

CHIEVELEY CAMP

Belief Prevails That General Buller Contemplates Another Attempt

TO RELIEVE LADYSMITH.

The Boer Forces Returning to the North Side of the Tugela River,

AND MOVING NEARER LADYSMITH,

Where the Enemy's Shell Fire has been Very Damaging of Late—The Beleguered Garrison Makes Another Sortie and Captures a Hill—Six of the Enemy's Provision Wagons Captured Near Chieveley—Thousands of Russians Fighting Under Joubert—Smuggling Arms for the Boers Through Delagoa Bay—The Enemy Kept Posted on British Military Movements—Recruiting for the Canadian Contingent.

London, Saturday, Dec. 30, 5 a. m.—The latest special despatches from Chieveley camp hint at some important movement as imminent. This is interpreted to mean that Gen. Buller contemplates a renewal of his attempt to relieve Ladysmith. It is reported by the same despatches that the Boers have now retired to the north bank of the Tugela, being afraid that the swollen river may bar their retreat. They are also moving their laagers nearer Ladysmith, probably with the intention of bringing further pressure on the garrison, which now seems to be suffering pretty heavily from the bombardment. It is difficult, however, to conceive that Gen. Buller would make another frontal attack, especially now that the river is rising, and an additional indication that this is not his purpose is the fact that he has removed his headquarters back to Frere. The Boer movements northward from the Tugela River are quite in keeping with the enemy's usual plan of securing a safe line of retreat. It is known that further artillery is due to arrive for Gen. Buller, but the belief here is that his forces even then will be too weak.

Lord Salisbury presided at a meeting of the National Defense Committee yesterday (Friday) afternoon. William Waldorf Astor has subscribed £1,000 to the Buckinghamshire fund to equip the county's contingent of yeomanry.

The Prince of Wales has accepted the chief colonelcy of the Imperial Yeomanry, and has contributed £100 for the use of the organization.

The Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, brother of Lord Lansdowne, says the War Office would countenance a scheme to enroll volunteers in a sort of preparatory stage in order to learn drills and the like.

The number of members of the House of Commons who have volunteered for the front threatens seriously to reduce the Government's majority when Parliament reassembles.

The Rothschilds have donated \$2,000 to the Buckinghamshire, volunteer fund. It is estimated that £200,000 will be contributed privately to volunteer funds throughout the country. Already the fund for the relief of the families of soldiers exceeds £500,000.

IN NATAL.

BOER PROVISION WAGONS CAPTURED.

London, Dec. 29.—A despatch from Chieveley camp, dated Dec. 27, says six wagons conveying provisions to the Boers were captured last night and taken to Frere camp. Last night the Boers heliographed, among other questions, "How is Buller?" The Boers failed to draw any reply from the British. Major Chichester has been appointed provost marshal of Natal. All the troops attended divine service on the 24th. It is still very hot, and the grass is badly burned up.

BOERS BECOMING BOLDER.

London, Dec. 30.—The Times publishes the following despatch from Chieveley camp, dated Dec. 24:—"Parties of Boers appeared to-day within three miles of Chieveley camp, threatening our watering parties, who are compelled to go some two miles, owing to the scarcity of water."

CAPTURED A HILL.

It is reported that the Ladysmith garrison made a sortie on Thursday and captured a hill.

FROM LADYSMITH.

Ladysmith, Sunday, Dec. 24, via Plettenburgsburg.—Gen. White has

had a slight attack of fever, but he is now convalescent. The Boer shell fire has been very damaging recently. On Friday one shell killed six men and wounded nine. The same missile killed fourteen horses. Another just missed the Fifth Lancers lines, slightly wounding six officers. Several shells have fallen close to Gen. White's house, compelling the removal of headquarters to another point. It is reported that Gen. Joubert is again in command of the Boers here. The military authorities appear confident, but they are very reticent. Boers have been observed moving northward and westward in large numbers.

VIA DELAGOA BAY.

SMUGGLING ARMS, ETC.

