opponents to the drowning of Philae were appeased, or at least silenced, and the greatest engineering work that the world has ever seen was quietly started, and within a year 20,000 men were employed at Assouan and at the supplemental dam of Assout.

"When the dam is completed and at its high level, Philae will have its temple pylons, and a few of the higher ruins standing out of the water, just to mark where its ancient beauties were; but all its loveliness, its verdure, its palms, several of its temples, its storied walls, and the Nilometer, its colonnades, its Roman quay, will disappear beneath the waters. An island will be lost, but

A Continent Will Be Saved!

For my part, I would rather they had made Willcocks's cyclopean granite barrier of about a hundred and fifty feet (where

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Provincial News.

GRAND FORKS.

The charge of defamatory libel preferred against Editor Nesbit, of the Columbia Review, by Mayor Neil McCullum, of Columbia, has been withdrawn, the complainant paying all the costs.

COMOX.

(Special Correspondence of the Times.)

Several Japanese, recently naturalized at Union, contemplate making an effort to have their names on the voters' list, and in the event of being refused (as provided in the act), will, it is stated, endeavor to have the constitutionality of the act tested.

Augusto Refinengo was almost instantly killed by a fall of the roof at No. 4 on Monday morning.

Mrs. Bartison, of Cumberland, succumbed to an illness, of nearly two years on Thursday morning.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

The marriage of D. A. Shiles, the popular manager of the New Westminster division of the British Columbia Electric Railway, and Miss Jennie Leigh McNeill, of Vancouver, was solemnized on Thursday evening by the Rev. J. G. Matthews. The interesting ceremony was performed at the residence of Mrs. McNeill, 429 Harris street, in the presence of a few intimate friends. Miss Smythe, also of the Terminal City, acted as bridesmaid, while the groom was supported by Mr. D. A. McKinnon.

KASLO.

A young miner named Talty, aged about 30, died at the Ivanhoe on Friday, March 30th. He worked at the quarry near here for about eight months and stayed in town for a short time on his way to the mine.

Two feet from death, Joseph Carleton and Gus Schilling had a close call up the South Fork recently. They were working on the Champion when a snowslide came down and nearly carried them down the hill in its deadly embrace. Mr. Carleton told the Kootenian of his remarkable experience. He said: "We had a very narrow escape just before I came down. It was after we had started the Champion tunnel. It was started on the edge of a snowslide. We thought the snow had mostly come down. We had only got in five or six feet of an open cut when the slide came down, and we had only a small projection over our head. In this cut, to shield us from the slide, it was a very narrow escape. The slide took two sleighs right out of the face of the cut where they were standing up. The snow came within two feet of where we were crouched. It was a terrific slide. But for the future everything is safe."

VANCOUVER.

Mrs. W. J. Barker, wife of Ald. Barker of this city, passed away at the city hospital on Friday, after a brief illness. The deceased lady was 58 years of age and had resided in Vancouver, since very shortly after the Boer war.

A meeting was held in the council chamber on Friday for the purpose of reorganizing the Provincial Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Representatives were present from the branch societies as follows: Messrs. A. J. Dallan, W. F. Best and P. B. Kitto, Victoria; J. C. Brown, C. C. Fisher and J. H. Shirley, New Westminster; Mayor Garden, Rev. J. Reid, Jr., Dr. Gibbons and C. J. South, Vancouver. On behalf of the city, Mayor Garden expressed a hearty welcome to the delegates. Upon the meeting getting down to business, Mr. J. C. Brown was elected chairman and Mr. J. H. Shirley, secretary. The constitution was then taken up and amended and revised, after which the officers were elected as follows: President, J. C. Brown, New Westminster; vice-presidents, Mayor Garden, Vancouver; A. J. Dallan, Victoria; secretary, C. J. South, treasurer, J. H. Shirley, New Westminster. The annual meeting in Vancouver in January next.

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Dominion Parliament

Mr. Bostock Questions the Government Regarding Affairs in British Columbia.

Nearly a Whole Day Taken Up With the Affairs of a Defunct Bank.

Ottawa, March 31.—Sir Charles Tupper yesterday afternoon resumed his speech on the budget, and spoke up to within a few minutes of six o'clock, when he left for Quebec.

The Prime Minister replied that the acting district officer commanding reported on March 3rd that the preceding evening about 9 o'clock the Montreal drill hall was attacked by a mob, and that, fearing a more serious outbreak, he requested the officers commanding the corps of the city of Montreal, to call out their units to guard their several armories.

In reply to a question by Mr. MacCort, the Prime Minister stated that the 70th Battalion was disbanded by general order, of February, 1900, having become non-effective.

Treat Valley Canal. In response to an enquiry by Mr. Rogers, the Premier stated that the cost to date of the Treat valley canal has been \$2,416,000, and \$266,358 on hand damages. It is the intention of the government to complete the canal, which, it is estimated, will cost five millions.

In reply to a question by Mr. Ross Robertson, the Minister of Militia said that full arrangements were made with Lieut.-Col. Otter, commanding the first Canadian contingent, for particulars as to the movements of and casualties among the men under his charge.

British Columbia Politics. Mr. Bostock (Yale and Cariboo) put a question to the government to ascertain whether any report had been received from Lieutenant-Governor McInnes on his reasons for dismissing the Semlin Ministry and calling upon the Hon. Joseph Martin.

The Prime Minister responded that the report of the Lieutenant-Governor has not yet been received. He has been pressed to make one and on March 28th he wired that the report had been forwarded on that day.

Mounted Infantry. Lieut.-Col. Guillet asked whether the Minister of Militia had recommended the establishment of a number of units of mounted infantry in connection with the volunteer militia.

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Hon. Dr. Borden, returned an answer in the negative, but added that the matter was under consideration.

Loan Companies. Mr. McInnes (Vancouver, B. C.) asked the government aware that a number of loan companies, acting under Dominion authority, are failing to fulfil the representations made by their agents and contained in their advertising literature, to their borrowers, and are extorting from the borrowers large sums in addition to the represented payments?

The Prime Minister in reply said the government had no knowledge of any such state of affairs.

Manitoba School Question. Mr. Dugas (Montreal) asked whether the Prime Minister had made a statement since coming to that office that he or his administration had finally settled the Manitoba school question.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier.—The Prime Minister has declared on the floor of this House and elsewhere that the school question had been settled in the only effective way in which it could be settled, by removing it from the arena of federal politics and referring it to the Legislature of Manitoba, which, in a spirit of conciliation and goodwill to the minority passed important legislation in amendment to the School Act of 1890; and such legislation, like all other legislation, is always subject to amendment and improvement.

Manitoba School Lands. In reply to a question by Mr. Laurier the Prime Minister stated that the present government of Manitoba had not made any demand on the Federal government for the control of the school lands and funds. They had, however, asked for a conference, which would be granted.

Banque Ville Marie. Mr. Monk (Jacques-Cartier) moved for a copy of the petition presented to the government by the deputation which waited on them some months ago requesting the government to come to the aid of the depositors. In so doing he went into the whole history of the case. He reminded the House that the chief sufferers by the failure of the bank were poor people in Montreal and the surrounding districts, where the bank opened branches for sinister purposes, and where its agents procured an abnormal amount of money in the form of deposits which were used to bolster up the affairs of the institution generally. Mr. Monk hoped that the legislation in amendment of the Banking Act, to be introduced this session, would prevent such failures in the future. It was quite clear, that the law must be changed as regards the control of circulation, over which the government did not possess sufficient control, and as regards the inspection of the affairs of the banks at stated intervals. The banks objected strongly to inspection of any kind; but he thought that it was possible for the government to provide such inspection as would prevent the recurrence of such a disaster. There should also be control exercised over the opening of branch offices, for there was no doubt that if under such a law the Banque Ville Marie had been obliged to conform with certain reasonable

formalities before obtaining authorization to open branches, enquiry would have been provoked, which would have stopped its operations. Mr. Monk briefly traced the history of the bank, dwelling especially on the fact that its capital had been reduced and that the approval of the treasury board had never been secured, to this effect: In 1892, the finance department had become aware that there was something wrong, as was seen by Mr. Courtney's letter of March 3rd to the Deputy Minister of Justice, calling attention to the excessive note circulation and other irregularities, to which the deputy minister replied, advising that the bank be called on to make a special statement in explanation of all the items. On Sept. 21st, 1892, Mr. Courtney, after having looked into the matter, reported to the Minister of Finance, concluding with a recommendation that the special return recommended be asked for and that in addition, the bank should be called on for a statement of its assets, and that the government account of \$19,000 be withdrawn.

He also recommended that the bank be compelled to comply with the Banking Act, by asking the treasury board to ratify the reduction of the capital stock. On the back of this report was a memo, "Approved. Foster. Draw the balance down to \$10,000, and then advise me further." After some delay Mr. Weir, president of the Banque Ville Marie, came to Ottawa and saw Mr. Courtney, and on Sept. 28th, he agreed in writing that he would be pulled through if it had not been for his action. In conclusion, Mr. Fielding said: "I shall give all consideration and ask my colleagues to give it to the claims of these people on the ground that my honorable colleague mentioned."

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London, April 7.—Dublin has this week been transformed into a capital as gay and as busy as any European centre. The coming of the Queen, though to a Catholic country in the middle of Lent, has started a whirl of festivities such as there has not been in Ireland since the good old days of which Lewis wrote. The Irish nobility have flocked across the Channel from their English homes in unprecedented numbers, and from the south, the west and the north of Ireland itself the country families have poured into Dublin. There is a sufficient number of the ministry on the banks of the Liffey to hold a cabinet council, and there are enough lovely women nightly dining in gorgeous dresses, shining with jewelry which has not been worn for many a dull day, to make an Irish levee of which any court might be jealous.

The Castle, where the Lord Lieutenant holds sway, is naturally the centre of attraction, but the ancient building can hold only a few. There the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Abercorn, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Home Secretary Ridley and a number of peers and peeresses have been dining in state ever since the week.

The Shelbourne Hotel has been the centre of gaiety. There almost every visitor has a title, though many of the distinguished foreigners learned with chagrin that they could not get rooms and had to be satisfied with humble lodgings and dinners.

The most popular form of evening amusement has been the chartering of trolley cars by large parties and taking rides throughout the crowded and illuminated streets. With the influence of social gaiety, political considerations are temporarily in abeyance.

The more advanced the Queen becomes in years, the more her work increases with the extension of the Empire and the increased activity of modern life. It is estimated that she has to sign fifty thousand documents yearly, at an average of 137 a day, including Sunday. Masses of state papers go to her now while in Ireland.

SHOT BY INDIANS. A Girl is Leading a Band of Cowboys in Pursuit of the Murderers.

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FESTIVITIES IN DUBLIN. The Irish Capital is Crowded With People From All Parts of the Land.

London, April 7.—Dublin has this week been transformed into a capital as gay and as busy as any European centre. The coming of the Queen, though to a Catholic country in the middle of Lent, has started a whirl of festivities such as there has not been in Ireland since the good old days of which Lewis wrote. The Irish nobility have flocked across the Channel from their English homes in unprecedented numbers, and from the south, the west and the north of Ireland itself the country families have poured into Dublin. There is a sufficient number of the ministry on the banks of the Liffey to hold a cabinet council, and there are enough lovely women nightly dining in gorgeous dresses, shining with jewelry which has not been worn for many a dull day, to make an Irish levee of which any court might be jealous.

The Castle, where the Lord Lieutenant holds sway, is naturally the centre of attraction, but the ancient building can hold only a few. There the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Abercorn, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Home Secretary Ridley and a number of peers and peeresses have been dining in state ever since the week.

The Shelbourne Hotel has been the centre of gaiety. There almost every visitor has a title, though many of the distinguished foreigners learned with chagrin that they could not get rooms and had to be satisfied with humble lodgings and dinners.

The most popular form of evening amusement has been the chartering of trolley cars by large parties and taking rides throughout the crowded and illuminated streets. With the influence of social gaiety, political considerations are temporarily in abeyance.

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A Town Swept Away

Many Persons Have Been Drowned by the Floods in Texas.

Houses Carried Down the Raging River—Great Destruction of Property.

Austin, Tex., April 7.—To-night this city is in pitch darkness with a raging river one mile wide and swollen far beyond its natural banks, roaring and surging through all the lower portions of the town, having spread death and destruction in its wake.

In addition to the vast loss to property in this section it is calculated that between 30 and 40 lives have been sacrificed and few reports coming in from the tributary do not tend to improve matters.

The great dam in the Colorado river gave way at noon to-day from the enormous pressure of water and debris, and with a roar and a crash swept the valleys below the city, wrecking the immense light and power plant and drowning eight workmen. The following is a list of the known dead, including the eight killed in the power house: Frank Pincett, Frank Kinney, Walter Flower, Walter Johnson, Alfred Johnson, Frank Fitzgerald, Walter Blossman, Joseph Newman, Dick Morris (negro), John Pross and Charles Butcherd.

Last Wednesday night it began to rain very hard at this place, the storm extending along the water's edge of the Colorado river. After daylight this morning it became evident that the situation was serious. The river began to rise so rapidly that it was evident that the immense dam, power houses and contents, costing one and a half million dollars, were in imminent danger. To add to the terror of the situation, small frame houses, trees and debris of every description in varying quantities began descending the river, and piling up against the upper face of the dam. This weight was augmented every moment until by 10 o'clock there was a mass of debris lodged against the dam which threatened the safety of the structure. In addition millions of gallons of water were whirling and plunging to the 60-foot wall, and it was evident that no wall could withstand the immense pressure.

The crisis came shortly after 11 o'clock, when suddenly with a report like the roar of the ocean the great wedge, 25 feet high, 500 feet long and eight feet thick, rolled out of the centre section of the dam down the face of the 60 feet depth into the river below. This left a yawning gap in the very middle of the dam, through which the debris and water poured, while the flood, already high, was sweeping everything in its path. The released water poured into the power house and caught eight employees at work there, drowning them instantly.

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One of the Prisoners Reported to Have Made a Confession

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THE CONVENTION.

As was predicted would be the case, the Liberal convention called by the Vancouver association has adjourned and nothing has been accomplished. The result amply vindicates the judgment of the provincial executive in deciding that no good purpose would be served in calling together the Liberals of British Columbia to discuss and pronounce on the question of introducing Federal party lines at this time, as it was perfectly clear to those who looked at the matter from a reasonable standpoint that unanimity was impossible. We believe, after studying the newspapers of the province, that the great majority of Liberals are opposed to conducting the coming campaign on party lines. The journals of the smaller communities generally faithfully represent the sentiment of their constituents, as they have means of becoming acquainted with the views of their readers which in larger places are not available, and assuredly 95 per cent. of the Liberal newspapers of British Columbia have declared themselves in opposition to the avowed purpose for which the Vancouver convention was called.

It is a matter of regret that the proceedings were somewhat disorderly, but it is no more than was anticipated. The Liberals opposed to party lines distrusted those who were responsible for the calling of the assembly, as it had been openly stated that an effort would be made to exclude delegates known to be antagonistic to the Premier. The Vancouver delegation, who represented only a section of Liberalism in that city, claimed that as they had been instrumental in summoning the meeting they should have the exclusive right to regulate its proceedings. This was naturally objected to, and no doubt was responsible for the regrettable scenes which ensued. The result simply is what was foreseen and an effort made to ward off by the provincial executive.

Now that it is clearly utterly impossible that the Liberals should ever become a unit on this matter, it would be extremely gratifying to see the ill-feeling which has been engendered buried, and each side give the other credit for acting, according to its light, in the best interests of the province. The Times foresaw the possible complications which might ensue from the convention, and urged that Liberals should be allowed to act on their individual convictions, as it was futile to look forward to their being whipped into line by either side. We are confident that if such a course had been followed it would have strengthened rather than weakened the Premier's position.

The delegates who have returned from the convention complain that the report of the proceedings which appeared in last night's Times is not as faithful to details as it might be. There were no disorderly scenes whatever; everybody was in good humor; there was no struggling at the doors and no credentials or coats were damaged. If the motion of Mr. Davis had been permitted to reach a vote, it is said, and the divisions which took place appear to confirm this view, that there would have been a good majority in favor of the resolution.

