

THE BOERS ARE REPORTED BEATEN.

RUMOR UNCONFIRMED.

Londoners Full of Confidence—Everyone Takes Heart at the News from the Front Although Not Crediting All.

The war office had nothing to communicate to the public Sunday. It may be taken for granted that the rumor of General Brabant's victory at Wepener is premature. With the remainder of his force he left Alval North Saturday for Rousville, and there has scarcely been time for an engagement.

There is practically no fresh news. All the Boerontein dispatches, however, breathe a confident tone. There seems to be a heavy demand on the railway, for so large an army leaves the populace bare of everything save the absolute necessities of life.

The fact that the censors allowed Winston Churchill's dispatch on the subject of remounts to pass speaks volumes for the condition of that question and concerning the prospect of any immediate advance toward Pretoria. The utmost Lord Roberts will be able to do for some time will be clearing the Boers from the southern part of the Free State.

The dispatches announce the approach of winter. The first pinch of frost has been felt at Bloemfontein, where considerable rain has fallen.

Telegrams from Cape Town Sunday, say: "An unconfirmed report is in circulation here that Gen. Brabant has inflicted a crushing defeat upon the Boers at Wepener, capturing guns and taking prisoners."

A dispatch from Pretoria by way of Delagoa bay, says: It is officially announced that a battle has been fought south of Brandfort, in which 600 British troops were killed and wounded and 800 taken prisoners.

Lord Roberts is declared to be finding great difficulty, owing to scarcity of water.

The enemy are making a general attempt to discover a strategic opening. Their numbers are unknown to us, but are anywhere between 3,000 to 6,000. They are moving cautiously. Remounts are arriving, but the Argentine animals are little liked by the cavalry. Among the valuable documents discovered belonging to Messrs. Steyn and Fischer is some correspondence proving that the fall of Ladysmith was to be the signal for a general Dutch rising.

Trustworthy refugees assert that the Boers recently obtained at least thirty pieces of artillery, some of large caliber, which were brought overland as machinery from a West African port. Eight of these guns were dispatched to the Free State a week ago. The Boer officials openly boast that they have succeeded in smuggling ammunition through Portuguese territory.

In the course of the Dempsey trial, State Engineer Munnick admitted under pressure that, acting under instructions from State Secretary Reitz, of the Transvaal, he had bored holes in 25 mines. Heavy fighting was continued at Wepener Tuesday. Three Boer commandos are attacking the town. The fighting was severe and lasted all day long. The Boers received a check. The casualties were rather heavy on both sides. Another commando is advancing toward Wepener from DeWetsdorp.

ONE MAN KILLED.

Five Others Were Injured by an Explosion of Natural Gas in Indiana.

High pressure and a piece of alleged defective pipe in the mains of the Chicago Pipe Line Company, at a point four miles southeast of Logansport, Ind., were the cause of a terrific explosion Sunday, in which Michael Ellison, Jr., was instantly killed and five other men received injuries from which it is doubtful if some will recover.

Twelve men were in a trench repairing a leak in a 10-inch main from which the gas had been transferred to an eight-inch main near it. The men were around a "T" in the eight-inch main, and Ellison was stooping over it when the explosion occurred, and he was thrown 150 feet away, and instantly killed.

The "T" weighs 1,000 pounds, and it was carried a distance of 50 feet, taking off the top of George Nelson's hat and a small bunch of his hair, otherwise not injuring him.

New Creed Called For.

The Presbytery of Nassau, in session at Northport, Long Island, unanimously adopted the following resolution: "That it is the prayer of the Presbytery of Nassau that the general assembly formulate a short and simple creed that would be acceptable to the church."

The resolution as introduced was stronger, but was modified in the interest of harmony. Rev. C. O. Gray, who offered the resolution, said it meant to set aside the present creed as an heirloom and to make a new creed that would be more precise. Thereupon Mr. Gray was elected delegate to the general assembly, with the understanding that he would present his views to that body.

