News Summary.

Recent Happenings Briefly Told.

CANADA.

Thanksgiving Day this year will be Oct. 19.

Beamsville High school has been destroyed by fire.

Gas in Hamilton has been reduced to $1 a thousand feet net.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co. will increase its capital stock by $1,000,000.

The Bank of Hamilton will increase its capital stock from one and a half to two million dollars.

Assessors' returns give Ottawa a population of 57,002, an increase of 1,616 over last year.

A rumor that the three Winnipeg breweries and soda water works have been amalgamated is denied.

London Street Railway directors will increase the company's capital stock by $50,000, making it $400,000.

The Canada Atlantic Ry. has bought three more vessels for its trade between Parry Sound and the Upper Lakes.

News reaches Portage la Prairie that a Galician woman and four children were burned to death in a prairie fire near Dauphin.

Percy Gordon, a boy of 16, while hunting at Qu'Appelle, met with an accident, which necessitated the amputation of his right arm.

Canadian Pacific Ry. land sales in Manitoba in September were 25,550 acres for $85,000, as compared with September, 1898, $1,860 acres for $57,016.

The Allan Line steamship Bavarian, now at Montreal, has been requisitioned by the Imperial Government for the conveyance of troops to South Africa.

It may be that Ottawa will lose the seat of the recently-created Papal delegate to Canada, and that Mgr. Falconio will be permanently installed in Montreal.

People in villages along the line of the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway want their mail handed over that line instead of by stages from the Grand Trunk Railway stations.

Commissioner Pratt says that the assessment of Ottawa will be affected to the extent of at least $10,000 by the new Provincial law exempting electric plants and other financial corporations.

A striking evidence of the scarcity of workingmen is a great placard which has been hung out in front of the Postoffice, Ottawa, by one of the lumber companies asking for 1,000 laborers and 300 shantymen.

The Hamilton customs returns for last month showed that duties to the amount of $79,283.39 had been collected, this being an increase of $21,891.91 over the corresponding month last year.

The Good Shepherd's Home at New Westminster, B. C., one of the largest Catholic institutions on the coast, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Eighty children and nuns escaped from the burning building.

Brantford's assessment has been advanced to $7,099,518 as compared with $6,511,560 last year, but the population is 17,314, compared with 18,669. The exemptions amount to $1,177,800, as compared with $1,828,650.

Miss Maud Walbrook, the young lady who disappeared from the Red Deer Indian school, has been given up for lost. It is believed that she fell into the Red Deer River and was carried down the stream, which was a raging torrent at the time of the occurrence.

The London City Council unanimously passed Ald. Parnell's motion favoring compulsory arbitration of disputes between companies holding public franchises and their employes. It authorizes a petition to the Local Legislature, for legislation along the lines set forth, and instructs the City Clerk to write other corporations with a view to co-operation.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir Louis Davies is spending a few days with Lord Strathcona at Glencoe.

John Dillon, the Irish Nationalist member, has refused to speak at the laying of the foundation stone of a memorial to Parnell.

It is rumoured that the owner of one of the big New York dailies is seriously considering entering the London field with a seven-day newspaper.

The miners through North Wales resumed work at an advance in wages of 2 1-2 per cent., and coal mine owners announced advances in the selling prices of coal of from 6 to 25 cents per ton.

UNITED STATES.

Key West, Fla., had 24 new cases of yellow fever and one death on Monday.

John Grouix, aeronaut, fell from his balloon on Tuesday at Chicago and is terribly injured.

A strike which would affect nearly 3,000 coal miners' is pending in the Northern Illinois coal fields.

The strike at Cramp's shipyard, Philadelphia, for a nine-hour day is increasing. Over 900 men are out.

Des Moines, Iowa, has had a $500,000 fire, the Masonic temple, the Murphy house and several factories going up.

At Salt Lake City, Chief Engineer O'Melveney of the Oregon short line was shot and killed by Ethan Mills, formerly Lieut.-Governor of Idaho.

