

# FIGHTING IN CAPE COLONY

Gen. French Has Been Reinforced and  
Has Now Almost Surrounded  
Colesburg.

## GATACRE ENGAGES THE BURGHERS

Engagement at Molento-Cyphergat Occupied by British Troops  
--Situation in Natal--Shelling Boer Camps--More  
Troops Sail for South Africa.

(Associated Press.)  
London, Jan. 4.—There is great satisfaction here at the news that De Aar has been able to send Gen. French reinforcements of guns and infantry, of which he appears to be so much in need.

The fighting in the hills is incessant. Colesburg almost surrounded.

The latest telegrams say Gen. French has almost surrounded Colesburg, but the Boers are stiffly defending their positions close to the town, preventing the British from capturing it.

A dispatch from Rensburg this morning says the heavy artillery duel commenced at daybreak.

Boers Dispersed.  
Further details of the fighting between Gen. Gatacre and Boers at Cyphergat to-day show that 3,000 Boers, with artillery, attacked a British outpost between Cyphergat and Molento.

Gen. Gatacre, with mounted troops and field artillery, moved out in front of Sterkstroom and found the Boers strongly posted at Copenberg, whence they were quickly dislodged.

The Boers fled in the direction of Stormberg.

The Boers used the British guns captured December 10th, and shot well, but the British kept under cover and there were no casualties on their side.

Enthusiastic Volunteers.  
The enrolment of the second contingent of London Imperial Volunteers was the occasion for a scene of popular interest and enthusiasm. The approaches to the Guildhall were thronged with representatives of classes, everybody cheering and bands playing lively music.

Traction Engines in Natal.  
The traction engines have arrived at Frere and have been successfully tested. They pulled trucks over the roughest and most sandy ground without difficulty.

The Seventh Division.  
The departure of the seventh division of the British army for South Africa commenced to-day.

Hospital Ship Maine.  
The American hospital ship Maine arrived at Las Palmas, Canary Islands, yesterday. She reported all on board well.

CAPE COLONY.  
British Occupation of Cyphergat--Skirmish Near Belmont--Infantry and Artillery Sent to Gen. French.

Sterkstroom, Jan. 3.—Gen. Gatacre met to-day the invading force at Cyphergat, near the British advance camp at Bushman's Hook. The Boers retired hurriedly soon after the British artillery opened fire.

The enemy occupied Molento and Cyphergat to-day, but the latter place is now reoccupied by the British.

Reinforcements for French.  
Orange River, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—There was small skirmish near Belmont this morning. The British fired a few shells and the Boers did not respond.

A detachment of about forty Boers attempted to rush Klokfontein this morning, but were beaten back by the mounted infantry.

Possibly this force consisted of fugitives from Sunnyside.

Reinforcements of infantry and artillery have been despatched to Gen. French from De Aar.

Canadians Escort Refugees.  
Belmont, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—Col. Picher, it is officially announced, being only on a riding expedition and for military reasons being unable to occupy Douglas permanently, has evacuated the town, bringing off all loyalists.

Preparations were speedily completed,

but the vehicles of the town were totally inadequate to convey the refugees, so the troops gave up the transport wagons to women and children.

The Canadians acted as an escort of the refugees, carried babies for women, and kept everybody lively by singing, as they marched pluckily along in spite of sore feet occasioned by heavy sand.

The force received Gen. Buller's congratulations on the success of the expedition.

Many Boers Wounded.

New York, Jan. 4.—A Kimberley dispatch, dated December 29th, says pains are being taken by the Boers to conceal their losses in the recent battles, that Boshoff is full of wounded men and that at Jacobsdal there are at least two hundred and fifty.

There is a field hospital containing another hundred attached to the camp at Ollantzamm.

Official Dispatch.

London, Jan. 4.—The war office has received a report from Capetown dated Wednesday, January 3rd, reporting the situation in Gen. Gatacre's district. It says:

"Dordrecht is now evacuated by Montmorency, who occupied Bird's siding on the Indwe line.

"Molento is being attacked to-day by the enemy, who more or less surrounded the police station, but who, according to reports, are being forced back.

"Reinforcements of mounted infantry and field artillery have been sent by Gen. Gatacre. The result is not known.

"A company of mounted infantry under Alderson has reconnoitered to Prieska and exchanged shots with the rebel force on the north bank.

"No movement of Generals Methuen or French is reported."

IN NATAL.  
British Naval Guns Shell the Boer Camp at Colenso--Six Men Escape From Ladysmith.

