THE DISPATCH

NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

The Boers Are in Force and Making a Good Fight.

A despatch from London dated Monday, December 31st, says:

While Lord Kitchener sends bad news for England on the closing day of the year, the press continues to take a surprisingly hopeful view of a grave situation and of revelations of an enormously wide field of Boer activity. General De Wet is still at large. Kimberly is iselated. The Boers are in force enough to have captured a strong position at Helvetia in the Lydenburg district, while judging from Lord Kitchener's very recent advices no progress is being made against the Boer invaders in Cape Colony.

According to further telegrams received yesterday, Zeerust is practically besieged but has provisions sufficient for five months. The garrison at Ottoshoop has been withdrawn to Lichtenburg. A despatch from Carnarvon, dated yesterday, reports that the Boers who have been threatening that point were driven off and are being pursued.

"It is evident," says a belated message from Krugersdrop, dated December 23, "that the Boer commissariat in the direction of the Magaliesburg is well supplied and that until the country between here and the Magaliesburg is properly cleared of Boers they will continue to concentrate there, the ground being particularly adapted to their methods of warfare."

The Boers admit that in their fight with General Clements at Nooitgedacht they lost 130 men.

"It is understood that Lord Kitchener cannot ask the colonies officially to send troops," says a Durban despatch, dated December 29, "but he desires it to be known in Australia and Canada that Australians and Canadians arriving in Natal will be eligible for immediate enlistment in an irregular corps which is proceeding to Johannesburg for five months' service.

To emphasize Lord Kitchener's covert admission that no progress is being made against the invasion of Cape Colony, a correspondent at Burghersdorp, wiring Saturday, reports as follows:

"Two fresh commandoes are entering the Colony. One has already crossed near Kaaapadaar and the arrival of another is trict. The Boers are said to have two or MARRIAGE LICENSES three horses each, though in bad condition. They have no guus or transport, but are well supplied with Lee Metford rifles and ammunition. Captured Boers say that the intention] of these commandoes is to roam about and wait until General De Wet appears on the scene." All the despatches arriving in London agree that the Cape Dutch show no inclination to rise but on the contrary appear to be tired of the war and desirous of peace. Many refuse to supply the Boers with food and are willing to give information to the British regarding Boer movements. Details of the Greylingstad affair show that while Colville's column was pursuing the Boars a second force of 400 of the enemy was seen moving toward the camp where the British transport was inspanned. The small British force male a plucky stand until reinforcements arrived with artillery and after severe fighting the Boers were defeated. The British losses altogether were nine killed and sixty-three wounded and missing. The Boers are said to have had thirty-one killed.

This plan failed and the Boers were driven off in each case with more or less loss, their casualties in the past day or two numbering fifty, while the British casualties were slight.

From Carnarvon, under Saturday's date, comes a despatch saying that the Boers occupied Vosburg Dec. 27 in force and were reported to be moving on Carnarvon, where martial law has been proclaimed. The loyal field cornets and farmers have assured the authorities that they will remain loyal and will suppress disloyal talk.

It is reported, according to a despatch from New Castle, dated Dec. 29, that Louis Botha has informed Commandant Spruight that Kruger has sent word that the burghers must lay down their arms or continue fighting on their own account, as no support from Europe can be expected.

I am glad to find your love does not grow cold; nor your desires after all the mind that was in Christ. Now is the time to regain the whole image of God, wherein you were created. -Jno. Watson.

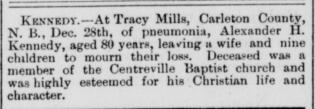
Aroused at Last

To the terrible ravages of consumption in Ontario, the Government is petitioned to establish hospitals for consumptives. As a preventative to consump-tion there is no treatment to be compared to Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine which promptly and effectually cures every cough and cold. It has by far the largest sale of any remedy for throat and lung troubles. 25 cents a bottle. Family size 60 cents. All dealers.

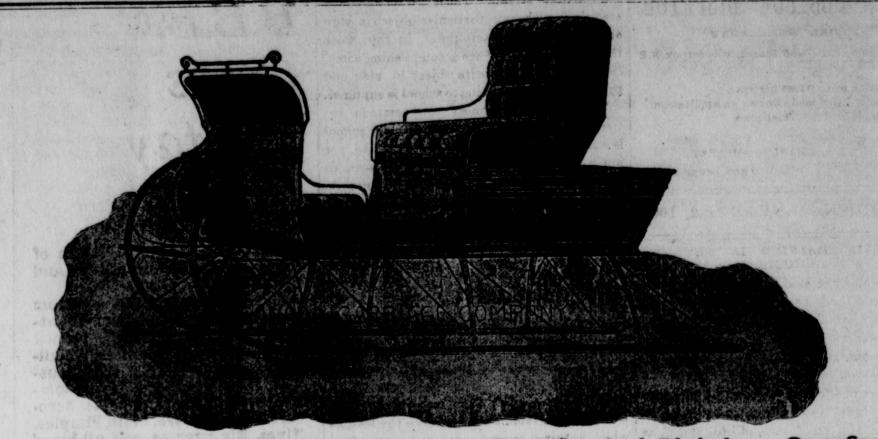
Smoking in the House.

