DE VILLIERS, BOER OR BRITON?

CAPTAIN IN KHAKI ENJOYS HIMSELF IN PROVIDENCE.

Clan-na-Gael Took Him and Gave Him a Place in the St. Patrick's Day Parade—He Denounced Kitchener Violently—Question: Was He a Fraud?

PROVIDENCE, March 31.—There are a lot of members of the Clan-na-Gael in this region who are wondering if "Capt. Louis de Villiers of the South African Republic" and Lieut. de Villiers, late of Strathcona's Horse, are the same person.

Capt. Louis de Villiers, as he called himself, burst upon this community a day or two before St. Patrick's Day and promptly "made good" with the leading spirits of the Clan-na-Gael here. He was clad in khaki and had a big sword which he left at the baggage room at the railroad station. He was a great talker, was the Captain, and the Irish patriots who warmed to him immediately made quite a lion of him. They got a horse for him and gave him a leading place in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Pawtucket, which was held on Sunday and they also arranged for him to speak at the St. Patrick's Day banquet in Providence.

On Monday the Captain addressed a large audience in the Auditorium at Pawtucket, and he cursed the British and Lord Kitchener in particular, with a vehemence that startled even his audience.

"If I saw Kitchener in hell," he said, "with flames all about him and I knew that one drop of water would quench the fires, I would not lift a finger to help him."

This was about the way he talked during the short time that he was here, and those who heard him were sure that here, at last, was a man who was not an Irishman, but who hated England with more than an Irishman's hatred.

So much impressed were the local Irishmen that they set about getting up a big demonstration in the Captain's honor, but the second day of his stay he told his new friends that he had received "orders" and must go. It was impossible for him to deliver the promised lecture or participate in the other formalities arranged for him. He was a soldier and must obey his "orders." Just what the "orders" were could not be ascertained, but it was whispered that the Captain had been directed to go either to New Orleans or Washington. He had talked knowingly of privateers and British mule transports and it was the general impression that New Orleans was his place of destination.

It was a bit surprising, however, that the Boston papers of two days later should contain the Captain's picture, a story of his stirring career in South Africa, his capture by the British and subsequent escape, and also the announcement that the Captain was in Boston, khaki uniform and all, where he had made himself known to the newspapers.

Now it happened that Richard J. Barry, who took ab ut forty men from New England as recruits for the Irish Brigade in South Africa was also in Boston at the time of the Captain's visit. Mr. Barry did not receive the Captain with open arms. In fact he looked upon him with such suspicion that he decided to write to New York about him, and in this connection a well-known Irish-American at Woonsocket on Saturday received the following letter:

Consulate of the Orange Free State, South Africa, Charles B. Pierce, Consul-General.
136 LIBERTY STREET,
NEW YORK, U. S. A., March 28, 1902.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of a letter from Richard J. Barry, late of the Irish Brigade, South Africa, in which he makes request that I send you a copy of the statement made by Louis DeVilliers in our office register when he was here. I give it to you as follows:

"Lieut. de Villiers, late of Strathcona's Horse, also Kitchener's Scouts, Hotel Imperial, April 15, 1901."

To the above he adds the following:

"Veterinary Lieutenant with Lord Methuen, attached to Sixty-second R. F. A. Battery, on the march from Orange River to the relief of Kimberley, Belmont, Enslin, Magersfontein, relief of Wepener, Bethlehem, Wolvekrantz, Sunderton, march to Komati Poort, with Pole Carew and French's Brigade. Returned to Cape Colony, Victoria West; joined Kitchener's fighting scouts, fights of Schist Kraal, Klip Kraal and Bijespoort; left 130, March, 1901; arrived at New York, April 11, 1901."

CHARLES B. PIERCE,
Consul-General.

So the Irishmen who met the talkative Capt. de Villiers are wondering. If he was not what he represented himself to be they are curious as to his game. He was not after money and so far as known, he neither asked for nor received help. But he did meet many prominent members of the Clan-na-Gael and if that was his object he gained it all right. It is not supposed that he got any information aside from a knowledge of the identity of the men whom he met, but he was greeted so heartily that there is no knowing what he did learn. It goes without saying that the men who took him around here would like to have the mystery explained, for they are not happy under the circumstances.

