

THE BOERS ROUTED.

Col. Plumer Defeats Gen. DeWet—Leader Escapes.—"Gat" Howard Killed.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—The War office has received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener:

MIDDLEBURG, Transvaal, Feb. 24.—French reports from Piet Retief, February 22, that the results of the columns sweeping the country east is that the Boers are retreating in scattered and disorganized parties to the number of some 5,000 in front of him. Amsterdam and Piet Retief have been occupied and troops are protecting the Swazi frontier. French will push on, but is much hampered by the continuous heavy rains. Summary of total losses inflicted upon the enemy up to February 16: Two hundred and ninety-two Boers known to have been killed and wounded in action, 56 taken prisoners, 183 surrendered. One 15 pounder gun, 462 rifles, 160,000 rounds of ammunition, 3,500 horses, 70 mules, 3,530 trek oxen, 18,700 cattle, 55,400 sheep and 1,000 wagons and carts captured. Our casualties: Five officers and 41 men killed, and four officers and 108 men wounded. Major Howard, of the Canadian scouts, was killed on February 17. Plumer reports that Col. Owen captured De Wet's 15-pounder and pom pom February 23, as well as 53 prisoners and a quantity of ammunition. We had no casualties. Enemy in full retreat and dispersing, being vigorously pursued.

"General De Wet's attempt to invade Cape Colony has completely failed."

LONDON, Feb. 25.—A correspondent of the Daily Mail with Henniker's column, wiring Saturday, says:

"General De Wet was routed yesterday by Colonel Plumer, with whom were Colonels Henniker, Craddock, Jeffreys and Grabbo. This success was preceded by a series of desperate attempts on the part of the Boers to escape from the water belt of the Orange and Brak rivers.

"General De Wet, after unsuccessfully attempting to cross the Brak at Klip Drift, and the Orange at Read's Drift and Mark's Drift, moved along the bank of the Orange with one gun and one pom-pom and lagged opposite Kameel Drift. At dawn Colonel Blumer left Welgarenden, twenty-two miles west of the Boer camp, and moved northeast.

"At Zuurgat he attacked the enemy, taking forty prisoners. The pursuit was continued during the afternoon, the Boers moving towards Hopetown. Toward evening the leading troops sighted the enemy, who had lagged beyond gun range. Colonel Owen charged the spot where the Boer artillery was supposed to be and captured the whole of it. The enemy fled, leaving their horses ready saddled and their cooking pots full. According to the latest reports only four hundred Boers recrossed to the north side of the river. The Orange is greatly swollen."

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 24.—Colonel Plumer engaged General De Wet yesterday near Disseldfontein, on the south bank of the Orange river, capturing a gun and a pom-pom and taking fifty prisoners. The Boers were scattered and are being pursued by Colonel Plumer.

It is reported that General De Wet escaped to the opposite bank in a boat and is now fleeing with a handful of followers. It is reported from a Boer source at Zeerust that General DeWet has been captured.

JAKSUNTOWN, February 11, 1901.

DEER MISTER EDITER,—As sum time has elapsed since I writ to yure paper pa and ma tnot mabe yu wood be glad tu here from us agin. Ma thinks the despuch is a aful gude paper and thinks every budy ort tu take it, he seze the devel's colyum is wurth the prise uv the paper, i don't like the devel wun bit kuse i am afrade uv him but he du be aful fume sum times. We haf got a gude feler ter tech our skule his name is norval briten, but it is a shame the way the hikokolorums uv our dustrick use him (and they ort tu be gode men fur 2 uv them air named after kings an 1 is named after a juge an a gunver both uv korse al uv them is ded or they wudent stand it, the kings and gunver i mean) yu no he went an got a flag fur our skule howes an they don't git a stik ter hang it on an wen he wants the gude old flag ter fluter in the batel an the trees he has tu stan out dore an hold it haf mast but wen yu want her hawled way up hi fur sumthing grand it is aful trien on the konstutushun, now mister editir i think it is tu bad tu treet norval that way an i want yu tu ask yure pa if wen he gos down tu Fetherintun tu set on the guverment if he wunt make a law or sumthin tu make thees feters put up a stik or else hold the flag them selfs.

Mister ward berpea has got a firnis in his seler this wintur, he ses it is aful nise, he is giten things fixt up nise fur somthin the fokes wat lives up the rode that gese an the post ofis ses he is goin tu git a skule teacher tu board ter his plais, mel mabe he is but i shud think there was skule mams enuf here now there is magie an lena an kora an saide an heilun beside norval, an when they are all home—well yu no.

Well i had tu laff wun day last weke, gust as skule was opened in the mornin along kums wun uv the trusteeas an he kum in tu visit the skule, he hadn't bin there long wen his horse got tired uv visitin and started fur hoem well that trusteea didn't wate tu make his adeos but just went, well yu shud have seen him go after that horse, it was fun tu ses him run it was nip and tuk fur a wile but ruk got it fur pete was tu much fur him an tuk (ered) him out ha ha o deer it was fun.

Pa ses this is the best plais he ever seen tu bring up a famle in an he hes lived in nuberg an nokadogin an nakawick, we have sush advantages here we have a singin skule an mister shepard teaches it he has got a forke an it onle hes 2 times like wun my granma used tu have with gold gilt on it hangin in the parier, well he bites this forke or strikes it on somethin an it makes a nois an he looks wies an ses do me sul do i tell yu it is fun, wen we get so we can sing reel gude like our teacher we air goin tu sing on the quire in the church. An then we hev niten parties to, there is goin to be wun tu mister jonie maleries today, wuz yu ever tu a niten partie editir? if yu wasen't yu had ot to come out to mister maleries tonite, we have grate fun, the last wun was tu mister frank berpeas an line burte an mister maklowed kot a whole string uv sukurs.