Mrs Margaret Babcock, her daughter, Mrs. Armoe S. Fay, and the latter's six-year-old child were found dead in their beds asphyxiated by coal gas, at Rochester, N. Y., on Thursday morning.

Charles Lehban, aged 13, touched a lighted match to paper decorations on Carrie Cartwright's dress at Springfield, Ill. on Tuesday. The girl was burned to death. Her mother was seriously burned in trying to save her. Lehban is under arrest.

GENERAL.

The Nile is now at the lowest point on record.

Bubonic plague is being successfully treated by inoculation at Oporto.

As the result of Emperor William's advice, the University of Strasburg will receive a Catholic faculty, thus ending a long and bitter controversy.

The members of a club in Berlin, where large sums of money were won and lost, are on trial. Witnesses in the highest circles have fled the country.

It is estimated that the Indian Government must spend 1,500,000 rupees to relieve famine in the central provinces and that the local chiefs must expend at least one-third of this amount in addition.

M. Marmontoff, the Russian railway king charged with embezzlement, has been allowed bail in the unprecedented sum of two million dollars. M. Tcholokoff, another prominent railway man, is charged with embezzlement.

A riot occurred at Wyngaardnatie, Holland, arising from the strike of the corporation carters. The police were called out and were received with shots from revolvers. The officers were obliged to charge the mob with drawn swords. Several police were wounded and many arrests were made.

HUSBAND AND WIFE KILLED.

They Were Driving Across the Railroad Near Lindsay.

A despatch from Lindsay, Ont., says:—Mr. and Mrs. George Rutherford, living on the first concession of Emily near Omemee, left their home early on Tuesday morning to visit their son-in-law, Mr. Isaac Windrim, of this town. The morning being cold and frosty, the buggy-top was up and the occupants had their heads wrapped up, and it is this which is believed to have prevented them from hearing the approaching train. The engineer gave the usual whistle for the crossing, and the next instant the train was upon their vehicle. The train was stopped, and Conductor Boundy and others ran to the spot, only to find Mrs. Rutherford dead, having been hurled about 30 feet, with a terrible wound on the left side of her head. Her husband was still breathing, although his shoulder-bone was broken, and leg crushed above the knee. He died shortly before arriving in Lindsay. Mr. Rutherford was a well-to-do farmer, and highly respected. Both were about 60 years of age.

WAS HURLED FROM A BRIDGE.

An Aged Oakville Farmer Meets With a Horrible Death.

A despatch from Oakville, Ont., says:—Mr. John Ion, a highly respectable farmer, 70 years of age, residing about a mile from this place, was struck and instantly killed by a westbound G. T. R. express, due here at 8.30 on Thursday morning. Mr. Ion had been to the station to get his morning paper, and was returning home along the track. He was in the centre of the bridge, which is about two hundred yards in length, when his attention was called to the rapidly approaching train by the engineer of an eastbound freight.

Mr. Ion started to run, but was caught about four feet from the end, and hurled twenty feet, striking a post and breaking it. The train, which does not stop here, was running at a high rate of speed, but stopped and picked up the body, taking it to the station. One leg, one arm, and the base of the skull were broken. Coroner Williams decided that an inquest was unnecessary. Mr. Ion was an ex-town councillor, and prominent in Methodist circles of this place.

MEAT FOR BRITISH ARMY.

Contract for 4,250,000 Pounds of Meat Placed in Louisville.

A despatch from Louisville, Ky. says:—The British Government has closed a contract with the Louisville Packing Company for 4,250,000 pounds of meat to be furnished the English army at intervals. The contract is for hams and sides, to be shipped in five instalments, of 850,000 pounds each. Similar purchases have been made in Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis, and it is practically certain that they will result in forcing up the prices of these articles of provisions. The meat from Louisville will be shipped by way of Toronto to Liverpool and Glasgow. Local provision merchants say that the Louisville contract will do much to buy up this market, which has been quiet and inactive for several months. They expect a general rise in hog products, hams especially, immediately. The contract is the largest of its kind ever placed in this city.