CAUSE FOR ALARM.

This afternoon the members of the city council met to hear the reasons advanced by the owners of some shacks in Chinatown, which have been condemned by the sanitary officer, why these buildings should not be torn down. It seems the same of absurdity that the governing body of a city should be obliged to observe all these circumlocution methods in dealing with such a nuisance. Perhaps the law will not be amended until some outbreak of disease peculiar to the Orient furnishes the public with an object lesson on the dangers of temporizing in such an important matter.

The problem of dealing with the Mongolian races resident here and of coping with the steady and increasing tide of immigration from the other shore of the Pacific is becoming a difficult one. The Empress a day or two ago brought about 400 Chinamen. Another vessel is on the way with 800; a third will bring 1,200, while Dr. Watt has information that still another, due here next month, will bring no less than 1,400. The last three vessels mentioned are bringing Japanese; the first carried Chinamen. Where is this going to stop? Of course all of these immigrants are not for Victoria, but many of them are, and the problem which their presence raises is serious enough, surely, to arouse the most apathetic of our citizens.

The cause of this unparalleled influx of Japanese, we are told, is the fact that the Mikado's government has forbidden traffic between Hawaii and Japan, and that in the former port a large number used to find employment. But we are confronted with facts not with causes. Besides, we have no guarantee that immigration, having once been diverted to this channel, will not continue permanently in it.

Fortunately the Ottawa government is preparing to grapple with this evil, as the dispatches of the last few days sufficiently demonstrate. But in the meantime this undesirable class of immigrants is pouring into the city and the city council either lacks the authority or the disposition to force them to conform to the sanitary regulations which are exacted in the case of the Caucasian. Health and sanitary officials frankly admit that their most strenuous efforts are often nullified by the "cuteness" of the heathen Chinese,

aided and abetted, too often, we fear, by his white landlord. Chinatown is so full of dark alleys and mysterious passages that it affords the readiest means of escape to those who are sought by the officials, while even where the offender is secured he often escapes on some such legal quibble as was illustrated in the police court yesterday.

The result of this can be readily understood. Just as in San Francisco, as soon as plague was discovered in the Chinese quarter, the death rate as reported to the authorities fell off from thirty or forty a month to almost nil, so the disease stricken denizens of our own place succeed in avoiding the vigilance of those in authority. In the case of San Francisco, just instanced, the authorities know full well that many of these people were dying and being buried away under their dwellings to prevent the officials learning the facts and instituting a rigorous quarantine.

Any one who believes that a somewhat similar state of affairs does not exist in Victoria is living in ignorance of the conditions and has not taken the pains to investigate the facts. Let him ask any of those who are charged with the supervision of these people if Chinatown is free of leprosy or of kindred loathsome diseases, and he will at once be undeceived. It is not the fault of these officials that such things are possible; it is the fault of the system under which, at the present time Chinatown is being administered. The machinery of law at their disposal is entirely inadequate to cope with the conditions, and even where it does give them sufficient authority they are handicapped by the supineness of those who should most vigorously support them.

Chinatown should be dealt with by drastic means. A plan of its subjugation all its ramifications, should be prepared for reference at the city hall, so that health, sanitary and police officers could locate by the use of numbers on the rooms or other means the scene of any nuisance at a moment's notice. All partitions, walls, etc., which prevent the readiest access to these places should be summarily destroyed, and in fact the entire district treated to a spring house cleaning such as it has never known. Larger powers, such as the council may obtain at the next sitting of the legislature, would, combined with these reforms, place the city in an infinitely better position to deal with the problems which Chinatown presents.

On the other hand, it is possible to proceed lethargically along the old lines until one day the place awakes to find plague or some other scourge in its midst, the port quarantined, and business suspended. We certainly hope that no such calamity is necessary to awaken the city to a sense of the danger confronting it.

A CLEAR ISSUE.

The Conservative leaders at Ottawa have spoken and now we know with some degree of definiteness their position on the great question on which the coming battle for supremacy in the Dominion will be fought. Sir Charles Tupper, after a characteristic speech, the leading feature of which was abuse of Sir Richard Cartwright rather than argument, moved the following resolution:

"That this House is of the opinion that a system of mutual trade preference between Great Britain and Ireland and the colonies would greatly stimulate increased production in and commerce between these countries, and would thus promote and maintain the unity of the Empire; and that nothing which falls short of the complete realization of such a policy should be considered as final or satisfactory."

This, taken in conjunction with his previous declaration that the Conservatives would insist on adequate protection being given to Canadian industries, which was a palpable bid for the manufacturers' vote, means that if Sir Charles and his party are returned to power the British preferential trade scheme will be abolished. It means that an alliance has been formed between certain Canadian manufacturers and the Tory party to shut out British goods again, to a certain extent at least, from our markets. It means that the Mother Country, which spends millions in our defence, which maintains fleets in our waters which benefit the citizens of Victoria to a degree which we all appreciate, and which takes anything from us which we have to sell without a cent of tribute, shall be put on the same footing in the way of business as our neighbors to the south, who have done their utmost to exclude us entirely from their markets. It means that the loyalty cries which the Conservatives have raised at election times, as was shrewdly suspected, were nothing more than hypocritical devices to deceive the people and gain another lease of power. They have been told by those having authority to speak for the people of Great Britain that there is no possibility of obtaining their consent to the imposition of duties on the necessities of life; that the factories and workshops of that great centre of manufacturing interests are kept running only through the system of free trade and cheap products of all kinds. They refused to listen to these things, but continued to maintain that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was offered a preference for Canada during the Jubilee festivities and that he scorned the offer and told those responsible for it that free trade was the only possible policy for Great Britain. It is useless to point out the absurdity of this story. Sir Charles is said to have reiterated this statement no less than eight times

since the opening of parliament, no doubt in the hope that a lie oft-repeated will gain some credence in time. If the Conservative leaders could bring one shred of proof to confirm their statements they would have a strong case against the government, for it would be the height of folly to reject an offer which would prove of such undoubted benefit to Canadians. But it has been repeatedly denied by those from whom the offer is said to have emanated. The Duke of Devonshire has said that he had never held forth any hopes to Canada of Britain giving her a preference, and Mr. Chamberlain, no doubt driven to it by Sir Charles's parliamentary utterances, has been driven to once more defend his position on the question, according to the following dispatch:

"In the discussion in the House of Commons last night on Mr. Herewick's resolution suggesting representation by the colonies, Mr. Chamberlain gave the final quietus to the story that he had offered preferential trade to Canada. He said: 'I have never done anything of the sort. It is one of those mistakes of which I am so largely the victim, and perhaps it would hardly be worth while to contradict until the occasion becomes urgent.'"

The British papers are equally outspoken on this subject. The Times, which is generally looked upon as the organ of the landlords, who would gain greatly by a duty on corn (which proves that the prices to consumers would be enhanced) has not said much on the subject, but nearly all the other papers have spoken, among them the Westminster Gazette, which says:

"We are duly grateful to Canada for her feeling towards Great Britain, and also for the hint that she 'hopes' rather than expects preferential treatment some day or other. But Canada would do well to base her calculations on the supposition that we shall stick to the free trade system."

The zeal of the tariff imperialists of Canada, commands British sympathy and the admiration of all, the more because a British tariff discrimination in favor of colonial products is as impossible to-day as ever. One pillar of the Empire's strength is its free trade. It must remain so, and the opening of doors so far as home markets are concerned."

It has been shown that we have already a very substantial preference in the British market. Canadians sell to Britons \$11 worth of goods for every \$4 worth sold to them by Americans, and there is every reason to believe that this proportion will continue to increase, as we are only beginning to understand each other. The issues are no longer obscure. The Conservative leader says he takes his stand on the position of adequate protection to Canadian industries; that is he will advocate the abolition of the preferential tariff. The Liberals contend that the preference has not only promoted trade with Britain and is a very small recognition of the many advantages we obtain from our connection with her, but that it has been a distinct gain to Canadians, inasmuch as it has created a demand for our products in the British markets and has compelled a reduction in the price of American goods coming into Canada to meet the lower-priced article from Britain. Which position is the more logically correct it may confidently be left to the electors to decide.

WHAT KRUGER WILL DO.

The events of the past week do not seem to admit of much hope of the immediate invasion of the Transvaal, but it may not be amiss to say something about the method which, according to the Natal Mercury, Oom Paul intends to adopt when he is driven to extremities. If it be carried out there is no reason to doubt that it will "stagger humanity." The scheme, however, has been divulged, and the fact that certain possibilities have been guarded against tends to show that the rumors have received a certain amount of credence among British officers. The late General Symons and the governor of Natal were in possession of details of the plan early in the campaign and took precautionary measures accordingly. This is a sketch of the last desperate scheme as set forth by the Mercury: A more deadly weapon than even explosive bullets or artillery shrapnel was to be employed—poison. The plot was systematically developed, and there were to be no wounded to shortly recover and take their places in the firing line. Burglers were to be told off along the line of advance, and as soon as the British crossed the Transvaal frontier the deadly work was to commence. With liberal supplies of cyanide of potassium tied up in bags they were to go to the fountain heads of the sprouts, or springs, and deposit the deadly stuff in them and the streams would become contaminated for miles. The farmers' wives were to be informed of these things so that they would be careful to water their cattle at unpolluted streams. As proof that there may be some foundation for the above, or at least that it was considered advisable by some of the British generals to be very cautious, it is pointed out that Methuen ordered his men to dig wells in order to secure their supplies of water, but of course that may have been for the purpose of guarding against fever-germs. The British have undoubtedly been reckless in some instances and have tumbled into many traps that it does seem might have been guarded against with ordinary precau-

tions, but they might have been pardoned if they had regarded with incredulity any such stories as those we have related and partaken of the stuff that would certainly have "staggered humanity." There is no modern instance of such measures being resorted to, whatever may have been done by savages or those but little removed from them, and we decline to accept without fuller evidence the Mercury's theory, although it sets forth its reasons for its belief with great circumstantiality. Still it is difficult to say what Kruger might not find justification for in the Old Testament if driven to dire extremities, and no doubt no precautionary measures will be neglected by Lord Roberts. It seems more probable that what Kruger referred to was some scheme to blow up a whole army, or destroy the mines, or the presence of women in the trenches, any of which would approach very closely to savage warfare.

Premier Macdonald, who is going to give Manitoba such a measure of prohibition as "the circumstances of the case will allow," is no bigot on the liquor question. The Winnipeg Free Press says:

"The picture of Mr. Hugh J. Macdonald, entitled 'our new premier,' accompanied by a five-dollar note and bottle of whisky, which were left at every house on the east shore of Lake Manitoba in the Gimli by-election, had nothing to do with electing Mr. Baldwinson. Mr. Macdonald has found time since promising to bonus the C.P.R. extension to Gimli to declare that a policy of government ownership of railways did it."

The mining troubles in British Columbia are nearly all settled or in a fair way to adjustment. This is good news, and the Minister of Mines should receive full credit for any part he may have taken in bringing about a settlement.

Canada's foreign trade, \$58.90 a head; that of the United States, \$25.31 a head. Good times these!

Dominion Finances

Revenue for Nine Months Has Increased Nearly Four Million Dollars.

Canadians Mentioned by Colonel Otter for Bravery at Paardeberg Drift.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, April 7.—The financial statement for the nine months ending March 31st, just issued, shows that the revenue collected was \$36,850,072, as compared with the \$33,058,841 for the nine months in the previous year, an increase of nearly four million dollars. The expenditure for the same time was \$28,051,556, an increase of \$900,000, so that there was betterment of about three million dollars. The expenditure on the capital account was \$6,457,038, a decrease of about half a million compared with the nine months in 1899.

Appointments.

Finlay A. Sinclair, Cascade City, has been appointed British Columbia preventative officer in Her Majesty's customs. James A. MacRae, inspector of Indian agencies, Ottawa, has been appointed commissioner of police in B. C. and the Northwest.

Mentioned for Bravery.

The report from Col. Otter refers to the following who distinguished themselves at Paardeberg Drift.

Private Kennedy, who led one of the ammunition mules right up to the firing line, where it was killed.

Surgeon-Captain Piset, who went forward and attended to Captain Arnold on the firing line, and acted as stretcher bearer in returning.

The following also distinguished themselves: No. 6559, Sergt. Utten; 7177, Private Andrews; 7040, Private Dickson; 7043, Private Dunnean; 7876, Private Page; 7300, Private Murphy; 7347, Private Hornbrook; O'Leary, R. C. Chaplain, who assisted within the firing line.

(Private J. H. Dickson is a member of Nelson Co. of Rocky Rifle Rangers.)

New Indian Reserve.

A tract of land, containing about 160 acres, at the mouth of Moosehide Creek, on the east side of the Yukon river, and about three miles down the river from Dawson, has been reserved for the use of Indians residing in that locality.

Timber Regulations.

The regulation to cut timber in the Yukon have been amended as follows: The licensee shall pay a royalty of \$2 per thousand feet B. M. upon the sales of lumber manufactured from timber cut on his berth, and for timber used for cord wood or ties dues shall be as follows: Cord wood, 50 cents per cord; ties, 6 cents each, and ten per cent. on the sales of all other products of the berth.

ARE YOU ONE OF THEM.

Statistics show that 25 per cent. of men and women suffer the torture of itching piles. Investigation proves that Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment has never yet failed to cure itching piles, and all of these men and women could end their sufferings at once by using it. Scores of thousands have been cured by this treatment. Everybody can be cured in the same way.

A Toronto dispatch says: Trinity University corporation yesterday appointed Rev. T. C. Street Macklin provost, in succession to Rev. Dr. Welch, now rector of St. James's. Mr. Macklin is the first Canadian who has held the post, and the appointment is considered very judicious.



"Yes, I got the idea for this doily in the Corticelli Magazine." "You know you can work lovely designs from the instruction you get in it." "It tells about hundreds of pretty things and has beautifully colored plates to illustrate them." It costs only 25 cents a year and is issued quarterly. THE CORTICELLI SILK CO., 91 Richfield Street, ST. JOHNS, P. Q.

What It Means

To always please our customers and give them no cause for complaint. All orders are executed promptly without mistakes or substitutes. It means our policy of selling honest goods ALL the time at the lowest prices year in the long run.

Granulated Sugar 10lbs for \$1.00 New Jam (5lb pail)..... 45c Peaches..... 20c Tin Pears..... 20c Tin Plums..... 20c Tin Apples..... 20c Tin Early Rose Potatoes..... \$1.00 sack

J. PIERCY & CO. HATS AND CAPS. A Large Assortment of all kinds of Hats and Caps also Girls' and Children's Sunbonnets and Tams. We invite the TRADE to inspect our well assorted stock in all its departments.

British Army Officers

Mr. Geo. Wyndham Hard at Work on the Proposed Reforms.

The Queen and Lady Roberts Presented With the V.C. Won by Her Son.

(Associated Press.) London, April 7.—The scatter-brained youth and his three-franc pistol gave England a thrill that has not yet been quite effaced by the instant knowledge that the Prince of Wales was unharmed. It was the first time the Prince has been attacked, though the assassination of the Queen has been attempted five times. The life of no monarch in Europe has been in danger so many times as that of Queen Victoria, though, with the exception of Emperor William, the hereditary ruler of every country has at least one experience with a would-be assassin. The Prince of Wales's demeanor when he emerged from the smoke of gunpowder and requested those who had laid hands upon Spidoo not to treat him harshly, is Admired Immensely.

In perfect composure the Prince returned to his carriage and sat down to a game of nap with the gentleman attending him. He displayed similar impassiveness in the south of France at the time of the terrible earthquake several years ago. He was asleep when the shock was felt, was awakened at once and warned to escape, but he refused to be deprived of his rest by so trivial a thing as an earthquake. It is for such qualities as these that the Prince is admired, as well as for his uniform good fellowship in social life.