Blown Up by a Dewey Gun.

A large cannon captured by Admiral Dewey at Manila and loaned by the government to the citizens of Clarksburg, who have it on exhibition in the park, was loaded to the muzzle with a heavy charge of powder and fired at Madam Dowd's resort near the Baltimore & Ohio depot about 1 o'clock Wednesday morning. The building and the contents were totally wrecked. The inmates escaped with slight injuries.

Mammoth Real Estate Deal.

A syndicate headed by O. A. Robertson and Frank O'Meara, of St. Paul, and F. E. Kennaston, of Minneapolis, has purchased all the Northern Pacific lands in Minnesota, approximately 530,000 acres. The deal was the largest ever made in Minnesota, and with the exception of the Weyerhaeuser Washington pine land deal, probably the largest ever made in the United States. The price paid is said to have been about \$1,000,000.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Three hundred miners are on strike at Knoxville, Tenn.

Telegraphers on the Southern railway are out on a strike.

Phya Prasadhi, the new minister from Siam, arrived in Washington Friday.

Two hundred and fifty thousand persons visited the Paris exposition Sunday.

There have been 111 cases of bubonic plague and 38 deaths at Sydney, Australia.

Iryan Democrats decided to welcome Admiral Dewey into the ranks of their party.

Stephen Crane, the novelist, is said to be dying at his home in Sussex, England.

During the winter there were 30 deaths from typhoid fever at Nome, out of 300 cases.

Snow has damaged planted crops and delayed railroad traffic in all parts of Colorado.

John R. Reese, president of the United Mine Workers, of Iowa, is ill with smallpox at Albia, Ia.

Andrew Carnegie in an interview said that all young men should marry "common sense women."

Joseph Stringer choked his wife to death at Bakerville, Tenn., and blew his own head off with a gun.

A company of Pittsburgh and other capitalists has been formed to cultivate coffee and rubber in Mexico.

In New York 5,000 cigarmakers are on strike for a raise in wages and a general strike is threatened.

The President has nominated John P. V. Gridley, of Erie, Pa., to be second lieutenant in the marine corps.

At Alexander, Ark., Mrs. T. H. Holland shot and killed William Cook, who she claimed had defamed her character.

Owing to the good offices of American missionaries the revolution in the Cameroons, Africa, is said to be dying out.

The sealing steamer Terra Nova, with 37,000 seals, and the Walrus, with 12,000 seals, have returned from the ice fields.

While setting fire to a pile of brush near Wilkesbarre Mrs. Michael Fox's clothes ignited and she was burned to death.

Prof. E. Benjamin Andrews, of Chicago, will probably decline the office of chancellor of the University of Nebraska.

The authorities of British Columbia have decided to repeal the law excluding aliens from mining privileges in the province.

The Democratic State convention of North Carolina nominated Charles B. Aycock for governor and elected Bryan delegates.

David Zimmerman and James Moffitt were killed and Oscar Zimmerman badly injured by a boiler explosion at Sylvester, Mich.

Augustus Young shot, but did not fatally wound, Kate Van Clooster, at Murphysboro, Ill., and blew out his own brains.

Rufus Wright, a Chicago millionaire, was shot and perhaps fatally wounded by Mrs. Louisa Lottridge, who says it was accidental.

John C. Farrar, teller of the Waterbury (Vt.) National bank, is missing and there is a defalcation of \$25,000 of the bank's funds.

The St. Louis Sunday School Union is arranging to have 10,000 Sunday school children sing for Admiral Dewey at his reception in May.

George W. Hull, the Rhode Island millionaire arrested in New York on a perjury charge, has been admitted to bail in the sum of \$10,000.

Five hundred miners employed at the Mt. Pleasant colliery, near Scranton, Pa., went on a strike. The miners are dissatisfied with the wages.

The custom house receipts at Havana for the first three months of 1900 were \$3,125,000, being \$77,000 more than for the same months in 1899.