FOUND HEADS AND HIDES.

Brantford Butcher Arrested on a Charge of Cattle Stealing.

A despatch from Brantford, Ont., says:—The police here Friday arrested a butcher named Augustus Halmer, who is suspected of being implicated in the recent cattle thefts near Galt. The Messrs. Carrick Bros., who were among those losing cattle visited the city on Friday, when a visit was paid to Halmer's slaughter-house. There the men identified three heads as belonging to their cattle. A visit to Out's tannery found the hides and then visiting the butcher shop three carcasses were found. Halmer will be taken to Paris, charged with the theft.

DEAD NUMBER 1,500.

Whole Villages Destroyed by Earthquakes in Asia Minor.

A despatch from Constantinople says:—It is now estimated that 1,500 perished in the earthquake in Asia Minor, around Aidin. The first shock occurred at four o'clock in the morning of September 20, and lasted 40 seconds. The effects were appalling. Whole villages were completely destroyed. The earthquake was felt as far as Scio, Mitilene, and Smyrna.

ENGLAND HAS A NEW WAR.

Khalifa, With 12,000 Men, Takes the Field Again.

A despatch from London, says:—Great Britain, it seems has another obstreperous person to deal with beside President Kruger, although the fact has been almost overlooked by the public on account of the Boer troubles. This person is the Khalifa, against whom a strong force of troops is about to be sent. While it was officially stated some time ago that the expedition to Kordofan and Darfur would only take place after the Sirdar's interview with Lord Cromer, which is to take place on October 27th, there are many indications that the expedition has started much sooner. All the Egyptian forces are concentrating at Omdurman, and British officers now on leave have been recalled and hurried to the front. The Khalifa is reported to have 12,000 men under his command.

300 MULES WERE KILLED.

Cargo of Them Frightfully Mangled en Route to Manilla.

A despatch from Manila says:—The Siam which arrived on Friday with mules for the army, encountered the typhoons early this week. One lasted forty hours. Most of the forage was swept overboard, all the boats were smashed, and the streamer rolled tremendously in the trough of the sea.

The mules were hurled from side to side and frightfully mangled and disembowelled. Their legs and necks were broken, and the wretched animals fell in such a confused mass that the attendants were unable to relieve them. In the meantime the deckload was washed off, the ship lightened, and the rolling increased.

When the storm abated the injured animals were killed and their carcasses thrown overboard. When the Siam arrived her propeller was high out of the water, and the wrecks of her boats were hanging from the davits. Of 328 mules, only 16 were saved.

SAW HIM BURN TO DEATH.

A Fire-Fighter at Cascade City, B. C., Caught by Falling Timber.

A despatch from Vancouver, B. C., says:—On Saturday a blaze wiped out the central block of hotels in Cascade City. It was 12.30 in the morning when the fire broke out, in the busiest block of the best built portion of the town. The water supply was inadequate, and soon the entire block was a roaring furnace. In rapid succession, the Club hotel, Britannic hotel, Grand Central and Railroad Headquarters hotel succumbed to the flames, and these were followed by Francis and Miln's and the Montana hotel.

Eric Arvall was burned to death while trying to save the Montana hotel. Dynamite was used to blow up the Scandinavian hotel, and Arvall was caught in the falling timber. His cries for help were piteous indeed, but the intense heat warded off all assistance. The loss is estimated at $25,000.

SCUTTLED THEIR SCHOONER.

Two Men Sentenced to Six Years for Defrauding Insurance Companies

A despatch from Guysboro', N. S., says:—The trial of Otto Felsman and Percy Monroe, charged with conspiracy to defraud two marine insurance companies by scuttling the schooner Juventa in order to secure insurance on a consignment of lobsters, which was transferred to another vessel before the Juventa was sunk, ended on Thursday in conviction, and the men were sentenced to imprisonment for six years.

