

DE WET ROUTED, HE ESCAPED IN A BOAT.

Invasion of Cape Colony a Complete Failure.

GUNS AND PRISONERS CAPTURED

Gatling Gun Howard Killed—French Sweeping the Country Before Him.—He Makes a Big Haul of Prisoners, Wagons, Mules, Cattle, Sheep, etc.—Methuen Clears the Country Ahead of Him and Captures Much Spoil—General Botha May Surrender—Report That Delarey is a Prisoner—Recruiting in the Northwest—Toronto Man Killed.

Cape Town, Feb. 22.—Gen. Methuen has captured a Boer laager near Brakpan. The capture included forty prisoners, many wagons, and much stock.

Delarey by Kitchener.
Montreal, Feb. 22.—It is reported that Lieut.-Col. Gordon, formerly D. O. C. at Montreal, will remain in South Africa, having been given command of an Orange River Colony district by Lord Kitchener.

To Build New Forts.
Montreal, Feb. 22.—Captain Bertie H. G. Armstrong, R. E., son of Mr. C. N. Armstrong, of this city, who has for a number of years been in charge of the fortifications at Sierra Leone, on the west coast of Africa, has just been ordered to South Africa, and placed in charge of the work of construction of four new forts, designed for the better protection of Cape Town.

Sued for \$25,000, Got One Farthing.
Cape Town, Feb. 22.—Mr. Cartwright, editor of the South African News, who was recently arrested on the charge of printing a seditious and criminal libel, recently brought an action against the Cape Times for \$25,000 damages for libel, the article complained of having appeared in the Owl, which is printed by the Times. The case was tried to-day, and resulted in a verdict of one farthing damages for the plaintiff.

Murdered a Native.
London, Feb. 22.—In the House of Commons to-day Rt. Hon. William St. John Brodrick, Secretary of War, read a telegram from Sir Alfred Milner, Governor-General of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony, stating that the Boers had murdered the colored man Beza at Calvinia, Cape Colony.

New Military Governor.
Cape Town, Feb. 22.—Major-General Pretorius, formerly military Governor of Bloemfontein, has taken up the command of the troops at Kimberley. He is succeeded by Major-General Gold-Adams, Lieutenant-Governor of Orange River Colony.

Looting the British Stores.
Pietmaritzburg, Feb. 22.—Sensational developments are occurring in connection with a number of arrests of persons along the railway charged with theft of goods from the railway.

Insulting the Queen's Memory.
Kimberley, Feb. 22.—A local storekeeper has been convicted by the military court here of traitorous and disloyal language against the late Queen and the British Government, and of disgracing the Queen's picture. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of £300 or undergo an additional six months' imprisonment.

Bid for Liberty.
St. Helena, Feb. 22.—A determined attempt to escape was made by five Boer prisoners at Sandy Bay, on February 2.

Questions in Parliament.
London, Feb. 22.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Brodrick, Secretary of War, took occasion to offer an explanation regarding the retirement of Major-General Colville, for which Mr. Brodrick had been so much criticized. Gen. Colville, said Mr. Brodrick, had been sent home by Lord Roberts for inefficiency in the field. Gen. Colville had never been tried, and though his case had been

charged, capturing artillery and many loaded horses, which the Boers were unable to reach. Their cooking pots, which were full, and their other belongings, were abandoned.

Another correspondent says that Gen. De Wet's 1,500 men have dwindled to 300. He and Mr. Steyn took 300 of the best horses, with which to escape. He adds that Mr. Steyn, who was formerly President of the Orange Free State, and who is now a prisoner, many of whom were dismounted and without shoes. He told them that they must shift for themselves as best they could and return to the Free State. Some of the Boers obtained boats from farmers with which to cross the river. Ex-President Steyn, Gen. De Wet and his party crossed the railroad at Kranskuil, 60 miles north of De Aar, early Sunday morning. They were closely pressed by Thornycroft, and other commanders, with fresh horses. A report from Cape Town, however, says that General De Wet, with a handful of followers, crossed the Orange River in a boat.

Captured All Artillery.
London, Feb. 22.—A correspondent of the Daily Mail with Henkier's column, wiring Saturday, says: "Gen. De Wet was routed yesterday by Col. Plumer, with whom were Col. Kennerly, Craddock, Jeffreys, and Grubb. This success was preceded by a series of desperate attempts on the part of the Boers to escape from the water belt of the Orange and the Brak River. Gen. De Wet, after unsuccessfully attempting to cross the Brak at Cliff drift and the Orange at Read's drift and Marks' drift, moved along the bank of the Orange with the help of an anti-aircraft gun, and laagered opposite Kamel drift. At dawn Col. Plumer left Welgonden, twenty-two miles west of the Boer camp, and moved northward. He attacked the enemy, taking forty prisoners. The pursuit was continued during the afternoon, the Boers moving toward Hopetown.

"Toward evening, the leading troops sighted the enemy, who had lagged beyond gun range. Col. Owen charged the spot where the Boer artillery was supposed to be, and captured the whole of it. The enemy fled, leaving their horses ready saddled and their cooking pots full. According to the latest reports only four hundred Boers recrossed to the north side of the river. The Orange is greatly swollen."

