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THE MORNING GUARDIAN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1899.

A BOER MISTAKE.

It is now plainly apparent that the Boers have not made the most of the opportunities which their superiority in numbers and artillery gave them in the first four weeks of the war. Had they been content to merely guard the passes leading from the Transvaal and Free State into Natal and massed a strong force with heavy artillery against Kimberly they might weeks ago have been in possession of that large city with the priceless treasures of its diamond mines and hoarded stores of gems.

Kimberly may be now, and probably is, strong enough to stand a prolonged siege, but it certainly was in no position to do so when the war began. How easily it has been isolated by the Boers and cut off from help is now clearly seen. Its capture would have added vastly more to Dutch prestige than the taking of all the smaller towns of Natal and even of Pietermaritzburg itself, and could probably have been effected weeks ago with less force and less loss of life than has been expended in the fruitless bombardment of Ladysmith.

It is equally clear that the capture of Kimberly would have done more than almost any other easily won success to induce the Africander population of Northern Cape Colony and Bechuanaland to rise and assist their brethren of the two republics. The Dutch population of Natal is but small, while the people of Dutch descent in Cape Colony are more numerous than those of the same race in the Transvaal and Orange State taken together. It was therefore in this quarter that a brilliant success would have promised most in securing active sympathy and help as well as the prestige and the treasure which would have come with the seizure of Kimberly.

An attack in strong force and with heavy artillery made weeks ago would almost certainly have given the Boers possession of the Diamond Town, but the opportunity was let slip by. Meanwhile General White has been able to hold them at bay in Northern Natal long enough for Buller's army corps to arrive, check further advances in that quarter and in all probability to secure the safety of Kimberly. There have been some mistakes on the British side but we may congratulate ourselves that the enemy has by no means made the most of the great advantages which he possessod at the beginning of the campaign.

President Kruger usually takes his dinner in the middle of the day and has no patience with evening banquets. It is related that when some years ago the people of Johannesburg had arranged a public dinner in his honor he stipulated that the hour should not be later than six o'clock. The men at Johannesburg arranged a most elaborate French menu in honor of Oom Paul who appeared wearing his rusty old frock coat, crossed with the green sash of his office and studded with his medals and orders. He declined soup and wine, called for a big cup of coffee, ate two plates of fish, and then announced that he had had enough. Accordingly, after making a brief speech in Dutch, he took his big slouch hat and went home, leaving the other guests to discuss the remainder of the dinner alone.

The Examiner of Tuesday last selected a passage from our report of Sir Louis Davies' speech at Pownal, and charged that in using the language reported the minister of Marine had made "a dastardly threat." The language attributed to Sir Louis would not bear any such interpretation as the Examiner put upon it. The Patriot is equally astray when it says: "THE GUARDIAN reporter altogether misinterpreted what Sir Louis said at the Pownal meeting." We have testimony from several reliable persons of both parties who were present at the meeting confirming the fairness of the THE GUARDIAN report. THE GUARDIAN certainly has no disposition to be unfair to Sir Louis. The Minister is in much greater danger of suffering at the hands of his unskilful and rather panicky organ than of being misreported by THE GUARDIAN.

Says the Journal:

The Dominion Government is being asked to establish wireless telegraphy between Labrador and Belle Isle, and between Nova Scotia and Sable Island. Why not establish this system between Prince Edward Island and the Mainland and thus overcome the Anglo-American monopoly?

The trouble with this suggestion is that the Anglo-American Company have the same monopoly of land telegraphic wires on the Island as they have in regard to cables under the Straits Supposing the wireless system installed at Cape Traverse, the news might be transmitted thence to Charlottetown and Summerside by telephone. But this would not be nearly so satisfactory as what our business people are asking for. Cable service made continuous and at reasonable rates is what we are entitled to and must have.

REV. Leo Williams who was expected in the city last night did not arrive.

The Parochial Hall of St. Paul's Church was crowded last night at the opening "At Home" of the Young Peoples' Society, which took the form of a farewell reception to the First Vice-President, Rev. Leo Williams, and to Mrs. Williams, his esteemed wife. The Rector presided. There was an interesting programme, in which Mr. Williams, Mr Jos. Maduro, Mr. Gordon Zwicker, Mr. V. Josey, Miss C. Mahon. Miss Banfield, took part. The reception committee did all in their power to make the gathering pass off pleasantly, and refreshments were served in the upper school room.

The great feature of the evening was the presentation to Mr. Williams of a handsome library desk of the latest design. An address was read by Mr. Warren B. Kellogg, expressive of the feeling of warm attachment felt by the members of the congregation to Mr. Williams and of warm appreciation of his services in connection with the various church organizations. The good wishes of all go forth to Mr. and Mrs. Williams in their new sphere of labour in Charlottetown

Then a second presentation took place, Mr. V. Josey, representing Miss Kellogg's Bible Class of young men, read an address setting forth the feeling felt by the young men in the severance of the warm ties of friendly intercourse which had bound Mr. Williams to the members of the class and the young people generally. The address was accompanied with a chastely beautiful service for the communion for the sick.

A reception was held during the evening and the parishioners had an opportunity of bidding Mr. Mrs. Williams God Speed.— Recorder, Halifax.

Mrs. D. C. Morson, returned to Cardigan last week, after spending a month in Boston.

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Most druggists are honourable, and there is no need for you to deal with men who (because animitation gives them more profit) try to sell you something else when Foot Elm is asked for.

FOOT ELM positively cures tender, sweaty tender feet. Stott and Jury, Bowmanville, 245

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Black Merino, 55c, 65c, 72c, 80c.

Black Cashmere 35c, 42c, 55c, 62c, 85c, 88c.

Black Elastic Cord, Extra Fine $1.10.

Black Bengaline 55c, 90, 1.10, 1.20.

Black Henrietta Silk Warp 1.10, 1.35.

Black Serges 22c, 25c, 28c, 32c, 36c, 38c, 40c, 42c, 50c, 55c, 58c, 60c, 62c, 72c, 75c, 85c, 90c.

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Colored Poplins in a Variety of Shades 90c, 1.00, 1.2

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Broad Cloth in Black, Blue, Grey, Green. " " Purple 1.10, 1.20, 1.50, 1.65, 2.35 per yd.

Ladies Homespuns in a Variety of Colors just th correct thing for this time of the year 75c and 1.00 per yd.

Scotch Cheviots in Costume lengths Different Colors Blues, Fawns, Greys, Greens and Mixes 1.30 per yd.

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