

BRITON AND THE BOER.

of Lord Roberts immediate force 11 men belonging to the 8th Mounted Infantry, were the first to ford the river. They came upon a Boer patrol looting at Viljoen's Drift, and a skirmish lasting 10 minutes followed. Two hundred Boers tried to hold the Vereeniging colliery, but they were dislodged. The Boer rear-guard is at Meyerton, 10 miles north of Vereeniging. Their main body is moving toward the Klip river hills that cover the south side of Johannesburg.

The more that is heard of the operations of the Mafeking relief column and of those of General Baden-Powell's garrison, previous to the relief, the more brilliant do they appear. Col. Mahon's relief column had to outtrace for 200 miles a Boer column, and advance in the face of a numerically superior foe at the end of its march, and this it did successfully, joining Col. Plumer's column west of Mafeking and entering the besieged town the very day set by Lord Roberts, namely, the 18th.

At the relief of Mafeking, as well as elsewhere, a Canadian force was present and distinguished itself. Lord Roberts, Mr. Chamberlain and Gen. Baden-Powell sent telegrams to the Governor-General congratulating Canada on the fine part taken by our artillery.

The Mafeking garrison paraded in a Thanksgiving service the day after the relief. Col. Baden-Powell addressed the men saying: "We have been unable to fire a volley over the graves of our killed, being fearful of drawing the enemy's fire." To-day the garrison paid the last honors to the dead, assembling in the graveyard and bidding good-bye to their fallen comrades. After sounding "The last post" the garrison attempted to sing the national anthem but could hardly be heard, as the men choked with emotion. Col. Baden-Powell was deeply affected and addressed each unit separately. He told the town guard that those who wished would be permitted to return to their civilian avocations.

On Wednesday Gen. Warren occupied Douglas after heavy fighting and without sustaining loss. The Boers retreated north. The force under General Warren consisted of mounted infantry, imperial yeomanry and two guns of the Canadian artillery, which left Rooipan, Cape Colony, on the night of May 20 and marched in two columns under Colonels Hughes and Spencer. Nothing was seen of the Boers until the British were within two miles of Douglas, when a few shells from the Canadian artillery sent the burghers in full retreat towards Douglas. Colonel Hughes's column advanced in skirmishing order, and after a lengthy exchange of shots the Boers fled, leaving their laager and a quantity of stores and ammunition. Next day three hundred Boers opened a hot fire on a detachment of yeomanry, and the Canadian artillery repeated their excellent practice and compelled the enemy to retire.

The indications are that a pitched battle is imminent at Lising's Nek where General Buller faces the Boers, reinforced and seemingly determined with an estimated strength of from 8,000 to 10,000 men. General Buller's officers are doubtful of the ability of the Boers to display the same tenacity as in the fighting at Ladysmith. The British are confident that, when the moment arrives they will be able to force the pass.

Two boxes of dynamite fuses were found under the Newcastle City Hall. General Buller is causing numerous arrests of suspected rebels. Forty-two have been sent to Pietermaritzburg. Mr. Gawthorpe, a chemist, and his wife, have been arrested on the charge of high treason.

Col. Bethune allowed himself to be trapped near Vryheid, and lost 66 men. It was sheer rashness and neglect of orders given by Gen. Buller. This occurred near the Natal border.

Frenchmen and Germans who had come to help the Transvaal are on their way home—many of them, while a number are studying the topography of St. Helena at their leisure.

Mrs. Reitz, wife of the Transvaal state secretary, and her family, with the families of other officials, have gone to Lorenzo Marquez. Johannesburg and Pretoria are being cleared of non-combatants. The Boer chiefs, who now recognize the possibility that they will have to defend the cities, are preparing with the utmost haste.

The situation at the Transvaal capital, as it was last Friday, is thus described by an observer who sent his message by private hand to Lorenzo Marquez. "The situation, both from a military and a political point of view, has become very critical. President Kruger yesterday admitted, for the first time, that matters were very grave. The

Boer determination is to trust everything to a last stand on the Garraard mountains, to the north of Potchefstroom, where 3,000 Kaffirs are digging trenches. To that point every available man and gun have been sent.

