

KRUGER COULDN'T STOP THE FLYING BOERS.

British Now Pushing Ahead on the Road to Bloemfontein.

BULLER TO REMAIN IN NATAL.

Gen. White Goes to Stormberg and Gen. Hunter for Tenth Division.

Kruger Addresses Free State Burglers—Many Boers Found Killed by the Fumes of Lyddite—Great Fear That Mafeking Will Have to Surrender—Two Canadians Seriously Ill With Fever—Boer Commanders for Natal—Pretoria Boer Women to Form Home Guard—Canadians and Highlanders Capture a Krupp Gun.

Poplar Grove, March 7, 2.30 p.m.—The Boers, who were holding positions extending for 10 miles along the kopjes and ridges south of the Modder river, where they were carefully and skilfully entrenched, evacuated their ground after a few hours' desultory shelling, when they saw eight thousand British cavalry and forty-two guns moving rapidly south between them and their reinforcements, without whom it was impossible for them to hold their long, irregular position. The force that was isolated between General French and the river, probably did not exceed five thousand men.

The British attack worked exactly as it was planned, and it has resulted in the British taking over eighteen miles of Orange Free State territory with small casualties. The splendid weather had improved the roads, and this helped the success of the movement.

The troops began to move Tuesday. Gen. French re-crossed the river in the afternoon and bivouacked in front of Osofontein. At three o'clock Wednesday morning the troops moved south, and marched for four miles, where they rested until it was daylight. Then the march was resumed, the force moving eastward.

The Boers, from their south position on a group of kopjes called the Seven Sisters, delivered an ineffective shrapnel fire, the cavalry turning further south over a grassy ridge to Kalkfontein. From this place they moved three miles east, and then wheeled north behind the Boers.

Meanwhile, in response to the shelling from the kopjes, the artillery dropped a few common shells into the Boer laager at a range of 7,300 yards. The laager was located among the Seven Sisters, and the British fire brought out a score of wagons and some hundred horsemen helter-skelter northward across the ridge.

The navy guns at 5.50 a.m. had given the signal for the infantry to advance. The ninth division, including the Canadians, under Gen. Sir H. E. Colville, moved along the north bank of the river, and the seventh division, under Gen. Tucker, moved along the south bank, both marching in parallel lines.

The Boers retreated before the artillery fire. The sixth division had worked south on Gen. French's rear flank. The entire Boer position became untenable and threatened to become a second Paarlberg. The occupants hastened seven miles east under a rear guard fight. At midday the 12th Lancers tried to charge, but their horses were not equal to the task.

Gen. French had gone twenty miles south. He swept the snipers and occasionally a gun before him, but there was never a stand up resistance.

The British are holding from Poplar Grove almost as far east as Abraham's kraal. The Guard's Brigade, with Gen. Roberts, occupies the centre position, where there is a great force of mounted infantry, including the colonial and volunteer contingents. These did smart work in drawing the kopjes before the general advance.

In the Boer retreat a Cape cart containing the Russian and Dutch military attaches to the Boer army broke down. The attaches are now in the British camp. The British losses were probably under 50.

An examination of Boer rifle pits and gun embrasures shows that it was intended to make a great defence with a large force. The works, however, remained practically unused, daylight showing the Boers that those intended for frontal resistance were useless in view of the position of the British cavalry.

Gen. Delarey commanded the Boers. Gens. Botha and De Wet, with their commands, were unable to join him. The half-heartedness of the resistance of the Orange Free State Boers is undeniable.

The Ninth Division, including the Canadians, captured a Krupp gun on top of a kopje.

Cavalry Moved Too Quick.
London, March 9.—The significance of General Roberts' flanking movement is not yet evident, and it is not known whether or where the Boers reconcentrated.

The Morning Standard's correspondent at Poplar Grove says that the movements of the mounted troops were too rapid for the supporting infantry, and, consequently, the Boer position was turned before the main body could strike effectively.

The Boers' fleeing extended to the southeast. They checked the cavalry's

advance with a heavy rifle fire, delivered at a range of 800 yards. Gen. French accordingly, moved further south and again outflanked the enemy, but the Boers repeated their former tactics and escaped. Gen. French pursued them, driving them back fifteen miles.

As regards subsequent events nothing is known beyond what is contained in Gen. Roberts' despatch to the War Office.

