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SUN PRINTING COMPANY,
ALFRED MARKHAM,
Manager.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY SUN

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER 4, 1899.

THE DISASTER AT LADYSMITH.

(From Wednesday's Daily Sun.)

Recent congratulations to the British army in Africa for having departed from the traditional record of blundering at the beginning of the campaign were offered too soon. How far the misfortune which has befallen General White could have been avoided by ordinary precautions will be known better when a fuller story of the fight is told. The military critics are now after the unfortunate commander, and the reader is referred to their comments, if he wants to know how far General White went wrong. The cold fact is that two battalions, the Irish Fusiliers, who numbered 700 at the beginning of the war, and the Gloucestershires, who numbered 600, with a small force of artillery, are in the hands of the enemy. Making allowance for those who fell in previous engagements, it appears that 1,500 troops of the flower of the British army have either been killed or are prisoners with the Boers. We believe that there is no instance since the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown where so many British soldiers have been made prisoners at one time. One must go still farther back into history to find a case in which so many British soldiers were captured in action. The affair of Afghanistan in 1842 was more disastrous. But it was not war. It was a case of treachery followed by massacre.

The disaster of Monday is said to have been the effect of clever Boer tactics, assisted by British courage and gullibility. There is nothing new in the trick of running away and decoying the pursuer into a trap. Joubert, who is a diligent reader of the Old Testament scriptures, could have learned that much tactics from Hebrew history. General White, who probably read Caesar at school, had additional sources of information. Moreover, he must have remembered this Boer scheme as part of the tactics of the previous war, and only a week ago he observed how the plan worked at Glencoe. It seems to be a part of Joubert's art to be able to conceal art, and to repeat the same tricks with slight variations.

It is easy, however, to criticise after the fact. General White is a tried and capable officer and it may be assumed that the strategy was not so transparent on the field as it seems to the man at desk. There is reason to fear that Ladysmith is not an easy place to defend. It lies on a plateau and appear to be commanded on one side, and perhaps two sides, by hills. If the British occupy these hills they are exposed to flank attack, and liable to be cut off from their base. If they remain at the post they are exposed to a destructive artillery fire. If they push their way through or past Joubert's army they are sure to be encompassed by foes in some of the passes, and to meet the fate of the missing battalions. If they fall back from Ladysmith on Colenso, or Pietermaritzburg, they leave the whole of Northern Natal open to the Boers. Moreover, it is not certain that the retreat could be effected without heavy loss, and the danger that the Free State Boers would intercept the movement.

This condition of affairs naturally causes concern. There is no more doubt of the final result than there was when the first too flattering news came from Glencoe. Before many months the British forces will be making terms at Pretoria. But there is cause for grave anxiety over the position of General White and the division which he has with him. The contest would be prolonged and be more serious if it were necessary to complete it without the help of these 12,000 men. It is only necessary for General White to hold his own for ten days more, when he will have reinforcements sufficient to make him safe, but ten days is a long time in the history of a campaign like this one.

CONCERNING A SECOND CORPS.

The question has been raised whether Canada should get together a second corps of men for South Africa. There is no doubt that a second regiment as good as the first can be raised, and that it could be assembled more easily than the contingent which has just left our shores. More than one thousand men are anxious to go, if they can be of service, and we believe that the people of Canada are willing to send them, if there is need of it. The recent reverse at Ladysmith is not, however, so serious an affair as to have changed the situation materially since the first corps was offered and accepted. The question is not whether Canada ought to do more, but whether there is anything more for Canada to do. On this point the home government is the best authority. Yet it does not follow that we should wait for a request from England for more troops. In this matter the imperial government has left the colonies free. It interds to do so in future. What we contribute we must contribute of our own motion, and it should not be necessary for the first suggestion to come from Mr. Chamberlain. The first suggestion should go from Canada, and go soon. It seems to us that the ocurse for the government is plain and clear. The colonial secretary should be informed that Canada is prepared to send another corps now, if one is required, and at any time in the future when there is need of it. Then we shall neither be withholding assistance that would be welcome, or pressing on the mother country a contribution which is not called for.

NO GOVERNMENT INSURANCE FOR THE SOLDIERS.