Hoofde Langer, Ladysmith, Jan. 1.—The garrison of Ladysmith during the night threw out feelers on all sides, exchanging shots with Boer pickets.

At midnight a couple of shells fell into the Boer camp and killed a burgher.

Gen. Joubert preached in camp on Sunday.

The Rev. Mr. Meiring, who has just arrived here from America, addressed the burghers this afternoon, dwelling on the expiring century witnessing the life struggle of a people.

This morning shells filled with confectionery and containing the season's greetings were sent into Ladysmith.

Federal shells are being sent into Ladysmith at thirty shillings to five pounds sterling.

Escaped from Ladysmith.

Hoofde Langer, Ladysmith, Jan. 2.—Six horsemen made a dash from Ladysmith a few nights ago, and though pursued they escaped.

It is believed the party included Col. Rhodes, brother of Cecil Rhodes, and Dr. Jameson.

Shelling the Boer Camp.

Boer Camp, Colenso, Jan. 2.—The British naval guns on Chieveley camp continue their ineffective long range fire night and day in order to divert Boer attention from the movements of troops.

Federal scouts penetrated yesterday into the British camp. When returning the British pickets discovered them and wounded one Boer.

Gen. Meyer resumes command of the division here.

Gen. Joubert denies that he has ever protested against the use of lyddite. He avers that up to the present time he has not lost a single man from lyddite.

Boers at the Tugela.

Frere Camp, Jan. 3.—Capt. Thornycroft's patrol found the enemy in some force at the little Tugela bridge. Their presence was discovered by scouts.

It is reported that five men and a lieutenant of party have not returned.

Boers Forced to Retire.

Frere Camp, Jan. 4.—A vigorous shelling of the Boers' trenches on the plain this morning forced the burghers to shift

their position after their horses had stampeded.

Kaffir Stations Destroyed.

Pretooria, Jan. 4.—The mint here has coined 14,000 sovereigns since starting and the machinery is now in full swing with the mineral.

Vanzensburg reports from Derdepoort that the Kaffir stations have been destroyed, and that the inhabitants are flying.

Chief Linche, with 3,000 Kaffirs, attacked the Boer laagers but the natives were dispersed.

A representative of the Associated Press, who has been in Johannesburg for three days, says the utmost order prevails there. Looting is exceptional and where discovered is heavily punished.

The sanitary condition of the town is imperfect and sickness is frequent. About 1,200 British subjects are still in the Rand district.

Chaplains for the Contingent.

(Special to the Times.)  
Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Rev. W. G. Cox, English church minister at Pugwash, Prince Edward Island, has been selected as one of the chaplains to the contingent. There will likely be three, a Roman Catholic, a Methodist and an English church.

Methodist Minister.  
(Associated Press.)  
Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Three chaplains go with the second contingent, namely, Rev. W. J. Cox, Anglican, Pugwash, P.E.I.; Rev. W. G. Lane, Methodist, Parrsboro, N.S.; and one Roman Catholic priest not yet named. The Y.M.C.A. will have Mr. Best, Brantford, as its representative.

Marlborough's Outfit.

New York, Jan. 4.—London cables describe the outfit which the Duke of Marlborough has prepared to take with him to South Africa, which includes, four horses, four splendid Spanish mules, and a specially built Cape cart for going over the rough roads. An elaborate kit has been gotten together, every device for comfort in a compact space being utilized.

The Duke of Westminster.

Capetown, Jan. 3.—The Duke of Westminster, it is announced, will remain in Cape Colony during the war.

It is understood that a prominent inhabitant of Orange Free State, a near relative of President Steyn, has gone to the United States to lecture in the interests of the two republics.

Supplies from New York.

New York, Jan. 4.—The steamship Sabine, according to the Times, will leave this port to-day for Delagoa Bay, with a miscellaneous cargo, and it is believed she has on board an immense quantity of provisions, arms and ammunition, rough blankets and general supplies for the British army in South Africa.

Day of Prayer in Canada.

Toronto, Jan. 4.—The local council of the Evangelical Alliance, in compliance with a request from Lord Polwarth, president of the Alliance in Great Britain, has issued an appeal to the churches of Canada to observe Sunday, Jan. 7th, as a day of humiliation and prayer, and invite clergy and members of all denominations, together with private Christians, to offer to Almighty God, confession, supplication and intercession, that whatever may be amiss in our national life may be forgiven, and that peace may be speedily re-established on a righteous and permanent basis.