President Kruger is understood to be taking a plebiscite on the question of continuing the war. His proclamation to the burghers asking their votes for or against continuing the war is understood to say that they can quit now with the prospect of retaining their farms or continue to the bitter end.

The Boers in the hands of the British must now be about 8,000. It is expensive and troublesome to keep prisoners, but it is excellent discipline. The British have learned to take the best possible care of their captives.

Several correspondents wire the London papers that there are 15,000 foreigners in the Boer ranks; but this is hardly credible.

The President of the Orange Free State believed in Kruger's boast that he held England in the hollow of his hand, and that they would drive the British into the sea, and the result is that ambition defeated its own ends.

According to advices from Lorenzo Marquez the Pretoria fortifications are described as complete. The Transvaal government papers and the war chest have been removed to Lydenburg. Foreigners continue to leave the republic. The Dutch cruiser Friesland is at Delagoa Bay—so it is reported—to furnish an asylum to the fleeing Hollanders and passage to Europe.

The newspaper correspondents have suffered far more in proportion than either officers or privates engaged in the South African war. They were always found in the fighting line in battle, and attached to every column that was likely to see fighting, for it seemed to them that the public should have the news whatever the cost. As a consequence twenty-one of the correspondents have been killed or have died of disease. It is said ten correspondents of one London journal have died or been incapacitated.

C. I. Baden Powell has been made a Major General for his mastery of defence of Mafeking.

About eight hundred rebels have surrendered at Vryburg, north of Kimberley, and a little more than half way between that place and Mafeking.

The British soldiers who are at Pretoria, by some extraordinary means, learn of the British victories as soon as the Transvaal authorities, and they build bonfires and sing "God Save the Queen." The Pretoria people are apprehensive of a rising of the prisoners, and are agitating for a transfer.

HOME RELIGIOUS NEWS.

The Reformed Baptist Alliance is to meet in annual session at Brown's Flat, K. Co., June 26th.

Rev. D. M. McLeod was last week ordained pastor of the Greenfield, C. Co. Presbyterian church.

The Tabernacle Baptist church, St. John, is getting ready to erect a new house of worship at the foot of Waterloo St.

Rev. C. T. Phillips gave an interesting account of his attendance at the Missionary Conference to the St. John Evangelical Alliance.

At Sackville, N. B. on the 21st inst. Wm. R. Robinson was ordained a minister of the Baptist church. Mr. R. was for several years a catechist of the Presbyterian church.

The week from May 27th to June 2nd is self-denial week in the Salvation Army. Part of the money raised is to be given to the India famine fund.

Rev. Mr. Schurman has been appointed Baptist chaplain of the soldiers in Halifax, of whom there are now more than 100 in the garrison. Mr. S. is the first Baptist chaplain the garrison has had.

One hundred and twenty years ago the first Presbyterian minister was ordained in Canada. He was a fisherman living at Chester, Lunenburg Co. He was ordained in 1770 and died in 1820, 96 years of age, having labored over fifty years in the ministry. Next month the Presbyterian General Assembly of Canada will meet in Halifax, on the very spot where Rev. P. B. Coningo was ordained.

LITERARY NOTES.

McClure's Magazine for June will contain an article by William J. Lampton on the Cape Nome gold fields, telling how to reach them, how they are worked, what they produced last season, what the promises to produce this season, and about them an article, in short full of practical information on a subject about which there has been a great deal of vague extravagant writing. It will be fully illustrated from photographs.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