Miss Nellie Lewis, of Colorado Springs, secured a verdict of \$90,000 for breach of promise against Henry Strong, a rich mine owner of Cripple Creek.

Thomas Blaney, a bartender, was arrested in New York, having in his possession \$10,000 worth of beer tax stamps, supposed to have been stolen in Washington.

Capt. Goldman, with 30 men of the Thirty-second regiment, was attacked by insurgents Friday, near Orion, and two men were killed before they could retire.

Secretary Alger says he is sorry for Dewey and considers that his head has been turned by praise. He predicts for him in his presidential aspirations a melancholy disappointment.

The United States Glucose Company, the National Starch Company and the United States Starch Company are to combine as the National Starch Company, with \$9,500,000 capital stock and \$4,000,000 in 5 per cent. bonds.

The State convention of the League of Democratic Club of Ohio opened in Columbus Wednesday, and although the sentiment is said to be for Bryan, President Buchtel referred only indirectly to the Nebraskan and ignored silver entirely.

At Omaha, Neb., the sheriff learned that a mob intended to raid the jail to lynch James Corney, charged with assaulting Kate Vavra. The prisoner was taken for safety to Lincoln.

The Mollicans, of southeast Russia, numbering 10,000, are said to be only waiting the czar's permission to follow the Donkubors to Canada. Tolstoi had advised the Donkubors not to leave Canada for California.

It is rumored that a consolidation will be effected of the National Steel Company, American Tin Plate Company and the American Steel Hoop Company, with a capital of \$140,000,000.

President Kruger is reported to be at Kroonstad. In an interview Mrs. Kruger said that she prayed for an end of war, but that the Boers will never relinquish their independence.

Rev. Dr. H. W. Bennett, of Anderson, Ind., is to be put forward for a bishopric in the M. E. Church. He once had a charge at Akron, O. Dr. Bennett for several years practiced law.

TRACK OF DESOLATION IN KANSAS.

FIERCE TORNADO.

Two Fatalities Reported—Many Others Said to Be Injured—Farm Houses Blown Down—Telegraph Wires Are Disabled.

A storm approaching a tornado in proportion is reported from near Winfield, between Wichita, Kas., and Newton, and in the vicinity west of Clearwater. Two deaths are reported and four people are said to have been injured by over-turned houses. Wires are down and names and particulars are unobtainable.

At Putnam, it is said, several houses were blown down and four people seriously injured. Word was brought by passengers on the southbound Santa Fe passenger train that two persons were killed.

The telephone and telegraph wires were rendered useless by the wind and all attempts to reach Putnam, Newton, or affected points, have proved futile. West of Clearwater it is reported that a strip of country five miles long was swept by a storm at 6 o'clock Sunday night, and several farm houses, barns and other outbuildings blown down. No casualties are reported from there.

The fact that indefinite scraps of information are all that can be secured gives cause for alarm that the storm is much more serious than is generally admitted. At a small settlement several miles west of Fremont, in Sumner county, it is said all of the houses were wrecked with loss of life.

The storm area, so far as can be learned, extends over about ten counties near and at the southern line of the State. The cyclonic disturbance seems to have followed the course of the Arkansas river.

WAR LOSSES.

Washington Authorities Try to Make a Comparison of Two Campaigns.

The war department has prepared a statement comparing the mortality figures in the Spanish-American war with those of the first six months of the South African war, the purpose being to show that the casualties suffered by the American troops at the time of their occurrence (which are regarded in some quarters as excessive, and are the basis of much criticism) were actually very much less in number proportionately than those suffered by the British army up to date.

As to the British showing from October 11 to April 7, 300 officers and 3,944 men were killed in action, or by accident, wounds and disease, and 288 officers and 4,934 men were invalided home. It is estimated that nearly 10,000 officers and men are sick and wounded in the hospitals.