NEW HAVEN, March 31. Members of the Clan-na-Gael in this city are aroused over the report that Capt. Louis De Villiers, with whom many of them became well acquainted during his stay of two weeks here, is a British spy, instead of a strong Boer partisan, as he represented himself to be while in New Haven.

Capt. De Villiers came to New Haven in the latter part of February and stopped at the Tontine Hotel. He is short and chunky in build, wore closely cropped whiskers and appeared most of the time in a khaki uniform and cavalry boots with spurs. He was chipper and was popular at the hotel. He didn't appear to be lavishly supplied with money.

Several of the leading Irishmen of the city called upon him. He delivered a lecture here on the Boer war, his remarks against the English Government in its treatment of the Boers being especially strong. He told a story while in New Haven that Great Britain had offered a reward of $1,000 for his capture. One night in returning to his hotel he was mistaken for a burglar by two policemen, who pursued him. He turned on his pursuers and drawing a revolver that he always carried he shouted:

"Come on! I'll sell my life dearly."

The policemen saw their mistake and while they put away their revolvers they told the Captain to put up his handkerchiefs as they called the sheriff. It is said that Capt. De Villiers is in this country to keep an eye on the American Boer sympathizers in a general way but more especially to decide the time to disarming what the Irishmen in the United States are doing to help the Irish revolutionary party in Ireland, and to learn all he can of the secrets of the Clan-na-Gael.

Back after he arrived in New Haven he tried to find out all the Irishmen concerning the visit of Dan Feeney, the Boer representative, who delivered a lecture here and who went to New Orleans to plead against the shipment of horses and mules to the British troops in South Africa. Dan Cody, the Clipper sympathizer, also passing this way, had been in conference with the Tontine here on his visit to Washington.

By way of explanation the Captain said that he had been serving in the Boer army in South Africa and that before the war he was military aide of the South African Republic at the time of the Raiders' invasion. He said he had lost his property in the war and was left penniless by the Boers. He said he had been injured by his horse and was lame in consequence. There was some talk among the men of his acquaintance of presenting a purse to the poor fellow, but he declined and refused him.

It was further said that he received letters of introduction to Irish leaders and patriots in other cities. One of these letters left with the heads of a member of the Provisional Board of the Clan-na-Gael and very soon afterwards one of the New Haven men began to understand that there was something decidedly wrong. A letter from the Governing Board of it was sent informed the New Haveners that they had given to a British spy scores of introduction to Irish revolutionists all over the country. Coupling with this information the story goes, was a rebuke for their carelessness. Then the local patriots started in to recall the secrecy of the leading Irishmen of the city called upon him. He delivered a lecture here on the Boer war, his remarks against the English Government in its treatment of the Boers being especially strong. He told a story while in New Haven that Great Britain had offered a reward of $1,000 for his capture. One night in returning to his hotel he was mistaken for a burglar by two policemen, who pursued him. He turned on his pursuers and drawing a revolver that he always carried he shouted:

"Come on! I'll sell my life dearly."

The policemen saw their mistake and while they put away their revolvers they told the Captain to put up his handkerchiefs as they called the sheriff. It is said that Capt. De Villiers is in this country to keep an eye on the American Boer sympathizers in a general way but more especially to decide the time to disarming what the Irishmen in the United States are doing to help the Irish revolutionary party in Ireland, and to learn all he can of the secrets of the Clan-na-Gael.

Back after he arrived in New Haven he tried to find out all the Irishmen concerning the visit of Dan Feeney, the Boer representative, who delivered a lecture here and who went to New Orleans to plead against the shipment of horses and mules to the British troops in South Africa. Dan Cody, the Clipper sympathizer, also passing this way, had been in conference with the Tontine here on his visit to Washington.

By way of explanation the Captain said that he had been serving in the Boer army in South Africa and that before the war he was military aide of the South African Republic at the time of the Raiders' invasion. He said he had lost his property in the war and was left penniless by the Boers. He said he had been injured by his horse and was lame in consequence. There was some talk among the men of his acquaintance of presenting a purse to the poor fellow, but he declined and refused him.

