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### MOLASSES

200 packages bright retailing Molasses. For sale by  
N RATTENBURY.

## BOERS ARE SURRENDERING

### Giving Up Their Arms to the British.

#### The Canadians Now at Bloemfontein.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

##### BOERS SURRENDER.

LONDON, March 19.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, Sunday:—

The Guards brigade returned yesterday from Norval's Pont. Several Burgers have laid down their arms to Pole-Carew at Edenburg and elsewhere.

The officer commanding at Belmont reports that some deserters have come in with a maxim, a nine pounder and another gun. Another nine pounder has been brought into Coleberg. The cavalry brigade has gone to Thaba Nchu in order to reassure inhabitants of the district and to distribute copies of the proclamation to the people of the Free State. The proclamations are being eagerly sought after.

##### METHUEN ON THE MARCH.

Methuen reached Warrenton on March 16. He was in time to prevent destruction from being completely destroyed and to secure a point on the Vaal. The British mail was despatched from there by rail yesterday, and tomorrow a regular service with Cape Town will be re opened.

##### NEWS OF MAFEKING.

Mafeking reports all was well on March 6th.

CAPE TOWN, March 18.—The Mafeking relief column, Colonel Drummond and Penderman commanding, had a sharp engagement at Fourteen Streams. The British succeeded in driving the Boers off. They had only a few casualties.

##### CANADIANS AT BLOEMFONTEIN.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 18.—The Canadians arrived at Bloemfontein on Wednesday, having participated in Lord Roberts' march. We had no casualties. We participated in the Poplar Grove fight, but acting as supporters did not take part in the actual engagement. The health and spirits of the men are excellent.

We are now getting an extra food allowance, which is much enjoyed after the hard campaigning.

The regiment will possibly stay here some days.

##### ST. PATRICK'S DAY AT CAPE TOWN

CAPE TOWN, March 18.—St. Patrick's day was celebrated with extraordinary enthusiasm throughout South Africa. In reply to a message from the Irishmen of Cape Town the Queen sent the following: "I have always felt confident that the spirit of courage and allegiance which has distinguished the Irish soldiers in the face of the enemy should be shared by their brethren in the colony in support of the authority of my Government."

##### HAD TO HAVE ONE.

On the initiative of Lord Roberts a newspaper has been started at Bloemfontein for the edification of the troops.

Rudyard Kipling contributed to the inaugural edition, yesterday, the following:—

"Oh, Terrance, dear, and did you hear the news that's going round, The Shamrock's Erin's badge by law, where'er her sons are found; From Bloemfontein to Ballybank 'tis ordered by the Queen. We've won our rights in open fights, the wearing of the green."

##### {BOERS GIVING UP ARMS.

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 18.—We are getting in rifles faster than a factory

could turn them out. All along the Free State railway from Springfontein to Bloemfontein at every station the Boers are coming in to surrender Mausers, Martini's and pistols.

Before the police headquarters here there is a long line of Burgers who are giving up their arms, and five hundred have already done so throughout the country. Twenty-five hundred rifles, etc., were handed in today.

The whole of the southern half of the Free State shows determination to end the struggle, and if the British officials can reach the northern laagers with Lord Roberts' proclamation, the whole population will declare for peace. Each man on handing in his arms, signs under oath a declaration not to take up arms against the government during the present war nor to furnish assistance or information about the British forces to the Republican forces but remain quietly at home until the war is over.

##### GENERAL LOCKHART DEAD.

CALCUTTA, March 18.—General Sir William Stephen Alexander Lockhart, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in India, died today.

##### HOME FROM NATAL.

##### An Islander's Trip to and from the Seat of War.

Mr. James Mason, jr., of this city, who returned home on Friday night after an absence of eighteen months, has had, during that time many interesting experiences. Impelled by the Anglo-Saxon spirit of adventure he has been almost twice around the world, between Cuba and the Philippines during the war with Spain, and recently with General Buller's forces at Chieveley Camp.

Being in England about the time of the outbreak of the war with the Transvaal, he determined to get out to the scene of action. It was not easy to get a place in any of the transports sailing direct, so he joined the Manchester Castle, at Liverpool, an immense freight steamship under orders for St. Louis to take out to South Africa a load of pack mules for the British Government.