98 Boers Killed by Lyddite.

Durban, Natal, March 7. — Lieut. Anderton, who commanded a section of the Natal Naval Volunteers at Ladysmith, has arrived here. In the course of an interview he said that towards the close of the Pieter's hill engagement the naval guns threw lyddite shells on a kopje 2,500 yards distant. When the place was evacuated by the Boers he visited the trenches and counted therein 98 Boers who had been killed by the concussion of the lyddite, not one of them having a wound of any kind.

Lieut. Anderton declared that the fumes of the lyddite turned the hair and beards of the dead men to a peculiar greenish hue, while the color of the skin was a strange yellow.

Fifty-two Boers were captured in one of the trenches. They were unable to flee, having been paralyzed by their fear of the lyddite shells.

Kruger Couldn't Stop It.

London, March 9.—Both Presidents have been very active during the past few days in encouraging the burghers. President Kruger only returned to Pretoria from Natal on March 3rd. He then hastened to Bloemfontein, from which city he proceeded with President Steyn to hearten the fighting line facing Gen. Roberts.

A correspondent at Poplar Grove telegraphs that President Kruger was far in the rear on March 7th. He tried to arrest the flight of the burghers, but the retreaters refused to stay. The Bloemfontein police also vainly tried to stop the retreat.

The correspondents continue to state that the Free State Boers are tired of the war, and that they are hostile to President Steyn.

A despatch from Poplar Grove camp to-day says that Gen. French is still pursuing the Boers. He is now near Abraham's kraal, and only twenty miles from Bloemfontein.

Three Years for a Spy.
London, March 9.—An elderly Russian Jew named Benjamin Sipont, who is alleged to be a naturalized American citizen, has been sentenced at Kimberley to three years' imprisonment at hard labor for signalling to the Boers from a house-top during the siege. His plea of insanity was rejected.

The Situation in Natal.

London, March 9.—A despatch to the Daily News from Ladysmith, dated March 7th, reports that Gen. Buller's force is now ready to advance after a much-needed rest, but its future employment is unknown.

Some readjustment of the commands is being arranged, and, according to the Standard's correspondent, General White is going to Stormberg, while Gen. Hunter will be given command of the tenth division. Gen. White and Gen. Hunter, by the way, were unable to attend the reception to the Governor of Natal owing to indisposition.

Col. Ward, whom Gen. White the other day described as the best commissariat officer since Moses, will join Gen. Roberts.

The naval brigade, with the guns that saved Ladysmith, has gone south.

Repairs to the railway as far as Colenso are nearly completed. It is expected that passenger traffic will be resumed on Saturday, but it will take some time to complete the temporary bridge across the Tugela River.

It is announced from the Boer side that the Biggarsberg mountains are strongly entrenched, indicating that the apex of the Natalian triangle north of Dundee and Glencoe is still in their hands.

A despatch from the Boer Hoofdlager at Glencoe records that a general council of war, held on March 5th, appointed Louis Botha lieutenant-general for Natal, with Lucas Meyer Schalkburger, David Joubert, Daniel Erasmus, and Fourie as assistant generals. The appointments are thoroughly endorsed by the

burghers. That such prominent leaders will be in Natal is taken to show that a large part of the army remains to guard the southern mountain barrier to the Transvaal. A British report states that the Boers are strongly massed at Nelson's kop behind the Drakensberg mountains.

De Wet's Appeal.

Lorenzo Marquez, March 8.—The Pretoria newspapers state that Commandant De Wet's report announcing the surrender of Gen. Cronje recommended the burghers not to upbraid him, but to remain silent before the Lord in this hour of their trial. He added: "Let us trust that God will strengthen our officers and burghers and give them a better conception of their duty to Him and the Government."

Female Home Guard.

Pretoria, S. A. R., March 6, noon, via Lorenzo Marquez.—A very hopeful view of the situation is entertained here. Notwithstanding the reports of Boer reverses, the patriotic spirit of the people shows no diminution, and everyone is willing to give his services to aid the Government.

A number of Boer women have offered to form a home guard in order to enable the burghers who are now performing that duty to proceed to the front.

Will Mafeking Surrender?

London, March 9.—The situation at Mafeking is causing extreme anxiety here. There is no detailed news from the garrison later than Feb. 19th, and that is of the most depressing character, while despatches from Pretoria, though brief, are written in language indicating that the Boers have strong hopes of capturing the town. One of these, dated March 7th, stated that the burghers have captured all the outside forts except one. There is little to encourage the British people, except the hope that the garrison will be speedily relieved. The latest accounts show that Col. Pinner's force is held in check by the enemy

seriously ill at Wynberg of enteric fever. Private F. B. Irwin, of the 8th Batt., Quebec, is also reported to be seriously ill of fever.