A member of parliament tells a charming story of the Queen and Lady Roberts. When Lady Roberts visited Windsor a few days before she sailed for the Cape, the Queen handed her a small parcel, saying: "Here is something I have tied up with my own hands and I beg you will not open till you get home." Lady Roberts found that the parcel contained

The Victoria Cross won by her dead son by his gallantry at Colenso. George Wyndham, parliamentary under secretary of state for war, appeared in the House of Commons this week with the back numbers of magazines containing articles about West Point,

and papers concerning the United States system of providing for officers. He read from these at intervals during the session. Mr. Wyndham is awakened to the need of making the profession of arms possible to poor men. Everyone here knows that the army or navy subalterns must have from \$500 to \$1,000 yearly outside their salaries, which is scarcely more than enough to pay their mess bills. The vice-chancellor of Cambridge, when inviting applications for commissions the other day said Canadians would have a show, and that they possessed means enough

To Hold Commissions, and the master of Harrow recently wrote: "The army is the profession of rich men." Mr. Wyndham, who has had the courage to express in the House of Commons his feeling that something is wrong, is working on a plan to make it possible for subalterns to live on their pay. Army men are divided into factions on the subject. The Australian Commonwealth delegates and the Imperial government, as represented by the law officers of the crown, are after a constitution in which no appeal shall be permitted in any matter involving the interpretation of this constitution or the constitution of a state, unless the public interests of some part of Her Majesty's dominions other than the Commonwealth or a state are involved. The decision of the delegates is to get

The Constitution accepted as it stands, and everything changing it would have to be voted upon by the Australian people. The discussions came to a point where no further progress could be made. This was on Thursday. The delegates are now calling to their governments for instructions. Propositions for getting over the difficulty are under consideration.

Mr. Arnold White, the author, in this week's Academy, asks the assistance of poets, men of imagination, and masters of language in devising to replace Colonists, as a description of Canadians, Australians and South Africans. Mr. White points out that Colonists are not good enough, and is resented. Britishers, Mr. White thinks, might do

In the Imperial House of Commons yesterday the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks Beach, gave the estimates for 1900, the revenue being placed at £127,820,000, and the expenditure at £190,000,000. The deficit, he said, would be met partly from the war loan, and partly from the treasury bills. Each week, he declared, showed a greater improvement in trade.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S 25c CATARRH CURE. Is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops drooping of the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

Nothing Acco... Stirring Scen... Conven... Va... A Long Discu... Delegate... and... Dwing to th... Impossi... Any... (Special... Vancouver, A... evening there... the chairman, F... Cassiar, question... en minutes. T... "Question" call... adjournment we... ruled in favor... e took over an... ate in the aft... resolution was p... When the aft... ed, Mr. Dixon... the ball by ask... of what had be... committee. Mr... against the pro... vative delega... John Grant, o... names of the d... delegation. Chas. Woodv... Archie McNaug... Cassiar, when th... Conservative... E. Grant said... name had been... Dr. Lewis Ha... name was on th... not Cassiar. Mr. Grant rep... this resolution... it was not m... in the Victoria... H. B. Gilmou... ar representative... er in which it... hole and corner... the names of th... E. Nichol and o... alleged did not... the district from... Col. Gregory s... it was agreed... principle was all... allowed to receiv... did not reside... Jardine and Se... when they did... then should not... allowed? He r... tion of two dele... Secretary of the... Vancouver men... Cassiar they sho... delegations from... fair, nor right... These spokesme... once, and Mr. G... with calls of "O... An amendment... Messrs. Grant... from Cassiar. There were sev... this line. The question... strength of ay... A ballot was... Messrs. McMILL... appointed scrut... of the secretary... 250 delegates, a... "no." Equim... resulted with 1... and 7 against... It. So the ques... the other. G. I... of the Vancou... "yes." When... was finished w... Yes, 105; no, 7... Donald, of Cow... said "yes." When it stood... with that vot... realized that th... The yes's were... two, and the... Then the noes... stood at 137... called, and it... rary called out... W. Weart, of th... another "yes." sessions of the... a pin drop. Th... to one side and... slightest conce... ment later he... lot, 139 to 138... in favor of a... gates." The cheering... a dozen blocks... recess by com... after 4 o'clock... ceeded. A somewhat... rod during the... which was argu... called, and it... Pleasant, was... from North V... was a scruti... hastily and o... North Victoria... had been imp... been, he allege... by the preside... delegation, M... that Mr. Gree... Sam Thomp... cite in descri... He ultimate... consent... scrutineer. He mention... had been take... the word "sh... Frank Hinge... tion of the B... moved that M... G. Webb, W... can be struc...

Nothing Accomplished

Stirring Scenes at the Liberal Convention Held in Vancouver.

A Long Discussion Regarding the Delegates From Cassiar and Esquimalt.

Owing to the Tumult It Was Impossible to Transact Any Business.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, April 7.—At 5 o'clock last evening there was no one but agreed with the chairman, Fred Peters, that the Cassiar question could not be settled in ten minutes. There were many cries of "question" called when the motion for adjournment was made. The chairman ruled in favor of the adjournment, and it took over an hour more of discussion late in the afternoon before the Cassiar resolution was put to the meeting.

When the afternoon session was opened, Mr. Dixon, of Grand Forks, opened the hall by asking for more particulars of what had been done by the credentials committee. Mr. Dixon spoke generally against the proposal to admit unrepresented delegates from Cassiar.

John Grant, of Victoria, presented the names of the members of the Cassiar delegation.

Chas. Woodward wanted to know how Archie McNaughton was elected to the Cassiar, when it was known that he was a Conservative.

Mr. Grant said that Mr. McNaughton's name had been struck off.

Dr. Lewis Hall said that Mr. Grant's name was on the voters' list for Victoria, not Cassiar.

Mr. Grant replied that he had changed his residence from Victoria to Cassiar, and it was not his fault that he was on the Victoria list.

H. B. Gilmour was in favor of Cassiar representation, but not in the manner in which it was done. He called it a hole and corner system. He objected to the names of Messrs. W. A. Gilmour, W. C. Nichol and other gentlemen, whom he alleged did not even know anything of the district from which they alleged they came.

Col. Gregory said it seemed to him that it was agreed on all points that the principle was allowed that men should be allowed to represent places in which they did not reside. He objected to Messrs. Janine and Sea representing Victoria, when they did not reside there. Why then should the Cassiar people be allowed? He referred to the organization of two associations at Esquimalt. There were delegates from the junior association, and two out of seven were Vancouver men. If they ruled in favor of Cassiar they should inquire into the two delegations from Esquimalt. It wasn't fair, nor right, nor Liberal. (Cheers.)

Three speakers were on their feet at once, and Mr. Grant was drowned out with calls of "Question."

An amendment was presented that only Messrs. Grant and Gibson be allowed from Cassiar.

There were cries of "All or none." Several speakers expressed themselves in this line.

The question, all or none, was then put, strength of arms and noise was taken. A ballot was taken and proceeded with. Messrs. McMillan and R. L. Drury were appointed scrutineers.

The secretary read the names of the 280 delegates, and each called "yes" or "no." Esquimalt was called first and resulted with 13 favoring the Cassiars and 7 against. Albert went solid against it. So the question swayed one way and the other. G. D. Scott was the only man of the Vancouver twenty who voted "yes." When the Vancouver delegation was called there stood as follows: Yes 165; no 77. The name of A. McDonald, of Cowichan, was called, and he said "yes."

When it stood at 134 for to 136 against, with eight votes to be called, everyone realized that the result would be close. The vote went up three with the noes, and the excitement was intense. Then the noes went to 139 and the yes's stood at 137, still another name was called, and it was a "yes." The secretary called out another name, that of J. W. West, of Richmond, and there came another "yes." For the first time in the sessions of the convention you could hear a pin drop. The chairman had been off to one side and now came up without the slightest concern on his face. A moment later he read the result of the ballot, 139 to 136, and added "it will vote in favor of allowing the Cassiar delegates."

The cheering could be heard for half a dozen blocks. There was half an hour's recess by common consent, and it was after 4 o'clock when the meeting proceeded.

A somewhat dramatic incident occurred during the counting of the ballots, which was again referred to. When the name of the Rev. A. B. Green, of Mount Pleasant, was called, and being a delegate from North Victoria, Mr. Drury, who was a scrutineer, dropped his pencil hastily and objected to anyone from North Victoria because the delegation had been improperly appointed, having been the president and secretary of the delegation. Mr. Drury called it a shame that Mr. Green should vote.

Sam Thompson used the word hypocrite in describing Mr. Drury's position. He ultimately apologized, and Mr. Drury consented to resume his task of scrutineering.

He mentioned the matter after the vote had been taken, and apologized for using the word "shame."

Frank Higgins then took up the question of the Esquimalt delegation. He named Messrs. D. Fraser, J. Arnett, G. Webb, Wm. Noot, Robert and McLean as struck off, and that the names of

R. Price and Wm. Von Ryan be placed there instead.

Geo. E. Powell, of Victoria, called it a disgrace that an old and strong Liberal like Mr. Price should give way to men like the other gentlemen mentioned. He asked Mr. Fraser, chairman of the meeting at Esquimalt, if three of these gentlemen were residents of Esquimalt.

Mr. Fraser—No, they are not.

"Are they on the electoral list at Esquimalt?" asked Mr. Powell.

Mr. Fraser—I don't know that they are. (Laughter.)

Mr. Powell ridiculed the magnificent knowledge of Mr. Fraser, who was president of the association.

Mr. Martin moved an amendment after the crowd shouted "Question" at him for three minutes. He suggested in amendment that the name of Mr. Clements should be struck off and Mr. Price substituted. He thought this would relieve matters, and be agreeable to everyone.

The matter was coming to a vote, when it was decided as a compromise to save time to take off Messrs. Clements and Noot, and substitute Messrs. Van Ryan and Price.

This concluded the afternoon session.

E. P. Davis, Q.C., threw the bomb into the meeting when it convened in the evening. He moved as follows:

That the Liberals in provincial convention assembled hereby refuse to accept the government of the Hon. Joseph Martin as a representative Liberal administration, and hereby declare that it is optional with any Liberal to support or oppose the said government.

Mr. Martin was on his feet in a moment. He claimed that the motion was out of order, that his government was not on trial and that it was not what the convention was called for. At the last convention party lines had been decided against.

For half an hour Mr. Davis held the floor.

The chairman ruled that the motion was in order and was quite legitimate as a part of the business of the meeting. He proposed to submit his ruling to the meeting.

Mr. Martin was on his feet several times.

Mr. Davis grew tired of trying to speak against a terrific uproar. He lighted a cigar, and as often as Mr. Martin stood up to express his feelings, Mr. Davis turned his back on the platform. The chairman tried in vain to get order.

Mr. Moody, of Golden, tried to speak and there were three speakers on the platform at once in a moment later.

The uproar continued and the delegates sang several songs, while a dozen men on the platform were talking at once and smoking excitedly.

The Hon. Joe Martin again attempted to address the convention, when he was hissed and hooted off the platform.

Delegate Stewart Henderson, of Ashcroft, then moved the convention adjourn sine die, but the chairman refused to put it.

This was followed by more songs.

Mr. Tanner, of Rossland, moved in an amendment that "two strikes and out" until such time as we are in condition to transact business." (Laughter.)

The chairman explained that he could not proceed, neither could any other chairman. He proposed to put the motion to adjourn.

Nearly everyone was by this time walking around the room aimlessly.

Rev. Mr. Osburn, of Cowichan, climbed on a chair in the centre of the room and proceeded to speak. He mentioned that the chairman had evidently lost control of the meeting.

H. B. Gilmour was proposed as a new chairman. His nomination was seconded.

Mr. Hay, of Columbia, tried to speak from a chair behind the president. He was met with "You can't bulldoze us."

Frank Higgins jumped on a table and moved that the meeting adjourn. Another man pulled him off, jumped on the same table and seconded it.

The chairman came to the edge of the platform at 9:15 and put the motion to adjourn. The ayes and nays were not counted, and the chairman ruled that the motion to adjourn had passed.

The names of A. McQueen and other gentlemen were canvassed, but the chair remained empty and the din went on.

A few minutes later the meeting adjourned by common consent and at 10 o'clock the hall was in darkness.

Most of the delegates are leaving for their homes to-day.

A meeting of Martin's supporters was held at 10:30 o'clock, when the Premier's platform was endorsed. A resolution was passed supporting the Laurier government and its successful administration.

At a mass meeting at Topeka, Kas., for the purpose of inaugurating a movement to raise a million bushels of corn to send to the famine sufferers of India, Rev. Chas. M. Sheldon started the subscription by pledging \$1,000 of his share of the profits resulting from the Sheldon edition of the Capital. One hundred dollars and a cord of corn were pledged at the meeting.

Salow complexion, pain under the left shoulder blade and biliousness are unmistakable signs of torpid, sluggish liver. Too much bile is left in the blood and the whole system is poisoned.

Many people blame the kidneys for their sufferings when the liver is the real cause. Backache is as often the result of inactive liver as of disordered kidneys, and when the pain runs up under the left shoulder blade you can be sure the liver is responsible for the suffering.

As an invigorator and strengthener of the liver and kidneys, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are without a rival to-day. They have a combined and direct action on both liver and kidneys, make them active and vigorous, insure perfect filtering of the blood, and positively and permanently cure liver complaint, biliousness, jaundice, backache, lumbago, kidney disease and all troubles of the kidneys and liver. One pill a dose; 25 cents a box. At all druggists, or E. J. Manning, Bates & Co., Toronto. For pipes, there is Dr. Chase's Ointment, an absolute cure, 60 cents a box.

Shot by a Sentry

Lieut. Scott of H. M. S. Pheasant Seriously Wounded Last Night.

Failing to Reply to a Challenge He Was Fired Upon.

Question Raised of Naval Officers' Right to Inspect the Yard Guard.

Close on the heels of the disappearance of Assistant Paymaster Clarke, of the Leander, comes a story from Esquimalt, which is much more serious than the one mentioned. Authorities at both Work Point, the headquarters of the military portion of the garrison, and at Esquimalt, the naval base, refuse absolutely to talk in regard to the matter, as a military court will investigate the whole thing, and any statement from them at the present time might have a prejudicial influence when the proper court comes to sift the matter to the bottom.

The facts in skeleton form are, that last night some one entered the naval yard at Esquimalt shortly before 12 o'clock; that there was a challenge from the sentry, followed by the discharge of the sentry's carbine, and that shortly afterwards when the searchlights from the ships had been turned on to the scene and the whole naval base was astir, Navigating Officer Reginald D. Scott, of H. M. S. Pheasant, was carried out of the yard with bullet wounds in the region of his lungs. He was quickly rowed across to the naval hospital, where to-day he is reported to be in a very precarious condition, with the odds against his recovery very heavy. The sentry was immediately taken in charge, an escort dispatched from Work Point Barracks by Col. Grant, and the man marched to the guard room, where he awaits court martial.

Until a full investigation is held, it will, of course, be impossible to get at the full facts. What is stated around the naval town must therefore be given in lieu of something official. Gathered from various sources it is as follows: About midnight last evening, or shortly before it, Lieut. Scott, being the officer of the watch, came ashore and walked out to the navy yard for the purpose of inspecting the guard, which, since the opening of the war, and the prevalence of reports of Fenian machinations, has been doubled. This guard consisted of four men and a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Garrison Artillery, a fact which renders somewhat curious his attempt to include them in his tour of inspection, it being a rule in the service that officers visit guards mounted only by their own arm only. He was at once challenged by the sentry, Gunner Higgins, but no reply, so it is alleged, was forthcoming. The instructions of the guards being of late to challenge, and if not answered to fire, the sentry discharged a blank cartridge. It is stated that instead of taking the warning, the officer turned and began to run, and that the guard then fired two shots, both of which took effect, and Lieut. Scott dropped.

He was at once removed to the naval hospital, and the surgeon in charge being absent, the surgeon of the Egeria, and of the other vessels in port, were summoned. The former remained with him all night, and returning this morning shook his head ominously when questioned as to the officer's chances of recovery. He remained aboard until a few minutes, and then returned to his patient.

Lieut. Scott is a young officer, being still under twenty-five. He has been about two years on this station, being posted to the Pheasant on her last commission on October 17th, 1897.