The government has not, after all, insured the lives of the Canadian corps. The ministers have only talked about it. They have only boasted that they were providing a more comprehensive, more expensive and more useful protection than that arranged by Sir Charles Tupper through the generosity of one of his friends. By the government scheme the lives of the men were to be insured from the day of sailing, against death in war or by natural causes. So elated was the government press over this act that the editors fell with one accord upon Sir Charles, and disparaged the insurance which he was authorized to negotiate.

This sort of talk began a week ago, and the men sailed from Quebec with the assurance that they were protected by double insurance. They will rest under this cheerful delusion until they get their mail in South Africa. Then they will learn that the insurance effected by Sir Charles Tupper is all the war insurance they have.

We suspect that Mr. Tarte has been getting in his work once more. The danger of establishing a precedent would be too much for the minister of public works. Moreover, there is no chance to farm out an insurance contract with advantage. The life insurance project had to be abandoned. It would cost too much. Mr. Tarte and Mr. Blair could not afford it.

SIR WILFRID'S FAREWELL.

The London Times is much pleased with Sir Wilfrid's address to the Canadian soldiers on the day of their departure from Quebec. The premier certainly used appropriate and patriotic language, and the Times does well to commend his address. The Times showed equally good judgment when it condemned the attitude of the government some three weeks ago. It was the great merit of the Quebec speech that it contradicted the declaration made by Sir Wilfrid on the fourth day of October, and condemned the language used later by Mr. Tarte. The London Times might have added some interesting comments if it had known that while Sir Wilfrid was congratulating the empire on this new departure, Mr. Tarte was going about with a paper which he reads at public meetings, and which purports to be an order in council, declaring that the despatch of the corps is not a precedent to be followed in future. Sir Wilfrid did not mention this order in council in his speech to the soldiers. So much the better for the speech.

THE POSITION OF GENERAL WHITE.

(From Friday's Daily Sun.)

The news that communication between Ladysmith and Durban has been interrupted is unpleasant, but not surprising. It could hardly have been expected that General White could keep the connection open, or even that he would try to do so, after the experience he has had in sending out expeditions. With Free State troops pouring in from the west and Joubert's rough riders working their way past him on the east, the only way that General White could keep his communication open with Colenso, Maritzburg and other southern posts was to take the road with his whole force.

This would almost invite disaster. Ladysmith has been a military station and depot for years. The army marching out would be encumbered with a great quantity of war material or else it would have to be destroyed or left with the enemy. On the march White would have an enemy three times his own number hanging on his rear and on both flanks, intercepting him in front, choosing the place of attack, moving rapidly and easily, and always safe from pursuit. The chances would be all against the escape of the army.

Besides, it does not appear that General White had any doubt of his ability to hold his position. The last word given out from him was that he was safe. He is probably safer at Ladysmith then he would be in any other position now open to him. So he is there in the hollow of a saucer, with the enemy on the hills all about him. He has perhaps 11,000 effective men against 30,000. Some of his own guns are now turned against him. The outside water supply has been cut off, but there are wells in the town. A portion of the supply of meat has been captured, but there is no suggestion that the provisions are likely to give out.

But General White is a brave and experienced soldier, and he has the flower of the British army with him. His men appear to be more than a match for their number of Boers either in a charge, or an artillery duel, or in a rifle duel. He has some guns and gunners from the Powerful and we may hope that they have brought enough ammunition for their purpose. How long can they hold out?

It is said that 5,000 men are due at Cape Town Sunday from England. After that transports will arrive every day. Probably by the end of next week Buller may be able to deliver 5,000 or 6,000 men at Durban if he does not spare any for Kimberley or other points. From Cape Town to Durban the troops must go by sea, a distance of some 900 miles. The troops could be sent forward from Durban as fast as they land, but Buller would probably avoid the mistake of exposing too small a force in a position where it may be cut off. It seems that General White must hold his own for at least ten days, or perhaps a fortnight, before he can expect substantial relief.

Meanwhile we are likely to hear from Berlin, with Boer embellishments, what is going on around Ladysmith.

