

*New York Herald*  
February 28, 1900

***Awful All Night Fight at Pieters***

***Richard Harding Davis Describes the Attempt to Take Railway Hill on the Way to Ladysmith  
in Which Hundreds Were Killed and Wounded***

***British Men Exposed to Savage Cross Fire***

***Relief Given in the Morning When the Boer Bombardment of Kopjes Was Continued Without  
Pause, but with Little Effect***

*London, Wednesday—The Daily Mail publishes this dispatch from its special  
correspondent, Richard Harding Davis—*

Pieters, Feb. 24, 1900.—Last night the Inniskilling Fusiliers, mixed with some of the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaught Rangers, attempted to carry Railway Hill from Pieters. They were under a continuous fire, through which they passed up the heavy broken ground to the first Boer trench. Half way up the hill the Boers retreated to the crest, and then came back on either flank of the Irish troops, enfilading the captured trench with a savage cross as well as a direct fire.

All night and until nine o'clock in the morning our men held the position under a ceaseless fire and at terrible cost. At roll call only five officers and one hundred men answered to their names.

Colonel Thackerey and Major Sanders, of the Inniskillings; Colonel Sitwell, of the Dublin Fusiliers; Captain Maitland, of the Second Gordons, and Colonel Thorold, of the Welsh Fusiliers, were killed. Two hundred and fifty-two of the rank and file were killed or wounded.

General Lyttleton's brigade relieved them at ten o'clock this morning, when the Boer artillery pounded the troops holding the centre kopjes without pause, but with little effect.

*(Source: FultonHistory.com*

*<http://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2014/New%20York%20NY%20Herald/New%20York%20NY%20Herald%201900/New%20York%20NY%20Herald%201900%20-%201606.pdf>)*