During the war with Spain the American army lost, by death, 107 officers and 2,803 men. They were wounded 113 officers and 1,464 men. Only 12 per cent. of the American deaths resulted from wounds or occurred in battle, while the corresponding rate for the British army was 63.13 per cent.

A PRIEST MOBBED.

Mexicans Demanded Costumes for Passion Play in Vain, Then Grew Angry.

The new order of the Archbishop of Mexico regarding the Passion Play, customary on Good Friday, was observed in the Valley of Mexico, although the masses resented the prohibition of the spectacle which has been a feature of Holy Week for centuries, originating with the clergy when they were Christianizing the Indians.

But at Yatepec, in the State of Morelos, the people assembled at the parish priest's home, demanding that he distribute, as usual, the costumes for the Passion Play. This he refused to do. It is reported that he was driven out of town, the people declaring that they would not stand such a priest, and must be allowed their ancient customs.

Boers Reach St. Helena.

The Niobe and the Milwaukee have arrived at St. Helena, with the Boer prisoners. The health is good, with the exception of four cases of measles, necessitating the Milwaukee being quarantined. The prisoners are quiet and well behaved. The governor has been notified of the desire of the authorities that the prisoners be treated with every courtesy and consideration.

Chicago Millionaire Shot.

Rufus Wright, the millionaire manufacturer of rubber tires, was shot Saturday during a scuffle for possession of a revolver in the apartments of Mrs. Louise Lottridge, at the Leland hotel, Chicago, Ill., and died Sunday from the effects of the wound. The body of the millionaire is now at undertaking rooms, where an inquest will be held. It is the opinion of the police that the coroner's investigation will mark the close of the sensational case. A statement by the deceased to Chief of Detectives Collier, that the shooting was accidental, will, it is believed, clear Mrs. Lottridge of all responsibility.

Italians Riot.

At a speak-easy at mine No. 31 of the Berwind-White Coal Company, near Windber, Somerset county, Pa., a riot occurred shortly before midnight Sunday in which three men were killed, one being shot and two stabbed to death, and another man was so badly stabbed that his recovery is doubtful. One Italian is supposed to have done the killing. He is said to have fled toward Pittsburg, and the police are on the lookout for him.

Got Rich and Went Crazy.

Julius Koster, a bricklayer of New York, who recently inherited \$300,000 from his brother's estate in Germany, was found dead swinging from a rope in an empty water tank on the roof of his house. Koster recently caught one of his fingers in a hook while fishing and blood poisoning resulted. He was still weak in mind and body and the sudden change from poverty to riches left his mind permanently affected.

The shah of Persia is en route to Russia.

BUILDING COLLAPSED.

Three Killed and Five Injured in the Ruins of a Large Business House—Narrow Escapes.

The four-story brick warehouse of the Armstrong-McKelvey Lead and Oil Company, at Wood street and Second avenue, Pittsburg, collapsed Thursday morning at 9:45 o'clock. Three persons were crushed to death and four were injured. Many others employed in the doomed structure had thrilling adventures before they were saved.

The building, which was a relic of the first half of the century, was a complete wreck and entailed a loss of about \$15,000. It was owned by T. M. Armstrong, president of the Armstrong Cork Company, whose illness was greatly increased by the shock the disaster gave him, and the estate of the late John H. McKelvey. The entire contents of the building, containing between \$30,000 and \$40,000 worth of paints, oils and colors, were destroyed.

They are believed to be covered by insurance placed in New York by the National Lead Company, on a fire and water risk. A searching investigation will be instituted by Coroner Jesse M. McGeary to place the responsibility for the awful disaster. The cause is shrouded in mystery, but is believed to have been due to some neglect.

Coroner McGeary declared that only a superficial examination has been made and no one had suggested that any criminal neglect was at the bottom of the catastrophe, but he declared that every fact would be brought out at the inquest, which he set for next Tuesday morning. An expert examination will be made in the meantime.

ONE GREAT POOR HOUSE.

No Doctors Within Reach of the Poorly-Stricken Population of Puerto Rico.