The Manufacturers and China were the insurance companies interested. Sixty cases of lobster were shipped, and insurance was placed for 400 cases. The sixty were taken to St. Pierre and sold, the conspirators pocketing the proceeds.

CRAZY MAN KILLED WENDIGO.

He Thought the Victim Was Possessed of a Devil.

A despatch from Rat Portage says:—The Indian authorities have despatched an expedition to Cat Lake, away up north, to try and capture an Indian called Crazy Man, on the charge of killing the devil, or at least what he thought was his Satanic majesty incarnate, in the person of a half-witted Indian that the tribe fully believed was a Wendigo, evil spirit. If Crazy Man is caught he will be brought to Rat Portage for trial.

CANADA'S TRADE.

The Dominion's September Business Proves to Be of a Splendid Nature.

A despatch from Ottawa, says:—The Customs revenue of the Dominion for the month of September has gone up like a rocket. It is unprecedented in the history of the country. When it topped the two million mark in September, 1898, it was considered good, but last September was still over a half million better. All the returns of the revenue for the month, which closed on Saturday last, have been received at the Customs Department. The revenue for September, 1899, was $2,611,650, compared with $2,086,651 for September, 1898, an increase for last month of $524,998.

SCREENINGS WANTED.

A Market in Britain for Millers at the Proper Price.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—C. H. Mitchell, Government commercial agent at Liverpool, writes the Department of Trade and Commerce here, saying that there is a market for wheat screenings in Britain if they can be bought at the proper price.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, &c in the Leading Marts.

Toronto, Oct. 10.—About fifty loads of stuff came in to-day, but we had no trade worth speaking of. Shipping and butcher cattle were unchanged, and only a little superior cattle sold.

Stockers, feeders, milkers, and bulls were a shade easier, while prices were quotably unchanged.

In the "small stuffs" market there was activity, and prices were well maintained. Lambs were firmer.

Good veal calves are in request.

Hogs are nominally unchanged, but it is doubtful if the prices quoted will hold to-day, as there is a decided weakening tendency in the market.

Quotations to-day were 4.5-8c, per lb, for choice hogs, scaling from 160 lb 200 lbs, and 4 1-8c, per lb, for light and fat hogs.

Following is the range of current quotations:—

Cattle.		
Shippers, per cwt.	$4 25	$5 00
Butcher, choice do.	3 75	4 12 1-2
Butcher, med., to good	3 25	3 50
Butcher, inferior	2 75	3 25
Stockers, per cwt.	3 00	3 50
Sheep and Lambs.		
Ewes, per cwt.	3 00	3 50
Lambs, per cwt.	3 25	4 00
Bucks, per cwt.	2 50	2 75
Milkers and Calves.		
Cows, each	25 00	45 00
Calves, each	2 00	7 00
Hogs.		
Choice hogs, per cwt.	4 25	4 62 1-2
Light hogs, per cwt.	4 00	4 12 1-2
Heavy hogs, per cwt.	4 00	4 12 1-2

Toronto, Oct. 10.—Wheat—Steady, but rather quiet locally. Ontario red and white wheat, 66 1-2 to 67c west. Holders are asking 1c, more. Red sold to-day at 67c. Spring wheat quiet at 66c to 67c. Goose, 71c, middle freights, with 72c asked. Manitoba wheat firm to-day at 83c, grinding in transit, and 82c, Toronto and west.

Flour—Steady; demand moderate Straight rollers quoted at $3.25 for shipment Montreal.

Millfeed—Not so firm. Bran is quoted at $11.50, middle freights, and shorts at $14.50.

Peas—Not much change. No. 2 is quoted at 60c, north and west, 61c on the Midland, and 62c east.

Oats—Market is dull. Cars of white east are quoted at 27c, and 26c for white west.

Rye—Quiet and holding at 55 1-2c east, and 53 1-2c west.

Corn—Inactive at 41 to 41 1-2c, No. 2 American, 40 1-2c.

