

DESPERATE BATTLE.

The Gallant Stand of Col. Plunkett's Force.

A DEAD SET MADE AGAINST

The British Officers, all of Whom Were Killed.

The London papers of May 4 contain a graphic story from Reuter's correspondent with the Somaliland force regarding the gallant stand made by Col. Plunkett's command (about 220 all told) against the Mad Mullah's hordes. In part the story is as follows: By this time it was impossible to effect a retreat, and a fight was inevitable. Plunkett resolved on moving into more open country. As quickly as the decision was arrived at the movement was executed, small parties of the enemy hanging on our flanks; but intelligence swiftly came in that the British force was in presence of the main body of the Mullah's army, which had evidently come up as soon as news reached it of the whereabouts of the small British party. Horsemen were seen galloping to and fro with furious gestures, and spearmen came darting towards Plunkett, shouting cries of defiance, and filling the air with the tumult and din of approaching battle. With extraordinary coolness, the result of Plunkett's own indomitable courage and iron nerve, the column executed the movements ordered by the commander. There was no semblance of haste, and the trite reference to the precision of the drill ground was never more applicable. Plunkett fell back, drawing the men together to form a square. The scene of the last stand was an open space, with only patches of shrub and bush. The gradual retirement of the British force had excited the enemy, who had kept up a brisk fire all the time. Just as this open spot had been reached, a large body of the Mullah's hordes was seen advancing. All further retreat was cut off, and the force was completely hemmed in.

Battle cries resounded from a thousand throats, as, in obedience to a concentrated movement, the enemy's horsemen swept down upon three sides of the square. Spearmen and dismounted riflemen attacked the rear, while the flanks and front were completely engulfed in a surge of charging horsemen, who, with cries of "Allah! Allah!" rushed upon the devoted soldiers. Every man was soon engaged in a fierce struggle. The horsemen fired from the backs of their ponies, while the front ranks of the square lunged and stabbed with their bayonets, after emptying their rifles into the dense press. Dying and dead dropped in great number on the very edge of the square, but the enemy eagerly pressed forward, struggling for the foremost position, and a comrade was always ready to leap into the place of a fallen man. Every Dervish of the attacking parties seemed to be armed with a rifle, and to carry in addition a sheaf of spears. The horsemen whirled round and round the square until the impact with the British force itself stopped their furious rush. Time and again the heads of their horses were dashed upon the very muzzles of the British rifles; time and again the Mullah's cavalry precipitated themselves into the square itself.

In the background were hundreds of women inciting the spearmen to fresh efforts with their shrill outcries. Every onlooker told the sheer press of numbers allowing the charges to be renewed again and again.

Meanwhile the British had fought with an obstinate and grim determination. There was no one in their case to take the place of the killed and wounded, and the fall of each man weakened the defence. A dead set was made against the officers, who, as they fell, urged their men to stand. Plunkett himself was one of the first to be hit, and he also received a spear thrust, but he kept on to the last. There was no lull to afford a momentary relief to the defenders. The rattle of musketry was never ceasing. The Maxims at the corner of the square swept the ground, playing continuously upon the

enemy. Scattered heaps of dead told how fatal had been their fire. But the ammunition grew less and less. Unfortunately the solid bullets of the British rifle failed utterly to stop the Dervish rushes. Many of them were hit, but not incapacitated, and their desperate valor carried them on. In no long time further defence of the square became impossible. The number of defenders was sorely reduced and the ammunition was nearly expended. The time had arrived for a final effort. Just as the enemy had delivered a charge under a telling fire, the remnant of the gallant force, by orders of Col. Plunkett, broke up the square and harled themselves into the midst of the te-setting foe. The Dervishes fell back here and there, but the attack was presented at fresh points with unabated vigor. More men fell, and some who had been wounded were wounded again, but still a firm front and magnificent courage was maintained, and finally the few survivors succeeded in cutting their way through. The scene of the fight was left behind, and the enemy were too busy to attack any more, for they were engaged in carrying off rifles and Maxims. Some thirty-five native troops succeeded in reaching the British camp, the others, including all the officers being killed.