Fleeing From French.
London, Feb. 22.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Gen. Kitchener: "Middleburg, Transvaal, Feb. 24.—French reports from Piet Retief, Feb. 22, that the result of the columns sweeping the country east is that the Boers are retreating in scattered and unorganized parties to the number of 5,000 in front of him. "Amsterdam and Piet Retief have been occupied, and troops are proceeding to the Swazifrontier, and pushing on the retreating Boers with numerous heavy rifles."

DeWet's Chances.
London, Feb. 23, 6 a.m.—The heavy rains which have been falling in Cape Colony have interfered with the telegraph at the Dewet chase, and there is in consequence a dearth of news. According to Mr. Bennett Burleigh, a few hundred of the Boer raiders have succeeded in crossing the Orange River, while De Wet himself is seeking to get away to Griquatown and Priska. It is considered extraordinary that the commandant at Hopetown, who has been hurrying north with a large supply of remounts for De Wet, should have been a month in the colony without being brought to action.

A GALLANT SOLDIER.
Details of the Life of "Gatling Gun" Howard.
Ottawa, Feb. 24.—The news of the death of Major A. L. Howard, known as "Gat," who was killed in Canada as "Gat," Howard, came as a great shock to his many friends in Ottawa. As recently as last Friday a letter was received from Major Howard, in which he reported that he was well and in command of the 10th regiment of the Canadian militia, in which the writer said: "I have added to my battery a pom-pom, so we have quite a force, six Colt guns, a pom-pom, and two brushes with the enemy since you left, and made them hump each other, and given great credit to our boys. We are now in a regular cutting up of half-bores. The Boers are cutting up Hades around here, so you see the war is not over yet, or likely to be for a year. Give my best regards to all."

Stratheona in London.
Among the souvenirs of the war which Stratheona's Horse will take back with them to Canada is a mounted Jack, given to one of the squadrons by a lady when the corps was operating in the neighborhood of Potchefstroom. Stratheona's Horse has been exceedingly popular in London. Its visit here has brought to the corps two special distinctions—the honor of being the first regiment to receive the war medal at the hands of the King, and the honor of being the first to be presented with a King's color in recognition of services rendered on the field of battle.

DeWet's Defeat Complete.
London, Feb. 25.—Gen. Kitchener's despatch to the War Office excites a strong hope, even belief, that the end of the war is in sight. It is argued that the heavy loss inflicted on Gen. Botha, whether he formally capitulates or not, must practically end the existence of his commandos as a fighting force. The failure of Gen. De Wet's invasion of the Cape Colony is also hailed hopefully, although until he himself is captured or killed his influence and ability will continue to inspire anxiety. There is no authentic information respecting his chances of escape.

Killed in Action.
Toronto, Feb. 24.—Another Toronto boy has met death in action on the South African field. News has reached the city that Frank Douglas, third son of Mr. C. J. Douglas, formerly of Toronto, was killed on the 18th instant. Deceased was a member of the Oxfordshire Imperial Yeomanry and was 31 years of age.

To Train Fishermen.
London, Feb. 25.—The British Admiralty will send the third-class cruiser Calypso on the Newfoundland coast to train fishermen for the naval reserve.

131 PERSONS DROWNED. WRECK OF MAIL STEAMER.

The City of Rio de Janeiro Lost at the Golden Gate

WHILE ENTERING SAN FRANCISCO.

Seventy-Seven People Rescued—Steamer Sunk Almost Immediately After Striking a Rock—Wild Scramble for Life—U. S. Consul General Wildman and Family Drowned—What the Pilot Says—Thrilling Tales of Some of Those Who Were on Board—Captain Went Down With the Ship.

San Francisco, Feb. 22.—A pilot's attempt to bring in during a thick fog the big Pacific mail steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, early this morning, led to the wreck of the vessel on Fog Point Lodge, outside the Golden Gate, and the loss of 131 persons out of a total of 208 on board.

The explanation of the terrible loss of life is that the vessel sank in fifteen minutes after she struck, thus carrying down most of the small boats, which still hung on the davits.

The officers showed great coolness. The passengers behaved well until the bow began to sink suddenly. Then when it was seen that the vessel was on the point of sinking there was a wild panic. Men and women ran screaming to the boats only to find them not lowered.

Over one hundred Chinese were huddled together below, simply dazed with terror. Many jumped overboard and were carried down by the suction of the steamer. All about was thick darkness, which probably prevented many from escaping.

Up to this hour only ten bodies have been recovered, as the tide runs swiftly out to sea where the vessel struck, and it is feared that most of the victims will never be recovered.

The most prominent passenger on the steamer was Rounsaville Wildman, U. S. Consul at Hong Kong, who was accompanied by his wife and two children. It is thought all are drowned. Frederick Jordan was in command of Pilot. He was rescued. Captain William Ward went down with his vessel. As nearly as can be learned, there were 238 people on board the Rio de Janeiro, as follows: Cabin passengers, 29; second cabin, 7; steerage (Chinese and Japanese) 58; officers and crew, 114. The following were on board: Surgeon, 10; total, 87. Missing, 121.