Barley—Plenty offering, and quite a little reported at outside points. No. 2 sold to day at 42c, high freights, and 43c, in dle.

Buffalo, Oct. 10.—Spring wheat—Steady; No. 1 Northern, old, spot, 78 1-8c; new, 77 3-8c; No. 2 Northern, spot, 75 3-8c. Winter wheat—Dull and unsettled; No. 2 red, nominally 72 1-2c; No. 1 white, 72c. Corn—Dull; No. 2 yellow, 38 1-2c; No. 3 yellow, 38 to 38 1-4c; No. 2 corn, 37 1-2c; No. 3 corn, 36 3-4c. Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, 28 1-2c; No. 3 white, 28c; No. 4 white, 27 1-2c; No. 2 mixed, 27c; No. 3 mixed, 26 1-2c. Rye—No. 2, in store, quoted at 63 1-2c. Canal freights—Firm. Flour—Steady.

Detroit, Oct. 10.—Wheat closed—No. 1 white, cash, 72c; No. 2 red, cash, 73 3-8c; December, 75 3-4c; May, 79 3-4c.

Toledo, Oct. 10.—Wheat—No. 2, cash, 72c, bid; December, 75c. Corn — No. 2 mixed, 34c. Oats—No. 2 mixed, 23 1-4c. Rye—Quiet; No. 2, cash, 59c. Clover seed—Prime, new, cash, and October, $6.50; December, $5.40. Oil—Unchanged.

Duluth, Oct. 10.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, cash, 72 1-4c; No. 1 Northern, cash, 70 1-4c; October, 70 1-4c; December, 70 1-2c; May, 74c; No. 2 Northern, 67 3-4c; No. 3 spring, 64 1-4c.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 10. — Wheat—Dull; No. 1 Northern, 73 1-2c; No. 2 Northern, 70c. Rye—Steady; No. 1, 58 1-2 to 58 3-4c. Barley Firmer; No. 2, 46 1-2c; sample, 39 to 45 1-2c.

SALVAGE PAY FOR BAGGAGE.

Scotsman Passengers Inconvenienced Owing to the Schooner-Owners' Demands.

A despatch from Montreal, says:—The wrecking steamer Ranger, which has been chartered by the underwriters, and is on her way out from Liverpool, is expected to reach the scene of the Scotsman wreck on Friday, and will inform the Captain of the abandonment of the ship. Capt. Skrimshire will then take the next steamship passing up to Quebec. There he will make his report, and an investigation will be held into the accident. All the sailors left on Friday on the Ottoman, except those whose presence will be required at the enquiry and those who are in custody.

The baggage of the wrecked Scotsman has not yet reached St. John's. Capt. Skrimshire made an arrangement with the captain of the schooner to carry the baggage as freight to St. John's. The schooner has arrived at Notre Dame bay, and the captain refuses to go farther, claiming that he is entitled to salvage pay. Some of the Scotsman's crew are on board, and deny this claim, saying that their only claim is for freight charges.

Wm. H. Budgell, a stoker, who was arrested for receiving stolen goods, given to him by one of the Scotsman's crew, pleaded guilty before Judge Desnoyers on Thursday morning, and was sentenced to a fine of $5, or one month's imprisonment.

MAJORITY FOR FEDERATION.

Official Figures of the Referendum in Queensland.

A despatch from Brisbane, says:—The referendum in Queensland on the project of Australian federation has been completed. In favour of the scheme, 38,488 votes were cast, as against 30,996 in opposition.

BRITAIN WANTS CANADIANS.

The Force Would be Accepted With Sincerest Gratitude.

A despatch from London says:—Queensland and New Zealand have taken precedence of Canada in coming to the aid of the Empire in South Africa. Their definite and official Government offers of 200 troops in the case of Queensland and 250 in the case of New Zealand have been officially accepted by the Imperial Government. The troops are to be fully equipped and at the disposal of the British commander in Capt Town by October 31st. To this extent Canada seems to have been forestalled by Australasia in her proud position as pioneer of the Empire.