The startling fact was recently made public that in many districts of Puerto Rico where the population reaches thousands there is no resident physician. For instance, Wayuya, a town of 1,300, must depend on the simplest remedies in the case of illness, as there is no physician within call. At Urudado the death rate is 8 per cent. annually, and this town is a day's ride from Ponce through the mountains.

It appears that physicians have been sent to these districts, but they refuse to remain, largely because no town is able to support one. As a result of this condition of things the order providing a physician for every 500 people is now very difficult of enforcement, because the towns reply that there is no fund to pay for such service.

This island is one vast poorhouse and there are opportunities for charity at every step. Were \$10,000 to be expended immediately for medicine and medical aid it would possibly save the lives of 3,000 people. At one time the government considered the feasibility of assigning a physician to each town at an aggregate cost of \$80,000 per year, but the funds for such an outlay are not available.

British Losses 23,000.

The British war office has issued a return of the total British casualties up to April 7, as follows: Killed in action, 211 officers and 1,960 men. Died of wounds, 48 officers and 465 men. Missing and prisoners, 168 officers and 3,722 men. Died of disease, 47 officers and 1,483 men. Accidental deaths, three officers and 34 men. Repatriated invalids, 288 officers and 4,934 men. Total, 13,365, exclusive of the sick and wounded now in hospital.

To the war office returns of casualties must be added the losses of the last week and the wounded, aggregating about 10,000 men, making a grand total of upwards of 23,000 officers and men put out of action.

Lett for Cape Nome.

A party, including a number of Pittsburgers, left on Monday for the Cape Nome gold fields, taking along a huge dredge, named the "Iron City," which was shipped in sections. The machine is to dig up dirt and gravel at the rate of a ton a minute. The prospectors represent the Alaskan Gold Dredging and Mining Company, of Pittsburg, Pa., which has a capital of \$35,000. Among those going are C. O. Johnson, general manager of the company; Dr. J. C. Irwin, John Dale Porte, McClelland Leonard, of Pittsburg, and John H. Todd, William H. Rankin, of Uniontown, and John C. Bakewell, of Brownsville.

Murdered by Tramps.

Shortly before midnight Sunday two tramps with white handkerchiefs tied over their faces stopped at the house of two sisters, Kate and Johanna Sullivan, living four miles west of West Toledo, Ohio, knocked at the door, and as Johanna opened the door one of the men struck her across the head with a club, knocking her down. Kate sprang to the assistance of her sister, when a second tramp felled her with an axe.

The women were bound and gagged and the house robbed. Johanna died in a short time, and Kate is a raving maniac as the result of her injuries. The tramps escaped with \$200 in money.

Royal Gift to Belgium.

In the Chamber of Deputies Wednesday a communication from King Leopold was read presenting all his real estate to the nation on the occasion of his 65th birthday, which was April 9. He pointed out the necessity for open spaces and gardens near growing cities, for the benefit of hygiene and artistic effects, and expressed the hope that these naturally adorned spaces would not be allowed to deteriorate. A bill has been introduced to accept the offer.

British Were Avenged.

The steamer Rio Jun Maru, which arrived at Victoria, B. C., Sunday, from the Orient, brings the story that a party of British government surveyors engaged on the work of defining the Burmese boundary had a collision with a large body of Chinese laborers, who sometime ago waylaid and murdered Consul Lytton, Major Kytile and Mr. Sutherland, of the former boundary party. This time the Chinese were completely routed, 80 being killed and many injured.

NOTHING BELOW A DOLLAR A BUSHEL

TRUST OF FARMERS.

To Raise the Price of Wheat—Scheme Manipulated in the United States and Switzerland Being Advocated.

"All the farmers of the world in a sort of international trust to restrict the production of wheat and raise prices" is the plan which it is hoped to carry into effect at the International Agricultural Conference in Paris, July 9-16.

