

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Kitchener Reports the Boer Invasion of Cape Colony Checked.

London, Dec. 24.—Lord Kitchener's despatches breathing a confidence hardly justified by their contents, are almost the only available news from the seat of hostilities in South Africa; but telegrams from Cape Town depict the situation in anything but resolute hues.

Without believing the assertion of the Transvaal agency in Brussels that six thousand Boers have invaded Cape Colony, it is quite evident that the invasion was a serious and well planned affair. In connection with this a correspondent sends an extremely interesting letter, dated Bethulie, December 1st describing General De Wet and his doings.

"De Wet has never been taken seriously enough," says the correspondent. "It is of little use to pursue him as he fights a rear guard action and gains 20 miles while he is being found. He is a born military genius, whose wonderful powers have kept up this phenomenal resistance.

"Once he fails, the whole thing could be crushed in a fortnight. He has every single commando under his supervision. All his patrols and columns march and counter-march on his order. The forces under his command have been reduced by his strength of will to a properly organized army, moving at his word. The sooner the British rid themselves of the idea that De Wet's forces are a mere rabble, wandering aimlessly, the sooner they will grasp the need of the determined effort which is necessary to capture him."

The Cape Colony cabinet had an important sitting yesterday (Sunday.) It appears that the Boers have destroyed a railway bridge 90 feet long about 12 miles south of De Aar and that no Cape mails have arrived at Bloemfontein for three days.

Further anxiety has been caused in Cape Town by the discovery that during the last two months, public bodies in out of the way places have requisitioned supplies of dynamite. The colonial government is now endeavoring to recover possession of these explosives and is removing all stores of arms and ammunition from suspected depots.

Other advices from Cape Town represent the Dutch element in Cape Colony as greatly elated over the southward progress of the Boers and as boasting that the whole district of Victoria west will join the raiders. It is suspected in Cape Town that the force travelling from Zoutspan's Drift is not a body of Boers but one of colonialists, hastening to join the invaders.

The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The Boers are active between Johannesburg and Pretoria, exchanging shots with the British outposts; and it is represented that parties of Boers are hovering around Johannesburg."

London, Dec. 23.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, Dec. 22:

"As far as it is possible for me to form an opinion from the reports of officers on the spot, I think the Boer movement into Cape Colony has been checked. Of the two forces that entered the colony the eastern is still north of the Zoutspansberg range, while the one that entered west appears to have been turned in the direction of Britstown and Prieska. Our troops are getting around both bodies and a special column is also being organized, which will be dispatched immediately when I know where its services are most wanted.

"The Boers have not received much assistance in Cape Colony, so far as my information goes. We have armed some of the colonialists, who are assisting our forces. Railway and telegraph communication has been much interrupted by the very bad weather.

"De Wet is in the neighborhood of Senekal. General French, in conjunction with General Clements, attacked a force under Iwers, south of the Magaliesberg. The Boers broke away in a southwesterly direction toward Potchefstroom and were followed by General Gordon with a column of French's force.

Yesterday evening, about 5 o'clock, Clements' force was engaged south of Oliphant's Nek, but I do not yet know the result."

A latter despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, December 22, says:

The western column of Boers occupied Britstown and cut the railway south of De-Aar Junction. The enemy is being followed up.

General French has been in contact for two days with the commandoes of Beys and Delarey, south of the Magaliesberg. He is pursuing them. The enemy have lost considerably and Commandant Kreuse and others have been captured.

General Colville engaged two separate commandoes December 21 near Vlakfontein, with slight losses, the enemy retiring."

One Short Puff Clears the Head.—Does your head ache? Have you pains over your eyes? Is the breath offensive? These are certain symptoms of Catarrh. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder will cure most stubborn cases in a marvellously short time. If you've had Catarrh a week it's a sure cure. If it's of fifty years' standing it's just as effective. 50 cents.—Sold by Garden Bros.

FLORENCEVILLE.

Enthusiastic Reception for Miss Dorcus.

On Wednesday evening the 19th inst. the Hall well filled with a representative and expectant company of people. The oldest inhabitant, the old, the middle aged and young, and children were out in force. The scenic equipment of the platform was tastefully arranged. On one side of the platform the "Wide Awakes," a recently organized society took their seats. On the other side was a vacant chair. At a fitting moment, the president of the Wide Awakes, Miss Katie E. McGaffigan, in a neat sentence or two assumed that all of those present except one were aware of the object of the meeting, and if that one, Miss Dorcus the retiring primary teacher of our school would come forward and take the vacant chair, the facts would be given her. Miss Dorcus having done as requested, Miss McGaffigan with well modulated expression read to her the following address:—