London, Dec. 30.—The Times has the following, dated Dec. 27, from Lourenço Marques:—"The cargoes for the Transvaal have dwindled to one-fifth of the average, but large shipments are expected from Europe. Guns and ammunition are smuggled through for the Boers. A French liner, now in the harbor, is said to have brought two large guns from Madagascar. The head of the customs assures me that there is absolutely no ground, however, for such reports. All goods, he says, are discharged, examined and despatched by daylight. So great has been the stringency, according to this official, that even saddles and horse-shoes are not delivered to local importers, except in small lots and under written guarantee."

TREACHERY SOMEWHERE.

The Times has a later despatch from Lourenço Marques, dated Dec. 28, which says that the suspicion that the Boer intelligence department is in close touch with a foreign consulate in Pretoria, is confirmed by the fact that news of the appointment of Lord Roberts as commander-in-chief in South Africa was generally known in Pretoria on Dec. 20, indirectly reaching Delagoa Bay from the Transvaal two days later. Suspicion rests upon a consul, who has been notorious for his Boer sympathies. There is reason to believe that Pretoria is kept well informed with regard to military movements. With reference to the rumors of smuggling contraband, it is significant that Maj. Erasmus, of the Free State artillery, is here, his arrival being coincident with that of the French liner. Considering the freedom of the Transvaal secret service fund is spent, considerable mischief may be done unless cargoes are inspected by British searchers who understand foreign bills of lading. It is felt here that all mining and all machinery should be stopped owing to the possibility of hoodwinking the officials. The consul who represents the Transvaal and the Orange Free State in Lourenço Marques still continues to act in the same capacity for Holland.

SECOND CONTINGENT.

AN OFFER FROM TENNESSEE.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Geo. Holland, of this city, has received a letter from Col. Hutchison, of Nashville, Tenn., offering 200 trained soldiers for South Africa with himself in command. They served in the Cuban and Philippine wars.

ENLISTING AT OTTAWA.

Enlistment of volunteers for artillery and mounted rifle service in South Africa was continued at the drill hall to-day. The applications are not confined to the file of the local regiments, but several holdings commissions have signified their willingness to be enrolled as gunners in the artillery. Among those enrolled to-day were:—Elliott, Picot, carpenter, Second Field Battery; Michael Joseph Daly, laborer, Ottawa; Second Field Battery; Campbell Oliver, druggist, Prescott; Gen. Graham, electrician, Ottawa; Eddie Holland, merchant, Ottawa; Arthur Lion, machinist, Ottawa; Lincoln Werely, Ottawa; Nicholas J. Slater, bank clerk, Ottawa. The Mounted Rifles contingent is to be divided into two regiments, the one drawn from points east of Manitoba, under Col. Steele, and with officers as already announced, and the Mounted Rifles a separate regiment, under Commissioner Herchmer, if he will go with Col. Steele second in command.

THE TRANSPORTS.

The Montezuma and the Laurentian will sail on January 15 from Halifax, having on board the artillery and one regiment of the Mounted Rifles. The Pomoranian, the third of the transports, will sail on the 20th from Halifax.

PURCHASING OFFICERS.

The arrangement for the purchase of the horses needed from Ottawa for

the South African contingent has been completed. The purchasing will be done on Tuesday next and orders will be issued accordingly.

CAPT. PATTERSON'S GRIEVANCE.

Capt. C. E. A. Patterson, of the 8th Battalion, Montreal, is in Ottawa pushing his claim for recognition to go to South Africa. He says there is great indignation in Montreal (it being a garrison town) owing to the placing of a junior officer from Sherbrooke in command of the unit "E" of the city. Captain Patterson claims command as one of the oldest and most experienced officers in Montreal. Capt. Patterson says he is endorsed and pushed by the Mayor, M. P.'s, merchants and commanding officers. He has been an officer in the Victoria Rifles, non-com. in the cavalry, and now commands No. 2 Company of the 85th rural district, has a North-west medal, and will receive a Fenian raid medal. He holds first-class and equitation certificates, a good horseman, a good shot, and a good swordsman.

ORDER FOR EXPRESS WAGONS.

The Ottawa Car Co. (limited) yesterday received a big order from the militia department. The order is for fourteen express wagons which will be used in the Transvaal for conveying ammunition and for light transport purposes. The wagons will be provided with heavy springs, and will be covered with a tarpaulin top. They have to be completed by January 25th, and delivered in Halifax by that date. The heavy wagons will be built in Woodstock, Ont., and in Paris, Ont.