Some lads hanged Mr. Tarte in effigy in Fredericton on Hallowe'en. They did the minister a service. Mr. Tarte will now write several letters setting forth that he has no hard feelings in the matter. Then his paper will publish furious editorials informing its French readers that Mr. Tarte is persecuted by the tory Orangemen because he is French.

ST. STEPHEN.

Four Deaths Recorded—The Fate of Capt. Timothy Lunt.

ST. STEPHEN, N. B., Nov. 2.—Patrick Casey of Milltown, brother of the postmaster at that town, died last night, after a brief illness. He was employed with E. H. Barter, St. Stephen, and was affected a few weeks ago with paralysis in the legs. Ten days ago he had to give up work, and since Friday last has been confined to his home. Death resulted from paralysis. He leaves a number of young children, for whom general sympathy is felt. His wife died about eight years ago.

Jas. Lehan, a truckman, died suddenly in Calais yesterday.

Kennedy Gage, a former resident of St. George, N. B., died at the home of his son, Wm. J. Gage, in Calais, this morning. He was eighty-six years of age.

Captain Timothy Lunt has sailed on Calais schooners for many years, having been a captain with Boardman Bros. upwards of twenty-five years. He cleared from Calais this morning in the schooner Annie Gus for New York, but before many minutes had passed his barque had been launched upon that unknow sea from which there has never been a return voyage. In some way, not clearly known, he was knocked overboard and drowned, while the vessel was only a few hundred yards from the wharf. The crew was hoisting sails and Captain Lunt was sawing down a stanchegn which stood above the deck load. It is supposed that he lost his balance and went over. He was not missed for a few minutes and no cry was heard. His son was mate of the vessel. His hat was seen floating in the river and the vessel was at once anchored, but up to the present his body has not been recovered. Captain Lunt was known as a hustler in the coasting trade, making many return trips while other captains starting with him were still outward bound. He was universally respected and had been a consistent church member for some years.

S. S. DANIEL

Ashore Near Whitehead, May be Got Off.

(Special to the Sun.)

HALIFAX, Nov. 2.—The British steamship Daniel, from New York for Tilt Cove, ashore on Mosquito Cove Point, near Whitehead, is said to be in a good position and may be got off. There is 16 feet of water in her hold. She is heading southeast, with a list to starboard. The depth of water on the starboard side is 30 feet. When the ship struck last night, the weather was very foggy, with strong S. S. W. wind and a heavy sea. It is the general opinion that had the ship struck on any of the other ledges or rocks, not a soul would have been left to tell the tale. The wind changed from S. S. W. to N. W. this morning, and has been blowing a strong breeze all day from that quarter, which will cause the water to become smooth. The Daniel is a ship of over 2,000 tons and has a crew of 21 men, who were all rescued.

GRAIN COMPETITION FOR FARMERS' BOYS AND GIRLS.

The following points are to be observed by those who send large heads of grain in the competition for the prizes offered by me. The prizes are as follows:

Oats.		Wheat.	
First prize	$20	First prize	$20
Second prize	10	Second prize	10
Third prize	5	Third prize	5
Fourth prize	4	Fourth prize	4
Fifth prize	3	Fifth prize	3
Sixth prize	2	Sixth prize	2
Seventh prize	1	Seventh prize	1
Eighth prize	1	Eighth prize	1
Ninth prize	1	Ninth prize	1
Tenth prize	1	Tenth prize	1
Eleventh prize	1	Eleventh prize	1
Twelfth prize	1	Twelfth prize	1
Total	$50	Total	$50

The whole of each lot of 100 heads should be selected from one variety grown in one field; and only from a crop which has given a large yield per acre.

I shall want every competitor to furnish from the same crop 10 (ten) heads with the smallest number of seeds per head which he or she can find. But the number of seeds in the small heads will be considered in making the awards.

Each lot of one hundred large heads of grain is to be put in a small cotton bag, securely tied, and addressed Professor Robertson, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont. They will be carried free by mail.

Each lot of ten small heads is to be put in a separate package, either of cotton or stout paper, and addressed in the same way.

A slip of paper is to be put inside each bag or package, giving:

1. The name and address of the collector;
2. The name and address of the farmer by whom the grain was grown; and
3. The name of the variety of grain;

Also, if the information can be obtained:

4. The number of bushels per acre of the crop from which the heads were selected;
5. The date of ripening of the grain;
6. The class of soil on which it was grown;
7. Whether the field was manured;
8. What was crop on the field in 1898.