It is proposed to ask the farmers of the world to reduce their wheat output by 20 per cent., and not to sell a bushel for less than a dollar. J. Hanley, of St. Paul, executive agent of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, the National Cotton Growers' Association, the Farmers' Federation of the Mississippi Valley and the National Grain Growers' Association, is the chief promoter of the trust in America.

Prof. G. Ruhlman, of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, is the chief promoter of the plan in Europe.

The idea was conceived by these two men independently. Mr. Hanley has been interested in many "hold-your-wheat" schemes, and is prominently associated with the farmers' elevator and various co-operative undertakings. He has long believed that if the farmers would only come to an understanding as to limiting production and agree to sell only when their price could be obtained they could easily master the situation.

SCALDED A SCORE.

Battery of Boilers in the Riverside Iron Works Explode—Loss may be \$125,000.

About 8 o'clock Friday morning a battery of two boilers, each 50 feet long, between the blast furnace and steel plant of the Riverside iron works, at Wheeling, W. Va., exploded with terrific force from a cause which has not yet been definitely fixed. The engine house of the steel plant and a wall of the blast furnace were destroyed and 20 men working in the vicinity were more or less seriously injured. The accident caused an immediate suspension of work in the various departments of the big plant, located near the boiler.

Flying ore, falling missiles and escaping steam caused the injuries to the employees.

One Pole was blown through the air 60 feet and fell beside a workman who, in describing the incident, says he thought the man fell from the clouds. Singularly enough, the laborer who was blown up was not fatally injured. Several of the victims will probably die.

The pecuniary damage will exceed \$25,000, and if the metal in the blast furnace chills there will be an additional loss of over \$100,000.

A BIG STRIKE BEGUN.

Five Thousand Maryland Miners Lay Down Their Picks.

Five thousand miners of the Georges creek, Md., region struck Wednesday night and began what promises to be a protracted struggle for an increase of wages and incidentally the recognition by the operators of the United Mine Workers of America.

The operators assert that they will not endeavor to work the mines, but will let them remain idle until the men get tired of inactivity and return to work of their own volition. On the other hand the miners claim that they are prepared to continue the contest indefinitely.

The general strike of the miners of the Georges creek coal region will seriously affect the manufacturers and plants of all kinds that use bituminous coal produced in that region. There is comparatively a small supply on hand, and it is thought that a couple of weeks idleness at the mines will cause a material increase in the price, if not cause a partial famine of that class of fuel.

Booth Gals \$200,000.

The birthday of William Booth, commander of the Salvation army, who was born at Nottingham, England, April 10, 1829, was signaled Tuesday by the receipt of hundreds of congratulatory messages from all parts of the world and the presentation of a purse of \$200,000, as the result of the collections made during the self-denial week of the army just concluded.

Cuban Teachers Welcome.

Supt. Frye, of the Cuban schools, has telegraphed to Gen. Wood, military governor of Cuba, that the president and fellows of Harvard have voted to grant \$70,000 to welcome 1,450 Cuban teachers. This action on the part of the university places the success of the enterprise beyond a shadow of a doubt.

Mr. Frye now goes to Washington to complete arrangements with Secretary Root for the transportation of the party. Five or six of the largest army transports will be needed to bring the Cuban teachers to Boston. Plans are being made to take the Cuban party to New York, Chicago and Washington.

CABLE FLASHES.

It is rumored in St. Petersburg that on the Russian Easter the czar will issue a manifesto calling on England to stop the war and threatening to occupy Herat. The czar on his visit to Moscow for the first time dispensed with his bodyguard of soldiers.

In the German town of Grunewald, Janicke, who professed to be a magician, murdered Louise Bergner by inducing her to drink a potion containing strychnine.

The Tahitian government has accepted the Oceanic Steamship Company's proposition for a steam service from San Francisco to Tahiti.

A consistory will be held Friday in Rome for the appointment of new bishops for the United States, including one at Columbus, O.