AT KINGSTON.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 29.—The work of recruiting for the artillery still goes on. Although the infantry quota for this district is full, about twenty gunners are still needed for "C" Battery. This morning five more Kingstonians and one outsider took the oath—Messrs. Blackby, Birch, Armstrong, Gowdy, Eby and Snook. According to the latest orders all recruits sworn in for the Kingston district will remain with "C" Battery. The right section of "D" Battery, which formed the nucleus of the Kingston Battery, will leave on Monday, taking horses and harness belonging to the section, but not the guns. In all seventeen are wanted from Kingston for the Mounted Rifles, but so far only half that number have been accepted. Many have applied, but not filling the qualifications, were not taken. Being recruited in the artillery. It is expected that Lieut. Murray, of the Toronto Field Battery, will have command of the fatigue party, which will take care of "A" Battery in the absence of the volunteers. Lieut. Stone left at noon to-day for Quebec. He will return to Kingston on Tuesday next.

AT GUELPH.

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 29.—A large number of applications have been made to the authorities here by volunteers to be taken for service in South Africa. Major Davidson, of No. 16 Battery, has received 23 applications, four of which will be accepted. He is only required to provide four more. By Tuesday he thinks he will be able to furnish a list of the men. This morning Major Davidson received word from Lieut. McCrae, who will have command of this section of "D" Battery, R. C. A., stating that he was ordered to report to the major on Saturday. Major Davidson will be here to assist the battery commanders in perfecting the section until the battery is concentrated in Ottawa. The major has advertised for horses, and Lieut. Michelson, of the 15th Battery, was in the city to-day, arranging for the enrollment of members of his battery. He has secured eight or ten names.

AT HAMILTON.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 29.—The men recruited here for the second contingent put regular drill to-day, and every morning and afternoon, and by the time they are ordered to Toronto it is expected they will be in fine shape. Major Hendrie is delighted with the way the boys responded to the call, and thinks, if it were necessary, the whole contingent of either cavalry or artillery could be raised in Hamilton.

ACCEPTED POSITIONS.

Quebec, Dec. 29.—Major Ogilvie, Capt. Thacker and Lieut. Ogilvie, R. C. A., and Capt. Turner, Q. O. C. H. have accepted their appointment on the contingent. Lieut. Ogilvie is expected to reach town early next week from England, being a passenger on the incoming S.S. Parisian. Lieut. Stone, commandant of the artillery, will arrive in town to-morrow, and remain here until Monday in connection with the purchase of mounts. Board of officers on the purchase of mounts were hard at work all morning examining animals to be purchased for the contingent. So far 12 were secured, the average price being \$125. Nearly 100 more are required. The majority of which will be had in the lower provinces. Three or four troops of the Q. O. C. and one or two men from the 8th Royal Rifles have volunteered for service, but so far have not been accepted. Work is being rushed at the "B" Field Battery barracks to get everything in order for the concentration of "E" Battery.

PROUD OF CANADA.

London, Dec. 29.—Sir Robt. Gillespie, president of the Canadian Company on Thursday, remarked on the splendid evidence of the loyalty exhibited by Canada during the present South Africa troubles. He was sure that the official communications from Canada, as well as the nation at large, felt proud of Canada's enthusiastic and glorious desire to help support the mother country in her troubles. No action could be more strongly their desire to maintain the unity of the Empire. Their loyalty to the Queen was indeed a bright page in the history of Great Britain and her colonies. These remarks were enthusiastically received.

WAR NOTES.

GERMAN CRITICISM.

Berlin, December, 29.—The Neueste Nachrichten questions the right of Great Britain to confiscate gold ingots which are being transported from the Transvaal to Europe. It says it regards the discussion in the English press concerning Delagoa Bay as purely tentative, as Great Britain has given no signs that she will infringe on neutral territory.

PRISONERS' RATINGS.