The lots of grain, with the information, may be sent until 1st December. I would like to be able to make the awards in order to send the prizes to the winners before Christmas time.

JAMES N. ROBERTSON,
Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa,
October 19th, 1899.

Wanted—A case of Headache that Kumfort Headache Powders will not relieve in ten minutes. All dealers, 10c.

J. C. Whitehead of the 48th Highlanders, who left with the Toronto contingent for South Africa, is the fourth son of C. J. Whitehead, Bank of Commerce, Toronto, grandson of the late M. F. Whitehead, veteran of the war of 1812, of Port Hope, and great-grandson of the Rev. Thomas Whitehead of Windsor, N. S., U. E. Loyalist.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

LESSON VII.—November 12.

GOLDEN TEXT.

Watch and pray.—Matt. 26: 41.

THE SECTION

includes 2: 11 to 7: 13, the whole account of the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem.

HISTORICAL SETTING.

Time.—The summer and early autumn of B. C. 444. Nehemiah left Susa about the first of April, and it would require three or four months to make the journey (Ezra 7: 9). Nehemiah, therefore reached Jerusalem about July 1, and the walls were finished in September.

Place.—Jerusalem and vicinity.

Kings.—Artaxerxes, king of the Persian Empire. Nehemiah, the pasha of Judea. Ezra, the scribe and chief man religiously.

REBUILDING THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM.—Nehemiah 4: 7-18.

Read chapter 4.

Commit verses 15-18.

7. But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the (a) walls of Jerusalem (b) were made up, and that the breeches began to be stopped, then were they very wroth,

8. And (c) conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to (d) hinder it.

9. (e) Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10. And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.

11. And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come (f) in the midst among them, and slay them and cause the work to cease.

12. And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten (g) times. From all places whence ye shall return unto us they shall be upon you.

13. Therefore sat I in the (h) lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears and their bows.

14. And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them; remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons and you daughters, your wives and your houses.

15. And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every man unto his work.

16. And it came to pass from that time forth, that (i) the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields and the bows, and the (j) habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah.

17. They which builded (k) on the wall, and they that bare burdens, (l) with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work and with the (m) other hand held a weapon.

18. (n) For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

REVISION CHANGES.

Ver. 7. (a) Insert repairing of the. (b) Went forward.

Ver. 8. (c) Insert they. (d) Cause confusion therein.

Ver. 9. (e) But.

Ver. 11. (f) Into the midst of them.

Ver. 12. (g) Times from all places, Ye must return unto us.

Ver. 13. (h) Lowest parts of the space behind the wall in the open places.

Ver. 16. (i) That half . . . and half of them. (j) Coats of mail.

Ver. 17. (k) Omit on. (l) Laded themselves, every one with. (m) The other held his weapon.

Ver. 18. (n) And.

LIGHT ON THE TEXT.

Nehemiah's prayer was answered by sending him to Jerusalem. These months of anxiety showed in his countenance. This led to Nehemiah's being sent with full authority to Jerusalem. He probably reached that place in August. He immediately looked over the situation, summoned the leaders, and all went to work.

7. Sanballat—Was the governor of the city of Samaria, or a chief of some kind. Tobiah—Chief of the Ammonites, a tribe living beyond Jordan. Arabians—The wandering Arab tribes of the desert. Ashdodites—From Ashdod, a Philistine city.

8. Conspired all of them—The new movement would make Jerusalem a rival, too strong to be looted and plundered as in the past. It would make the Jews strong in a religion opposed to theirs and to their conduct.

Against these they (v. 9) made their prayer and set a watch.

10. And Judah—The people from the villages. The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed—Worn out by so much to do, because so many of them had to leave their work to be on guard. They were discouraged.

12. The Jews which dwelt by them—Among their Samaritan enemies, and probably tainted by the contact. From all places—This probably means that they tried to persuade their fellow-townsmen who were working on the walls to go home, so as to escape the threatening dangers.