The Pilot's Story.
The reports of the disaster were very conflicting. Pilot Jordan declares that they were coming in slowly when a thick fog settled down on the water. They were going at about six miles an hour, and the tide was racing out at four miles an hour. It was dangerous to go any slower, and the only thing to do was to keep on and watch carefully. He could see the light near the cliff house and at Fog Point, and he figured they were well in the stream when the vessel struck. Captain Ward asked what should be done, and Jordan, judging from the great damage that would be done by the jagged rocks, said, "Get out all your boats as fast as you can, and get the starboard side, and was getting the boats out when the bow suddenly dropped down. Jordan rushed from the bridge down to the deck, realizing that the ship was sinking. He helped Mrs. Wildman into a boat and had one of the Wildman children grasp him around the neck. Then the vessel sank. He thought he came up fifty feet. When he went down fully fifty feet. When he came up the child was gone. He could see nothing of the steamer nor any of the boats, so he struck out, and was soon able to climb on a part of the deck-house, on which a couple of other young men were sitting. They were picked up after three hours they were picked up.

A Graphic Story.
Surgeon Arthur O'Neill was picked up with one Japanese and seven Chinese passengers by the Russian steamer Harbin. The surgeon was not injured by his experience, and he told one of the clearest stories of the terrible disaster. He said, "It was exactly 5:25 o'clock when we struck, as I took note of the time by my clock. The ship struck with an awful crash, and the blow must have torn out her entire side near the bow. She sank very rapidly, and was under water in such a short time that no orderly effort could be made to launch the boats. I do not know a moment the ship presented a scene of wild disorder. Nearly every passenger was asked when the ship struck and they came rushing up in their night clothes. "When I hurried out on deck, I met Quartermaster Lindstrom. He helped the ship was ashore. I asked where, and how much water was under her, he said he did not know. Mrs. Wakefield and her daughter came on deck immediately, and asked me what happened, I said, 'Nothing.' Then the Second Assistant Engineer I heard he could not work the pumps on account of water in the engine-room. This was in reply to a question from the chief engineer. I looked down into the engine-room, and was surprised to see it full of water. Almost immediately all the electric lights in the ship went out, and the vessel was left in total darkness.

In the brief interval before the ship sank, Pilot Jordan endeavored to establish some order out of the prevailing panic, and ordered the boats launched. I hurried aft to be assigned, and was assigned, and boats to which I hurried aft to the crew to lower her to the water. Two of the crew were stationed at each end to work the falls. The stern of the vessel was wrecked to stern of the vessel, striking the water, and, striking the water,

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"It is the the... kindness... I tell... a great... not for nothing... of my country... for jealousy... world we put... des on by our... Wherever we... too late... English... the most terrible... of the land... We... leaves or go... we would develop... the commercial... it amounts to... nation... getting cramped... a growing English... Germany... that it shall not... who go to the... France is our... the most terrible... nothing else... day a war with... will, hysterical... sooner or later... for certain... the sun and the... I can tell you... first blow will be... It is to come... Not in Europe... toreh will be... "The Transvaal... Mr. Sabine's... the land... fish monopoly... to my nation... of over-population... young blood... through... ous, thirring... dom. We need... these may develop... and benevolent... have seen it... great English... try has not the... and the de... She is ever on the... her suckers, and... every new land... country... as Africa, and... have said, Alred... led the finest... of the land... led to take... acquire the whole... no mind to suffer... second fiddle to... enough... and to my mind... master, Africa is... costs—Britain—event... Mr. Sabine was... "There was a follo... It was a situat... He began to feel... making history... You have been... at last "You have... look upon Europe... eye. But there... portant question... off my neck... ters are you will... price?"

"The Ambassadors... It was a trifling... statement," he... ask a price which... not pay."

"Mr. Sabine moved... His eyes were... of color was in his... "Four years of... "have been given... of more than... other, which is... the work of the... competent to... The comb... when I place... roll of papers... the future of the... lately and enter... That is beyond... To what... give over the... the price is a... Name it," he... quickly... "For myself,"... "ing."

"The other man... "Absolutely not... The Ambassadors... his forehead... "You condition... "are well... and the rest... in the persons... his cousin, Prin... "Ach?"

"The little inter... Ambassador's lips... cent... leave a brief... each fastened... Ambassador was... and his eyes... ment... yet... hilation in his... bright eyes... "Yes, you were... right, indeed? I... slow... "It is a... ask?"

"Mr. Sabine laugh... "Think," he... ter well... what I give you... I claim for it... ent. I ask for... nothing... There... the first... such a... richest... These things... The one... Frank... tell you why... have been gain... year, month by... before you! It... before you! It... the temperat...

Fatal Accident at Windsor.
Windsor, Feb. 22.—James McCormick, employed at Ford's livery stable, Windsor, was fatally injured this afternoon by a heavy cogwheel, which fell down the elevator shaft near which he was standing, and struck him on the top of the head. His skull was fractured and a deep cut made.

Burned His Money.
Rome, Feb. 24.—A Jewish millionaire named Taguri, has committed suicide at Leghorn. Before killing himself he burned Turkish notes to the value of two million francs.