500 TROOPS WOULD BE ACCEPTED.

As cabled on Tuesday, the Canadian Government has made no formal offer yet, but has, in a letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, practically invited suggestions. The original idea was a force of 1,000 from Canada. The Canadian Government has now, however, been advised that should Canada desire to place at the disposal of the British commander at Cape Town by Octobr 31 four fighting units numbering 500 in all, infantry preferred, the Imperial Government will accept the offer with the sincerest gratitude, and the fullest appreciation of the high Imperial aims dictating the proposal.

In official circles generally the practical solidarity of the Empire when the Empire's interests are at stake is regarded as of the highest significance in face of the Empire's enemies all the world over.

OFFICERED BY ONE MAJOR.

The proposal is that these 500 Canadians should be officered by one major, with captains and subalterns. The desire in so limiting the numbers is to ensure that each colonial unit shall have what a soldier always prays for, the best possible show in the fighting line.

A despatch from Perth, capital of West Australia, announces that the Government of that colony, has decided to despatch a West Australian contingent to the Cape.

A WIN FOR BRITAIN.

Of the 66,000 Square Miles Demanded Venezuela Gets Only 100 Miles.

A despatch from Paris says:—The award of the Anglo-Venezuelan Boundary Arbitration Commission was read at noon on Tuesday. The decision was unanimous. The award of the tribunal is a distinct victory for Great Britain, and a justification of her attitude which so awakened the wrath of President Cleveland that he was guilty of an ill-considered jingo message which nearly caused war. The award means that of the 60,000 square miles claimed by Venezuela the latter obtains only 100 formed partly of the marsh land near the River Barima, and a portion of the Interior, while Great Britain retains all the forest country.

MACKENZIE RIVER TRAIL.

Mounted Police Expedition to Relieve the Sufferers.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The Mounted Police Department has been advised that Commandant Steele has despatched relief to the victims of the Mackenzie river trail by Corporal Skirving and a small party whom he took into the wilderness from Porcupine Mouth about a month ago. The expedition, which is to verify the reports as to the destitute condition of the Mackenzie river men, will go up the Porcupine to the portage of West Rat river, then over the mountains to the Peel, portage of the Mackenzie, and follow that river down as far as Fort McPherson. The men are provisioned for six weeks, and have thoroughly competent guides. The mission has been undertaken in consequence of the very distressing reports that have reached Dawson from the Fort McPherson country during the past six months.

PITCHED OUT ON HIS HEAD.

John E. Brooke, of Chatham, Probably Fatally Injured While Driving.

A despatch from Chatham, Ont., says:—John E. Brooke, a retired merchant, of this city, was thrown from his rig on Monday evening between five and six o'clock. Mr. Brooke was driving home when he was stopped by a train, and in turning short the buggy upset, pitching him out oh his head. He was carried into ex-Ald. Henry Weaver's store and Dr. McKeough summoned. It was found that Mr. Brooke was severely injured about the head, one eye being closed. He was carried home, where he now lies unconscious, suffering from concussion of the brain. But slight hopes are entertained of his recovery.

This is the second accident of a similar nature Mr. Brooke has met with in the past three months. Mr. Brooke was born in Toronto, and holds some valuable property on Yonge street, which he inherited from his father. He also has some splendid farms near Penetanguishene. He is estimated to be worth about $30,000.

BIG FIRE AT SYDNEY, N. S. W.

Peninsular Building Destroyed—Loss Over Insurance $200,000.

A despatch from Sydney, N. S. W., says:—Fire which broke out on Monday in the printing establishment of W. E. Smith, 26 Bridge street, destroyed the Peninsular buildings and did immense damage. The loss not covered by insurance will amount to $200,000.

BRITAIN AND TRANSVAAL.

The Naval Brigade Has Arrived at Ladysmith.