Austrians in Berlin are preparing to give a fine reception to the emperor of Austria on the occasion of his visit there May 5.

The opening of the Paris exposition is an augury of peace among the European nations for a time at least.

INDIA'S SAD STATE.

Distress Exists at Present Over an Area of 300,000 Square Miles—Aid Asked for 3,500,000 People.

The State department has made public one of the reports upon which it based its statement relative to the famine in India. This report is from Consul Fee at Bombay, who says that, notwithstanding the season of acute distress has hardly commenced, the returns far exceed those during the initial stages of the famine three years ago. It then affected only 1,000,000 persons; now the figure is 3,500,000 and the daily expenditure is placed at \$84,000. The famine area covers 300,000 square miles, with a population of 40,000,000, and there is a further area of about 145,000 square miles, with a population of 21,000,000, in which more or less distress prevails and where relief has been or will be given.

The consul says that the applications for relief are overtaking at an appalling rate, the number of applicants at the relief works during the last week in January advancing 25,000 and bringing up the total to 3,500,000, with the most trying period still two months distant.

AMERICA TO THE RESCUE.

Navy Department Takes Steps to Transport Relief to India Famine Sufferers.

The navy department is doing all in its power to relieve the famine-stricken people of India. In view of the recent decision of the comptroller of the treasury, that the unexpended amount of the sum appropriated by Congress in 1897 to charter two vessels to carry food stuffs to India, is available (Secretary Hay having decided that the present famine is a continuation of that of 1897), Judge Advocate Lemly has telegraphed Pay Director Deniston, in charge of the naval pay office at New York, to proceed with dispatch to ascertain the terms by which he could charter a vessel to carry to India the foodstuffs which have been collected.

The cargo will consist entirely of corn, thoroughly dried so as to withstand the violent changes of climate which it will undergo en route. The quantity will be about 5,000 tons, or about 100,000 bushels, representing a cost of nearly \$200,000. This amount of corn, distributed in the famine-stricken area, will save approximately 500,000 lives, according to the calculation of the promoters of the plan. The life-saving ship, the first of the relief fleet, now planned, will sail before May 1, reaching Bombay by the middle of June, just at the critical time, when food will be most needed and do the most good. The cargo thus sent on a ship authorized by our own government will be distributed by American missionaries.

MACRUM SAYS IT'S A LIE.

Charles E. Macrum, of East Liverpool, O., ex-consul to Pretoria, when seen Wednesday morning regarding the statement that Consul Adelbert Hay had failed to find any evidence of the consular mail being tampered with during Mr. Macrum's stay at Pretoria, said: "While I do not take much stock in newspaper reports, this is such a palpable perversion of the truth that it is impossible to allow the matter to pass unnoticed, as it seems to have come from the state department. This statement is on a parallel with the malicious misrepresentation which came from the same department before I reached this country. If proofs of all my charges are not on file at the consulate in Pretoria it is because they have been willfully abstracted therefrom. In short, I want to say that the statement published is a lie, nothing more or less. I have been slandered and maligned until I have become tired of it."

Soathing Criticism on War.

The London Leader says: "The reports from Boer as well as from British sources of our reverses near the Bloemfontein railway are truly lamentable. They show a distinct lack of care and leading. In the face of surprise we seem utterly without resources except reliance on luck. That is a safe card in the play, but a costly one."

"Lions led by asses" was an old description of the British army, but a description we had learned something of late years in the commissioned ranks. What light does this war throw upon that possibility?"

Lands Revert to the Crown.

Akron stockholders of the Vermillion Mining Company, incorporated in Ontario, Canada, with \$350,000 capital and holding 3,000 acres of mining property in the Sudbury district, have been notified by the Canadian government that their charter has been declared forfeited and that the lands revert to the crown.

The Vermillion Company was organized by Akron men, but the director of the Canadian Copper Company, an Anglo-American Iron Company secured a controlling interest, and the Akron men recently brought suit against the interests of the Vermillion Company were neglected.