

A VERY TIGHT CORNER.

RECORDED BY THE
British Force Mistook Boers for
British.

A despatch from London says:—The news from South Africa is fragmentary, adds little to the knowledge of the situation. Gen. Kitchener has left Naaspoort, and gone to the head of the Helderberg pass, where he is now known.

An unofficial report from Cape Town says that a squad of 100 men who were pursuing the Boers had retired from Naaspoort, whereupon they were met by the British, and after several hours' fight, were driven back to the coast, where the War Office denies any knowledge of the affair.

There is a report that the British force mistaking Boers for British, reported near Burgersdorp for Brabant's Horse, withheld their fire, and shortly found themselves in a very tight corner, and the commander there excommunicated them with the loss of one horse, and two men killed. The British lost six horses. It is stated that the Boers sent a number of Afrikander Bond and of the Cape Assembly, has sent a letter to the Secretary of State expressing sympathy with the Boers, but urging the latter to remain in command and to forget that they are British subjects.

The Government has ordered a survey of the French river, with a view to improving navigation. A building is being fitted up at Ottawa for a census bureau. The census will be taken in 1901. February 26th is the date fixed for the annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association at Ottawa.

Halifax temperance people are anxious to introduce a prohibitory liquor law in the Provincial Legislature.

Several more aliens have been deported from Hamilton to the United States under the Alien Labour Law.

A jury gave six Guelph district farmers \$50 damages against a storekeeper for selling them the wrong種.

A conference will meet in Ottawa next January under the auspices of the Dominion Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Allen Labor Officer Williams is at Bruce mines on the Soo branch of the C.P.R., investigating a complaint that the Copper Company has imported aliens.

An old man who stole a scarf at Hamilton, giving poverty as his excuse and declaring it to be his first offence, was sentenced to two months in jail.

The City of Kingston has notified the Kingston Light, Heat & Power Co. of its intention of taking over the plant at a price to be decided by arbitration.

A cablegram to the department of Finance states that official notice has been given in The London Gazette of the admission of the Dominion inscribed stocks to the list of securities in which trust funds may be invested.

GREAT BRITAIN.—An organization has been formed in London to recover stolen milk cans.

A Government bacteriologist says he can inoculate horses against the fatal horse disease in South Africa.

Two cavalry regiments and a large number of horses will be sent to South Africa at once from England.

The Queen has appointed the Empress of Corse an honorary Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire.

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UNITED STATES.—A seat on the New York Stock Exchange was sold for \$50,000, the highest price on record.

It is said that a company has been formed in New York to control the crude rubber trade.

Alleged maladministration of the United States mining laws at Cape Nome, Alaska, is to be investigated.

A train robber named Barnes, pursued and wounded by officers of the law, cut his throat in a swamp near New Orleans.

The proprietor of a knitting mill at Bennington, Vt., unable to make any terms with his striking operators, has decided to move his mill to Elmira, N. Y.

Four large freighters are to be built at Cleveland for a new steamship company. They will carry grain, ore and general freight between Duluth and Buffalo.

GENERAL.—At Antwerp 30,000 dock labourers are out on strike.

A severe epidemic of influenza is reported at St. Petersburg.

It is thought that the Czar's illness will make him stronger than ever.

"Peter's pence" at the late jubilee celebration of the Pope amounted to \$1,500,000.

Germans expelled from the Transvaal have asked their Government for an inquiry.

Statistics just published show that 7,000 persons die every year in Norway of consumption.

The Amir of Afghanistan has ordered all the unemployed young men of the country into the army.

The Venezuelan Government has given orders to Germany for 10,000 Mauser rifles and 3,000,000 cartridges.

There is a scheme afoot to buy 100,000 square miles of land in South America and put it under French domination.

Count Von Blumenthal, the elder brother of the German army chief of staff, when he tried to escape, was driven into a trap set by the Imperial authorities and captured to command the demands of the note for the punishment of the instigators of the trouble in China.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES

New Items About Ourselves and Our Neighbors—Something of Interest From Every Quarter of the Globe.

CANADA.

Typhoid and pneumonia are prevalent at Dawson.

Brantford market fees for 1901 were sold by auction to Joseph Rowes for \$1,910.

Berlin has had 151 new buildings and additions erected in a year, worth \$150,000.

The recent auction sale of Crown claims in Dawson brought \$60,000 for 13,000 sold.

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