Washington, D. C., December 29.—The reports that the Boer authorities have threatened to reduce the rations of the British prisoners at Pretoria, in case Great Britain stops the entry of food supplies at Delagoa Bay, is not borne out by the official communications of the United States. Consul Hollis, at Pretoria, by direction of the state department Mr. Hollis is looking after the British interests and in particular is seeing that the British prisoners are afforded every proper facilities and personal attention. His reports have been very full concerning the care of the prisoners, and such attending circumstances as were war-

ranted. These, however, give no intimation that the rations of prisoners are to be reduced, but on the contrary, the entire tenor of the official reports goes to show that there need be no apprehension that such a threat will be put into effect.

RUSSIANS WITH THE BOERS.

London, Dec. 30.—The Marseilles correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing the substance of an interview with the Russian Gen. Gourke, eldest son of the famous Gourke, who is now about starting for Pretoria, says that the Russian officer made the following statement:—"I have been offered the command of a Boer army corps. In my own mind I am absolutely confident of the success of the Boers. You may take my word for it, that thousands of Russians are now fighting under General Joubert."

DILKE'S OPINION.

London, Dec. 30.—Sir Charles Dilke, in the Daily Chronicle, this morning discusses Great Britain's relation to Delagoa Bay with regard to the food question. He says:—"It would be one of the greatest follies the country could commit to disregard the possibility of a war some day against a powerful naval coalition, in which event it would be to the interest of the United States to force Great Britain. Great Britain must endure the present conditions, possibly doing something by pressure on the Portuguese officials and strengthening the British consular staff at Delagoa Bay."

CARTRIDGE BELTS.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 29.—Thos. C. Orondorff, manufacturer of cartridge belts in this city, received an order from the British Government for 45,000 double bander cartridge belts. It is said that the order is a rush one, and that the cartridge belts will be shipped to the Transvaal in lots of several thousand each, as soon as manufactured.

DELAGOA BAY

Will Eventually be Occupied by England—Germany Will Also Get Something.

New York, Dec. 29.—Commenting on the official denial made concerning the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger's story of the secret treaty, by which Portugal's colonial possessions are to be divided, the Tribune's London correspondent declares that the story is not all smoke, saying that all well informed diplomats are convinced, however, that Germany will enlarge her colonial possessions in some quarter at the end of the war, and will have a free hand when Asia Minor or elsewhere. It is not considered probable that Lord Salisbury has consented to the sale of Goa, Macao and Damao to Germany; but the future of the East African possessions of Portugal was discussed without doubt at the Foreign Office with the German ambassador a year ago. The German Emperor and Mr. Chamberlain are known to have held a prolonged consultation at Windsor a few weeks ago, and by the process of exclusion the diplomats have reached the conclusion that East Africa was the subject which interested them. It may be premature or unsafe to carry out these arrangements at present, in view of Russian resistance in Herat and of French intrigues in Morocco, but the shrewdest observers in diplomatic circles forecast the ultimate occupation of Delagoa Bay by Great Britain and the enlargement of German East Africa southward in the Zambesi. The Berlin disclosure is probably accurate to that extent, but has been overloaded with fiction respecting Portuguese possessions within the Indian sphere.

STEAMER AGROUND

Fears for the Safety of the Passengers of a German Mail Steamer.

London, Dec. 30.—A large German mail steamer, whose name has not yet been ascertained, has gone aground during a terrific gale in East Bay, about a quarter of a mile off Dungeness, the southern extremity of Kent. Heavy seas are breaking over the vessel, and the lifeboats are unavailably. Fears are entertained for the safety of the passengers. It is believed that the grounded steamer is one of the Hamburg-American liners.

THE COMING SESSION.

Voting Supplies for the Contingents the Chief Item on the Programme.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—The principal item in the programme for the session of Parliament, which will open on February 1, will be the voting of supplies for the contingents. Besides the usual estimates for the year, it is understood there will not be any business of great consequence. An early session is expected to bring about an early prorogation.

The by-elections for the Dominion House will take place between the 20th and the 25th of January. The writs have not been issued.

THE FRENCH SHORE.

Trouble May Arise on the Expiration of the Modus Vivendi.

St. John's, N. F., Dec. 29.—The modus vivendi respecting the Newfoundland French shore lobster fishery will expire Dec. 31. Serious trouble will arise on the coast if this agreement is not renewed. The British Government is now anxious regarding the action the colonial authorities propose to take. It is likely that the colony will agree to compromise the question, in view of British difficulties in South Africa.