It is openly asserted by some of those who are more or less in touch with affairs at the naval town, that this is but the climax for some time, and which has caused more or less friction between the naval and the artillery arms of the service. The artillery furnish the guard duties for all the land posts, including the naval yard, and of course, are regularly inspected by the officer of the day of the arm to which they belong. In spite of this Lieut. Scott and one or two other naval officers, when on watch duty, persisted in including the naval yard in their rounds much to the annoyance of the men and the officers of the land forces, for such points of etiquette as the one mentioned are generally sensitive ones with service men. It is stated that this very officer had trouble before with the guard, and that the matter formed the basis of a remonstrance from Col. Grant, commandant at Work Point, to Capt. Eagon, who, in the absence of the admiral in the south, is the senior officer of the squadron.

The feeling among those cognizant of the circumstances seems to be generally in favor of Gunner Higgins, who, it is stated, was merely carrying out his duty and pursuing a line of action which he would have been reprimanded or punished had he failed to follow. All the men have been urged to be especially vigilant on duty, and if unfortunately adherence to that principle it should not, so it is argued, be laid to his door.

The court martial, which will sit on the case will, however, take that matter into consideration and pass upon it.

Extreme as the measures adopted by those in charge at this station seem to be, it is possible that if the facts were generally known that their action would seem to be much more reasonable than it now does to those whose knowledge of the conditions is limited. Rumor says that the officers in charge have information of the presence in Victoria of several Fenian emissaries, whose avowed purpose is to wreck a portion of the fortifications, even if they pay for it with their lives. It is this that has led to the doubling of the guards, and the general air of preparedness which has characterized Work Point and Esquimalt of late.

That these men are daring is indicated by a statement which is vouched for by reliable parties. It is to the effect that the sentry at Macaulay Point a month or two ago discovered, through the agency of his dog, which barked, and thus gave the alarm, a man creeping over the chevaux de frise of entanglements with which the Point is protected, by placing a plank along the top. The sentry fired two shots, but his quarry escaped, although leaving behind him the tell tale board by means of which he attempted to gain an entrance.

RHODES IN LONDON.

(Associated Press.) London, April 7.—Mr. Cecil Rhodes arrived in this city yesterday. He is well and cheerful, but is much more exclusive than he was on his previous trip home. This is doubtless owing to the fact that Dr. Rutherford Harris, formerly secretary of the British South African Co. and Mr. Alfred Beit, the South African millionaire, met Mr. Rhodes at Madeira, and advised him to observe silence on South African affairs, especially as to the alleged differences with Col. Kekel, which at Kimberley, Mr. Rhodes' appointment was in marked contrast of his former receptions. The public did not show the slightest interest in him. From the time of his arrival he was surrounded by a bodyguard composed of Messrs. Beit, Harris, Hawksley and Roche.

STOPPED THE TRAFFIC.

(Associated Press.) Chicago, April 7.—A strike of 100 power house employees of the Chicago City Railway Co. tied up 170 miles of electric lines last night for 2 hours, at the busiest time. The men who went out objected to a change from an 8 to 12 hour day.

INSURRECTION SPREADING.

(Associated Press.) Madrid, April 7.—It is announced that the minister of war has received an official dispatch from Manila announcing that many Spaniards, residing at Manila, desire to return to Spain on account of the spreading of the Philippine insurrection on the island of Luzon.

SICKLY CHILDREN.

Some children are pale, weak and puny from birth; others become so as a result of disease, all are fully restored to health and vigor by a treatment with Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. It is nature's greatest restorative for pale, weak, nervous men, women and children. It gives roundness to the form and color to the cheek of the pale and emaciated, and new vigor to every motion of the body.

GENERAL DEBILITY.

From the Advertiser, Harland, N.B.

Ralph Giberson, postmaster at Monquart, N.B., is also known as a prosperous agriculturist. Now stalwart and rugged, he scarce ago was the picture of one suffering the terrible symptoms of general debility. He was run down in health, suffered much from dizziness, almost blindness, general dullness and depression of spirits. He had a poor appetite and such food as he ate gave him great distress. He was incapacitated for the work that fell upon him and was well nigh discouraged. Through reading the Advertiser he learned of the benefit that several of his friends in this vicinity had received by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and by the hope held out by their testimonials he secured a supply and took them according to directions. The result was almost magical; immediately his symptoms became less distressing, and he steadily gained until now he is perfectly free from his old troubles. He is glad to give his testimonial, that all who read it may know the remedy if ever they are troubled with general debility.

SPRING MEDICINE.

In the springtime the blood needs attention. The change of the year produces in every one, whether conscious of it or not, some heating of the blood. Some people have pimples, a little eczema, or irritation of the skin; others feel easily tired and have a poor appetite. A tonic is needed. The best tonic—the best of all spring medicines for man, woman or child is

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS

These Pills do not purge and weaken like other medicines. They make rich red blood, build up the nerves, and make weak, depressed and easily tired people cheerful, active and strong.

Pink colored pills in glass jars, or in any loose form, or in boxes that do not bear the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, are NOT Dr. Williams'.

The genuine are put up in packages, with wrapper printed in red.

Sold by all dealers or direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

No other medicine in the world has offered such undoubted proof of merit. What Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have done for others they will do for you, if given a fair trial.

Es 25c.

...the diseased improved Blower. ers, clears the air s druggists in a s permanently cures y Fever, Blower Dr. A. W. Chase onto and Buffalo.

WHERE RESTS THE BLAME

The Liver as Well as the Kidneys Responsible for Pains in the Back.

Salow complexion, pain under the left shoulder blade and biliousness are unmistakable signs of torpid, sluggish liver. Too much bile is left in the blood and the whole system is poisoned.

Many people blame the kidneys for their sufferings when the liver is the real cause. Backache is as often the result of inactive liver as of disordered kidneys, and when the pain runs up under the left shoulder blade you can be sure the liver is responsible for the suffering.

As an invigorator and strengthener of the liver and kidneys, Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are without a rival to-day. They have a combined and direct action on both liver and kidneys, make them active and vigorous, insure perfect filtering of the blood, and positively and permanently cure liver complaint, biliousness, jaundice, backache, lumbago, kidney disease and all troubles of the kidneys and liver. One pill a dose; 25 cents a box. At all druggists, or E. J. Manning, Bates & Co., Toronto. For pipes, there is Dr. Chase's Ointment, an absolute cure, 60 cents a box.

Queen and Children

Her Majesty Reviews Forty Thousand Boys and Girls in Phoenix Park.

While Waiting For Her Arrival They Sang "God Save the Queen."

(Associated Press.) Dublin, April 7.—The weather is mild and it is not raining. Queen Victoria is spending an active day. After breakfast she drove out in a donkey carriage.

Children arrived in a shoal, trotting from all parts of the country to attend the fete in Phoenix Park. The streets were full of picturesque processions of boys and girls, all carrying small Union Jacks, probably for the first time in their lives. They were in charge of priests, sisters and teachers.

During the afternoon Her Majesty drove from the vice-regal lodge to Phoenix Park and reviewed the children. It is estimated that from 35,000 to 40,000 young children were present. There was a remarkable demonstration. The Queen, accompanied by the Princess, drove through the extended lines of children bowing repeatedly in acknowledgements of their joyous hurrahs.

At about the centre of the line a stand was erected, which was occupied by the Lady Mayoress and others. A little girl presented the Queen with a bouquet, to which a card was attached bearing the inscription "To our beloved Queen, from the children of Ireland, Queen's Day, April 7th, 1900."

After driving up and down the line several times, amid ever increasing cheering, Her Majesty returned to the vice-regal lodge.

The Queen's reception in Phoenix Park to-day was as remarkable in its way as the state entry. The lines of children extended for miles along the road, eight and ten deep, and while awaiting Her Majesty's arrival, they alternately cheered and sang in chorus "God Save the Queen," while huge baskets of buns and chocolates were distributed to them.

The Queen was delighted with the ovation she received, which culminated when a bouquet, composed of lilies of the valley and violets, in a basket of shamrocks, was presented to her.

By special permission the scene was cinematographed.

At about 4 o'clock the Queen and the Princess, accompanied by a small escort of police, went for a drive outside of Phoenix Park into the country near Dublin. The weather was delightfully

FLOODS IN TEXAS.

Country Around Austin Inundated—Train Burned and Many Lives Lost.

(Associated Press.) Austin, Tex., April 7.—This section was visited by a cloud burst this morning and the entire country inundated. The Colorado river has risen seven feet in three hours, and is still rising three feet an hour. The storm was the most terrible in the history of Texas, sweeping everything before it.

A bridge on the International and Great Northern railway, north of here, was washed out, wrecking the St. Louis south-bound cannon ball express, ditching the engine, the mail and one passenger coach besides one sleeping car. Quite a number of people are reported to have been burned to death, but the list of casualties is not obtainable at present.

Rivers Rising.

Dallas, Tex., April 7.—The Colorado river has risen 27 feet since midnight. The Brazos and Trinity are also rising. Five serious washouts on the Austin and North Eastern railway are reported, and traffic has been abandoned. It is still raining and news of great damage comes from many points in Central and Southern Texas.

At 2:30 p.m. all wires between Dallas and Austin failed. A telephone from La Granda, five miles below Austin, says the big dam across the Colorado river at Austin broke at 11:25 o'clock, and that the flood of water washed away the power-house and destroyed all wire communication.

An immense property damage is anticipated both in the city of Austin and in the valley below.

FATAL STRIKE RIOT.

(Associated Press.) San Juan de Porto Rico, April 7.—At 4 o'clock yesterday evening fighting broke a movement at Puerto Tierra. Different mobs, totalling about 2,000 men, attacked the foreign colored men, English speaking negroes were subjected to attack, particularly the natives of St. Thomas and St. Kitts. One Porto Rican was killed and one injured, and three negroes of St. Kitts dangerously wounded. The affair was the outcome of the pier strike. A company of infantry was called out and martial law declared.

WOMEN FIGHT A DUEL.

(Associated Press.) Chicago, April 7.—A special to the Chronicle from the City of Mexico says a duel was fought in the outskirts of this city yesterday by two women connected with prominent families of the capital. Pistols were the weapons, and one of the participants was seriously wounded. The victor and two seconds have been arrested. The affair has created a sensation.

General Routine

Postponed Meeting of the Board of Trade Council This Morning.

Good Attendance, and Subjects of Ordinary Interest Were Dealt With.

A meeting of the council of the Board of Trade was held this morning, commencing at 11 o'clock, those present being as follows: Chairman, L. G. McQuade, and Messrs. D. R. Ker, J. J. Shallock, Jas. Thomson, C. A. Hollander, Capt. Cox, Thos. Patterson, Chas. Fodd, Simon Leiser, F. C. Davidge, and Secretary Elworthy.

After the ordinary formalities, the chairman urged upon the council the importance of deciding whether the meeting should be held in the daytime or evening.

After some discussion it was decided to meet hereafter at 11 o'clock in the morning.

A communication was received from the Acting Minister of Public Works, whose name was illegible, notifying the board of the department's intention to transfer the dredger at work in the Nanaimo harbor, to undertake the dredging operations to be instituted in Victoria harbor. Received and filed.

The secretary directed the attention of the council to the fact that no reply had been received from the Ottawa authorities to the communication written by D. R. Ker, and forwarded to them some time ago, regarding harbor improvements.

In explanation Mr. Ker pointed out that an elaborate scheme in this respect would be futile. Between Shoal Point and the lighthouse there was a shallow portion, and the speaker mentioned several other sections of the harbor as well, which would require dredging. It had suggested itself to him as a common-sense view that dredging to the extent of say 13 feet be asked for first, and then this would be gradually deepened upon further urgent representations, until a depth of 18 or 19 feet had been secured.

Capt. Cox remarked that in the channel between the points mentioned by Mr. Ker there was a twelve foot spot.

The chairman advised referring the matter to the navigation committee to outline a definite plan of what was wanted. In concurring with this view Mr. Shallock pointed out the absolute necessity of arriving at some definite unanimous conclusion. If 13 feet of water were asked for and 15 some other time, the authorities would reply that the board did not know what they wanted. In connection with this matter he would suggest to the navigation committee the desirability of instituting coal bunkers at the outer wharf.

The speaker moved, seconded by Mr. Holland, that the subject of harbor improvements be referred to the navigation committee for full report, to be considered at a general meeting at the earliest possible opportunity.

The clerk of the Privy Council wrote acknowledging the communication of the board regarding the public meeting held by them to discuss the project of railway to the north of the Island. Received and filed.

The department of trade and commerce also acknowledged a communication from the board regarding navigation matters discussed by them at their last meeting. Received and filed.

Hon. J. S. Yates wrote acknowledging the receipt of the petition bearing the board's endorsement, regarding improvements in communication service on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. The writer stated that the matter would receive the consideration of the government. Received and filed.

The Vancouver Board of Trade wrote enclosing a resolution passed by them favoring an alteration of the present designation of both boards.

The question was ultimately referred to the general meeting.

C. E. Renout wrote tendering his resignation from the board, which was accepted with regret. Mr. Arthur Robertson was elected to succeed Mr. Renout.

A communication was received from the Toronto Board of Trade regarding the establishment of technical schools, and referring to a convention which was called some time ago on the subject, but which was, however, postponed. It is the intention to submit a representation to the Governor-General as follows:

Your Excellency:—The boards of trade and also the trades and labor councils represented by this delegation desire to bring before your attention the importance of providing suitable education for the classes engaged in industrial pursuits in Canada.

You are doubtless aware that the question of the establishment of technical education has become one of national importance. It is generally admitted that if Canada is to hold her own in the great industrial warfare now in progress amongst nations she must be equipped with the necessary means for training her own population to enter into the arts and manufactures.

The question of technical education will most seriously affect the future prosperity of the Dominion. We cannot be called a manufacturing country, for the export of our manufactured products is small in comparison with our imports, and this although there is possibly no other country in the world except the United States which possesses the same extent and variety of natural resources. As compared with the United States, the census of 1891 showed that while our per capita production was \$98.50 theirs was \$148, and there is reason to believe that the disproportion has greatly augmented in the interval.

Canada pays millions every year to the superior artists and artisans of other countries, every cent of which represents a foreign tax voluntarily paid in consequence of ignorance and want of skill at home.

We cannot depend on private liberality in this young country to organize and support an adequate system of technical education. The generous provision for all

such instruction made by many European countries is regarded as one of the most pressing of public duties, and may be followed up by us with profit.

In the United States also, technical education has made great strides during the past few years, largely through business organization and private munificence; but the American people have become so accustomed to the importance that schools of technology are springing up in every state of the Union; some by private aid, such as the Philadelphia Textile school, others by municipal and state aid.

With these facts before us, and realizing the possibilities of our unrivaled natural resources, we believe the time has arrived when an opportunity should be furnished our people to develop the many fields of industry within our borders. This is a matter of trade and commerce, and comes primarily within the scope and action of the federal government, just as agriculture is promoted by our experimental farms, dairying by our dairy stations, mining by our geological survey, and the cultivation of food fishes by means of the hatcheries and the protective service.

We assume, of course, that any system of technical education should be national, i. e., aided by the state, as in Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria and England. In Germany the subject is placed under the control of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and not of the Minister of Education. In Belgium it falls under the supervision, not of the Minister of Interior and Public Instruction, but of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Public Works.

The President of the Board of Trade has the management of this department in England. France has a large number of industrial schools and colleges subsidized by the Minister of Commerce and Industry. These countries recognize that technical education is first and above all an essential to industrial growth and development. In this view of the matter it becomes the duty of the Dominion, and not of the provinces, to inaugurate at the earliest possible day a thorough system of technical and industrial education.

Enclosed was a memorandum outlining the general plan of the suggested movement. Referred to manufacturing committee for report.

Mr. Shallock brought up the question of the board receiving monthly and quarterly statistics regarding the import and export in connection with Victoria. Mr. Milne had expressed his willingness to give the board, not only a report of the monthly returns, but also the quarterly returns.

The secretary brought up the matter dealt with by Mr. Heubach, general manager of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, at a recent meeting of the board, and referred to the council. Mr. Heubach desired that the council should recommend to the government the desirability of assisting the movement to erect a permanent building at the Winnipeg exposition for British Columbia exhibits.