British Troops Massing on the Border to Repel the Expected Invasion—Gen. Buller Bids the Queen Good-bye—Boer Generals Hold Council—Will be a Short War—5,000 Reserves to be Called Out

A despatch to the News from Bloemfontein says the burghers of the State have been called out and mobilized in different parts of the Republic. They have been acting strictly on the defensive, and will probably be kept there on the border in order to avoid collisions with the British.

"It is asserted at a reliable authority, that the burghers have been strictly enjoined to keep to the western frontier and not to molest civilians, but to resist by force of arms an armed force.

A correspondent at Natal, cables:—"The First battalion of a naval brigade from Simonstown arrived here, and are now en route by railway."

General Sir Redvers Buller at Balmoral castle on Monday was the guest of Queen Victoria, her Majesty farewelled him for South Africa.

A despatch from Durban reports that Kaffirs are leaving business places and mines on the Rand. The whites have formed a special force of police and have been despatched to disperse the natives.

5,000 RESERVES TO BE CALLED OUT.

While there is no official confirmation of the flood of despatches from London recording the military preparations and movements of both sides, all kinds of accurate and inaccurate rumours and speculations on the situation remains unchanged.

It is expected, that the reserves will be called out on Oct. 25th, so that an army corps will be concentrated on the 15th or 16th of the month.

In the meantime it is worthy of note that neither side is disposed to precipitate a conflict, both are inclined to give opportunity for the play of peace influences.

INDIAN TROOPS.

The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Times confirms the report that enough Indian troops have arrived to make the military situation safe. He says the authorities are reticent as to disclosures regarding the movements, should be supplied with reliable information has been forwarded to the Boers through the London papers.

A despatch to the Times from Ladysmith, near Mafeking, says: "It is remarkable fact that the Boers declare they will not invade the Transvaal, but will, instead, remain on the border, because the winter is severe, and are afraid to leave them.

TO DESTROY THE BRIDGE.

The correspondent of the Times at Beaufort, West Railway Station, who have arrived the last forty tons of dynamite to blow down for the destruction of the railway bridge over the Orange River at Nobals Point, a few miles from Beaufort.

KRUGER WANTS PEACE.

A special despatch from Pretoria between Cape Colony and the Transvaal says that President Kruger has declared himself strongly on the side of peace, and that the Executive, the Volksraad and the front. He is reported to have said: "Some people say I am responsible for the present trouble, and that I have taken my share of the fighting. I am the people." The same despatch says that Commandant-General Joubert's wife has started for the front to be with her husband on the border. Many Boers have fallen, and the Sand River is flooded.

BOER ARMY LEADERS.

A despatch from Pretoria, dated Wednesday says a council of war was held to-day, Commandant-General Joubert presiding, and was attended by all of the different commandants now present. The council was long and indecisive. It is understood that no move will be made for several days. Most of the Free State burghers have gone to Natal.

Increased activity prevails in the Woolwich, and it is reported that provision is being made for placing two army corps, numbering one hundred tons of material and munitions of war have already been sent to Africa.

A Johannesburg despatch says: "The Government has taken over the Ferreira mine to the Robinson Deep, on the condition that work is resumed. The Stock Exchange is closed."

MARTIAL LAW IN TRANSVAAL.

An unconfirmed report says that martial law has been proclaimed throughout the Transvaal.

A despatch from Johannesburg says that the regulars distributed among the burghers have ceased. The Government has commandeered all dynamite and other explosive supplies, which have been placed under strict guard in magazines or depots. A strong guard has been stationed at the reservoir which supplies the city with water.

An enthusiastic meeting of Uitlanders was held Wednesday night at Germiston, under the presidency of the former Mayor of the town. Resolutions were unanimously passed expressing disapproval of the action of Irishmen who sympathize with the Boers, and of the course of the Irish Parliamentary party in extending sympathy and support to the Transvaal in the present crisis.

BOER GENERALS HOLD COUNCIL.