The London Daily Graphic's correspondent, in a further despatch relative to the fight in which Major Gough's force suffered considerable loss, but reached safety with their dead and wounded, says:—The Yaos declare that they saw two white men directing the operations of the Dervishes. One was wearing a pith helmet, and the other a staff officer's cap. A Yao sergeant assures me that there can be no mistake as to these men being whites, as he fired three times at one of them, and consequently observed him very closely.

The lull during the fight was due to the enemy's stores of ammunition giving out. Some of the men of the Somali Camel Corps heard the Dervishes calling to each other for more cartridges. Our men shouted back: "We have lots here why don't you come and take them?"

SWEPT BY FIRE.

Two Thousand People Homeless at St. Hyacinthe.

Montreal, May 21.—St. Hyacinthe, a manufacturing town of 7,000 population, 40 miles from Montreal, has 2,000 homeless inhabitants today.

Two hundred and fifty dwellings, three hotels and several mills, factories and business establishments are in ruins as the result of yesterday's fire.

The fire which caused this disaster began at noon in a store room of Cote Bros. shoe factory where 140 people are employed, and, aided by a long draught and a freshening breeze, spread quickly and soon was beyond control of the town fire brigade.

Building after building caught and it looked at 3 o'clock, when assistance from Montreal arrived, as if the town was doomed, but two hours later the conflagration was under control.

The property loss is estimated at \$300,000.

There was no loss of life.

Three hundred families are homeless and dependent upon the hospitality of the upper town for shelter and sustenance. All the principal restaurants, many of the leading stores, several factories, mills, and business establishments and 200 dwelling houses lie in ruins.

Unlucky St. Hyacinthe. In 1878 the same region was devastated by fire, and for years the town did not recover from the effects. Eighteen months ago it was swept by an epidemic of smallpox.

Catarrh is a Germ Disease.

Science, armed with the microscope, has established it a fact, and this conclusion renders obsolete the practice of treating Asthma, Catarrh and Bronchitis by stomach drugging, sprays, snuffs, &c. Such treatments are an utter failure because they cannot penetrate the delicate air cells of the lungs, or permeate the air passages of the nose and bronchial tubes where the germs of Catarrh have their stronghold. Catarrh is the only certain remedy. It is inhaled by the mouth and after spreading through all the respiratory organs is exhaled through the nostrils. Catarrh kills the germs, heals the inflamed tissues, clears the head and throat in two minutes, and cures in a few hours. Nothing is so effective, pleasant and simple as Catarrh. Two months' treatment \$1.00. Small size, 25c. Druggists or N. C. Poleson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

FISHER ON JAPAN

Willing to Buy Canadian Products.

TALK OF TARIFF CONCESSIONS.

Test of Flour Proves a Great Success.

LUMBER, FURNITURE, PAPER AND PULP WOULD FIND A READY MARKET.

Ottawa, May 21.—"I had one or two most interesting conversations with Baron Komura, Minister of Foreign Affairs for Japan, in regard to the important question of developing trade between Canada and that country. The Baron expressed regret that he could not make immediately some arrangement that would promote this object. Unfortunately Japan is hampered by trade treaties containing the most favored nation clause, and if any tariff concessions were granted to Canada the same privileges would have to be extended to one-half of the nations of the world. Under the circumstances I agreed with the Minister of Foreign Affairs that it would be better to wait for a little while, until some of Japan's commercial treaties are terminated, Japan would then be in a position to open negotiations with Canada, and Baron Komura felt sure that a mutually advantageous trade arrangement could and would be made between the two countries."