After some discussion, Mr. Thomson moved, seconded by Mr. Ker, that a memorial be forwarded to the provincial government supporting the proposition of Mr. Heubach, and that the government take into its faithful consideration the granting of the necessary funds, etc.

Mr. Davidge raised the question regarding the proposed action of the authorities to utilize the marine hospital for military purposes, but the consensus of opinion was that should such a step be taken another building will be provided by the authorities to answer hospital purposes.

Some discussion ensued regarding the question as to the present dissatisfaction prevailing at the daylight service now operated by the C. P. N. The chairman reminded those present that the board of trade was blamed for the change, with which they had absolutely nothing to do. The council afterwards adjourned.

METROPOLITAN APPROVAL.
Canadians in London Enthusiastic Over Captain Wolley's Poem.

A most appreciative note has been received by Capt. Clive Phillips-Wolley in reference to his poem, "Our Testament," from C. V. Just, librarian of the Canadian office in London, to whom he sent a copy. Mr. Just says:

"I am delighted with your poem. By Jove! you have struck the right note, and no wonder the whole of Canada is vibrating. I am having it recited at the Hotel Cecil on the 3rd prox. at our big smoking concert, by a Canadian artist, and I am looking forward to a great treat and a good sale of the poem. I am also enlisting the support of Franklyn McLeay, the leading Shakespearean artist at Her Majesty's theatre (Theatre), who, you know, is a Canadian. There is the probability of a Canadian concert being given by Canadian artists in London in aid of the Canadian patriotic fund, and if "Our Testament" does not fetch the audience—I'll eat my hat!

"Good-bye. God bless you for your inspiration."
"Yours very sincerely,
"C. V. JUST."

INDIGESTION
If you have it you know all about the heavy feeling in the stomach, the nausea, sick headache, and general weakness. You can't have it a week without your blood being impure, your nerves exhausted, and your liver sluggish.

AXEL'S Sarsaparilla
makes the blood pure, strengthens the digestion, and tones up the nerves. Axel's Pills arouse the sluggish liver and cure your constipation.

After suffering terribly with dyspepsia, I tried your Sarsaparilla. I took three bottles, and voluntarily paid in consequence of ignorance and want of skill at home.

Write the Doctor—If you have any complaint whatsoever, write to the Doctor. He will give you the best medical advice free. Address: Dr. C. A. Lowell, Lowell, Mass., U.S.A.

Jan. 30, 1899.
Brownstown, Va.

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News of West Coast

Work Begun to Recover the Gold From Wreck Bay Placers.

Wreckage Found on Barclay Sound—Many Candidates at-Alberni.

The arrival of the steamer Willapa, which returned from the West Coast last evening brought disappointment to the golders, for they were awaiting her return hoping to hear news from the schooner now working to the northward following the herds bound up from the south. The steamer, however, did not bring any news for the sealing men, for she did not see or hear of any of the schooners, with the exception of the Minnie, which was lying at Dodge's Cove. From that vessel she brought a catch of two hundred skins down to port.

Among the passengers by the steamer Willapa were several aspirants for political honors. Capt. G. A. Huff, owner and operator of the steamer Willapa on Alberni canal, came down from Alberni, and it is announced he will enter the lists as opponent to Mr. A. W. Neill, M.P.P., for that district. J. F. Bledsoe, M.E., formerly connected with the Colonist and a provincial newspaper, is also announced as an opponent of the member for Alberni. There is some talk also of Hon. Edgar Dewdney running for that district, so Alberni will have candidates in plenty.

Other passengers by the Willapa were Messrs. Brewer and Williams, who have been intimates and rivals of miners on their new workings at Uchucklessee; Col. Hayes, of the Hayes Mines at Alberni, and Mr. Atkinson, whom the colonel has been showing over his property. H. E. Newton and S. H. Toy came down from their mining properties at Shan Tung. Mr. Gonger of the United States navy, formed in Chinese waters, is to have its headquarters at Hongkong for some time. It was thought that the war vessels dispatched to Hongkong from Manila and San Francisco were on temporary duty and were to be returned soon, but such is now known not to be a fact.

Attitude of the States.
Washington, April 7.—It is said at the state department that nothing has been heard from United States Minister Gonger within the last few days to indicate any substantial change in the situation in Shan Tung. Mr. Gonger's instructions enables him to make a strong presentation as he may deem necessary for the desire of his government that full protection should be extended to the American residents in China, but officials are confident that he did not become a party to any concerted action.

FROM NANAIMO.
(Special to the Times.)
Nanaimo, April 7.—H. Clarke, a Vancouver commercial traveller, was driving from Comox to Cumberland yesterday when he was thrown from the buggy. Mr. Clarke was badly injured.

Steamer Joan will go to Victoria tonight for her annual overhauling, and the City of Nanaimo will go on the Vancouver run on Monday.

BUILDINGS BURNED.
(Associated Press.)
Proctorville, Ohio, April 7.—A fire, which started early to-day, has destroyed 30 buildings, and was still burning at 1 o'clock.

CAPTAIN CODMAN DEAD.
(Associated Press.)
New York, April 7.—Dispatches from Boston announce the death, in his 80th year, of Capt. Jno. Codman, the famous advocate of free ships and free trade.

Two cases of plague were reported at Honolulu on March 26th. One was a Japanese fisherman, the other a white man named John Hurley. Since that date no new cases have appeared. Dr. Carmichael has decided that in view of the recognition now given the prophylactic as a preventive, effective for from 30 to 40 days, he will give permits for steamer passage to persons who take the remedy and are in good health, have their baggage disinfected, and are otherwise under sanitary conditions.

BICYCLISTS, young or old, should carry a bottle of Pain-Killer in their saddle bags. It cures cuts and wounds with wonderful quickness. It relieves rheumatism, is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis, 25c, and 50c.

Warning to China

Powers Demand the Immediate Total Suppression of Society of Boxers.

Unless This is Done Troops Will Be Landed to Protect Foreigners.

(Associated Press.)
London, April 7.—A special from Shanghai announces that the American, British, German and French ministers have sent a joint note to the Chinese foreign office demanding the total suppression of the Society of Boxers within two months, and announcing that otherwise the powers mentioned will land troops and march into the interior of the north provinces, Shantung and Chi Li, in order to secure the safety of foreigners.

According to the same dispatch the American, Italian and French legations are now provided with naval guards from the large gatherings of warships at Taku.

Liu Kun Yih, viceroy of Liang Kung, has had three audiences with the Dowager Empress relative to the Emperor, and it is believed that he has impressed her with the advisability of restoring His Majesty to power.

United States Warships.
San Francisco, April 7.—The squadron of the United States navy, formed in Chinese waters, is to have its headquarters at Hongkong for some time. It was thought that the war vessels dispatched to Hongkong from Manila and San Francisco were on temporary duty and were to be returned soon, but such is now known not to be a fact.

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What is CASTORIA

Castoria is for Infants and Children. Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. It is Pleasant. Its guarantee is thirty years' use by Millions of Mothers. Castoria cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. Castoria relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. Castoria assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels of Infants and Children, giving healthy and natural sleep. Castoria is the Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

Castoria is an excellent medicine for children. Mothers have repeatedly told me that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me."
Dr. G. C. Osgood, Lowell, Mass.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me."
H. A. ARKIE, M. D. Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF
Chas. H. Fletcher.
APPEARS ON EVERY WRAPPER.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 177 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

To Our Patrons

LAST YEAR we had such a demand for our Seeds that we were unable to supply our patrons. Therefore we start THIS YEAR with a FRESH, CLEAN AND NEW CROP.

SEEDS

Everything warranted to be such and true to name. We keep the best CHOICEST and CLEANEST stock of goods on the Coast. Wholesale prices. Write for it. Thanking you for your kind patronage in the past and hoping to be favored with YOUR BIG ORDERS in the future, we are yours very truly,

THE BRACKMAN & KER MILLING CO., LD., VICTORIA, B.C.

FREE DAISY AIR RIFLE

We give this splendid rifle for selling only two dozen packages of our Flour. Free. Scale at 10 cents each. Each large package contains 40 most fragrant varieties. All colors. This rifle is the best made and latest model, well finished and ready for use. It is just the thing for target practice or for shooting cats, rats, sparrows, etc. Return the advertisement with your address and we will send you the rifle and powder. The powder is in airtight cans. Our Sweet Flour packages sell themselves. Premium Supply Co., Box 111, Toronto.

TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

The Provincial Institute convenes at Vancouver on Tuesday, April 17—A Prominent Educationist to Be Present.

The Teachers' Institute meets in Vancouver on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Easter week. These meetings are held alternately in Vancouver and Victoria, and are attended by the majority of the teachers of the province.

This year the committee have scored a success by securing the promise of D. J. Goggin, superintendent of education in the Northwest Territories, to attend and lecture to the institute. Mr. Goggin is one of the foremost, if not the foremost, educationalist of Canada. He began his career as a teacher in Ontario, where, after some time spent in the lower schools, he became Principal of Port Hope High school. In Ontario he made a great name as an educationalist, and in due time was transferred to Manitoba as Superintendent of Education. In his new sphere he was as successful as he was as a teacher; so much so that when Premier Haultain, of the Northwest Territories, was reorganizing the educational system of that country, Mr. Goggin went there at his urgent request as Superintendent of Education, which position he at present holds. Mr. Goggin has devoted much time and attention to institutes and the professional advancement of less experienced teachers, and his lectures cover a large range of educational subjects.

It is not often that our teachers have such an opportunity of improvement as will be presented to them at their meeting in Vancouver, and the committee are to be congratulated on having arranged an interesting and instructive programme.

The institute officers are as follows: President, Mr. D. Wilson, B. A., Victoria; first vice-president, Mr. H. M. Stramborg, B. A., New Westminster; second vice-president, Mr. E. B. Paul, M. A., Victoria; third vice-president, Miss Bessie Johnston, Vancouver; treasurer, Mr. L. J. O'Brien, B. A., Wellington; secretary, Miss M. K. Edmonson, B. A., Vancouver.

The following are the additional members of the executive committee: Mr. J. S. Gordon, B. A., Vancouver; Mr. J. G. Hands, Victoria; Mr. P. Murray, Maple Ridge; Miss E. Le Feuvre, Nanaimo; Miss L. Lewis, Hazelton, P. E. I.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.
The trial of Walkley, King & Casey vs. the city, proceeded again to-day, before Mr. Justice Martin until 1 o'clock, when an adjournment was taken until to-morrow, as the plaintiffs desire the evidence of Q. D. H. Warden, who was unable to attend to-day.

To-morrow at 10 o'clock the first meeting of the newly elected Benchers of the Law Society will take place at the secretary's office.

The Benchers of the Law Society met this morning.

Messrs. J. D. Spence, of Columbia; R. A. Dickson, of Grand Forks, and Hugh

Macdonald, of Vancouver, were out to the bar and admitted as solicitors. Mr. W. H. Cutten, of Vancouver, called, he having already been admitted as a solicitor.

They were presented by Mr. Helms to Judge Drake, before whom they were sworn in.

Messrs. A. J. Kitto and Harry Law were both successful in their final examinations.

Messrs. D. M. Rogers, Creagh and Jorand passed the second intermediate and Messrs. Berkeley, O'Brien and Devereux the first intermediate.

Messrs. James Dick and H. A. Tur passed the preliminary examination. The trial of Walkley, King & Casey vs. the city was postponed this morning for two weeks.

Another plan of the Free Staters for the relief of the British secret agents and plans of lining scheme (Orange Free State) giving a plan from Mafeking route, amended take.

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Anxiety

The Free State of Mar

Engagement Boers

London, Apr. 7.—The Standard Free State and the Boer army, and General Buller's forces are surprised attack, is evident, judging from the reports.

The Bloemfontein Daily Mail says that the Boer army is marching to the north of the Orange River, and that the danger of a war is imminent.

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Anxious to Fight

The Free Staters Are Desirous of Marching on Bloemfontein.

Engagement at Bushman Kop-Boers Now Have Plenty of Food.

London, April 5.—No news has been issued by the war office since yesterday, and little was allowed to come through from the correspondents at Bloemfontein.

The Standard's representative at the Free State capital says there is no sign that the Boers intend taking the offensive, and General Clements is disposing of his forces so as to guard against any surprise attack, which, though impossible, is evidently not regarded as impossible.

On we rushed, madly, wildly, tearing through brambles, stumbling over prostrate comrades, eager in the delirium of bloodshed and destruction which had seized on us all to reach the enemy's trenches.

Darkness settled down on that well fought field, mercifully casting a veil over the horrors. Then began the search for the dead and wounded.

According to the Daily Mail, Mr. J. W. Jenkins, of Philadelphia, one of the Daily Mail's dispatch riders in South Africa, was taken prisoner on Sunday by a Boer picket, but he frightened the Boers into releasing him by telling them that they were surrounded by the British.

Of the Capture of British Soldiers and Stores.

Brandfort, Orange Free State, April 5.—Burghers who are returning here from the scene of the Boer's post are bringing interesting details of the occurrence.

It appears that when the first retreating British wagon entered the drift the ambuscaders shouted "Hands up!"

In one cart were two officers, to whom Commandant Delarey shouted, "Hands up!"

The burghers, who were previously short of food, now have plenty. Commandant Dewet sent the British guns, wagons and prisoners to Wynburg.

Altogether the Boers captured 350 prisoners, and the Boer's post was destroyed.

The significance of the battle must not be underestimated. It was fought by a force of Free Staters on the flat plains and without shelter.

Perhaps of greater importance even than the victory was the capture of British secret papers, including maps and plans of 1897, 1898 and 1899.

Another plan was for the march from Bloemfontein to Kroonstad by Brandfort.

Advices from Winburg, Ventersburg, Pricks and Kenhardt show the colony full of rebels.

A dispatch box was found at Sanna's post, containing the oaths signed by the Free Staters who surrendered.

After saying that the government had raised a temporary loan with the Transvaal, President Steyn concluded with a prayer that the Free State might be preserved from being forced to give up its dearly beloved independence.

Boer Prisoners. London, April 5.—In the House of Commons today, Mr. George Wyndham, parliamentary secretary of the war office, replying to a question relative to the Boer prisoners at Simonstown, said the deaths ashore far exceeded the deaths aboard ship.

Irish Guards. London, April 5.—Army Orders to-day contain the following: "The Queen having deemed it desirable to commemorate the bravery shown by the Irish regiments in the recent operations in South Africa, has been graciously pleased to command that an Irish regiment of Foot Guards be formed, under the designation of Irish Guards."

After Paardeberg. Father O'Leary Tells of the Search for the Dead.

Ottawa, March 29.—One of the most graphic accounts of the fight at Paardeberg last month, when the Canadians lost so heavily, is given by Rev. Father

O'Leary, the Roman Catholic chaplain with the contingent. He was right with the firing line during the fight, and at night helped to look for the dead and wounded and performed the last rights at the grave of the eighteen heroes who died. His letter was sent to his brother, Mr. James O'Leary, of Ottawa, and is as follows:

My Dear Brother,—Well, at last we have been in it, and through it, and, though our baptism of fire was a costly one, willingly would we go through it again.

Canada may well be proud of her noble boys. It is true that many a once happy home is now in mourning since the fatal 18th of February, but the sorrow that has entered into the hearts of the loved ones far away will undoubtedly be tempered by the consoling assurance that all have done their duty—all, every one. So say the brave Gordons, the famous Black Watch, the Argylls, the Seaforths, the sturdy Cornwallis—so say they all.

And oh, that Wild, Mad Charge against an invincible enemy. Never shall I forget it, nor shall I attempt to describe it, at least for the present. Hell let loose would give but a faint idea of it. On, on we rushed through a hail of bullets, the air alive again with deadly missiles.

On we rushed, madly, wildly, tearing through brambles, stumbling over prostrate comrades, eager in the delirium of bloodshed and destruction which had seized on us all to reach the enemy's trenches.

Darkness settled down on that well fought field, mercifully casting a veil over the horrors. Then began the search for the dead and wounded.

When we reached the enemy's trenches, we found them empty. The Boers had fled, and we were left to search for the dead and wounded.

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The Siege of Ladysmith

Officers Rought It Like the Men—Ordinary Stratagems and Disguises.

