

THE DAILY EXAMINER

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This is True Liberty, when Free Born Men having to advise the Public, may speak free."—EURIPIDES

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CHARLOTTETOWN P. E. ISLAND, WEDNESDAY APRIL 11, 1900

NO 85

Honest... Millinery....

Trim, up-to-date artistic work, promptly done, carefully finished, lightly priced. These are some of the reasons why our millinery department will fill your order exactly as it should be.

Your new hat needn't be unreasonable in price. It can be pretty and stylish, and moderately priced too—if you leave your order with us.

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She is here from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m., will be glad to meet you to-day.

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The Millinery People.

NEWS FROM BOER SOURCES

OF A BRITISH DEFEAT IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE

But the War Office is Silent Regarding Such Engagement.

The Boers Said to Have Again Crossed the Orange River—A Pont Destroyed—British Hold Their Own at Wepener—Saturday's Fight Near Mafeking—Arrival of the Monterey—Canada's New Commandant.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

DISASTER REPORTED.

LONDON, April 11.—A third very serious defeat has been inflicted upon the British forces in the Orange Free State, according to despatches from Boer sources.

As reported, the facts of the victory and that on Saturday General DeWit's Burghers attacked the British forces, 1500 strong, at Meerkatefontein.

After a fierce engagement in which, according to one account 600 British were killed and wounded. The Boers captured the entire command.

The War Office has not made public any despatches indicating the possibility of such an engagement, nor do any of the press telegrams received from correspondents with the British army—many of which bear a later date than Saturday—contain any hint of this disaster.

But the censorship is very stringent at present and might easily prevent such news from reaching England until after Lord Roberts had seen fit to report on it.

Another Pretoria despatch locates the battle field south of Brandfort and north Bloemfontein in which case it might be part of General Tucker's Division which has been lying at Kares siding since the battle around kopjes there.

The despatches agree in stating that the British lost in killed, wounded and prisoners fifteen hundred men. That Roberts' realizes seriousness of the present condition of things in the Free State is shown by the fact that General Rundle with his Eighth Division has been ordered to Springfontein.

This puts 10,000 more men on duty to guard the railway and keep the Boers away from the British line of communication.

The Boers have again crossed the Orange river, which will tend to stir up a new rebellion among the Dutch in the north of Cape Colony. They are in great force near Aliwal North. At Odena!stroon, east of Bethulie and south of

Smithfield, they have destroyed the pont over the river.

Practically the Boers hold the whole of the Free State east of the railway, all the way from Ficksburg to the Orange river.

It is now made plain that Colonel Plumer penetrated within six miles of Mafeking, March 31st, but was obliged to retire to avoid being outflanked.

He fell back not only to Ramath Labana, but even to his base camp.

Until the Boer besiegers are seriously threatened from the south, it seems certain that the relief of Mafeking cannot be effected.

Weeks must elapse before the Rhodesia force or Colonel Plumer can be reinforced by any troops coming by way of Beira and Salisbury.

Mafeking and its defenders may have weeks of weary waiting yet before them, unless the investing army is called off to some other quarter.

PROBABLY A FALSE REPORT.

LONDON, April 11.—But that the War Office has issued no news from Lord Roberts during the last three days, there would be little disposition to place any credence in the Boer reports of another British disaster.

The unexpected rallying of the Free State Commando, however, leaves the public in a nervous condition, fearing everything.

Despatches from Pretoria, as late as Monday, did not mention any further Boer victories.

On the contrary, they said all the commandos were quiet; and as Lord Roberts has hitherto never failed promptly to report mischances as well as successes, or to allow the newspapers correspondents to report them, until some confirmation is received, there is justification for regarding the Merkertzfontein rumor as only an exaggerated account of the Reddersburg affair. At the same time the Boer reports have so often proved correct that the greatest anxiety will be felt.

BRITISH HOLD THEIR OWN

ALIWAL NORTH, April 11.—The British lost in the fighting at Wepener yesterday, eleven killed and 43 wounded. The fighting was resumed today, the British holding their own.

ARRIVAL OF MONTEREY.

HALIFAX, April 11.—The transport Monterey, with Strathcona's Horse, arrived at Capetown at noon yesterday.

HEAVY LOSS OF HORSES.

HALIFAX, April 11.—Later advices from Capetown state that the Monterey lost 163 horses on the voyage.

THE FIGHT NEAR MAFEKING.

GABERONES, April 3.—Saturday's fight in environs of Mafeking was conducted on Colonel Plumer's side under great difficulties, being in the proximity of Boer

laagers whence reinforcements could be promptly sent to the burghers, and there was little cover available for the British when the fight began, the plain being but sparsely wooded and the railway embankments, the chief protection being only two feet high. The men behaved gallantly and the officers were exceptionally conspicuous in the affair.

With the exception of a few rounds fired by the British Maxims at Ramath Labana the fire on both sides were entirely by rifles.

Half of the British officers, more or less, are seriously wounded.

Colonels Plumer's wound was in his right arm. His horse was shot. Colonel Boble and Capt. Roltwere were wounded.

Colonel Plumer's orderly is missing. Capt. Fred Crew was shot dead while covering the retreat of others. Captain Maclaren, was severely wounded and Lieut Milligan, the famous Yorkshire cricketer, was fatally wounded while tenaciously holding an assigned position.

CANADA'S NEW COMMANDANT.

OTTAWA, April 11.—Major Drummond, military secretary to His Excellency Lord Minto, is the new commandant of the Canadian Militia. He left Cape Town for Canada last Saturday.

Major Drummond is an officer of the Scottish Guards, and previous to going to South Africa as Colonel Otter's chief-of-staff, had been on active service in Egypt.

LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE.

OTTAWA, April 11.—Hon. Mr. Borden has received a cable message from Lord Strathcona asking that fifty additional men be sent for Strathcona's Horse to fill any possible vacancies caused by sickness or casualties.

HONOR TO A P. E. ISLAND SOLDIER

Private McDonald's Remains

RECEIVE FULL MILITARY HONORS

Then They Are Despatched to Charlottetown.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

HALIFAX, April 11.—The funeral of Private McDonald of the Special Service Canadian Battalion in garrison here, took place yesterday with full military honors.

The casket with the remains was draped with British flags, and deceased's helmet and side arms surmounted it. Before the funeral left the military hospital, and while getting on the street for the military cemetery members of the regiment filed past the bier, and had a last look at the dead. The coffin was then closed and placed on a gun carriage in waiting drawn by a pair of horses.

Six of the personal friends of the deceased, from his home in P. E. Island, who are in the New Brunswick and P. E. Island company, were pall-bearers, and the New Brunswick and P. E. Island company followed the remains to the grave and furnishing the firing party. The band of the 63rd Halifax Rifles played the deceased soldier to his last resting place. En route to the cemetery, Captain Shapples was handed a telegram authorizing the forwarding of the remains to Charlottetown. The procession proceeded to cemetery and the coffin was lifted from the carriage to the grave. The complete burial service was gone through with. Then the remains were returned to the waterrooms of the undertaking company and were prepared for shipment this morning to the deceased's friends in Charlottetown.

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Perrins Easter Gloves at Patons.

Perrins Easter Gloves at Patons.



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