To Miss Dorcus. Having learned that it is your intention to leave Florenceville at the close of this school term, we desire to express our appreciation of the work done by you during the three years that you have spent in our midst as teacher in the primary department of our school. You have given entire satisfaction and rendered most efficient service. Indeed, the success that has attended your efforts is ample proof of your excellent ability as an instructor. Your methods of teaching, your tact and wisdom in dealing with the children under your care have elicited nothing but words of commendation from those who have visited the school from time to time, while your devotion to duty, your thoughtfulness, your uniform kindness to your pupils, and your interest in their welfare manifested in so many ways have won for you the confidence and esteem of the whole community, but more especially of the children whom you have taught. Indeed, the place you hold in their affections is one of the strongest proofs of your worth as a teacher. By them you will not soon be forgotten. You will be missed in the school. Your presence and assistance will also be missed in the club of which you are a member and which owes its existence, in a measure to your zeal and energy. Reluctantly the "Wide Awakes" say farewell. By your departure the community suffers a distinct loss. You have always commanded the respect of all who have known you, and their best wishes will follow you. In parting we, the school children, the "Wide Awakes" and other citizens of Florenceville, ask you to accept this Portfolio as a small token of what we cannot fully express in words.

The audience listened for the reply; Miss Dorcus rose. Her heart was full, words would not freely come, but those grateful, emotion impeded utterances were more eloquent than would have been the free flow of polished sentences.

Two solos were admirably rendered, one by Miss Bertie Boyer, the other by Miss Mary Mc Cain. A few words from others being in order, brief and appreciative speeches were given by Rev's D. Fiske, D. M. McLeod and Mr. Boardman Wheeler.

The order of proceedings having been changed refreshments provided by the ladies were passed around, and the social element prevailed. But something else took place. There was some quiet talk, some paper was procured, a petition requesting Miss Dorcus to re-consider her resignation with a view to remaining among us was drawn up, and in a few minutes received very many signatures, and arrangement was made to see in regard to it any not present. This additional and so practical token of esteem deeply impressed Miss Dorcus. She did not know she had so many friends. The people of the community have spoken. Our worthy Trustees, men of preception, ability and public spirit, all cannot fail to see their duty in the premises. Miss Dorcus has the teacher's intuition; she has been skilful, tactful, indefatigable; she has loved her pupils and has won and retained their love; she has been fertile in devices to elicit the interest of the children. The dramatic element had a large place in recitation and song. A fine new map has a place in the primary room, a result of an entertainment she recently carried through. Whatever be her future, we wish her well.—Com.

Statute Labor a Failure.

The National Good Roads Association held a convention recently at Chicago, and adopted a resolution favoring repeal of statute labour laws, and the payment in cash of all taxes for road maintenance. There is a very strong public opinion in the United States urging forward reform in road-making, and, notwithstanding numerous obstacles, it is making good progress. Evidence of this fact is seen in the legislation with regard to roads that is placed on the statute books of many states, and in the effort—oftentimes successful—to adopt a system of permanent road work. Statute labor on roads is everywhere a failure, and the sooner it is abolished the better. It is still the prevailing mode of work in the greater part of this province, and the result is the roads are not half as good as they ought to be.

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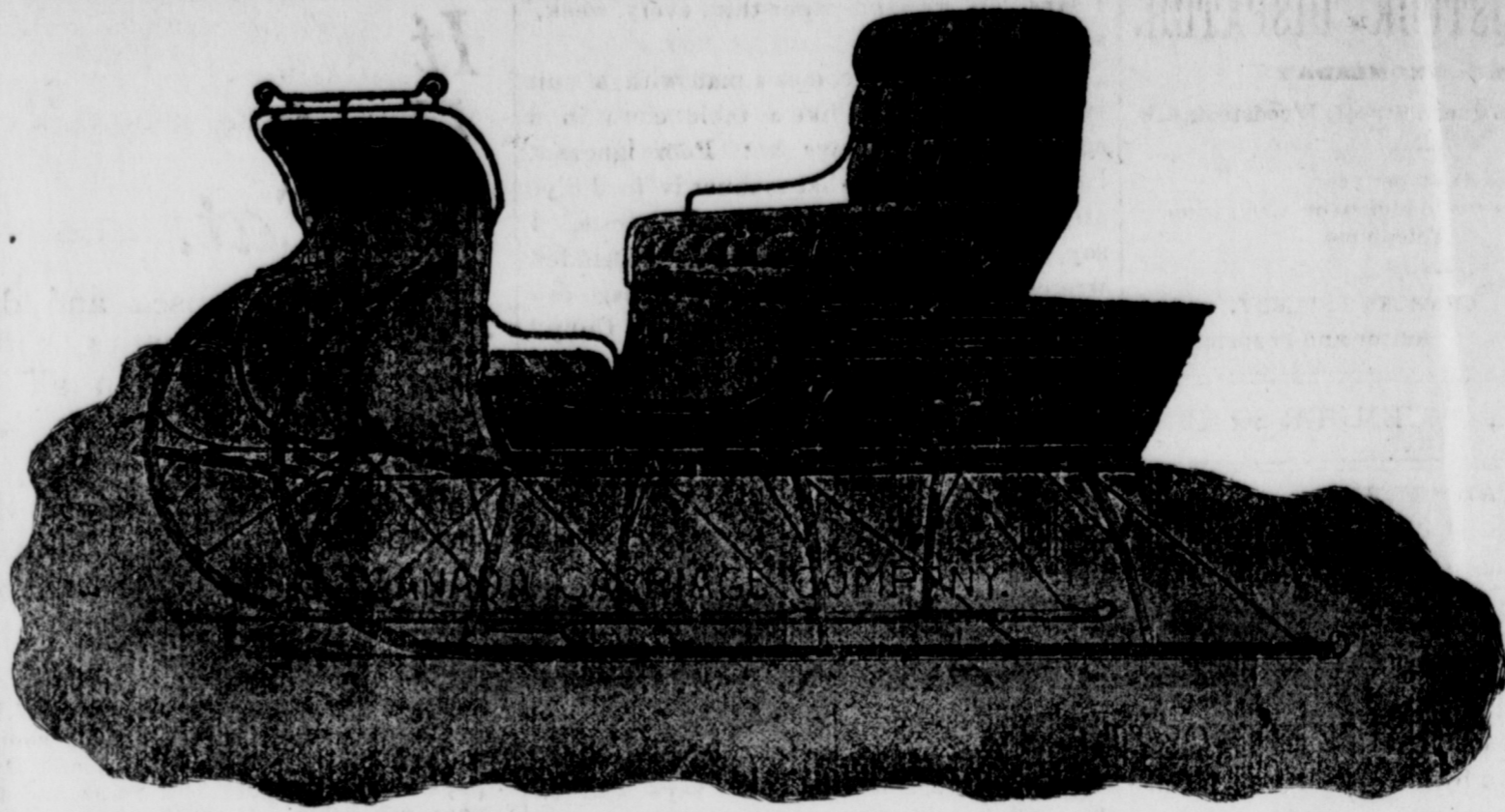
MARRIED.