QUARTERLY MEETING.—The Shelburne C., N. S., Quarterly Meeting was held with the Temple Church, Barrington, May 18-20. The first business session was called to order at 10.30 a. m. Saturday. Rev. A. M. McNinch was chosen chairman. Prayer was offered by Rev. G. M. Wilson. The minutes of last session were read and approved. Bros. B. F. Kenny, W. S. Hopkins and Andrew Wilson were elected a prudential committee. The clerk read a letter from the Port La Tour church. Verbal reports were received from Centerville, South Side, Clark's Harbor, Wood's Harbor, Shag Harbor, Bear Point and Doctor's Cove churches. The interests at Village Dale and O.K. Park were reported. Nineteen have joined the churches since the last session. The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$13.98; \$10.00 was voted to the Education fund and \$5.00 to the Home Mission Board. The devotional exercises as follows:—Friday, 7.45 p. m., sermon by Rev. A. M. McNinch. Saturday, 2.30 p. m., social conference, led by the pastor; it was a season of much helpfulness. Sunday, 7.30 p. m., temperance—addresses by Rev. J. D. Gosline, Wm. Miller, and A. M. McNinch and A. C. Ross; it was an excellent service. Sunday, 10.30 a. m., sermon, Rev. G. M. Wilson; 2.30 p. m., sermon, Rev. A. M. McNinch, followed by the Lord's Supper; 7.30 p. m., sermon, Rev. Wm. Miller.

J. E. GOSLINE, Sec'y-Treas.

FROM REV. T. O. DE WITT—I have been favored with a vacation for a month by the people of this pastorate. I now feel quite rested and fitted for work again. During the fall and winter I held one hundred and fifty-eight meetings, made one hundred and forty-eight pastoral calls and baptized twenty-three converts. God was pleased to give me strength to do this work without an interruption from ill health, for which I am deeply grateful to Him. Now I have commenced work again. I wish to thank the people for their many tokens of thoughtful care. It is encouraging to the pastor to feel that he is appreciated and cared for by the people. I expect to receive some more members into the church soon.

T. O. DE WITT.

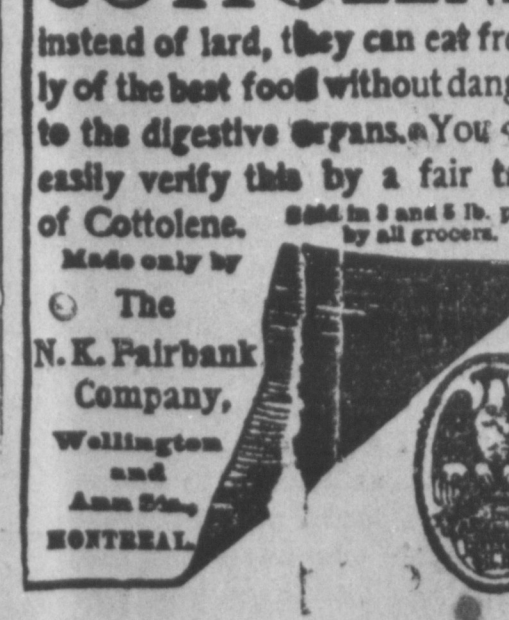
Wickham Q. Co. May 21st.

SUSSEX, N. B. Our work here is moving along encouragingly. A few Sundays ago I baptized five persons, who, with three others, united with the church. Some others are taking part in our regular meetings and we hope may soon obey their Lord's command—"be baptized." and unite with the church. Our people have done very well in their voluntary (as collections) contributions to the India Famine Fund, the amount to date being \$39.75. I hope that our people all over the field will respond to the cry of the helpless and "pay, pay, pay."

There is quite a strong feeling among our people, to put a new organ in the church, not for the sake of show but because it is needed. You need not be surprised if soon you hear that a new up-to-date pipe organ is in our church, consecrated to the service of our blessed Saviour.



is worthy every parent's study; not only what they can eat, but what gives the most nourishment. No children are better, and most are worse, for eating lard-cooked food. If, however, their food is prepared with COTTOLINE, a healthful new vegetable shortening, instead of lard, they can eat freely of the best food without danger to the digestive organs. You can easily verify this by a fair trial of COTTOLINE. Made only by The N. K. Fairbank Company, Wellington and Ann Sts., MONTREAL.