PERSONAL.

Frank L. Dyer, of Houlton, was in town Friday.

C. S. Wiggins, Meductic, was in town last week.

Michael Riley, of Fredericton, was in town Saturday.

G. W. Gregory, St. John, was at the Aberdeen Monday.

Odbur Sharp, Nortondale's lumberman, was in town Monday.

Joseph Oldham, Southampton, was at the Victoria Thursday.

Miss Catherine Rankin has returned from a visit to St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. Wetmore, St. John, are in Woodstock.

W. E. McMullen and wife, St. John, were at the Aberdeen Friday.

Chas. E. Huestis, St. Stephen, registered at the Victoria last Thursday.

Miss Alexa Corbett, has returned from St. John where she was visiting.

R. Hutchinson, Wicklow, made THE DISPATCH a pleasant call last week.

W. Grantham, Aroostook Junction, was at the Victoria last Wednesday.

Thomas Kelly and wife, of Fort Fairfield, are in town visiting relatives.

W. B. Percival, of Halifax, was among the arrivals at the Aberdeen Thursday.

J. G. Gunn, Fredericton, drove to Woodstock Friday and registered at the Aberdeen.

Spurgeon Henderson, foreman of Dickinson's larrigan factory, is on a visit to Boston.

Henry Jordan, of Houlton, spent Monday night in town, visiting his sister, Mrs. J. C. Mikmore.

George Parker, of Fredericton, who was spending a few days in town, returned home Thursday.

George Anderson, St. John, was in Woodstock last week in connection with his insurance business.

J. B. Stevenson, Arthurette, of the 67th Batt., is taking a short course at the R. C. R. I. Fredericton.

T. Gordon Ferris, of St. John, selling Red Rose tea, was in town last week; he returned home Saturday.

G. W. Smith, St. John, and H. C. Brown, Scranton, Pa., registered at the Aberdeen last Wednesday.

George D. Frost, the popular representative of Taylor & Dockrill, St. John, was at the Aberdeen last week.

The Misses Belle and Cassie Gillin, of Hartland attended the race at the roller rink Saturday night, and returned home Sunday.

John C. Gibson, returned on Saturday from the head waters of the Tobique, where he has been spending the winter for J. J. Hale.

Don Hall is to have charge of the Western Union Telegraph office in the Parliament Buildings, Fredericton, during the session of the legislature.

A. D. Holyoke, went to St. Stephen, last Friday with the Woodstock Hockey team. He spent Sunday in Fredericton with Mrs. Holyoke who is visiting there.

T. J. Furze, Boston; John Kilburn, Fredericton; George W. Boyce, Brockville, Ont; and J. C. Fraser, Montreal, were among the arrivals at the Victoria Friday.

R. J. Hurst, who represents the Maritime Wrapper Company in the Province of Quebec, is at home after making his spring trip. He says business was good.

Thomas C. Kelly and wife, Fort Fairfield; J. G. Gunn, Fredericton; A. C. Sweet and wife, Vancouver, B. C.; J. D. Allen, J. S. Lawson, St. John; and W. S. Hawkes of Hamilton, Ont., were at the Aberdeen over Sunday.

At the Aberdeen.—E. S. Wasson, J. H. Scribner, W. H. Minihimick, H. G. Enslow, Geo D. Frost, G. W. Smith, T. Gordon Ferris, W. E. McMullen and wife, J. D. Allen, J. S. Lawson and G. W. Gregory, St. John; C. S. Wiggins, Meductic; A. Curry, Antigonish; F. A. Ramsay, Sydney, N. S.; T. L. Connelly and wife, Miss Mary Connelly, H. R. Connelly, Benton; Hiram Schriver, Jr., East Florenceville; George Tracey, George Parks, Richmond; D. Gibson, Joseph A. Wolverson, Northampton; Charles Phillips, Bristol; T. G. Hoyt, Rosedale; C. W. Dugan, Harold Gray, Woodstock; W. B. Percival, Halifax; Frank L. Dyer, Houlton; Thos Kelly and wife, Fort Fairfield; J. G. Gunn, Fredericton; A. W. Price, Haynesville; A. C. Sweet and wife, Vancouver, B. C.; J. W. Cheney, George Porter, J. A. Carpenter, Bloomfield; Geo F. Burden, Pokiok; E. B. Murray, Danforth; W. Hawkes, Hamilton.

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Well mister editir i want trespas on yure payshuns eny more this time but i am comin out tu see yu sum dey.

i remane yures trule,

FELIX.

KIRKLAND.

A young daughter made her appearance at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Saunders on the 19th of February.

Andrew McIntyre is ill with grip at present.

Several teams are very busy hauling timber, sleepers, hay and oats to Benton by way of Eel River.

Messrs. George Bustard and Leslie Kennedy supply the lumbermen at North Lake with oats.

PIANO TUNING.—W. A. Petersen of Calais will be in Woodstock March 4th. Orders left at Garden Bros. Drug Store will be promptly attended to.

DIED.

MUNRO.—At Woodstock, Jan. 31st, of pneumonia, Donald Frederick, eldest son of Donald and Maud Munro, aged 19 yrs, 9 mos.

COCHRAN.—At Bloomfield, Kings Co., N. B., Feb. 22, Laura M., beloved wife of William G. Cochran, and daughter of Rev. B. Colpitts, in her 35th year, leaving a loving husband and three children to mourn their loss.

BURTT.—At Fort Fairfield, H. A. Burtt, of consumption, passed away in the 56th year of his age. He leaves a widow, five sons, and two brothers. The interment took place at Rowena, Tobique River.

Minstrel Performance.

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