Horse (Hash) Versus Ox Flesh—Tobacco and Rum for Troops.

Ladysmith, March 6. Looking back over the siege, there is nothing which strikes one so much as the alteration in the garrison itself.

That familiar and frequently heard hope, "May our shadow never grow less," assumed, as we reached the later stage of the siege, a fuller and deeper meaning, one never so clearly understood or so thoroughly appreciated before.

The shadows of some of the besieged have grown less. Men of jovial aspect, ruddy visage, and ample dimensions have undergone a strange metamorphosis.

The ruddy countenance has passed through various stages of blueness until the washed-out pale stage was reached, which, if not beautiful, had the merit of being fixed and more in harmony with khaki than the brilliant cherry color which went before the ample dimensions had disappeared.

The shrinkage in many cases went on to an extent which would have alarmed had it not been for the fact, patent to all beholders, that the man was infinitely better for his reduction.

Yet it must be confessed that some of the besieged, both old and young, passed the ordeal of lowered rations and no beer without losing the proverbial pound in weight.

When beer and other supplies of liquor became exhausted for all but the few who had supplies of their own, the change in the appearance of many was a warning of their altered looks sought to explain the same by alluding to mysterious baffling ailments, from which they suffered in secret.

One of these new ailments was termed "sun-fever," the outcome of which was a bleaching of the face of the person whom it attacked.

The life led by the soldiers, scattered as they mostly were near the hill-tops around Ladysmith, was, as compared with the usual mess of the barrack-room, often trying in its monotony, but it was shared by the officers, who roughed it like their men. But "roughing it" does not necessarily imply hardships.

Some of the contractors had to supply 18,000 men with meat. Although at this time not all the civilians were drawing rations, yet the total given includes a large proportion of the civilian population of Ladysmith and all the civilians of Intombi Spruit.

The Refugee Camp. Every morning a train left the town with provisions for Intombi Camp and returned in the evening.

During the early part of the siege rations were varied in quantity, and the amount of meat sometimes amounted to 1½ lb. daily. Then there were issues of meal, ham, cheese, jam, and rum.

Her Majesty Spent a Quiet Day Yesterday—Illuminations at Night.

Dublin, April 5.—Her Majesty went out for a drive in Phoenix Park during the afternoon as quietly as she would have done in London.

The Queen's first day of residence in Dublin passed quite uneventfully. Such scenes as these were might well have occurred in London.

The official announcement of the formation of the Irish Guards was not given out here, and came from London too late for the afternoon papers.

Neither the Freeman's Journal, the Independent nor the Irish Times comments upon it this morning, but the Express says: "It is a great and kindly compliment to Ireland," and suggests that the Guards should be chiefly composed of the remnants of the Irish regiments which have fought so valiantly in South Africa.

The correspondent of the Associated Press is informed that the Queen is in the best of health and certainly she looked so during both drives. When she went out in the afternoon without escort, carriages and cabs and jaunting cars persisted in following her, and the police, after a few futile efforts allowed this unusual procedure.

It is understood that Her Majesty received the news of the attempt at assassination with calmness, and that although disturbed, she was not in the least agitated.

The illuminations were again the feature of the town, attracting large but orderly crowds, although many deserted the city proper to go to Kingstown, where a brilliant display of fireworks was given.

The following cablegram was received to-day by a prominent citizen of Dublin from Richard J. Seddon, premier of New Zealand: "New Zealanders, especially Englishmen here, are delighted at the splendid reception given our good sovereign."

The Independent, commenting upon the suggestion of the London Daily Mail that the time is ripe for the government to seek to "make Irish sentiment a great bulwark of the Empire," says: "Past experience would lead us to expect that nothing particularly advantageous to Ireland will result from the visit of Her Majesty, but this imperialistic organ is right in indicating that British statesmen have an opportunity to make Irish sentiment a bulwark of the Empire. It is an opportunity they always had, but they have never had the political sagacity to realize it."

A number of burglaries have occurred, especially of jewelry. The only large amount yet reported are the loss of £1,000 worth by the Countess of Munster, while on the way from England, and £400 worth by the wife of a former mayor of Belfast, taken from her hotel.

The dark, almost chocolate, color and

the large fibre were sufficient indications of horse meat, but the tall-tale looks rapidly disappeared under the hands of the cooks, who abound in Ladysmith. "Hash! sah, no! no! Not hash. Its beef, sah, I declare, sah, not hash!" So Oriental (did the descendant of the Caliph of Bagdad, or some other potentate, prove when the great question of Horse (Hash) versus Ox flesh was debated" in his an the frying-pan's presence.

The reduced rations, while not supplying the requirements for luxurious living, were quite sufficient to maintain the health and strength of the soldiers, in the absence, that is to say, of any continued or severe physical strain.

And, taking everything into consideration, the men were singularly free from the grumbling spirit; in fact, they were cheery, happy, and always hopeful in spite of the almost entire absence of tobacco, which was an undoubted hardship to regular smokers.

Major Ludlow, who is a member of Sir George's staff, had charge of the work of collecting the necessary goods and stores in the town. When Sir George White was the merchant the task was an easy one; it was when he had to deal with coolie storekeepers that the work kept by coolies and others. This tobacco, made from African grown leaf, though strong and rank in flavor, sufficed to appease the men's

Cravings for the Popular Weed.

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Kruger Has to Move

Amusing Article on Oom Paul, by Bill Adams, in the Toronto World.

He Has to Vacate His House for "the Roberts Family."

"I have been living at No. 1 Transvaal street for a large number of years," said Mr. Paul Kruger to the real estate agent.

The speaker was a big man, with scraggy and frowny looking Donnegal whiskers. He seemed to be in trouble, in fact, he was, for he told me his tale of woe as follows:

"You see, I was very comfortable on Transvaal street, but my lease is up and the Roberts family are about to move into my place somewhere around the first of May. I want a quiet, secluded domicile with padded walls and cabbage growing in the front garden. I desire quietude, so that I may sip my coffee undisturbed and smoke my pipe in peace."

"You see," continued the old chap, "I was happy enough in my old house, for my wife was often out milking the cows or cleaning up the stable, and I had but little to bother me. My neighbor, Steyn, who lived in the biggest house on Free State avenue, right on the corner of our street, was a staunch friend of mine, but he moved to somewhere in the middle of March, and

He is Boarding Now.

until he finds some place in which to reside permanently. Possibly we may get a semi-detached abode in the Godforsaken hills where we may both stay until our finish. The Roberts family are occupying Steyn's house until I vacate mine, but they say it isn't large enough to accommodate them all, and they propose taking my place as a permanent abode, and using the Steyn mansion on Free State avenue as a sort of country house for the summer, although it will be occupied by some of their family all the time.

"This moving is costing me a lot of money," continued the old man, as he mopped his brow. "I sent out a lot of my family and my hired men to prevail upon the Roberts family that their only son should take up residence in my house on Transvaal street, was entirely against my wishes, and would inconvenience me greatly, but I received a reply to the effect that the Majuba Hill mortgage had to be paid at once or there would be foreclosure on all my available assets. I owed them quite a large amount on the mortgage at the time of the boom, and couldn't stand prosperity. If I had been satisfied with things as they were, and had jollied the agents of the Roberts family a bit, I might not have had to move out. Instead of that, I

Bluffed the Agents

and said that I guessed I could pay all I had to.

"The Roberts family have a pet Lion, and when he was in our neighborhood my young ones made faces at him and pulled his tail. He didn't mind it much, although once or twice his whiskers stuck out. At this time the Roberts family were living on Cape Colony place, and they had a suburban residence on Natal street. I told the youngsters that their stick pins in the Lion if they liked, and also feed him with red pepper candies.

"When the Lion got too restless, the Roberts family sent over one of their men to tell me I would have to leave the Lion alone or he would bite and they would not be responsible.

"I faked up a story that the Lion had come around and had ate up a few of my chickens, and had killed little Paul's bunny rabbit. They didn't believe that, and said the Lion would go where he pleased, as he was a faithful old brute, and would always behave himself when ever he was. These, they said, were the Lion's usual ways.

"Away, I got too gay, and they started to feed raw meat to their Lion," said the old man. "The Lion stretched out his tail and wagged it a few times. Then the top hair on his back stuck up, and he went around looking for trouble.

I Tried to Scare Him Off

and threw things at him. He chased me up Glencoe avenue and bit me hard. I hid and waited for him at the corner of Elandsdangte street, but he saw me first, and took the seat out of my official trousers, but I got away and laid for him in the Magersfontein road. Then I didn't do a thing to him. I bunged up his eye and he came back at me till I nearly put his other lamp out, and then he knew him, too, at Colenso street, and gave him a jolt in the solar plexus.

"Another time I got up an uppercut on Spearman's farm, and the lion was beginning to look like a selling-plater. He was good and sore by this, and he tried to lay for me when I was coming out of a saloon near Spion Kop Terrace. I landed him with the left and planted two short-arm thumps in the chest.

"All the neighbors for miles around thought the Lion should be put on the bargain counter as damaged goods. They had liked him a bit, but had feared him. I thought I could see my name in the papers as 'Paul Kruger' and I tell you, I swelled up on myself a bit. I gave him a gentle soak at Stormberg alley, and then I went in to him out at Modder River.

"Everybody was saying that I was the only 'it.' All the people who had been wanting to soak the pet Lion like I did were tickled to death.

"You see, I wanted to keep my place on Transvaal street, and as my family is large, I wanted to have a summer harbor on Natal street and a big establishment on Cape Colony place, where I could entertain my friends when they came to see me at Ladysmith time.

"However, old man, it's all off now, and I've got the red flag out. It's continued, tears streaming down his wrinkled face. "You can't do anything more to that Lion than

Make Him Good and Mad.

He has got a few cuba, too, that can look after their old man, and perhaps I don't know it.

"Why he tumbled on to me on the south side of Paardeberg street, and he had one of his cubs with him. They broke my jaw in the first round, and then kicked me so hard that I won't be able to sit down for a week.

"Not only that, but they took my much-prized game rooster, Cronje, who has won in every main he has entered. In fact, anything of mine that was in sight went to the Lion and the Cub, and I am shy.

"In my young days I bucked against the Tiger a little and made something out of it," continued Paul, "but in my old days I bucked against the Lion, and now my cup is filled with the vinegar of regret and I am practically out of business."

The old man was overcome by this time and the real estate agent got a chance to get in a word. He wanted to do business and he said, complacently: "You want a nice comfortable place where you will not be bothered by anyone else's pets. Is that it?"

"That's just it," replied the old one, and he remarked firmly that he did not want any "French" piano next door on one side, nor any new "Bulfer" baby at the house on the other side.

"I suppose you want all modern conveniences?" said the agent.

"I have had a lot of modern inconveniences lately," replied the old chap, as he made an effort to straighten out some of the creases in his face, "and I guess I had better cut that part of it out."

"Of course, you will want a bathroom," said the agent man, who had an idea that

A Bath Would Be a Luxury to the applicant.

"Bath room!" ejaculated the old man, who looked at him in surprise and asked, "What is a bath room?"

"A rogan with a bath in it," was the reply.

"What is a bath?" asked the old chap, "it is a place where you wash yourself and get good and clean," answered the agent.

"That's a new one on me," replied the old man, "but I guess I am up against anything horrible there is and will have to stand for it. I have got to get out of my house at No. 1 Transvaal street somewhere around the first of May, and I want some place to go to. There is all there is to it. I want to go some place where there are no Lions. I am tired of Lions. They never were a reliable pet, anyhow, for the first time anyone teases them they laugh, and when the gag is kept up they get mad. Scratch me on the

The real estate agent promised the old gentleman that he had a comfortable place that would just fit him. It was about six feet underground, but it was in a nice dry place, where there were not many worms and the city drains did not run within 40 yards of it. It would be comfortable to him as a nice place to sleep, and sleep was the only thing the real estate man could see coming in his client.

According to Sheldon.

S. E. Kiser.

It's wicked to smoke and it's wicked to chew.

And whistling's a thing people never should do.

According to Sheldon!

The correct is something from which we should run;

It's debating to look at a picture of one, and according to Sheldon!

It's wrong to be told of the crimes we commit;

If a scandal is raised we must not speak of it;

If people are bad we must never say so, if we have seen others never should know, and there's little that's decent, or half here below,

According to Sheldon!

The merchant who candidly says in his "ad,"

That his prices are lowered is shamelessly bad,

According to Sheldon!

The doctor who knows how to banish the gout

is another we ought, by all means, to bar out,

According to Sheldon!

And the woman who dresses in fashion—oh, dear!

She's a creature a good man should never go near!

Her portrait's obscene and should therefore be spurned!

The fashion-plate's wicked and ought to be turned

To the wall, or else privately torn down and burned,

According to Sheldon!

A stocking's inherently awful, and, oh, the word "garter" is one that a man should not know,

According to Sheldon!

It is wicked when on-rushing soldiers are shot,

To tell men in print how the battle was fought;

We should turn from the table and blush for the chair

because they have legs that are shamelessly bare—

According to Sheldon!

It is wicked to tell why policemen

Hot Work at Mafeking

Pierce Bombardment by the Boers - Enemy Capture the Trenches.

Reserve Squadron Retake the Positions - Burglers Head Gunner Killed.

The following dispatches are from the special correspondents of the London Daily Mail:

Mafeking, March 6 (Lobatsi, March 9).—For the sixth time the Boers changed the position of their siege gun on Friday night to its old emplacement on the southeast, and on Saturday they fired a record of thirty-six rounds right off it. It was splendid practice, but we killed the gunner, so they have not fired his gun since. A fresh lot of ammunition arrived this morning, and if they get a fresh lot of gunners they will probably give us more trouble.

In the meantime everything was quiet, which the chairmen of the committee were the principal of the minutes for a plan, which was submitted, Mr. Sorby on this was certain that it was, and "I have made a uncontractable, taken. Consequently this meeting. You which is abso-

"I will repeat that I have something and with this he that followed was who pointed out had been changed. It was absolutely mittee to investi- thorough manner. ed that the engi- not competent to in phases of the es on the other expert engineering as were compe- engineering com- not competent to the cost of the that in the first as far as the concerned, did not wall. Now, the without any allow- expense which at the mayor was anyway. That did not choose to opposed to the ed that the com- competent to in- from an engineer- of the members experience—ha, and as a body capable of dealing of the scheme, on ensued, in the abertson submitted, n, seconded by ed. "That this needed to make ost of the revet- to be built by showing how length of same, hors, and other are of opinion they have gained, such work, from the best works on ost of the revet- less than prob- ably mentioned by certainly cost con- in its amended littee begs to call eral committee to has awarded his the consequence valuable time has mittee, and, as by, are liable in tered and modi- cially protested and be considered be "giving them. The com- d Mr. Sorby to in that resolution that they had ased, Ald. Bry- after which the RAILWAY.

committee on pre- into the Sorby weeks ago point- do not endorse the standpoints, the engineering did not the chairmen of the committee, and, consequently, the investing were appointed, Mayor Hayward, of the committee, an, Ald. Brydon, Mr. Sorby. present did not of a spirited the preliminary an exhibition of which the chair- were the principal ing of the minutes for a plan, which was submitted, Mr. this was certain that it was, and "I have made a uncontractable, taken. Consequently this meeting. You which is abso-

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Provincial News.

SAANICH.

Married Christmas, the little daughter of the Rev. Granville Christmas, is recovering from a serious illness.

ROSSLAND.

Recently there was stolen from the warehouse of the Fenkes Machine Company, near the old C.P.R. depot, a lot of brass valves and a number of rubber buffers. It is suspected that boys stole the articles, which were valued at \$125.

PHOENIX.

Between \$150 and \$200 will be remitted to the Eastern treasurer of the Canadian Patriotic Fund as the result of the concert given here last week.

ARROWHEAD.

Saturday afternoon B. S. Johnstone, of Arrowhead, started in a canoe for Thomson's Landing. He did not arrive at his destination, and on Monday the canoe was found floating about two miles down the Arm from Arrowhead, with Johnstone's coat still in it. A story was told on after Johnstone started, which no doubt upset the unscrupulous craft and caused the death of the occupant. He leaves a widow and several children.

CHILLIWACK.