SHIPPING.

Dec. 29. Reported at. From. Clunada, Halifax, Liverpool. Pomeranian, New York, Glasgow. Werra, New York, Naples. Phoenicia, New York, Naples. Belgeland, Liverpool, Philadelphia. Kaiser Wilhelm, New York, St. John.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

ARTILLERY DUEL.

British and Boers Do Some Shell Throwing at Modder River.

A SORTIE FROM MAFEKING.

Boers Report a Vigorous Attack on One of Their Forts Near That Place.

ALSO A BATTLE WITH KAFFIRS.

A Reconnaissance at Kimberley Shows the Enemy to Still Have Three Guns Mounted, and to be Able to Rapidly Summon Reinforcements—Col. Powell's Proclamation to the Burghers—The Boers at Modder River Showing Much Nervousness—The Indwe Colliery Line Again Working.

London, Saturday, Dec. 30, 4.30 a. m.

—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News says:—"A leading resident of Vryburg, who was released by the Boers, saw 2,000 colonials from Griqualand West. He says colonial faces are to be seen everywhere in the Boer ranks."

The War Office has received this despatch:—"Cape Town, Thursday, Dec. 28.—The Indwe colliery line is now working again."

The Daily Mail asserts that several guns have been removed from the forts at Plymouth by night, and that these will be sent to Cape Town.

AT MODDER RIVER.

BOER NERVOUSNESS.

London, Dec. 30.—The Modder River correspondent of the Times, referring to the scare-firing of the Boers, says:—"Their nervousness causes much amusement among the British. It is quite certain that half the Boer force is employed watching by day and other half by night. Probably the consequent weariness, with the scarcity of water and the presence of typhoid fever, will render the Boer position intolerable. Their present action is due either to a scare, or to a wish to cover retirement to Spytfontein."

KIMBERLEY

"ALL WELL."

London, Dec. 29.—A Modder River despatch of Dec. 24 says:—"In reply to a heliograph enquiry last night as to the health of the garrison, Kimberley signalled, 'Thanks, all well.' The Kimberley fort replying with twenty shells. The British force reconnoitred outposts along Lazaretto ridge, the Boer patrols retreating. Having accomplished this and having discovered Boer reinforcements approaching from Wimboldon ridge, Col. Chamberlain, with the Royal Artillery, exchanged a dozen shells as soon as the guns could be limbered up. Some 500 Boers poured in a heavy fire from their earthworks. The British finally retiring, with the loss of one horse. This movement showed that the Boers were still keeping three guns in the direction of Kimberley, and are able to summon reinforcements rapidly. It also showed their proneness to vacillate, position immediately when weaker than the opposing force."

AN EXCHANGE OF SHELLS.

Kimberley, Friday, Dec. 22, via Modder River, Wednesday, Dec. 27.—Before dawn to-day a detachment of the mounted forces, with artillery and light infantry, moved out in a western direction. Boer artillery from Kamperdam opened fire at Otto's kopje, Kimberley fort replying with twenty shells. The British force reconnoitred outposts along Lazaretto ridge, the Boer patrols retreating. Having accomplished this and having discovered Boer reinforcements approaching from Wimboldon ridge, Col. Chamberlain, with the Royal Artillery, exchanged a dozen shells as soon as the guns could be limbered up. Some 500 Boers poured in a heavy fire from their earthworks. The British finally retiring, with the loss of one horse. This movement showed that the Boers were still keeping three guns in the direction of Kimberley, and are able to summon reinforcements rapidly. It also showed their proneness to vacillate, position immediately when weaker than the opposing force."

MAFEKING.

POWELL'S PROCLAMATION.

London, Dec. 29.—The text of Col. Baden-Powell's proclamation to the Burghers besieging Mafeking, the gist of which has already been cabled, comes from Lourenço Marques to-day. His assertions are calculated to surprise others besides the Boer General Symman, who has already voiced the anger of the recipients. After asserting that the republicans cannot hope for foreign intervention and pretending to relate the exact attitude of all the European powers, including Emperor William, who the colonel said, "fully sympathizes with England." Baden-Powell makes the extraordinary statement, "that the American Government has warned the others of her intention to side with England should any of them interfere."