Another Steamer Stopped.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—The Imperial mail steamer General has been detained at Aden and occupied by British troops with the object of searching her cargo. The General is owned by the German East African Co. the owners of the Bismarck, previously captured by the British off Delagoa Bay.

Carried Contraband of War.

Rome, Jan. 4.—The German steamer Kanceler, with the Dutch and Russian Red Cross detachment for the Transvaal on board, discharged a quantity of her cargo at Naples to-day as private contraband of war. The Kanceler belongs to the same company as the Bunderath and General.

Delagoa Bay Question.

London, Jan. 4.—The British foreign office knows nothing about the report that the Berne arbitrators had made their award in the Delagoa Bay railroad question.

Russia Will Not Interfere.

London, Jan. 4.—The Standard's Vienna correspondent says: "Emperor Nicholas has assured Sir C. S. Scott, British ambassador at St. Petersburg, that Great Britain need not fear intervention or any sort of difficulty from Russia in the present South African complication. This may fairly be interpreted as an assurance including an indirect promise that France will abstain from creating difficulties for England."

CANADIANS AT CAPE TOWN.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Citizens, Welcomed the Volunteers to South Africa.

The Cape Times, Nov. 30th, just to hand, contains the following account of the arrival of the Canadian contingent at Cape Town:

The Allan liner Sardinian, bringing the Canadian contingent from Montreal, arrived in Table Bay early yesterday afternoon. The volunteers are under the command of Colonel Otter, and Major Drummond, of the Scots Guards, is attached to the contingent for service. The total number of men who have come from the Dominion is just over a thousand, organized on the basis of eight company units, and it is possible that they will be attached to different British rifle battalions. The men are an exceedingly

Fine Body of Troops

as far as physique and appearance go, and are all anxious to get to the front. Their passage from Montreal has been somewhat lengthy, but with the exception of one day they had fine weather throughout the trip.

Early yesterday morning a deputation, consisting of the mayor (Mr. T. Ball), Mr. H. Wilson (chairman of the Table Bay harbor board), Mr. G. B. Elliott, C. M. G. (general manager of railways), Mr. J. W. Zagger (president of the chamber of com-

merce), Mr. J. W. Hines (collector of customs), Mr. L. Wheeler, Mr. F. Robt, and the town clerk (Mr. G. J. Bywater), went off to the Sardinian on the harbor tug T. B. Fuller, and were introduced to Colonel Otter and the contingent by Captain Stephen, the harbor master.

The mayor, on behalf of the citizens, offered to the Canadians a very hearty welcome to the shores of South Africa. After exchanging a few words with the officers and men, the deputation, accompanied by Col. Otter and Major Drummond, who were anxious to communicate with the Castle authorities, returned to the docks. The Canadians

Heartily Cheered

the mayor's party as the tug left the side of the liner. There are four trained lady nurses accompanying the contingent, who are expected to land this morning, the Sardinian taking the place of the Moor at the Loch Jetty late in the afternoon.

The voyage of 7,000 miles was accomplished very slowly, the Sardinian, which was supposed to be a fast boat, only averaging some 12 knots. One death occurred during the voyage, a trooper of D Company, named Desautels, and as the vessel would have it, a couple of accidents occurred on board the very day before the vessel arrived in port. Private Martin spraining his ankle badly, and Lieutenant Laverie falling on the deck and putting his shoulder out of joint. The regiment numbers 1,688, in addition to the adjutants, Lieutenants McDonnell and Ogilvie. It is anticipated that the regiment will disembark this morning, in which case they will probably

Proceed to the Front.

Two war correspondents accompany the regiment—Mr. Hamilton for the Toronto Globe, and Mr. Brown, for the Toronto Mail and Empire. Messrs. Hamilton and Brown will naturally follow the fortunes of the Canadian contingent. They have received a very hearty fraternal welcome from their press colleagues in Capetown.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Toronto, Jan. 4.—Arrangements are being made for the meeting of Ontario legislature on February 3rd or 15th.

PLEASURES PENALTY.

When the doctor gives one up, most people lose heart, but it was not this way with the young society woman in a western Ontario city who had contracted kidney trouble through lack of exercise "wringing up" after an evening's round of pleasure. She heard of South American Kidney Cure and planned her faith to it to her health. In an incredibly short time her health returned, her suffering abated, and three months from the day her physician hinted her case was hopeless she presented herself to him a cured woman.

Sold by Dean & Hecocks and Hall & Co.

CHANGE OF NAME.