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Hood's Pills cure liver ills; non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

I was agreeably surprised last Wednesday (May 16 h) to have presented to us on behalf of friends, a beautiful little horse, just the kind that will be useful in the work here. I cannot express in words my appreciation of the gift. It is valued because it was almost necessary in order to get along comfortably, but still more for the thoughtful and kind feeling which prompted the gift. May the blessing of our Heavenly Father rest upon it is people who have for eight years increasingly co-operated with their pastor in the work of the church.

B. H. NOEL

Sussex, May 25th, 1900.

MINISTERS—Rev. J. B. Daggett was in the city last week. He and Mrs. Daggett had been called to Mrs. D's home, at Keswick, by the sudden illness of her father, Mr. E. Merrithew, whose death occurred before they reached him. Mrs. D. and other members of the family have the sympathy of their friends. Bro. Daggett has been suffering from a severe cold and was not able to occupy his pulpit on the 20th inst. He is better, though, and will be at work again at once.

Centrate A. E. Saunders is with the Campo Belo churches for the summer.

Rev. C. T. Phillips preached in Moncton last Sunday.

L. C. Gregg spent Sunday with Rev. J. N. Barnes at Stanley.

Lic. Koollin preached at Gibson last Sunday.

FAMINE FUND.—The contributions to the India famine fund acknowledged in the Presbyterian Witness amount to \$9,500; and the Wesleyan has acknowledged about \$1,700.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.—The new Duke of Argyll (formerly the Marquis of Lorne) has come into a large income and sundry other things by the death of his father. The estates yield an income of over \$400,000 a year. He also becomes possessed of Inverary Castle, the ducal seat of the Campbells, and filled with an almost priceless collection of pictures and historic treasures. He likewise

becomes invested with a larger number of titles and honors than any other subject of Queen Victoria, including dukedoms, earldoms, marquises and baronies by the score, and, last but not least, the title of the supreme chief of Clan Campbell.

DENOMINATIONAL NOTICES

NOTICE.

The annual session of the Fifth District will convene with the church at Upper Hampstead, Q. Co., on the last Friday in June, at 10 o'clock a. m. The first meeting will be a social one. DAVID PATTERSON, ISAAC W. CARPENTER, } Ex. Com. W. H. PERRY.

FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH DISTRICTS.

Forms for church and Sunday school reports, and for lists of contributions to the several denominational funds, have been sent to the Clerks of the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Districts. Churches not promptly supplied with forms should write their District Clerk. Jos. McLeod, Cor. Sec. Gen. Conf.

FIRST AND SECOND DISTRICTS.

Forms for Church and Sunday-school reports, and for lists of contributions to the several denominational funds have been sent to the Clerks of the First and Second Districts for distribution to the churches in these Districts. Churches not promptly supplied with forms should write their District Clerk. Jos. McLeod, Cor. Sec. Gen. Conf.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

First District Meeting, at Upper Kent, Carleton County, the fourth Friday in June. To attend, Rev. Wm. DeWare (who will preach annual sermon), Rev. J. B. Daggett, J. J. Barnes, and C. T. Phillips.

Second District, at Coldstream, Carleton County, the third Saturday in June. Annual sermon by Rev. Wm. DeWare.

Third District Meeting, at Stanley, York County, the third Friday in September, at 10 a. m. Annual sermon by Rev. G. W. Foster.

Fourth District Meeting, at Fredericton Junction, Sunbury County, on the second Friday in September, 1900. To attend, Rev. J. N. Barnes.

Fifth District Meeting, at (place to be arranged by District Executive), the last Friday in June. To attend, Rev. John A. Robertson, A. D. Paul, C. T. Phillips.

Sixth District Meeting, at (place to be arranged by District Executive), the second Friday in July. Rev. F. G. Francis to preach annual sermon.

Seventh District Meeting, at Beaver Harbor, Charlotte Co., the third Friday in August.

Rev. J. Noble and Rev. J. McLeod are appointed to attend all District Meetings, as far as practicable.

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