The foregoing was one of the most interesting statements made to The Globe correspondent tonight by Hon. Sydney Fisher, who returned Monday afternoon from a visit to Japan which has occupied about three months. The Minister of Agriculture was in 'capital form, and looked as though the journey had thoroughly agreed with him. Mr. Fisher went out as Commissioner Extraordinary to the International Exposition at Japan, but the real purpose of his trip was to do his utmost to stimulate Canadian trade with Japan. He has returned with a vast amount of information that will be useful to Canadian manufacturers, and a genuine admiration for the skill, enterprise and adaptiveness of the Japanese. Mr. Fisher deems it of paramount importance that Canadian millers should enter Japan and possess the promising market that awaits them there. In connection with the Canadian exhibits at the Osaka Exposition, baking demonstrations were given in order to show the superiority of Canadian over Oregon flour, and the Japanese were very much astonished at the results. Japanese master bakers were employed, and one of them, who is in business in Osaka, made the statement that the Canadian flour produced 30 pounds more of bread per sack of 100 pounds than any Oregon flour he had handled. This is a larger claim than the Canadian officials themselves have set out, their contention being that an every day test showed the Canadian flour to yield twenty pounds more of bread of better quality than did the Oregon wheat sold on the market. The result is today that everybody in the Osaka district is talking about the Canadian flour, and its fame has spread far and wide.

The Canadian Government have paved the way for the entrance of Canadian flour, and if the Lake of the Woods Company, the Ogilvie and other firms make proper arrangements, Mr. Fisher thinks they can successfully compete with the Americans in Japan and sell flour at a handsome profit. Mr. Fisher says that all kinds of lumber are wanted in Japan, and Seattle and Tacoma dealers are palming off as Oregon pine lumber bought in British Columbia. There is no reason why our people should not get a share of that trade. An excellent opening exists for furniture, and if the Furniture Association of Ontario would send to Japan

a good agent, good orders would reward them. The furniture sent out by Canada was placed on exhibit, although originally intended for a dwelling house for the Canadian staff, and was sold at a very fair profit. Ten times as much could have been disposed of, so great was the demand. The Japanese would take pulp from us, but, failing that, will buy our paper.

Mr. Fisher recommends Canadian paper manufacturers to extend the market. The Canadian exhibit of metallic roofing and ceiling material struck the Japanese fancy. The Minister of Education was greatly impressed with its usefulness in connection with the school buildings, which in Japan are very fine. He promised to send one of his architects around to the Canadian exhibit.

Mr. Fisher has nothing but praise for the Japanese. He was received in audience at the Imperial Palace at Tokio, first by the Emperor and afterwards by the Empress. He was also a spectator on board the Imperial yacht of a great naval review at Kobe, which was perhaps the finest sight of the kind he had ever witnessed. The report that he was decorated with the Imperial Japanese Order was an invention.

Nature "makes all things beautiful in time." Every one of life's seasons, when life moves on Nature's lines, has its own charm and beauty. Many women dread that period when they must experience change of life. They fear that face and form may suffer by the change, and that they may fail to please those whom they love. The value of Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription in this crisis of woman's life lies in the fact that it assists Nature. Its use preserves the balance and buoyancy of the mind and sustains the physical powers. Many women have expressed their gratitude for the help and comfort given by "Favorite Prescription" in this trying period. Its benefits are not passing but permanent and conduce to mental happiness as well as physical strength.

Manitoba School Question.

Ottawa, May 20.—It is stated that the visit of Archbishop O'Brien of Halifax, and Bishop McDonald, of P. E. Island, to Ottawa, has something to do with a proposed conference of all the archbishops and bishops of Canada in this city at a future date.

The business that would come before this conference would be in connection with the famous Manitoba school question.

It is understood that the apostolic delegate, Mgr. Sbarretti, has expressed a desire to have an assembly of this kind in the capital for the purpose of looking into the many details of separate school education in Manitoba with a view to securing for the Catholics of that province rights similar to those enjoyed by other parts of the Dominion.

The Pope, it is understood, has communicated a desire that the principle of rights of Catholics to separate education be maintained.

Pimples and Blotches.

How unsightly, sometimes disgusting, mortifying to the sufferer and unpleasant to all. An evidence of poor blood and lowered vitality of the eliminating organs. They need toning up—the whole system does. You can quickly bring about the improved condition by using Ferrozone. Poisons are driven out of the blood, organs grow stronger, the blood richer, the nerves stronger. Pimples and blotches disappear, color becomes good. Glad! just try and see how much joy can be gotten out of a box of Ferrozone.

Parliament of Canada.