GAINES-DAVIS—At the residence of the bride's parents, Bristol N. B., December 18th, by the Rev. A. H. Hayward, Mr. Aubrey B. Gaines, station agent C. P. R., Florenceville, to Miss Vella H., second daughter of Mr. John Davis, Bristol.

LINDSAY-SHEA—At the residence of D. B. Chase, Parish of Woodstock, December 19th, by Rev. A. H. Hayward, W. Herbert Lindsay, of Woodstock, to Miss Carrie Shea, of the same place.

GALLAGHER-FLEMMING—At Houlton, Me., on December 3rd, by Rev. G. E. McLlwin, J. J. Gallagher, barrister-at-law, and Harriett A. Fleming, both of Woodstock.

MCGAUGHY-BULL—At the residence of the officiating clergyman, Woodstock, on the 19th by Rev. Thos Todd, Mr. Wm. H. McGaughy, and Miss Annie A. Bull, both of Newburg Car. Co.



Dexter Pungs, Two Seated Pungs, Two-Seated Sleights, Comfort Sleights, Portland Sleights.—A splendid assortment. Also, a fine line of Fur Coats, Fur Jackets, and Robes.

BALMAIN BROS. Connell Street, Woodstock.

MEDUCTIC.

Greenbush gave the Rev. G. B. MacDonald a donation on Saturday evening.

Frank N. Patterson has resigned his position here and intends entering the U. N. B. to finish his course. He will be succeeded by Mr. Hendry of Carleton County.

A. E. Pearson has resigned his school and accepted the position of teacher in the advanced department of the Grammar school at Richibucto.

There was an interesting entertainment given here at the closing of the school.

Miss Dorcas of Lower Woodstock school held an interesting concert on Wednesday evening. Miss Lucy Marsten also had an entertaining concert on the same evening in her school at Dow Settlement.

Miss Ruby Dow, teacher of Burden, is home for her holidays.

Miss Ethel Dow, teacher at Shogouoc, is home for her vacation.

Miss Ivy Dow is home from Normal School.

The Quarterly Meetings at Greenbush open on Thursday evening and will continue over Sunday. Concert at Southampton tomorrow night and a Christmas tree and entertainment here tonight and two other concerts at Beeton, one tonight, one tomorrow night. Last Friday night there was a concert at Campbell Settlement, one at Canterbury Station, and a Christmas tree and entertainment at Temple, at the latter place the house was crowded to the doors, and an hour's entertainment opened the evening, with Miss Ethel Dow as organist, A. E. Pearson as chairman and Scott Ritchie as Santa Claus. Gordon Grant stripped the tree which was loaded with several hundreds of presents, about forty took part. Superintendent F. N. Patterson is to be complimented on the success of this S. School during the past year.

Like Tearing the Heart Strings.—It is not within the conception of man to measure my great sufferings from heart disease. For years I endured almost constant cutting and tearing pains about my heart, and many a time would have welcomed death. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart has worked a veritable miracle.—Thos. Hicks, Perth, Ont.—59
Sold by Garden Bros.

County Council MEETING.

The regular January meeting of the County Council of the Municipality of Carleton, will be held at the Court House on **TUESDAY, the 8th Day of JANUARY next,** at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. Dated December 17th, A. D. 1900. J. C. HARTLEY, Secretary Treasurer.



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