Frank Hakey, the hero of the Mount Baker avalanche, has come down from the mines, reaching town on Monday. He is looking remarkably well, but is suffering from rheumatism, the result of exposure during the long night following the accident. He was unable to reach the protecting cabin till next day and lay out in the snow. He went down to Vancouver on Wednesday to spend a couple of weeks in the hospital.

GREENWOOD.

R. L. Armit, of Cripple Creek, is here with a view of establishing sampling works. He appeared before the city council to discuss the proposition and received cordial support.

SOUTH AFRICAN TREK OX.

The Sort of Beast On Which Boers and British Rely for Transport.

The cabled reports of the surrender of Cronje and his army to Lord Roberts told of the straits to which the Boers were reduced for food and their use of their trek oxen for that purpose according as the latter were killed by the British shells. The unwillingness of the Boers to kill their trek oxen for food, even though their provisions were practically exhausted, is easily accounted for, as the trek, or transport, ox is, despite mules and traction engines, the mainstay of South African transport.

Oxen are less expensive than mules. They are slow but sure, never doing more than three miles an hour, or twenty miles a day, which is considered a good trek. The Zulu ox is the best bred animal, but small and unscrupulous when compared with the bastard Zulu or Natal ox, which thrives on both the "sour" veldt, or coast, grass and the "sweet," or up-country, veldt. Oxen, however, require very careful handling, and must on no account be over-driven; they must have at least six hours a day for grazing purposes. In the winter, which is coming on now, they can find a pecking on the parched veldt where a mule or a horse would fail.

They are naturally in a poor condition till the green grass of the spring arrives in September. They are very liable to lung sickness and red water, and whole spurs sometimes perish from these fell diseases. In the winter time they suffer terribly from the cold, and on no account should be waded in the rain during that season, for, among other things, the yoke, when wet, gives them sore necks, thus rendering them useless. The ox's best work is done at night time, and moonlight treks are the usual thing with "transport riders" after their teams have been grazing all day. They are never kept under the yoke for more than eight hours during the day, two stretches of four hours each. From 4 to 8 in the morning and from 8 to 10 at night are the favorite hours for trekking.

As to their baggage capacity, a "span" or team of eighteen oxen will easily draw a buck wagon (weighing a little over a ton), loaded to 6,000 pounds, over the South African roads, many of which are little better than tracks across the veldt. Twenty miles a day for a heavy baggage column in such a country as South Africa is really good going.

One of the great merits of the trek ox is the simplicity of his harness. The two beasts nearest the wagon draw from a pole (disselboom) on which the yoke is fastened, and the couples in front are attached to a wire or hide rope, known as the trek-touw, to which the yokes are fastened by rings, or thongs of hide. Any breakage or defect in such a tackle can easily be made good as it is free from the complexities of a set of harness. Prudent transport riders invariably "outspan" their team, if the "trek-touw" be of wire or chain, as whole spurs have been destroyed by lightning through neglecting this precaution.

In the convoys to the troops not more than fifty wagons are dispatched at one time, and if the roads permit six and more are driven abreast. The second division usually starts in half an hour after the first. Nearly all the wagons in use in the present campaign are built locally, made of strong colonial woods, and constructed without springs. Only two men are required to manage each wagon—a driver and a "voelvoer" or leader of the team both of whom are nearly always trained Kaffirs.

At present large numbers of these wagons are being hired from colonists at the rate of £3 to £4 per day, the Imperial government making good any losses that may occur in the span.

D. McNicoll was yesterday the recipient of numerous telegrams from all parts of the Canadian Pacific railway and from prominent railway men in the United States, congratulating him upon his appointment to the position of second vice-president and general manager of the C.P.R. system.

The military court at Sebastopol has closed the hearing of the great naval scandal, and has convicted 26 officers and civil servants as criminally defying the government in connection with the supply of coal and other commodities to the navy. The sentences will be pronounced to-day.

Natives As Allies.

Mafeking, March 6 (by runner to Lo-

ed. A rider was added severely censuring the Cannery Company for allowing children to play on the scows in front of its premises.

The following very interesting extract is from a letter dated Paardeberg, February 23rd, received the other day by Mrs. Otway J. J. Wilkie, from her husband, who is one of New Westminster's gallant eight in the Royal Canadian Regiment: "We have just come in from an all night's march, and had been marching for a week, when we came across the Boers, and we waded the river, up to our breasts, and went right into the battle, with the Highlanders, Cornwallis, and other regiments, and charged with the Cornwallis, Highlanders, and some of ourselves, and the bullets were like hail. Men were shot all around me; the man who slept next me, in my tent, was killed; he was from Vancouver, and four from Victoria were killed. Lohman, of the Asylum, was shot in two or three places, but he was the man who took the Westminister man with three others, carrying a wounded man up the field, when the wounded man was shot, and the other three were shot, but he was not touched. None of the Westminister or Kootenay men were hurt, only Lohman, and he was shot in the charge. Thank God, we got through all right. The fighting has been going on ever since, night and day. Sunday we fought all day from morning till dark, burning hot at first, then pouring rain. I was glad when it got dark. I have just heard that Captain Armit (see column) has been shot in the thigh. Lohman is getting on well. All Westminister men are well."

A pretty wedding was solemnized on Wednesday morning at 10:30 o'clock in the Surrey Centre Episcopalian church, when Miss Lillian Johnston, of Mud Bay, and David Elliott, of Delta, were united in holy matrimony by the Rev. William Bell. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Elvye Johnston, and George McLeod supported the groom.

The death occurred on the south side of the river just above Brownsville on Tuesday of Mrs. Dan, an Indian woman, aged about 40 years.

Messrs. Malins and Goulthard, agents of the Westminister Packing Company, have written as follows to the editor of the Columbian, as regards the recent fatal accident near the company's cannery: "We have been asked by the owners of the Westminister Packing Company to make an explanation in regard to the drowning of little Victor Crane, in front of the company's cannery. The coroner's jury added a rider to their verdict 'severely censuring the cannery company for allowing children to play on the scows in front of the premises.' We are informed by Mr. Lee Soon, the manager of the company, that the cannery has a fence around it, and that the buildings are kept locked, so that the child could not have obtained access through the cannery. Moreover, had the watchman seen the child on the scow he would most certainly have removed him. The proprietors of the Westminister Packing Company feel much hurt that they should be blamed for loss of life, when they have taken all possible care to prevent accidents."

An accident occurred on Tuesday afternoon about 4 o'clock at Perdue & Haddon's logging camp, just above Bon Accord, on the south side of the river, as a result of which the victim, Peter Perdue, received internal injuries, and was probably mortally wounded. Mr. Perdue, it appears, was engaged in hauling some logs, with a team, and had taken a "turn" on them. There was a considerable incline down which the logs had to travel, and Mr. Perdue caught his foot in some manner and was unable to get out of the way. The logs, which were already started down the steep grade at a high rate of speed, then overtook their victim and hurled him to the ground, after which several logs passed over his body, inflicting injuries sufficient to crush the life out of an ordinary being. But, evidently, Peter's technique was responsible for saving his life.

NELSON.

The force of men now engaged on the Balfour extension is over the 900 mark. By the end of this month Engineer Proctor estimates that four miles of grade at the Balfour end and two miles this side of Nine-mile Point will be completed.

The first meeting of the licensed clergy and delegates from the diocese of Kootenay will be held in St. Saviour's church on Wednesday, May 30th, when the basis of agreement for the creation of the new diocese and the organizing of the synod will be ratified, and such other business transacted as may properly come before the primary synod of the diocese.

A quiet wedding took place on Monday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. S. E. Hodson, when Carver Lawrence was united in the bonds of matrimony to Hannah O'Neil by Rev. John Robson, pastor of the Methodist church. The room is section foreman on the C.P.R. and has recently been transferred to the main line.

R. B. Porter, who is building the big C.P.R. slip at Proctor, returned on Monday night from Grand Forks. His firm, Porter Brothers, is building the big smelter dam at Grand Forks, and a rumor was circulated recently that work would be suspended owing to high water. Mr. Porter gives the rumor as unqualified denial and remarks that the dam is sufficiently far advanced to be beyond the reach of high water. The firm has 60 men on the job.

A. R. Barrow, F.L.S., has completed the survey of the new ranges for the Nelson Rifle Association, and the work of clearing away the underbrush, etc., is almost finished, so that the range is ready for use as soon as the target is placed in position and the butts erected. Practice can be had at every range from 100 to 1,000 yards, the latter distance being available from a butt several feet high. The Nelson Rifles will use the range extensively.

Mrs. Hodgins, wife of Capt. Hodgins, has received two letters from the captain written since the battle of Paardeberg, one of which sets at naught all doubts as to the safety of all of the Nelson men.

Capt. W. W. West brought down a pack containing 500,000 feet of logs for the Nelson Saw & Planing Mills, Ltd., on Tuesday. The logs are from Bon-

The Yukon Breaking Up

Winter Travel Ended—A Wonderfully Rich Find Reported on McQuesten Creek.

Peter Bernard's Attempt to Reach Siberia—Klondikers Going Across Behring.

The winter travel is over. The trail is becoming green again, and the snow is gradually becoming little streams which go to feed the Klondike. It is no longer safe, in view of the broken ice and the slushy river bed, to essay the journey in or out. Near Selkirk the river trail is very hazardous. Between Minto and Hootchikoo, the scene of the Yukon tragedies of this winter, the ice is breaking up. Outbound travellers are meeting hundreds of horses and dog teams bound in with stores, many of which will be unable to get in.

The Dawson arrivals give news of a very rich strike on the McQuesten. Early in March a man arrived in Dawson from Stewart River with report of a strike on McQuesten Creek, a tributary of Stewart River, the alleged rich find giving one hundred dollars to the man, and lying somewhere between the head waters of the Klondike and McQuesten Creek. A number of men have stamped from Stewart, and several parties are arranging to go from Dawson. The vicinity indicated has long been known to bear favorable gold-bearing signs. It is between two and three hundred miles from Dawson.

News from Cape Nome to January 1st was received by river trail from St. Michael. At that date everything was quiet, and all mining closed down. During December an attempt was made by a man named Peter Bernard to cross Behring Straits to the Siberian coast, but he found that it was not practicable, the ice not being sufficiently solid. The Indians advised him to wait until later in the season, and he returned to Nome, with the intention of making a second attempt in February, at which time the Indians declare the straits to be passable by trail.

Several parties in Dawson have recently applied to the American consulate here for passports into Russian territory, with the purpose, upon reaching Nome, of crossing to Siberia and trying their luck on the beach sands of that country. An impression exists here that Russia has recently thrown open the Siberian coast to American miners. The acting American consul in Dawson has written Washington asking for definite information on the subject.

The Skagway Alaska, in referring to the arrival of Mr. C. W. D. Clifford, M. P., who went up by the Tees, says: "Mr. Clifford is on his way to Atlin, where he will spend a few days, and return to Victoria via Skagway on an early date. His travelling companion, Capt. Irving, is also a representative of the district. Mr. Clifford thinks the election will take place some time in June, and that soon after a new government is organized the alien problem will be settled satisfactorily. He spoke of Joe Martin as being a strong supporter of the W. P. & Y. railroad people in their fight against Mike King, who is endeavoring to obtain a charter via Dyea, and drew attention to the fact that his present position was directly opposite to his previous declaration of principles in this line. Mr. Clifford was conservative in his remarks, but one is impressed with the fact that he realizes the damage that has been done Atlin by alien exclusion."

On March 14th fourteen double teams of the Red Line Transportation Company went in with fifty thousand pounds of supplies for the telegraph construction party. A crew of 12 carpenters went in to commence the erection of the Dominion government building to be used as a post office and customs house. The site has not been chosen. This work, and Captain Irving's railway work at Taku portage, and other things, will not start until very busy. The Presbyterian hospital has been completed, and is now in operation. A 36 ounce nugget has been reported to have been found on Willow creek.

At their sawmill on Surprise lake, Brown & Sinclair have 40 men and 18 horses at work.

COMMANDERING.

Commandeering of private property on the part of the Boers began on the first day of the war, and has continued ever since. It has been practiced with all the greater gusto that the chief part of it has so far been done at our expense. It will be much less pleasant to the Boers by and by, when it has to be done in their own territory. To drive them out of Natal and Cape Colony would be no less advantageous as a financial than as a military operation. They would then have brought home to them for the first time the terrible price of the struggle they have rushed into. Until they are driven back on their own soil they will not seriously feel the cost of the war. Hitherto, unfortunately, they have been able to live, to a great extent, on the enemy. It will be a very different thing for their war chest when they have to live on themselves.

Commandeering is a very wide word in the Boer vocabulary nowadays. There is immense scope for it in the republic, not on the field of war only, but wherever seizable property may happen to be. In the international code of the Boers private property has no existence. Everything that can be laid hold of, from a gold mine to a roadside store, is contraband of war. Before the campaign was a month old the Boers practically commandeered the whole of the Rand gold field. It is not often that a belligerent has a chance to loot thirty million of gold-bearing reef at a stroke. But this fabulous prize has not yielded much to the enemy so far. Evidently they cannot work the mines to great advantage, for they have now started an alternative scheme to tax them from 30 to 40 per cent on their gross output. About a dozen of the richest mines of the Rand are being worked under government supervision, ostensibly for account of the owners, but the gold passes, in the first instance, into the treasury, and the result is that the owners may not make place for years, if ever. Meanwhile, the government will have the use of the gold.—National Review.

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT.

In twenty years' time, it is safe to prophesy, railway development in Africa will have made enormous strides—and the many important branch lines to connect with the Cape-Cairo trunk will have been constructed or be near completion. In the south the line from Johannesburg will have again that at Bulawayo; Bulawayo, again, will be connected with a line running right across country to Walvis Bay in German West Africa.

In Central Africa, the trunk line will connect with German and British lines running to the east coast; and it is only reasonable to suppose that by that time a line or lines through Belgian territory will connect or be in close touch with the Cape-Cairo route. And that the trunk line will be a paying concern there is no reason to doubt. In the Rhodesian section already built the returns have advanced by leaps and bounds. The engineering difficulties of the Cape-to-Cairo line are considerable, but not insuperable, so that, with Mr. Rhodes at the head to "push the thing along," there is every prospect of the scheme, vast as it is, being successfully accomplished.—J. H. Knight, in the Engineering Magazine for April.

The Man With a Plan

Letter Written by the London Daily Mail Correspondent From Capetown.

Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener Perfecting the Plans of Campaign.

Capetown, Jan. 20. Capetown! But Lord Roberts is here; Lord Kitchener is here, and busy, sunny Capetown hardly knows itself for energy and bustle.

For the war—the real war—is just going to begin. Hitherto the war, though it has been going on for more than three months, has consisted chiefly of military operations conducted mainly by the Boers. But now we are about to commence operations on the English offensive.

Lord Roberts, at I said, is here, and so is Lord Kitchener. The presence of the one means that we now know exactly what we are about; the presence of the other that we know precisely how we are going to set about it. The one has a plan and a policy, the other has taken pen and ink and paper, and in a careful, laborious, English businesslike way is working out and perfecting the details.

This is a new order of things, and here in Capetown you at once recognize the change.

Previously we were treating the South African difficulty as the doctor used to treat influenza before he quite understood it—we were just

Treating the Symptoms.

There was Lady Smith, there was Kimberley, there were the invaded portions of the colony—each one we were attempting to relieve by special treatment, just as in the early days of influenza we used to take one powder for the headache, another drug for the aching limbs, and still another for the burning pain behind the eye. But now Doctor Lord Roberts has been called in, and while he may neglect to ease the inconvenience of the symptoms he will go to the root of the matter and attack the microbe.

There is an air of knowledge and resource about the new doctor, and now that he has come into the house the patient and his family feel that though the case, having got so long a start, is an awkward one, it is still easily amenable to good and careful treatment.

I do not know what sort of spirits Capetown was in before Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener arrived. I was not here to see. But from what I am told I gather that there was a good deal of unnecessary shouting. Capetown used to yell with the delighted enthusiasm of a political meeting every time a British gun went off. And every time a Boer trench was reported Capetown used to howl dismally and pull as long a face as if

The Building Society

had collapsed. As I have said I did not see it because I was not here. But as nearly as I can gather that was the case. Capetown used to be what it is now, joy over some immaterial British success or to be overwhelmed with despair by some inconclusive British set back.