It was further said that he received letters of introduction to Irish leaders and patriots in other cities. One of these letters left with the heads of a member of the Provisional Board of the Clan-na-Gael and very soon afterwards one of the New Haveners began to understand that there was something decidedly wrong. A letter from the Governing Board of it was sent informed the New Haveners that they had given to a British spy scores of introduction to Irish revolutionists all over the country. Coupling with this information the story goes, was a rebuke for their carelessness. Then the local patriots started in to recall the secrecy of the leading Irishmen of the

"OLD TOM" DOUGHERTY DEAD.

For Years Watchman of Shot Tower and Sixth Ward Politician.

"Old Tom" Dougherty, the watchman of the shot tower at 63 Centre street, died early yesterday morning at his home, 483 Pearl street, of heart failure, after a four weeks' illness.

"Old Tom" was born and bred in the Sixth ward and lived and worked in it all his life. From the time he came of age thirty-five years ago, he had been an ardent ward politician in the Democratic ranks and yet he never asked for or held a political job.

He was, furthermore, a man who had nothing but kind words for any one. His dimensions were almost the same, whether measured lengthwise or crosswise. He weighed about 250 pounds, although he was little more than five feet tall.

"Old Tom" was born at the corner of Pearl street and what was then Orange, now Baxter street, where his father kept a small grocery store. While a boy he went to work for the lead company that was the predecessor of the Colwell Lead Company, at 63 Centre street. At first he drove a team, then he was made night watchman and in that position he remained till his death. During all those years "Old Tom" missed only one night—the one that followed the day of his wedding.

Every night he climbed to the top of the 180-foot shot tower, turning the keys of an automatic register as he went along. It would be a fatiguing trip to a younger and lighter man, but "Old Tom" insisted on making it to the last, in spite of the warnings of physicians who told him he had a weak heart.

The shot tower was the second iron structure, erected in the 50s by James Bogardus, the American inventor, who revolutionized building. The tower, and "Old Tom," too, at one time, when executions were performed in the inner courtyard of the old Tombs, were dragged into the service of the press. To hasten the news of executions into the newspaper offices "Old Tom" was stationed at the top of the tower from where he could look down into the prison yard, and he waved an American flag as the drop fell. Reporters with marine glasses, were watching him from the windows of their offices, no high buildings intervening at that time and the moment the culprit swung from the gallows the fact was known in the offices of the newspapers.

PATRICK MARRIED IN TOMBS.

He and His Former Landlady, Mrs. Francis, Sign a Contract.

The contract between Albert T. Patrick and Mrs. Addie M. Francis, who were married secretly on Sunday in the Tombs, was filed at the City Clerk's office yesterday afternoon. Mr. Scully took exception to the wording that the marriage occurred "at the corner of Centre and Leonard streets," but finally concluded that it was sufficiently definite.

Warden Flynn denied yesterday having any knowledge of the marriage of Sunday, and Patrick himself refused to say whether he had been married or not. Mrs. Francis's lawyer and Patrick's sister, however, admitted that the ceremony had been performed.

The contract was drawn up on Saturday afternoon by Lawyer S. B. Thomas. He, Mrs. Francis, Capt. H. D. Patrick and Miss Emma Patrick, father and sister of the prisoner, went to the Tombs on Sunday afternoon at about 3 o'clock. The party met Patrick in the matron's room and while she was busy with her own work Patrick and Mrs. Francis signed the marriage contract, which was drawn up under a new law. The father and sister then signed as witnesses. By reason of their marriage, Mrs. Patrick may now see her husband two hours daily in Sing Sing.

Albert T. Patrick was a widower with two children. He is 35 years old. Mrs. Patrick was a widow with a son, who is in the Klondike. Patrick was a boarder at her house, at 316 West Fifty-eighth street, up to the time of his arrest for the murder of millionaire William M. Rice.

The personal estate left by William Marsh Rice was assessed at $3,000,000 for taxes. John P. O'Brien, an executor named in the will of 1896, had the amount reduced at the tax office yesterday to $1,764,000, which he said was all the taxable estate.

PRAYED FOR CZOLGOSZ.

The Rev. Mr. Sweetser Didn't Pray for McKinley—He's Been Told to Go.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—The congregation of the Universalist Church of the Messiah, at Broad street and Montgomery avenue, was surprised yesterday when the Rev. Edwin C. Sweetser, pastor announced at the morning service that the vestrymen had peremptorily asked for his resignation. Mr. Sweetser said that the congregation would have to decide the question, and that the whole matter leading up to the request for the resignation would be placed before a general meeting.