13. The lowest places—Where the wall was least built. The higher places—Rather the open, the exposed places.

16. Habergeons—Coats of mail.

18. The builders—Those who laid the stones, in distinction from the burden-bearers, who brought the stone and carried away the rubbish.

GUIDING QUESTIONS.

(For home study and for oral and written answers. Do some work daily.)

Subject:—Building the City of God.

Circumstances.—Who was Nehemiah? Where did he live? How did he learn about the condition of Jerusalem? What did he learn? How did he get permission to go there?

I. The Tour of Inspection.—What was Nehemiah's first work on reaching Jerusalem? (2: 11-16). What next? How did he plan out the work?

II. Bitter Opposition (vs. 7-12).—Who were his greatest opponents? In what ways did they try to hinder the work? (3: 19; 4: 2, 3; 6: 6, 10-13.) How did some of the Jews work against him?

III. Praying, Working and Watching (vs. 9, 13-18).—What was Nehemiah's plan of work? How did he inspire courage?

IV. Application. — How would you apply this to the building of a soul? How to the building of the kingdom of God?

GENERAL DEBILITY AND A "RUN-DOWN" STATE calls for a general tonic to the system. Such is The D. & L. Emulsion. Builds you up, increases your weight, gives health. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

OUTNESS.

Wife (pathetically)—Are you going to be out until after midnight again tonight?

Husband—Oh, I suppose so! I never seem to have any luck until about 1 o'clock.—Detroit Journal.

OVERCOATS AND REEFERS
FOR THE
RISING GENERATION.



Bring along the children and let them romp around our Juvenile department. We will be pleased to see them and sure to satisfy their wants in the Clothing line.

Fall is here and winter is fast approaching. We have the best and largest stock in Canada of Children's Overcoats and Reefers. A locomotive doesn't have to whistle all the time to make its presence known. Neither is it necessary for us to constantly scream about good goods at a cheap price, though we have them all the time. One visit to our establishment will convince you that we are stating facts only. Every article is sold with a guarantee.

BOYS' OVERCOATS.

The overcoats we offer are exactly the same as those made for men. The only difference is in the size. The construction, finish and style are similar to the men's garment. The coat comes in several shades of Fawn. It is made from the famous English Whipcord Cloth, single-breasted, proper length, strapped seams, silk lining, fly front. This garment can be worn in fall, winter or spring, and will last for years. The quality and price will convince you.

$4, $5, $6

BOYS' REEFERS.



The boy without a Reefer envys the school-mate who wears one. We have them here for all ages, 4 to 15 years, all kinds of cloth, with storm collar, hand-warmers, etc.

There are many lines of Fancy Mixtures, besides Canadian Frieze, Blue Nap, Serge, Curly Cloths, Blue and Black Beavers. The garments we show are an unexcelled lot. Most every purse will find a handsome coat to fit the boys. The prices at which they are offered have never before been approached in St. John. A splendid Reefer, with large Storm Collar, good, warm and well made, for boys 4 to 15 years,

$1.50

Prices for other Reefers runs from

$1.50 to $6

Mail orders receive prompt and careful attention. You can buy goods just as well at your own home as if you were in our store. Anything you may order will be shipped to you direct as if it were passed to you over the counter.

MONEY BACK IF YOU WANT IT.

GREATER OAK HALL,
SCOVIL BROS. & CO.,
King Street, Corner Germain.
St. John, N. B.

A MANIAC'S CRIME.

A Horrible Double Murder and a Determined Suicide.

EGANVILLE, Ont., Nov. 2.—A murder marked by fiendish details is reported from Germanicus, a small place near here. On Tuesday night William Yaster, a farmer, secured an axe and entered the room in which his wife and eldest daughter were sleeping, cleft the skulls of the two women in twain, and then beat the heads of both into an unrecognizable condition. He pulled the bodies out onto the floor and slept the remainder of the night in the bed. In the morning he awakened the two younger children and sent them to the neighbors with news of his crime. When they were gone he mixed a dose of Paris green. It failed to kill him. Then he filled his mouth with gunpowder and touched it off with a match. This distorted his features awfully, but did not kill him. Then he mixed another dose of Paris green and died after suffering horrible agony, last night. He had been regarded as crasy for a year past.