In November the steamer arrived at St. Louis, where the mules were ready to be shipped, having been purchased by Major Scovell of the Scots Greys, who with two veterinary surgeons and a couple soldiers had been sent out some time before.

The mules were quickly got aboard, the system of doing the work being perfect. They were driven from the cars on to the gangways, in single file, divided into tens, marked with the broad arrow and a number and taken aboard where they were placed in parallel rows down the length of the vessel, tied head to head. Between every ten mules an upright was fixed to prevent the animals becoming entangled, though even as it was there some fearful mix-ups occasionally. Two thousand five hundred mules were packed aboard the vessel, which will give some idea of her size. There were one hundred and ten men to look after the mules. The mules had to be kept on their feet during the whole of the voyage, for if one went down it was a chance if he was able to get up again, and he generally became crushed to death by the other mules falling on him. The heat after leaving St. Louis was fearful, and in the run to Barbadoes where a stop was made for coal, two hundred of the mules died. At Barbadoes some of the were taken out to air the ship and the beasts, revelling in their freedom, created a reign of terror among the natives. During the trip from Barbadoes to the Cape only one mule was lost. A door in the side of the ship was opened one day to let in air, and one of the "critters"

backed to the full length of the chain, with the result that his hinder part went overboard. He was discovered by one of the negroes, holding on to life by his halter, and they at once raised the cry "Lazarus is going overboard." Lazarus seems to be the nickname for mules among the negroes. Some bungle was made in trying to save Lazarus; and he went overboard, and for some time afterwards was seen battling with the ocean rollers. The sharks probably got poor Lazarus.

Arriving at Port Natal, or Durban, the first thing that struck Mr. Mason was H. M. S. Terrible on guard outside the harbor. Inside the breakwater was crowded with men-of-war, transport and supply ships. The troops climbed the rigging of the different ships and sent up hearty cheers for the mules. After undergoing quarantine the ship drew into the wharf to discharge. It was on a Sunday afternoon and all Durban came down to see the fun. Squads of blue jackets were told off to keep the ground, and a number of kaffirs then began the task of getting the mules ashore. They were driven down the gangway one by one. Some sulked and then the blue-jackets took a hand. If the mule wouldn't go he had to come. Most of them when landed snuffed the air, rolled, —often before they were off the gangway,— then down would go their heads and up would go their heels till they had kicked themselves into shape again. The wildest ones were picked out for mounts by the sailors, who would bestride them, facing fore or aft, any way at all, and ride them around the corral.

The ship being discharged Mr. Mason engaged temporarily with the Army Service Corps and went up to the front with the transport. He was at Chieveley Camp on the 15th of December, and heard the firing of the guns at the River Tugela. Here he saw a number of Boer prisoners and many of the British wounded as they were sent by train to Pietermaritzburg. The mountains seemed to Mr. Mason to be appalling, and it was wonderful how the railway locomotives managed to get along with their trains. At Pietermaritzburg and at Chieveley the camps extended for miles, and the ground as far as the eye could see was covered with stores and supplies. Immense herds of cattle were also to be seen. These were in charge of the commissariat, and furnished the fresh beef for Tommy Atkins. In conversation with many of the soldiers Mr. Mason found that the men were by no means discouraged at the delay in getting forward; their idea was that sooner or later they would get at the Boers and then they would make them run. Roberts seemed the name that acted like magic with the soldiers, and it was easy to judge of the popularity of the Commander-in-chief.

Everyone was busy at the front from morning to night; transports and convoys were continually on the move, columns of troops going forward; yet everything was managed by a system so perfect that order was observable on all sides. At Estcourt Mr. Mason saw the graves of the soldiers and sailors killed in the armoured train engagement, when Winston Churchill was captured, and at Durban had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Churchill himself. Durban is a beautiful city, Mr. Mason thinks, and nicely situated; but if the country north of Chieveley is any hillier than it is from Durban to Estcourt, than he cannot understand how the Boers gave way at all.

Many more interesting facts could be mentioned, as coming under his observation, but here is one instance of the bitter hatred of the Boers for the British. The Boer farmer has names for the oxen that compose his wagon-team. One will be Kaffir, one Zulu, one Yankee, one German, and so on. The leader is usually called *rooinek*—which means red-coat,—and this poor animal gets all the whipping for the team.

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