Husbands, especially young husbands, think it a grievance if they cannot smoke in every room of the house, and wives naturally dislike the odor of tobacco when it clings to the curtains and draperies for days.

It is said, however, that smoking may be indulged in in any room however dainty, with impunity if a large bowl of fresh water be placed in the room at the end of the evening and allowed to remain there all night. The water absorbs the stale odor



DIED.



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

BALMAIN BROS. Connell Street, Woodstock.

LIFE:

In doing our very best to be good ourselves we bring tremendous unconscious influence to bear on every one around us. No one can meet a man who transparently and constantly tries to do his duty without being either spurred or shamed by the encounter.-American Friend

Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.-Rev. W. H. Main, pastor of the Baptist Emanuel Church, Buffalo, gives strong testimony for and is a firm believer in Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. He has tried many kinds of remedies without avail. "After using Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder I was benefited at once," are his words. It is a wonderful remedy. 50 cents.-65 Sold by Garden Bros.



CANADA'S LEADING CO.

For some years the North American Life, is shown by the Government records to have the largest percentage of net surplus to liabilities of any home company. This proud position is maintained in spite of the fiercest competition, but not until this year was it that the North American Life attained to another first position in the ranks of life insurance companies in this country, that is for new business.

The preliminary Government Report, just re ceived, places the North American Life, for new business taken in Canada, ahead of all competitors British, American or Canadian. We give the figures of a few of the leading home companies:

1North American Li	fe, Genr'l Business,	\$4,651,305.0
2Ontario Mutual,	"	3,965,505.00
3Confederation Life,	10 4 10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	3,839,469.00
4Canada Life,	44 66 (1976)	3,800,917.00
5.—Sun Life,	"	3,602,209.00
+ Blancorr	Weedsteek	NR

FIRST

CLASS

Lard Kitchener wiring from Pretoria Satorday, Dec. 29, says:

"Toere is not much change in the situation in Cape Colony. The eastern force of the enemy appears to have broken up into small parties at Utrecht and to be moving about rapidly in the same district, evidently waiting for support from the north.

"The last report states that the western force is moving to Carnarvon. DeLisle and Thornecroft are to close pursuit.

"French has occupied Ventersdrop, Clements reports that he is opposed on the road to Rustenburg. The eastern line was blown us near Pan and a train was held up this morning on Standerton line near Vaal station.

"White's column has arrived at Senekal. Knox's column and Boyes brigade are holding De Wet from breaking south."

A special from Naauwport, dated Dec. 28, reports that Col. De Lisle defeated Hertzog 18 miles west of De Aar, capturing a number of wagons and releasing the prisoners captured at Pilipstown. Lieut. Col. Grenfel forced back Kritzinger towards Venterstadt. Both Commandoes are in a desperate plight and will probably never re-cross the Orange River.

A Standerton despath, dated Dec. 28, says it is estimated that 2,000 Boers were engaged in the operations in North Natal hoping to break the British line of communication.

South American Rheumatic Cure Oures Rheumatism.—It is safe, harmless and acts quick—gives almost instant relief and an absolute cure in from one to three days—works wonders in most acute forms of rheumatism. One man's testimony: "I spent 6 weeks in bed before commencing its use—4 botties cured me."



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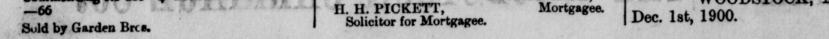
Housekeeping Helps.

COMPANIES,

(ENGLISH and CANADIAN.)

The little things that make your house work easier are the things that you are best pleased with buying. We have the odd things that will give pleasure and rest to the housekeeper. Every day necessities, and every article is at the right price.

Bissell Carpet Sweepers, Washing Machines, Meat Choppers, Mrs. Potts Sad Irons. and a full line of GRANITE and TINWARE. W. F. Dibblee & Son,



A. D., 1900.

improvements thereon and the privileges and appurtanances to the same belonging or in any

Dated this twenty-seventh day of December,

GEORGE INCH,