BOER REPORTS.

ENGAGEMENT WITH KAFFIRS.

Pretoria, Tuesday, Dec. 26, by way of Lourenço Marques, Thursday, Dec. 28.—Commandant Swart reports from the laager at Alowyn's Kop, near Zee-orust:—"Had an engagement on Friday, Dec. 22, with Kaffirs in the neighborhood of Deffersport. The Kaffirs occupied a strongly fortified ridge, and were well prepared for emergency. After heavy fighting the Burghers captured the Kaffir position, losing three killed and five wounded."

FIGHTING AT MAFEKING.

Commandant Symman reports as follows from Mafeking:—"On Monday morning the enemy from Mafeking attacked one of our forts in force, with cannon, Maxim's and an armored train, and so persistently that there was fighting right on the walls of the fort. But we have retained our fort. The British loss is reported as 55. The other commandos report all quiet," with the exception of the usual bombardment of Ladysmith. Gen. Lucas Meyer has recovered and returned to the front."

THOSE SEIZURES

LETTER FROM LORD ROSEBURY.

London, Dec. 30.—Lord Rosebury writes as follows this morning to the Times:—"There are disquieting intimations which appear to point to our Government having treated food stuffs as contraband of war. As this is a matter of supreme importance, I venture to address this line to you in the hope that it may elicit an authoritative statement on the subject." The Times, commenting editorially on Lord Rosebury's letter, says:—"Too little is known of the seizures for any valid inference safely to be drawn. An occasion might arise when certain food stuffs would be regarded as contraband, while others would not, especially if the latter were intended for non-combatants. There might, for instance, be reasonable grounds for treating canned goods as contraband, and flour as legitimate." After admitting that "it would be undesirable to create a precedent which might some day be invoked against us," the article concludes:—"While we fully share the view that no serious change of policy should occur without cogent reasons, and ample consideration, we cannot but ask ourselves whether, in the event of Great Britain being engaged in a war, the action, either of the enemy or even of neutral powers, in a matter upon which such a divergence of opinion still exists, is likely to be governed by any precedent we or any one else may have set in the past, rather than by the immediate interests of the moment."

THE PLAGUE AT HONOLULU.

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Mail advices from Honolulu give additional details of the bubonic plague, which has appeared there, and indicate that the conditions are not very alarming. Five deaths have occurred—one native and four Chinese. No deaths have occurred since Dec. 12, when the disease first appeared. A quarantine system for island vessels was established, and a district practically co-extensive with Chinatown was put in quarantine. Volunteer inspectors were called for, and the work of cleaning this district was at once begun. The next day the National Guard was called out, and has since been doing duty guarding the quarantine district. Chinatown, the seat of the trouble, is now undergoing a thorough cleaning, and it is believed that the scourge has been stamped out. It is thought the germs of the plague were brought from Kobe, Japan, on the Norwegian steamer Thyella, which arrived at Honolulu Nov. 28 with 700 Japanese immigrants.

FIRE AT RIDGETOWN.

Ridgetown, Dec. 29.—Fire broke out at about 3 o'clock this morning in the store occupied by T. G. Guest as a grocer. The brigade were promptly at work, and succeeded in extinguishing it in short order. Stock damaged by water and smoke. Loss not yet known; insured in Equity and Economical Insurance Companies.

Mr. McPherson—"How do you know, William, that this man is from Tipperary?" William—"Shure, Mister McPherson, oime always tillin' thim fillans boye the axidants in their spache!"

"Ma," said a newspaper man's son, "I know why editors call themselves 'we.' 'Why?' 'So's the man that doesn't like the article will think there are too many people for him to tackle."

A misunderstanding—She—"I suppose you were presented at court while in London?" He—"Yes, twice, but I was acquitted both times."

Dr. J. C. Wood's Phenotholone. The Great English Remedy. It is the only medicine guaranteed to cure all forms of neuralgia, all effects of rheumatism, neuralgic, excessive use of the senses, Optic or Strabismic. Mailed on receipt of price, one postage 5s. 6d. One only please, and will carry. Postage free to any address. The Company, Windsor, Eng.