So great was the surprise that cries of "Shame!" and "Outrage!" were distinctly audible from some parts of the crowded auditorium. Mr. Sweetser has a large number of friends in the congregation, especially among the younger element.

The friction between the pastor and his vestrymen is said to have culminated in open rupture at the time of the assassination of President McKinley. After the arrest of Czolgosz Pastor Sweetser is said to have made a fervent prayer for the young assassin, while he refused to pray for the dying President. It is also said that the Rev. Mr. Sweetser refused to hold memorial services or to eulogize McKinley after his death.

In consequence, his resignation was requested quietly. Last week, the resignation not having been sent in, it was peremptorily demanded by a vote of 9 to 4. The Church of the Messiah is the leading Universalist church in the State. George C. Thomas of Tulpehocken is treasurer of the vestry and one of the oldest members of the congregation.

CITY OF BAYONNE ENJOINED.

Pennsylvania Road Prevented Arrest of Workmen Who Were Building Bridge.

A permanent injunction was granted by Vice-Chancellor Pitney in Jersey City yesterday restraining the City of Bayonne from interfering with the construction of a bridge by the Pennsylvania Railroad over Avenue D. The original complaint secured an order in the Court of Chancery several weeks ago permitting it to put the bridge on the line of its new freight road.

While work was in progress several workmen were arrested on a charge of creating a disturbance by blocking the street with building material.

THIEVES IN A CHURCH.

Foil Horse Factor Flannery and Destroy Prayer and Hymn Books.

Thieves broke into St. Thomas's Episcopal Church in the Ravenswood section, Long Island City, on Monday night. They searched the office from one end to the other and not finding anything of value, proceeded to do all the damage they could. The Easter floral decorations were strewn about the floor and the organ and some books were torn and tossed about.

Hebrew Actors Who Had Name.

The Hebrew Actors Union, which recently raised its initiation fee to $100, which was supposed to be practically prohibitive, reported yesterday that five non-union actors had each paid the new initiation fee and joined the union. The union also reported that the three Hebrew theatres which are now running on the East Side are not enough for the theatre-going people of that district and that a fourth is to be established.

Heads Up!

When you wear the Hackett-Carhart Clothing. It is as brimful of style and quality as can be. If you know you are dressed right and your clothes fit you, you'll not lack confidence in any of your undertakings.

All Broadway cars pass our stores.

Drop in and take a glance at our $22 & $25 Sack Suits and Silk Lined Overcoats.

You know a **Hat** goes with the head—**ours are right and $3.00**, not $5.00.

Hackett, Carhart & Co.

Three BROADWAY Stores: 841 Cor. 13th St. | 420 Cor. Canal St. | 265 Near Chambers St.

VAN WORMER BOYS ON TRIAL.

The Three Brothers Who Were Indicted for the Murder of Farmer Hallenbeck.

HUDSON, N. Y., March 31.—Five jurors were secured to-day to try the three Van Wormer boys on the charge of murder in the first degree, in accordance with the indictment found against them for the killing of Peter A. Hallenbeck on Dec. 24, 1901. Judge J. Rider Cady, counsel for the Van Wormers, took exception to the arraignment of the three without young Harvey Bruce, who is indicted with them and who has made a confession. The people, he contended, had no right to separate the cases. After argument the District Attorney moved the trial of the four. George K. Daly, on behalf of Bruce, then demanded a separate trial. This was granted and Bruce was taken back to his cell.

As a panel of only thirty-six jurors had been drawn, the Court ordered that 100 more be drawn at once. Talesmen, one after another, were excused on the grounds of having formed opinions which could not be changed and also by reason of being prejudiced against the infliction of the death penalty.

Clarence J. Simmons of Ancram was the first to take a place in the jury box. He had formed an opinion from reading newspapers, but believed he could render a verdict according to the evidence. He was accepted. Nicholas Pulver, a farmer of Austerlitz, was accepted as the second juror. He said he was not opposed to capital punishment and would not hesitate to find a verdict of guilty if convinced that the evidence warranted it. Frank Snyder of Hillsdale, George M. Relyea of Claverack and Philander Reynolds of Chatham were also accepted.