Montreal, Jan. 4.—The Merchants' Bank of Halifax has decided to change its name. When the necessary charter is granted by parliament the bank will be known as the Royal Bank of Canada.

BELLEVEILLE CHURCH DISPUTE.

Belleveille, Jan. 4.—Rev. C. J. H. Hutcheon, rector of Christ church, dismissed the choir had not complied with his request to turn to the east when chanting the "Gloria." The outcome of the incident is awaited with interest.

ROYAL YACHT SAFE.

London, Jan. 4.—The new royal yacht Victoria and Albert, whose position yesterday was considered critical, was successfully undocked this morning, after being partially righted with ballast.

CONSPIRATORS SENTENCED.

Paris, Jan. 4.—The high court (Senate) in secret session today sentenced M. Buffet and Depoigne to ten years' banishment. M. Guerin was sentenced to ten years' confinement in a fortified place, and M. Salgues was sentenced to ten years' banishment.

SPANIARDS RELEASED.

Madrid, Jan. 4.—The Spanish consul at Manila telegraphs to the foreign office that the steamer Uranus from Panay, arrived there having on board the Bishop of Vega, 117 priests, five officers, and 115 civilians, who had been restored to liberty.

HE ONLY REPEATS WHAT HAS BEEN SAID AROUND THE WORLD.

It has been demonstrated repeatedly in every state in the Union and in many foreign countries that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a certain preventive and cure for croup. It has become the universal remedy for that disease. M. V. Fisher, of Albany, N. Y., only repeats what has been said around the globe when he writes: "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in my family for several years and always with perfect success. We believe that it is not only the best cough remedy, but that it is a sure cure for croup. It has saved the lives of our children a number of times." This remedy is for sale by Henderson Bros., Wholesale Agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

PASSED THEIR EXAM.

The successful candidates at the high school entrance examination, held in Victoria on December 18th, 19th and 20th, 1899, are as follows:

Boys' School.—Gerald M. Power, Clinton Cameron, Benjamin W. Lamborn, William, Ralph Wales, Albert J. Sommer, Arthur B. Whitaker, Hugh T. Winslow, Charles A. T. McKilligan, William Blackbourn.

Girls' School.—Mildred Gardner, Gladys Struppel, Elizabeth E. Saunders, Florence G. Mills, Ada H. Daniels, Florence E. Vincent, Rosamund M. Knight, Hilma Leisner, Dora M. Marks, Amelia K. Burt, Jeanie S. Loggall.

North Ward School.—Robert Clark, Leon H. Borden.

South Park School.—Charles G. Jameson, Cedar Hill School.—Mabel M. Miller.

Two men were killed at the Sultan's mine, Bat Portage, while thawing dynamite. Both were blown to atoms.

W. M. Smoke, a C. P. R. brakeman, was killed at Medicine Hat while coupling cars.

# French Were Routed

News of a Battle Near Kwang-chawan in Which Thirty  
Were Killed.

The Russo-Japan War Rumors--  
Plague at Manila, Kobe  
and Manchuria.

News was received from the Far East by the steamer Queen Adelaide of the Northern Pacific line that wars and rumors of wars are now disturbing the serenity of the entire East. From the files of the Chung Nwi San Po it is learned that news has reached Canton that a battle occurred between natives near Wangchuan and the French forces stationed there. It is said that the Chinese routed the French and pursued them for some distance. The French loss was thirty killed. The Chinese losses were not stated. The battle occurred on the 10th and 11th of last month.

On hearing of the affair the Viceroy dispatched three gunboats with a thousand soldiers under the command of a military officer named Ng Fung-tin to restore order. The Viceroy also wired to the Tsungli Yamen asking what steps are to be taken, as he is quite unable to carry out the delimitation to the satisfaction of the French.

Advices from Peking are to the effect that the demands of the French concerning the recent Kwangtung disturbances include the payment of an indemnity of 200,000 francs in cash, a railway concession, right of working mines in the province and the dismissal of the Viceroy of the province of Kwangtung and Kwangsi.

The rumors of war are of the prospect of war between Japan and Russia and the Japanese papers are still full of it. Capt. McNair says that all the foreign element expect an outbreak in the near future. The Japanese are actively preparing for it. They are buying up and storing provisions and rushing forward the construction of the warships not yet completed. Orders went forth shortly before the steamer sailed for the mobilization of the army, the intention being to have the yearly manoeuvres—both of the army and navy—at an earlier season this year than in the past. The rumor that a fleet of Russian warships had been dispatched to Korea is confirmed. A Tokio dispatch to the Japanese press says: "Several Russian vessels have repaired to Masampo to pass the winter there."