Ottawa, May 20.—Hon. C. Fitzpatrick, minister of justice, has given notice of a bill to amend the criminal code for the purpose of making it an offence to sell cigarettes to boys under sixteen years of age.

At the opening proceedings of the house yesterday, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that a commission would be appointed shortly to look into the Treadgold concession and other leases in the Yukon.

The house then went into committee on public works estimates. Mr. Sutherland stated that the new dredge now under construction at Sorel for the maritime provinces would cost \$500,000 and would be ready for the work next season.

Hon. Mr. Fielding has given a notice of resolution to establish penny banks.

Monkey Brand Soap cleans kitchen utensils, steel, iron and tinware, knives and forks, and all kinds of cutlery.

MIDDLE HAINESVILLE.

(Special correspondence to the Herald.)

May 18.—The home of Mr. A. W. Price, of this place, was the scene of a very pretty wedding Wednesday, the 13th inst., when his eldest daughter, Hattie J., became the wife of Mr. Simon Goodine of Bear Island. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. H. Coy of Woodstock, in the presence of about one hundred and ninety guests. The bride looked very pretty in her elegant toilet of white cashmere, with silk and lace trimmings. She wore gold ornaments and was unattended. After the ceremony, which took place on the lawn in front of the house, and the usual congratulations, the guests retired to the spacious dining room, where a bountiful repast was in waiting.

When the dining hall was cleared the orchestra was moved thither and dancing was kept up until early morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodine left for their future home in Queensbury on Thursday, followed by the best wishes of all.

The bride received a number of costly and elegant presents, too numerous to mention, among them being several substantial checks. She was very popular and will be much missed, especially at the post office.

Acute and Chronic Rheumatism.

are equally influenced by the almost magical and pain subduing power of Nerviline—equal in medicinal value to five times the quantity of any other Rheumatic remedy. Penetrates at once through the tissues, reaches the source of the disease and drives it out. Nerviline is undoubtedly the king of pain, for it is unequalled by any remedy in the world. Your money back if you do not find it so. Druggists sell it.

Vault Baffles the Experts.

Halifax, May 21.—For the past thirty-six hours over half a million dollars has lain idle practically in the centre of Halifax, beyond the reach of persons who control it as well as those who do not control it. This is the sum locked up in the vault of the Royal Bank of Canada, along with other valuable papers belonging to the institution, and all efforts to extricate it have proved in vain.

Yesterday morning work on the combination of the vault was resumed. Instruments of the highest class were employed by Locksmith Bateman, but the combination refused to yield, and attention was then directed to other means of making an entry to the vault. Drills were brought into use and an attempt was made to bore through the heavy steel partition.

It was found, however, that practically no headway could be made by this means and at five o'clock it was decided to bore from the ceiling. The work was resumed last evening and considerable headway was made.

OROMOCTO.

(Special correspondence to the Herald.)

May 21.—Indian Commissioner Farrell was in the village Tuesday, having been sent for to settle some trouble which occurred between members of the red race lately.

The orchard meeting, held in J. E. Stocker's orchard Tuesday, was conducted by Messrs. Hubbard and Peters. A good many interested in fruit growing and potato culture were in attendance.

The Bishop of Fredericton visited Oromocto on Wednesday, and at 10 o'clock, a. m., in St. John's church administered the apostolic rite of "the laying on of hands" upon eleven candidates presented by the rector, Rural Dean Dibblee.

There was service in St. John's church on Ascension Day, 21st inst., at 10:30 o'clock in the morning.

Chas. White left Tuesday for Florenceville to work for the N. N. Telephone Co.

Mr. Hanford Allen and Miss L. Crawford were united in marriage at the bride's home (Shirley) Tuesday morning at 6:30 by Rev. I. N. Parker. After luncheon the happy couple took the boat for St. John. Only the immediate relatives of the contracting parties were present.

Sprinkle a little salt of economy on the tail of riches and they will not fly away.

Great Difference in Corn Cures.

Many are destructive to the flesh and dangerous to use, but the old reliable Putnam's Corn Extractor removes Corns, Warts and Bunions, without pain in 24 hours. No pain, no failure, "Putnam's" cures.