The Van Wormers were dressed exactly alike, each of them being attired in neat new suits of black, with black ties and immaculate white collars. They looked more like Sunday school scholars than murderers as they sat grouped about their counsel. Bruce was also neatly clothed.

NEW SCHWAB NICKEL CO.

Ten-Million Bond Issue Expected—Maybe A. Moneli Will Be President.

It was stated in Wall Street yesterday that A. Moneli, the metallurgist of the Carnegie Steel Company, is likely to be elected President of the new International Nickel Company, which was incorporated under New Jersey laws last week to hold a controlling interest in the stock of the Orford Copper Company and of the Canadian Copper Company and an interest in the Nickel Corporation of London. Besides the company's $24,000,000 of stock, divided equally between common and 6 per cent. non-cumulative preferred shares, the company, it was reported yesterday, will issue $10,000,000 of bonds bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. and running for thirty years.

Col. Robert M. Thompson, President of the Orford Copper Company, who, with Charles M. Schwab, President of the United States Steel Corporation, was chiefly instrumental in the formation of the International Nickel Company, was reelected President of the New York Metal Exchange at the annual election of that exchange yesterday. Other exchange officials elected were: Vice-President, Adolph Lewisohn; Treasurer, Charles S. Trench; managers, B. Hochschild, H. H. Hendricks, I. Nachmann, Julius H. Lobdell, Jesse Lewisohn, William Jay Ives, George W. Jaques and J. H. Lang.

SUES MILLIONAIRE FOR DIVORCE.

Says Persch Went Back to the Other Woman After Two Days of Forgiveness.

Flora L. Persch has obtained from Justice Greenbaum of the Supreme Court an order for publication of a summons on John Peter Persch in a suit for absolute divorce. She alleges that he is a millionaire; that he has squandered much money on the woman with whom he is living in Paris, and that he had settled an estate in Canada on this woman. The parties to the case married in 1878 at New Haven, Conn., and have four children, whose ages run from 23 to 16 years.

Mrs. Persch alleged that her husband met a Miss Greta Peters, otherwise known as Thurlow, in Columbus, Ohio, in February, 1898, and that he has since maintained this woman and neglected his family. There was a reconciliation between husband and wife at Atlantic City on Dec. 25, 1899, which was brought about after the husband had promised to give up Miss Peters. It is stated that after two days Persch returned to Miss Peters.

Mrs. Persch says the property of her husband is in personalty, which he has removed from the State. She puts his income at $150,000 a year. When he learned that this present action was about to be brought, she says, he left for Europe last Thanksgiving Day and he has not returned. His daughter received a letter two weeks ago from him dated at Paris, which she showed to her mother.

U. S. STEEL'S YEAR'S EARNINGS.

Figures Expected After the Monthly Board Meeting Tuesday.

After to-day's regular monthly meeting of the directors of the United States Steel Corporation, the figures of earnings for the past quarter (with earnings for March estimated) are likely to be made public. The fiscal year of the steel corporation ended yesterday, so that an idea of the first year's total business will be obtainable by relating to the statements of the other quarters previously made public. The formal announcement of the fiscal conclusion, too, if it was stated yesterday, may not be made for several days yet.

Drowned Man's Body Mistaken for Mother's.

The body of a well dressed man which had been in the Morgue since March 21, when it was found in the East River at Pier 1, Brooklyn, was identified yesterday as that of Mrs. Emma Meyer, who lived at 1 Lexington avenue, Jersey City Heights. The body had been in the water ever so long that it was badly decomposed. It was taken to Jersey City for burial.

Approaching Rings a Marriage.

Miss Anna Hedgpeth was to have married on Monday Atwood Backus, a young grocer, at her home, 347 Bushwick avenue, but owing to a sudden attack of appendicitis on Saturday, the wedding had to be postponed indefinitely, and she was removed to the Bushwick Hospital.

Threw Himself in Front of a Train.

TAUNTON, Mass., March 31.—By throwing himself in front of a passenger train on the New Haven Railroad near Middleborough Junction this morning, Peter Rochon of Lawrence, an inmate of the Taunton Insane Asylum, ended his life. He was 50 years old and a widower.

MOONSHINE IN BABY'S CRIB.

Shapiro Domicile Sheltered 150 Gallons of Harlem Whiskey.

