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# The Daily Mail

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The Weather.  
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FREDERICTON, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1916

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## Germans Gain a Footing In the Village of Vaux.

### French Official Report Tells of Two Heavy Attacks Delivered Against Verdun Last Night---Violent Bombardment in The Region of Malancourt.

PARIS, April 1.—German forces delivered two heavy attacks last night in the Verdun region, east of the Meuse. The War Office announced this afternoon that one attack gained the Germans a footing in the village of Vaux. The other attack was repulsed. West of the river there was a violent bombardment in the region of Malancourt.

The text of the communication follows:

"North of the river Aisné there has been considerable activity on the part of the opposing artillery forces in the vicinity of Moulin-Sous-Touvent and Fontenoy. In the Argonne district we have directed a destructive fire on the highways and railroad lines of the enemy.

#### An Intermittent Bombardment Carried

##### On by the Germans West of the Meuse

"To the west of the Meuse there has been an intermittent bombardment in the region of Malancourt, but without any infantry engagements. To the east of the Meuse the bombardment became exceedingly violent yesterday evening and last night in the sector between the wood south of Haudremont and the region of Vaux. Against the latter point the Germans delivered two sudden attacks in which large numbers of men took part. The first, which was made from both the north and south at the same time, was checked by our curtain of fire and the fire of our infantry before it could get as far as our lines.

"During the course of the second attack the enemy, after a very spirited fight, was able to secure a footing in the western part of the village of Vaux, occupied by our forces.

"In the Woëvre district there has been some active artillery firing against the villages at the base of the heights of the Meuse. From the rest of the front there is nothing to report."

#### Battalion of French Infantry Held in

##### Check a Force Twenty Times Its Number

PARIS, April 1.—A single battalion of French infantry held the salient comprising the village of Malancourt, in the Verdun region, west of the Meuse, against a force twenty times their number, in the attack on Thursday night, until surrounded on three sides, when they were compelled to choose between retirement and capture.

Three German brigades attacked just after dark. The column attacking in front met with such sustained fire that it was thrown back before reaching a house of the village. The assaults were renewed repeatedly at intervals of a few minutes, the ranks growing thinner with each rush.

At about 11 o'clock the Germans brought up a fresh brigade and attacked furiously on all sides, but were again thrown back by rifle fire and bayonets.

#### Huns Made Breach in French Lines

##### After Repeated Unsuccessful Attempts

At one o'clock another charge was made. It was directed principally against the flanks, and the column operating on the left, after being repulsed several times, succeeded in making a breach in the defensive lines of the French. Being reinforced with more fresh troops, the Germans were able to hold the group. The French between still held and fought from house to house until dawn. Then the ever-increasing German reinforcements overwhelmed what remained of the defending forces, and by that time there was nothing left of the village but a pile of smoking ruins.

The Germans remained quiet along that part of the line during the day, but made heavy attacks against the advanced French positions in the region of Dead Man's Hill.

After preparing with a veritable storm of shells, the German infantry attacked in massed formation and penetrated the first line of the French trenches. At some points the French infantry counter-attacked with bayonets and drove back the German attackers in disorder.

#### VILLA'S CAREER PROBABLY ENDED.

El Paso, Texas, March 31.—Four hundred American cavalrymen under the command of Colonel George A. Dodd, galloping down from the granite slopes of the great continental divide, have fallen on the main body of Francisco Villa's bandits at the San Geronimo ranch, scattering them in many directions and driving the bandit chief, wounded and crippled, to seek a hiding place in the mountains. Villa was hurried from danger in a carriage. The fight lasted for several hours.

Villa's career has ended; his power has been broken. His death or capture is only a question of days, perhaps hours. It seems impossible that the crippled bandit can long remain hidden even in the mountainous wastes in which he has sought refuge.

#### PERSONAL.

Mrs. M. B. Dixon of Riverside, Albany, is visiting Miss Allen, over the river.

John, is visiting

Miss Royce Carter of St. John, is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Geo. E. Fenety.

Miss Beverley is spending this week with relatives in St. John.

Mrs. W. W. Hubbard has returned from visiting her cousin, Mrs. MacRae, at St. John.

## GERMANY IS INVESTIGATING

Washington, April 1.—United States Ambassador Gerard cabled the State Department today that he had been informed by the German government that nothing was known officially there of the attack on the steamers Sussex and Englishman, but that an investigation was being made. He said the German government informed him they had only newspaper reports on the two cases up to the present.

#### AVIATORS' BOMBS DID NO DAMAGE TO SWISS TOWN

Geneva, via Paris, April 1.—The political department of the Swiss government says in a public statement that it seems proved that the aviators who dropped five large bombs on Friday morning on the Swiss town of Porentruy, near the French frontier, dropped the bombs either into the water or places where no damage was done.

#### DRY DOCK STRIKE HAS BEEN SETTLED IN LIVERPOOL

Liverpool, Eng., April 1.—The Mersey dock strike has ended. The men returned to work this morning.

Misses Lena and Evangeline Melanson of Moncton, are with their father at the Queen.

## MR. DONALD FRASER SR. PASSED AWAY AT 12.30 O'CLOCK TODAY

New Brunswick's Foremost Captain of Industry Closes a Long and Busy Life—Was a Native of Scotland and Came to New Brunswick in 1873—A Remarkable Career.

After an illness of less than a week, brought on by heart trouble, Mr. Donald Fraser, sr., passed away at his residence, Government Lane, at 12.30 o'clock today. Although it was generally known that his condition was serious, the public were scarcely prepared for the announcement of his death and it came as a shock to the community.