A dispatch from Seoul dated December 12th to the Nichi Nichi of Japan says the protest of the Russian minister against the land purchase at Masampo made by Japanese was rejected by the Korean government, and the land has consequently become the property of the Japanese.

The plague has not yet been eradicated in Kobe, where from time to time fresh cases are reported. Fortunately, however, the pest has not yet assumed serious dimensions.

Manila papers say that an epidemic like the plague is threatening Manila. The Manila Times states: "It has been learned from various authentic sources that in many of our closely neighboring towns a serious epidemic, bordering on a plague, is raging. The towns which are principally affected with this dread disease are Guadalupe, Mandalagan, Pinela and Malabon, besides a number of others. The cause of the plague, as it is probably is, is said to be due to the eating of flesh from animals which have died from disease. Whatever the cause, there is little doubt that a species of plague exists, in which most cases prove fatal. It is said that the disease carries off its victims within 48 hours from its first attack, and in these countries towns medical aid or supplies are not to be had readily, and then only in a limited way. Not only this but the burial of the corpses of those who have died from this disease is carelessly conducted, and absolutely no precautions are taken. The natives do not understand the care which should be taken in these cases, and rely too much on their faith and superstition.

It has been decided, at the instance of the Russian minister of finance, to dispatch a sanitary corps of doctors and sisters of mercy to Manila, to combat the plague which has broken out among the Chinese laborers on the Manchurian railway.

Steamer Ryo Maru was wrecked off Omai Cape on November 20th. She struck a submerged rock and soon afterwards foundered.

News is given of the murder of an Englishman named Richmond in Chemulpo.

Lieut.-Col. Sir Charles B. H. Mitchell, G.C.M.G., governor of the Straits Settlements, is dead.

VICTORIANS FROM DAWSON.

News of a Tragedy on the Snow Covered Trail--Stranded Scows.

Joshua Holland, Dan Carmody and Harry R. Els, all of the Victoria Yukon Trading Co., returned from Dawson this morning. They left the Yukon trail in fifteen days with a dog team. At Lake Bennett they were obliged to make a detour as the lake is again open. They managed to catch the first train that had run over the White Pass railway since the storm began, seven days before, and arrived at Skagway in time to catch the steamer City of Topeka, which vessel took them to the Sound yesterday. This came over in the Victorian this morning.

From them it was learned that the report published in the Yukon Sun that Mr. McLennan, of the McLennan, McFeeley Co., who arrived by the Danube after a bicycle ride over the trail, had bought up the stock of their company at Dawson, was wrong. What Mr. McLennan bought was the hardware of the company. The price paid was \$8,000.

News was given by them of the tragic death of William Summerville, superintendent of the British-American Corporation copper mines. His body was found frozen stiff on the trail between White Horse rapids and the company's camp. Summerville, it seems, had started for the mines from White Horse, about a day's journey, and as he failed to turn up at the camp his disappearance was reported to the police. Search was made, with the result that his dead body was found in the snow. He had been drinking before leaving White Horse, and it is believed that he fell from his sleigh while intoxicated and perished in the snow.

The Victoria-Yukon Co. had fifty scows frozen in on the Yukon, all laden with supplies, including heavy shipments of mining machinery. Mr. Carmody reports that the cargoes, as far as possible, were removed from the stranded scows and taken to Densbury, Alaska. He thinks the scows will all be saved in the spring. A late issue of the Dawson News, speaking of scows frozen in along the river, says:

"It is generally known that there are on a fair estimate, about fourteen hundred tons of freight on the various scows stranded and scattered along the Yukon between Dawson and Fort Selkirk.

"This freight is made up of machinery, provisions, meats and a general assortment of merchandise total of valuation of which, placed at the minimum figure of \$500 a ton, will reach the enormous sum of \$700,000. Much of this property is in peril, and steps are necessary to insure its safety. To this end the owners of the property in question, backed by the merchants and others interested in the city, have prepared a petition to be presented to the Yukon council asking government assistance toward building a water road over the ice for the use of horses and heavy freight sleighs. The petition was started on November 24th, and was being signed extensively when last seen."

According to Mr. Carmody, Henry and Norman Macanay will arrive shortly. They both expected to leave about a week after those who have just arrived. Joe Knott, of this city, is also due here shortly. Mr. Carmody reports that all the Victorians in the interior, as far as he could learn, were doing well. Conditions seem more favorable for them now than ever.

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