Internal Revenue Agent Thompson arrested Nathan Shapiro yesterday on a technical charge of violating the internal revenue laws by selling liquors without having paid the special $25 tax.

Shapiro, who lives at 195-97 Broome street, was arrested there and was sent to the Ludlow Street Jail in default of bail. According to Agent Thompson, he acted as a receiver for moonshine whiskey made in an illicit distillery, recently raided, on Pleasant avenue, and used his living rooms as a sort of bonded warehouse.

At any rate, Thompson and his deputies found in the place about 150 gallons of high-proof moonshine whiskey, most of it being "kosher," or manufactured for Jews by Jews. Of these 150 gallons, twenty-five were found hidden in a cradle in which Shapiro's baby was sleeping. The rest of the stuff was concealed under beds, in trunks and up the chimney.

When the revenue men announced their intentions of placing Shapiro under arrest, Mrs. Shapiro managed to detain the officers while her husband sought escape through a back door, only to fall into the hands of another revenue officer. Thompson and his men then seized the whiskey and departed with their prisoner.

The revenue agent says that he believes Shapiro sold the whiskey regularly to pedlers in small quantities. Shapiro says that a man called "Yosel" called on him on Thursday last with the 150 gallons of liquor and asked him to keep it. "Yosel," by the way, is the name by which the reputed proprietor of the Pleasant avenue still was known. He is still at large.

TO SHIFT FIREMEN LIKE POLICE.

Commissioner Sturgis Announces a New Policy, Which the Men Don't Like a Bit.

Fire Commissioner Sturgis, in accordance with a plan he announced several days ago, issued orders yesterday to all of the officers and firemen in Manhattan, The Bronx and Brooklyn to appear before the Board of Surgeons for examination as to their fitness to continue in service. Those men who are found on examination to be unfit for service by reason of advanced age or physical defects will be retired on half pay. Such an extended examination has not been made in the department in seven years.

The Commissioner also announced that he proposed to make a radical change in the administration of the department by transferring officers and men from one borough to another, whenever he thinks the good of the service requires it. This is to equalize the work, he says. The firemen did a lot of talking among themselves when they heard of this.

"We don't like the idea of being sent from our homes in Manhattan to the potato patches in the suburbs of Long Island City or Brooklyn any more than the police liked being transferred from place to place," said one of them.

W. C. Whitney's Nephew Fined for Scorching.

Ashbel H. Barney of 67 Park avenue, who is a son of Charles T. Barney, the banker, and a nephew of William C. Whitney, was fined $5 in the Yorkville police court yesterday on the charge of running his automobile on Madison avenue near Fifty-ninth street at a speed greater than the law permits. Policeman Leazenbee said the machine was going twelve miles an hour.

NOW PRODUCING OIL

The North American Crude Oil Company of Kansas City Brings in a Gusher at Beaumont.

EQUAL TO ANY ON THE FIELD.

Recently Tested by Officers of the Company and Found to be a Wonderful Oil Producer.

The North American Crude Oil Company of Kansas City, Mo., has oil—millions of barrels of it. Its first well to produce is located on Spindle Top, Beaumont, Texas, and is a gusher of the first class, equalling in production any well located in the world's greatest oil field.

President W. C. Renfrow, Secretary A. S. Kimberly, General Manager M. F. Brown and Mr. Ed G. Sheldon of the North American Crude Oil Company, were in Beaumont this week for the purpose of inspecting the well and to make arrangements for marketing the product. They consider the Company peculiarly fortunate in obtaining such a perfect well and large producer as a result of the first drilling.

The North American Crude Oil Company was organized less than six months ago and has made rapid progress in the development of very extensive and valuable holdings in land and gusher on Spindle Top are valued in the simple [illegible] company is in splendid condition and the company is considering investing in several new fields. The [illegible] in California, operating over five thousand acres of oil lands, have increased [illegible] in value and an offer of $1,000,000 has been made for its well holdings at the Delta and a number of others. The well in Beaumont is about one hundred feet and [illegible] indicate a producer. The general operating organization for the Company are in the field, or in route are well-known men of the marketing organization, in [illegible] of long years of great success in marketing. The stock in the North American Crude Oil Company is offered at $100 share par value, [illegible] Company will undoubtedly [illegible] [illegible] Company [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]