But now—I think I remarked that Lord Roberts is here and Lord Kitchener is with him—Capetown has recovered its equanimity. I do not say that it is not watching the course of events with deep and anxious attention. Of course it is. But it does not get so wildly excited about immaterialities. It sees little or nothing of the commander-in-chief or of his chief of staff, but it seems as if by some unaccountable psychologic action these two men by their mere presence had imposed something of their own will and spirit upon the whole community. So Capetown, instead of vaporizing itself in exaggerated emotion or despair, is finding a vent for its calmer feelings in—what do you think? More Anglicano, in attending to its business. Shop-keepers who a month ago were sitting at the club waiting with tingling nerves for news are now selling portable camp furniture at mighty long prices.

It pleased me very much when I went about the town to see the prices they had the rapacity to charge. I went into a shop to price

A Canvas (Water-Bucket, the value of which, if I know anything of the cost of the foot of rope that forms the handle and the strip of sail cloth that forms the gill, every foot of it seems to be a shilling. "Six and ninepence," said the shopman. You see he went a penny better than even the traditional lawyer for rapacity. I loved him for that. A month ago if I had wanted a canvas bucket I should have had to search the whole town for one. The shopkeeper was then so excited about the war that it would never have occurred to him that there was a market for camp equipments. But now—

"Canvas sells, sir? Certainly. We are selling these faster than we can get them. Yes, Six and ninepence."

That's business. When you see the British shopkeeper looking after his shop like that you feel that you can trust the British soldier to be looking after his end of the business. All Capetown is just working away at minting money out of the war. Things that soldiers want, things that soldiers think soldiers want, things that shopkeepers think soldiers want they want—the shops of Capetown are full of them, and are doing a roaring trade in them at triple and quadruple and quintuple prices. Business!

I go down to the docks to the South Arm, which the military have commandeered as a landing-place for troops, and there is a long range of great warehouses full of military stores. I confess I am expecting to see an indignant scene of unsystematic muddle and red tape incapacity. Not a bit of it.

A row of big transports is lying alongside the long wharves. Gangs of niggers directed by Army Service Corps non-coms are

Unloading Goods—cases of canned foods, bales of forage, boxes of biscuits, bags of flour, a thou-

sand and one things. And everything as it comes ashore is wheeled off to its own proper place in the long row of dock sheds, where, without a moment's delay, it is checked and tallied and neatly stacked. And outside the sheds on the other side from the wharf there are railway trucks standing, and articles of immediate need for the troops at the front, six or seven hundred miles up the line, are not put into store at all, but are wheeled through the sheds direct from the ship to the railway trucks. And calmly, without hurry or fluster, giving his orders quietly but shortly, a colonel of the A. S. C. moves about supervising and directing.

"We have no more stores here," he says; "that we think it is prudent to keep in reserve. Nearly everything as it is landed now goes straight up to the front. The captain here is working 18 hours a day, and is not sorry for himself, are you, captain?"

"No, sir," says the grave, grey-headed officer of the wholesale; "it is all going through very smoothly."

Business! In one of the sheds there are boxes and cases and barrels and parcels of a thousand sorts, shapes and sizes. These are all presents and comforts, luxuries, necessities and advertisements for T. N. M. at the front.

It seems at first glance a hopeless confusion, but when I come to look about I find that all the things are sorted out according to brigades and regiments; that

Presents For the Troops at De Aar are together in one section, and those for the regiments at Modder in another, and that with each consignment of stores going to each military centre is a large consignment, as possible of presents from home goes too.

In the hurry and bustle and bigness of war some confusion might be expected and excused. But there is no confusion about the A. S. C. This is business—hard, systematic, English, English business. A transport comes in and as the men come marching down the gangway I expect to hear harrowing tales of discomfort and bad feeding. Not a bit of it. He has had a lovely voyage, he says, and the junk was "a bit of all right." He is shown where to put his kit down, and sits about on packing cases, and writes letters home, and has tea with the ladies of the Tommy's Welfare Fund. And an hour or so later, when he has been fed, I see him comfortably packed in railway carriages going off up country cheering as he goes.

Business! Good practical business. I seek an opportunity to get a glimpse of the general manager of this great business—undertaking at his work. I am told to be there at ten minutes past nine.

I arrive at five minutes past nine and wait in an outer office for what seems an hour. I look at my watch and find it is eleven minutes past nine. I begin to doubt, when I remember that my watch is half a minute fast. It is exactly ten minutes past nine when a door is opened and my name is called.

I go into a long room in which are several desks like the desks in the manager's office of a great railway company. And at each desk, bending over piles of papers, sits a high officer.

And at the end of the room, at a table which commands a view of all the rest of the room and all the other desks, sits a big, dark, stern man with a heavy moustache, intent upon papers. Before he looks up I have time to note the telephones and neatness and orderliness of the arrangement of the table. When he does look up he keeps his finger on the paper in front of him, marking the place where he left off.

I begin to tell what I have to say. He looks at me with very keen bright grey-blue eyes, and before I have said a word he seems to know all the rest, including that which I had planned artfully to lead up to. In ten words he says something which he wants to know, and hears what I have to say, remarking that he is very busy, and before I have quite realized that I have shaken hands and said good morning, he is bending down again over his papers, deep in a calculation at the point where he left off.

Lord Kitchener—for it is he—engaged, they tell me, in reorganizing the transport system.

Think of that—in time of war, in the midst of a campaign, he is doing for himself what the whole of Pall Mall would have struggled at for years in times of peace. But he thinks it is necessary, he knows that he can do it, and no one seems to have the slightest doubt that it will be a very advantageous thing to do. And I observe that of the men immediately around him many, down to the merest subordinates, are men whom he has trained and tried himself at the other end of Africa to know what he wants and to do what he wants.

The head manager has brought his sub-managers along with him just as Sir Thomas Lipton or Sir Weetman Pearson or any other

Big English Business Man would do if he had a big new scheme to carry out.

Business—big, businesslike business! I go elsewhere, to a house near the houses of parliament, to a camp where recruits are training, to a ship from which artillery is being landed, to a hospital where wounded men are lying, and everywhere I seem to come across a little grey-headed man with a very compact, well-knit figure and a resolute walk and a resolute look and very keen eyes. And wherever he happens to be people turn round and look at him as he passes and hurry back for another look, and are so impressed that they almost forget to cheer. And wherever he goes, with his alert step and his grave, strong look, confident purpose and resolution he seems to be spread around. He looks so thoughtful; everything he does seems so thoughtful, so well considered, part of a definite scheme.

I get a glimpse of him, alone in a big office room. It is a very small matter to him which I want to refer to him, I am thinking. But he does not seem to think so. To him no detail seems unimportant. He considers it rapidly but thoughtfully, gives a decision and a reason for it, and then, that subject dismissed, remembers to say something on a subject that is very close to the heart of every Daily Mail writer and every Daily Mail reader too.

Lord Roberts is the man with a plan, the man who knows what he is going to do, and is taking every step necessary to do it. And the colonists, who were getting very anxious, are, since he has been among them, fuller of enthusiasm

The Soldier and Death

Some Emotions and a Contrast—A Victoria Cross Hero's Wager.

A Six Hundred Miles Journey From Capetown to Orange River.

Rensburg Camp, Feb. 2. We were in the train from Capetown on the very up country—that wonderful train which starts from Capetown at 9 o'clock every night for the front, and nightly carries away a full load of healthy, high-spirited, sanguine Englishmen.

Though they have the sanguine temper of their race—they bid good-bye to the friends who come to see them off with all the joyous exuberance of spirits with which an Englishman always sets forth into the unknown—they have a share of the commercial prudence of the race also.

They take only single tickets, because they will rest with the side which can bear the fatigue of sitting still longest. The Boers are good sitters—I fancy they must have a dash of the Dorking in their compositions.

General French has patience, too, and a purpose, and as long as the Boers are shut up in those hills the colony and the main railway line behind us are safe from mischief.

But just starting here is very tiresome. That is the worst of war; it has such dreary longueurs. Yesterday's only incident was the killing of two scorpions in a tent. To-day has no promise of any incident whatever; and the sun is pouring down on the burning brown dust, and—oh dear, how hot it is! It only seems, thing would happen.

We do not count as incidents the little exchanges of shells which pass at long range between our 15-pounder on the top of the high, steep rock mountain called Coles Kop and the gun in the enemy's position across the plain. We let off a few shots every early morning just to find out what is doing over there, and the Boers send a few back just to wound our feelings.

For the gun they use 15-pounders—the gunners captured from Gatacre on that unhappy day at Stormberg, and the shells they throw with it are British shells bearing the Woolwich marks.

Our officers and Tommies pick up the shattered fragments of the exploded missiles, and grind their teeth and use words of wrath.

Presently the incident arrives. Some one comes and says that Captain Kenna, V. C., in the course of a discussion has offered to bet that he will ride from headquarters to Coles Kop and climb to the gun position at the top of the hill within an hour. The wager has been taken up, and, whoever wins, the proceeds are to go to one of the soldier funds. It is generally regarded as a good bettable thing.

Coles Kop is a good eight and a half miles as the crow flies. It is a mile further by the road we have to go to keep out of range of the Boer advanced position. The road is very bad, strewn in parts with

Neck-Breaking Stones, and at the end of the nine miles ride there is Coles Kop to climb on foot, and that to an average man in condition, is, climbing his hardest, a good half-hour's toil. Still it is a good bet, for Captain Kenna is a splendid horseman and a fine athlete, as well as a V. C. Any way, it is a relief from the monotony of the long, featureless days.

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Then as we watch him we all cry together, "Why, he is taking the short cut!" That is so. Instead of taking the track to the left, which leads under safe cover to the back of the hill, he is going to the front of the hill by a straight line across the suicide plain, directly in front of the hill on which is posted the Boers' quick-firing Vickers-Maxim, which the soldiers call the "ten-a-penny."

"Won't they just; of course they will," said one of the rider's comrades; "but precious little Kenna cares whether they shoot at him or whether they hit him."

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"It isn't at all wonderful," some one said later, "that Kenna is a V. C. The only wonder is that he isn't dead a dozen times. The man is absolutely indifferent to death."

Death! The word somehow reminded me where I had seen him before. The V. C. who was absolutely indifferent to death was the same tender-hearted officer who had been so moved by the death of the Dutchman at the railway station. CHARLES E. HANDS.

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since Dutch spies abound everywhere throughout the colony he was perhaps a spy, and was travelling in the train to work some ill to the soldier fellow passenger, who were now looking with compassion upon the swollen heap of his mangled body. But they did not care about that. The man was dead, or as good as dead. Poor fellow! poor, poor fellow! What a shocking affair.

The officer I had noticed before took as much trouble in the matter, and was as deeply grieved as if the man had been his own brother. When the train was ready to start again we all took our seats, and were very quiet, and thoughtful and impressed, and the officer I have spoken of made sympathetic arrangements for a telegram to be sent to him up the line as to the poor fellow's later condition.

I have been here in camp for a day or two in point of time, though it seems months. For there is absolutely nothing doing, and the hours are very long in the sunshine.

The military situation has reached a deadlock. General French has crowded the Boers back into the fortress hills around Coleskop, and on their front and on either flank we occupy other fortress hills.

But between our positions and theirs is a wide stretch of open, treeless plains, to attempt to cross which would mean suicide for either.

So we are sitting looking at one another, and it seems that the final advantage will rest with the side which can bear the fatigue of sitting still longest.

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once, in days gone by, when the lore of wild western adventure was still unforgotten, setting out to trace certain footstep through the snow. I followed them from her father's house down a lane, lost them at a crossing, picked them up again quite easily, pursued them in the virgin snow across a field, to a shed where I found they belonged to the village policeman and a game-keeper.

So in my best and most keen-eyed days I was not a great success as a long since forgotten.

But with ease and accuracy I have tracked the British soldier six hundred miles northward from Capetown. Certainly, the operation was to a certain extent simplified by the circumstances that I travelled over the same single line of railway by which the soldier have been carried to the front. But that is merely a coincidence.

If there had been no railway and I had had to walk, I should have had no difficulty in tracking the troops.

For the line of main advance is clearly marked with a broken bottle or ten feet, an empty metal tin every ten yards, a bad ration biscuit tin every ten yards, a sardine or pate-de-foie-gras tin every now and then to indicate that the troops were accompanied by

A Due Proportion of Officers. There is a terrible picture somewhere in which desolation, destruction, sorrow and death are represented together with cultures as marking the trail of an army. Perhaps something of that sort may be seen later on when Lord Roberts's column begins its march through the Orange Free State. But up to now the advance of our great civilizing army calls for the activities rather of the chiffernier than the valuer.

And at every railway station where the great trains stop long enough to afford a glimpse into the lives of the people we see, not weeping widows and imploring mothers, but smiling, white-teethed negro girls selling grapes warm from the sun, happy little nigger boys doing a great trade in filling up water-bottles, and dainty mothers standing in the shade of their shanties surrounded by such swarms of little black plumpies that you think surely the year must come round quicker in the sunshine here than in the slow north.

In the course of progress this country should be surprising in the great stage of civilization which is represented in the United States by the tramp and the touring tragedian who make their way from town to town by following the railway lines on foot, I am afraid they will find it difficult and hazardous work. The pedestrian barstomer who, after a successful appearance at De Aar, opens for a short season only at the Imperial theatre, Orange River, will want at least a day to pick the bits of broken bottle glass out of his toes. If the South African tramp should share his American colleagues' fancy for collecting empty tomato and meat cans

He Will Find Happiness Indeed. The cans are so thickly strewn on both sides of the single way for six hundred miles that a year or two hence it will not be surprising to read the prospectus of the Karroo and Orange River syndicate formed for the purpose of working the incredibly rich deposits through the midst of which, by a fortunate chance, the main northern railway line has been built.

Of course, troops have been going up for a long time, and going up in great numbers. But making allowance for all that, you certainly get the notion from looking out of the window that Mr. Atkins is not doing so badly in the matter of food. So long as his appetite keeps up there is not much to worry about.

Bully beef tins are numerous enough to indicate that he gets plenty of good plain food when he is travelling. And there are enough small tins of various relishes, to say nothing of empty jam pots, to suggest that from somewhere or other he is getting his share of delicacies. And as to bottles—well, it is a thirsty country, and, as an Irishman put it, "small blame to any man so long as he drinks all he can get."

As the train rushes along you hear every few minutes a bottle shatter as it strikes some wayside bolder. Sometimes, when they fall soft in the sand, they do not break, and then you see them, carried by the impetus given to them by the moving train, go jumping and tumbling and somersaulting about in an amusing fashion.

My train came to a standstill just outside Orange River station, and, looking out of window, I saw lying in the dust the familiar tin of a particularly Choice Kind of Egyptian Cigarettes.

Near it were several cigar ends. An unbroken bottle bore a champagne label. I caught sight of an Appaloosa and a lime-juce bottle. And the ground was thick with little tins. Evidently some soldiers who knew something of the science of living had been here, and I wondered who they might have been.

We drew up after a sufficiently long wait at Orange River station, and there were troops in the familiar khaki, but wearing it with a different air to the general run of soldiers. They were different altogether.

They were taller and more slenderly built, their features were smaller and more clearly outlined. And instead of helmets they wore slouch felt hats, or the turned-up side of which were the letters C.I.V. Who they were I did not know, and I had never heard of such a regiment as the 104th—for such I understood the Roman numerals on the cap to mean.

So I asked one of them. The City of London Imperial Volunteers, of course! The one I asked was wrestling with a heap of baggage, sweating as he worked. I noticed that he wore a gold bangle on his wrist.

"Like it?" he said when I asked him. "Why, it's grand! Since I have been in this country I know what it is to feel really well. Five weeks enrolled, and here we are, nearly at the front. Another day or two and we shall be among the Boers. Have a cigarette?"

He pulled out a silver case and gave me a gold tipped Egyptian. The he went gaily at his railway porter work again.

CHARLES E. HANDS.

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