A despatch from Volksrust, in the Transvaal, says the generals in command of the Boer forces on the Natal border have held a council of war under Commandant-General Joubert, at which important movements were decided upon. Eight laagers have now been established along the border, and all arrangements have been made for an immediate advance if such a move is required. Fresh drafts of burghers are arriving hourly. There are already 8,000 men in the main camp at Zandfontein. The other border camps are well entrenched. The Boers do not expect a surprise attack by the British.

TROOPS LANDED AT DURBAN.

Seven troopships have now reached Durban. Four thousand five hundred troops have already landed, and it is expected that 4,500 more will be disembarked before Sunday. The Dutch volunteers will be sent to Griqualand, south of Natal, so that in the event of war they will not be required to fight their own kindred.

"There is no doubt now that the correspondent of the Daily Telegraph was misled when he made the statement that the Boers were occupying Lang's Nek. It is probable that some Boer patrols who advanced on Laing's Nek during the night and retired at daybreak were mistaken for the general body.

The Manchester Guardian's Cape Town correspondent says that the Basutos will probably attack the Orange Free State. Unless they are restrained civil war throughout South Africa is inevitable.

There has been almost a complete dearth of news from South Africa, the few despatches received recognizing military movements at various points all tend to confirm the belief that President Kruger will restrain any forward movement by the Boers unless they are fired upon or war is seriously declared.

INVADED BY KAFFIRS.

A despatch from Johannesburg says:—Thousands of natives have invaded the town, and on Friday the authorities decided to march them under escort out of the country. Last night two natives entered a cutting store kept by a Jew, and stabbed the proprietor in the neck, severing the windpipe. Two Jewish storekeepers in the East Rand have been murdered by natives, and the Kaffirs are raiding all the places where they think liquor is stored.

The War Commission, acting under the Government's instructions, will issue advice to shopkeepers to remove the barricades they have erected, on the ground that the Government's guarantee of protection ought to be sufficient.

WILL BE A SHORT WAR.

A despatch from Paris, says:—Mr. John Hays Hammond, the American civil engineer connected with the great South African mining companies, who returned from the Cape two months ago, after a brief holiday in the Tyrol, is now passing a few days in Paris. The appreciations of the situation in the Transvaal expressed by Mr. Hammond in conversation are of interest as showing how a war with the Boers is regarded by an observant representative American, enjoying the advantage of unsurpassed knowledge of the facts, enabling him thoroughly to grasp the situation.

As to the justice of the war, Mr. Hammond did not wish to express an opinion; but when asked whether the war would be a short or a long one, said:—

"It will be a short war, ending with the capture of Pretoria, after which the Boers will recognize the futility of further fighting. The Boers to-day are not as formidable fighters as they were fifteen years ago; for example, their former enormous advantage in marksmanship over the British troops no longer exists, because, game having to a great extent disappeared, the Boers have no experience in shooting at moving objects. A few old Dopers are still good shots, but they are fast dying out. Moreover, the British Lee-Metford rifle, with its remarkable flat trajectory, puts Tommy Atkins quite on an equality with the Boers so far as marksmanship is concerned.

"Quasi friends of the Boers deluded them into the belief that Great Britain would not resort to war in any event, and unfortunately thereby provoked a spirit of opposition to the British demands, resulting in the present diplomatic impasse, which I fear makes war inevitable. Encouraged by the present weakness of the British garrisons, the Boers evidently hope to occupy strategic positions, and by rapidly assuming the defensive, deal telling blows before the arrival of the bulk of the British army.

"Mr. Hammond thinks there is no danger of the conflict developing into a war of races because the Boers, especially the generation now attaining manhood, have commercial instincts and are fond of making money. They are altogether more enlightened than the old Dopers, with their dog-in-the-manger exclusiveness. Mr. Hammond feels confident that both nations will have reason to respect each other more after a war.

THOSE GIRLS.

People say he is courting you only on account of your money, dear.

They never make such remarks about you, dear.