Celebration at Ladysmith.

London, March 9.—The Times has the following special to-day: Ladysmith, March 7.—The Governor of Natal to-day addressed the inhabitants and read the Queen's message, thanking them for their loyalty and the splendid defence of the town. Gen. Buller was present, and a salute was fired. The Powerful's contingent left to-day for Durban. The hardness of the fighting from the 14th to the 28th Feb. is shown by the list of casualties, showing 110 officers, including six battalion commanders, and 1,500 men killed and wounded.

London, March 9.—From various quarters come signs of the possibility of peace in South Africa being shortly within the bounds of practical politics. All the despatches from Lord Roberts' headquarters, including those of the commander-in-chief himself, indicate the lack of a guiding spirit among the Boers and individual demoralization, portending disintegration unless speedily stemmed.

INGLORIOUS FLIGHT.

The flight of the burghers from Poplar Grove, according to all accounts, was wholly inglorious. A Times despatch from Poplar Grove, under yesterday's date, goes so far as to assert that the Boers' rout was so complete that the submission of the Free State is being demanded by the burghers from their unwilling President, and it is said their submission will be made within a week.

"Probably the Boers' wisest course was flight, but it was most unglorious, and it is certain to produce consternation at Bloemfontein. There is a growing outcry against any further identification of the Free State with the Transvaal's interests."

KRUGER'S GUFF.

Despatches from the Boer camp at Glencoe, via Lorenzo Marquez, depict President Kruger as donning a bandolier, seizing a rifle and in-

to retain the independence of the Transvaal could be considered for a moment by the British Government.

The Prince of Wales this morning inspected Page's horse and Dunraven's sharpshooters, attached to the Imperial Yeomanry, prior to their departure for South Africa.

A WARM WELCOME.

Given Ladysmith's Naval Defenders at Durban.

Durban, March 8.—The naval brigade from Ladysmith arrived to-day in command of Captain Lambton.



LORD LONDONDALÉ, Who Brought the British Relief Corps to Ladysmith.

They number about two hundred and were enthusiastically received. The railway station was lined with men from H. M. S. Terrible, and the meeting of comrades caused many touching scenes. When the gunners who played such an important part in the defence of Ladysmith marched down the street headed by the band and flags of the Terrible, and carrying the tattered Union Jack from the H. M. S. Powerful, which had flown throughout the siege of Ladysmith, the cheering was tumultuous. The crowd which assembled was of immense proportions.

Lunch was prepared and served in a shed adjacent to the railway station, and the men ate heartily. The majority of them looked well, but showed signs of the rough work and fatigue they had undergone. Their uniforms bore many tokens of wear and tear. After lunch, headed by Captain Percy Scott, the naval commandant at Durban, the men marched to the place of embarkation for Simonstown.

Kruger and Steyn Failed.

London, March 9.—The War Office has received the following from Lord Roberts: Poplar Grove, Friday morning.—Presidents Kruger and Steyn were both present at the fight of March 7th, and did all in their power to rally the troops. The rout, however, was complete, the men declaring that they would not stand against the British artillery and such a formidable force of cavalry.

Leyds Denounces "Bogus News."

Berlin, March 9.—Dr. Leyds, the Transvaal diplomatic agent, has issued a protest from Brussels against "bogus news," purporting to emanate from him. He singles out a prominent Berlin paper as an offender.

FAME'S HONOR ROLL.

The grief that news of the death of eight and the wounding of thirty more Canadians in South Africa will cause will be tempered by the knowledge that they fell gloriously in a charge which convinced Gen. Cronje that resistance to an army of such stuff as they were made of was useless. But to the families of those stricken the pang will be more lasting. There is a high degree of nobility and heroism in the parent who, like Mr. Johnston, of West Lambton, can bear up under the blow of his son's loss, comforting himself with the reflection: "Surely it was a glorious death!" But all are not so Spartan, and even to such as he the sorrow is one of a lifetime. To those who lose dear ones in the struggle the great Canadian heart will go out. War is horrid; that most of us appreciate, even when we feel it to be inevitable, and is not to be entered upon lightly. Those who went to the front to serve their country did not hesitate to take all the risks. They have so far nobly acquitted themselves, and have won encomiums from their commanding officer, of which veterans might well be proud. Those who fell have not given their lives in vain.