Yesterday an improvement was noted in his condition; he passed a comfortable night and this morning seemed to be resting easily. At 12.30 o'clock he took a sudden turn for the worse and passed away almost instantly.

Mr. Fraser was taken ill on Sunday night last while attending service at St. Paul's church. He was compelled to leave the church and was conveyed to his home, where physicians were soon in attendance. It was found that his condition was serious, and on Tuesday Dr. Hamilton, a Montreal specialist, was called in consultation with Dr. Atherton, the attending physician. The specialist was unable to hold out any hope for the recovery of the distinguished patient, although there might, he thought, be a temporary improvement.

#### Native of Scotland.

The late Mr. Fraser was a native of Drumoak, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

and came to this country in 1873 as a member of a Scotch colony which took up lands on the Tobique. He was accompanied by his wife and two sons, who were then small children. He settled on a farm on the Tobique, but soon gave up farming to engage in the milling business, at which he had had some experience. After working for a time as a mill hand, in 1877 he became the owner of a sawmill at River du Chute, which he carried on for a number of years with great success. It was at River du Chute that he laid the foundation of what is now conceded to be the largest lumbering and milling business carried on under one management in the Maritime Provinces.

The concern of which the late Mr. Fraser was the head owns nine modern sawmills along with immense tracts of timber lands, employs several thousand men, and carries on a business amounting to over a million dollars annually.

#### Built Aberdeen Mill.

Mr. Fraser admitted his two sons to partnership on their coming of age, and the firm became known as Donald Fraser & Sons. In 1894 they acquired a mill site on Government Lane, this city, and built the Aberdeen Mill, which they operated until its destruction.

(Continued on page four.)



The above is from a snapshot of the late Mr. Fraser, taken several years ago. The gentleman on the right is Mr. Alexander Dunbar, of Woodstock, a life long friend of the deceased.

## SOME DETAILS OF LATEST ZEPPELIN RAID ON THE EAST COAST OF ENGLAND

### One of the Raiders Was Brought Down Near the Mouth of the Thames and Surrendered---Zeppelin Protection In London Proved Effective.

(Canadian Press.)

LONDON, April 1.—One of five Zeppelins which visited the eastern counties of England during the night dropped some ninety bombs, and was damaged, presumably by anti-aircraft guns and came down off the Thames. The raid was the twenty-second of the war. The lost Zeppelin was the third of her class to come to grief in these raids.

LONDON, April 1.—It is reported that one of the five Zeppelins which raided the eastern counties of England last night, was brought down off the east coast. The approach of the raiders was first noticed about 8 o'clock last night. They arrived from different directions and took individual routes across the country. It is rumored that they were quickly forced by anti-aircraft guns to turn about. Although no formal warning was issued to the population, the usual signs of an approaching air raid were manifested in London by the calling out of special constables, by the darkening of the streets, and by the stopping of traction service above ground.

Even the omnibuses and street cars in many sections, either discontinued service or ran in a limited way. Thousands of persons were unable to reach their homes, and for the greater part of the night the police stations were crowded with wayfarers seeking temporary shelter.

#### WEATHER FAVORED RAIDERS.

An exceptional feature of last night's raid was the fact that the weather was fine and clear; there was no moon, but the stars were bright. Toward midnight a slight haze came up, but it was not sufficient to obscure the landscape from the view of the aviators or anti-aircraft gunners. It was such a night, the experts thought, as would oblige the airships to keep at a very high altitude if they hoped to escape damage.

The handling of precautionary measures in London worked more smoothly than ever before, showing that the machinery for the protection of the metropolis was in efficient shape.

Small crowds in the streets watched the skies in a quite expectant manner. At 9.30 p. m. one Zeppelin was reported to be over London, travelling slowly at a great height. A telegram from a correspondent on the coast said that a Zeppelin was seen soon after 9 o'clock sailing in northeasterly direction.

In one town eleven bombs were dropped without causing any loss of life or property.

#### ONE ZEPPELIN BROUGHT DOWN.

LONDON, April 1.—It is officially announced that one of the Zeppelins that raided the eastern counties last night came down off the mouth of the Thames estuary. On being approached by one of our patrol vessels she surrendered. The crew was taken off and she was taken in tow, but subsequently broke up and sank.

#### MANY ZEPPELINS LOST.

The number of Zeppelins lost since the beginning of the war has been the subject of varied estimates in the press of all cities, but the British and French newspapers regard it as satisfactorily established that 35 have been accounted for previous to the destruction of the one mentioned in today's despatches. Rumors regarding the loss of many more have been based on statements by North Sea fishermen and natives of the regions in which the principal Zeppelin sheds are located.

#### THE SITUATION IN GERMANY VERY GRAVE

##### THE PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING FROM REAL FAMINE

LONDON, March 31.—The Chronicle has the following from Copenhagen:

"It now appears that the Germans are at last facing the fact of a threatening famine. New examples are daily told by travellers, especially by women. Up to the close of February it seems that a greater part of the population had not really suffered, although the rations had long been greatly diminished, but in March a great change came, and a catastrophe is apprehended. A man who has lived in Berlin several years and just now visiting Copenhagen, tells that the situation throughout the country for the last three or four weeks must be considered very grave. It is impossible for poor persons to get adequate food, as a healthy diet would cost 10 or 12 marks daily. There is meat enough, but as it is roasted in sugar and water it does not strengthen the constitution."

In a Danish journal published in March, Dr. Edward Lehman, lately from Berlin, says everybody stays at home. It saves money and strength. It is curious to see how slowly they move their feet. At first I thought it was depression, but soon learned to walk slowly myself on account of small rations of bread and butter. I had learned it is by the help of hydrates and carbonates we are able to read, now I have learned that they are also necessary for walking.