The casualty list to date has the following:
Killed on Feb. 18..... 19
Killed on Feb. 27..... 5
Died from disease..... 8
Total dead..... 32
Wounded on Feb. 18..... 63
Wounded on Feb. 20..... 4
Wounded on Feb. 27..... 30
Total wounded..... 97

Canadians did not expect their sons to win honor without sacrifice; but each family represented probably thought theirs would not be the one taken. In the sorrow of the relatives of the dead and wounded their countrymen share; and not only their countrymen in Canada but those of that greater empire of which we are proud to be a part, and in whose responsibilities we have voluntarily sought a share.

TITLED BRITONS WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED.



VICTOR CAVENDISH, M. P., Son of the Duke of Devonshire.



LORD WOLVERTON.

seventy miles north of Mafeking, and nothing is known of the march of the supposed relieving column from Kimberley. The despatch from the correspondent at Pretoria, reporting that firing had been heard from Bloemhof, possibly indicates that the Kimberley column has advanced, and engaged the Boers between Kimberley and the Vaal River.

There is a suggestion barely amounting to a hope that a column left Kimberley as soon as that place was relieved, and is now well on its way to Mafeking. Failing this, the dire straits to which the garrison is known to have been reduced three weeks ago, by lack of food must apparently grow worse, until famine renders the defenders helpless.

Kruger's Fervid Appeal.

Bloemfontein, Natal, March 6, 1 p.m., via Lorenzo Marquez.—Among the Boer artillery officers who were killed while fighting under General Cronje was Lieut. von Dertuz, a German, who was extremely popular.

President Kruger, of the Transvaal, was given a most enthusiastic reception upon his arrival here. He made a rousing speech to the burghers, who cheered him again and again. He said:

"Although God is testing our people, my personal opinion is that the limit of the test is nearly reached. If the people are sustained by faith in the time of adversity God will soon again turn the tide in our favor. If we have strong faith in God He will surely deliver us. The God of deliverance of the olden time is the same God now."

The speech of the venerable President brought tears to the eyes of men and women alike. The Free State Volkslied (National Anthem) was then sung. The visit of President Kruger has cheered the despondents.

He is presently visiting the commandoes south of Bloemfontein. Much satisfaction is expressed in all circles at the courtesies extended to Gen. Cronje by the British.

Presidents Want Peace.

Rome, March 8.—The Agenzia Libera announces that the Italian Consul at Pretoria has telegraphed to his Government that President Kruger and President Steyn are prepared to accept peace on the basis of the status quo ante bellum, and that they request the intervention of the powers to bring about that end.

Two Canadians Ill.

Ottawa, March 8.—A cable has been received stating that Corporal Grant, of the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, is

viting volunteers to accompany him, as he wished to have a shot at the enemy himself.

President Kruger is quoted as having declared in his address to the troops that he "did not know whether arbitration or intervention would end the struggle, but that it would end quickly, within the next month, he strongly believed."

MOVING FORWARD.

In the meanwhile, the British are not staying their advance. Lord Roberts has moved ten miles nearer Bloemfontein, evidently with the view of seizing and utilizing the railway. With this he could reach the Free State capital in three or four days and begin repairing the railroad southward to meet the British advance from Cape Colony, which is expected to be hastened as soon as Gen. White takes control.

The British occupied Jamestown unopposed on Thursday, March 8th, and the Boers are reported to be retreating beyond Alwal North, so Cape Colony is practically clear of armed Boers.

REINFORCEMENTS FROM NATAL.
Gen. Buller and some artillery have already been ordered to join the commander-in-chief, who is preparing for all eventualities, including possible desperate opposition to his crossing the Vaal River and the necessity of the siege of Pretoria. Thousands of natives are reported to be employed at the Transvaal capital in the construction of defensive works, concerning which such secrecy is maintained that no one is allowed to walk or drive on the outskirts of the town.

Kruger Seeks Delay.

London, March 9, 5.10 p.m.—It was learned late this afternoon that peace rumors had been founded on the fact that President Kruger had appealed to Lord Salisbury for a cessation of hostilities, offering at length by cable, the terms which he was willing to accept. These, however, were not taken seriously, as they included practically nothing more than what the Transvaal Government offered prior to the issuing of the British ultimatum. Official circles here regarded the propositions as merely a ruse of the Boers to gain time and did not consider that President Kruger was yet ready to consider the sweeping demands which Great Britain would make as reimbursement for the loss of life and great expenditure. It was understood that President Kruger's advances had met with an emphatic rejection at the hands of Lord Salisbury, who was believed to have said that no such attempt