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 Owing to the considerable number of
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 of this paper, and not to the
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 No brief.
 Write plainly and take special pains with
 the facts.
 Write on one side of your paper only.
 Address your name and address to the
 proprietors of this paper, and not to the
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side of the Tugela, River opposite Colenso, but there is no particular reason why he should play their game and attack them in their chosen position when by making a flank march he can cross the Tugela farther to the eastward, break in on the Boer left, relieve Ladysmith at a stroke and capture or kill every Boer between that place and the Tugela River who attempts to make a stand against the British relieving army. But to execute such a coup as this and make thorough work of the British general must have all his men well in hand and especially his cavalry, for without their assistance the victory would be incomplete.

The change in the command of the Boer army now at Ladysmith in consequence of the alleged illness of General Joubert may have an important influence on the future of the campaign, for General Schalkburg, Joubert's successor, is believed to be more disposed to negotiate than Joubert. Whether the measures taken by the Boers can now be ascertained but it is highly probable that the lack of success which he has met with disposed the council to replace him with a more active leader. Probably when all the facts are known it will be discovered that Joubert has not been directing the movements of the army at Ladysmith for some time. The Boer raid into southern Natal which might have proved ruinous to them if the British army had been ready for the field, could hardly have been Joubert's work, for he has been essentially a safe leader. But from whatever cause the change of commanders has come there can hardly fail to be great differences of opinion among the Boers in regard to the ability of the new commander. Joubert has been tried but his successor has not.

There are rumors of dissensions between the Boers of the Transvaal and those of the Free State. These rumors are highly probable, for the Free State men cannot shut their eyes to the fact that while they are fighting in Natal their own capital is in danger. It is not likely that the Boer army at Ladysmith is put in possession of the news of all that is going on north of the Orange River, but some slight hints of the truth must from time to time be reaching the Free State men and its tendency will be to induce them to long to return home. Indeed there are already reports of a considerable body of Free State troops having left the vicinity of Ladysmith, and these reports are probably correct. No doubt these troops will be heard from soon in the vicinity of Bloemfontein, but in the meantime the Ladysmith investing force is weakened.

There is a general consensus of opinion among the correspondents that General Clerly is engaged in a flank movement against the Boers at Ladysmith, and they expect him to be heard from in the direction of Weenen. This place is to the eastward of Colenso, but it does not seem probable that General Clerly would execute a flank movement in that direction. A flank movement, to be completely effective, should be to the westward so as to intercept between the Boer army and the Free State. The right wing of the Boer army at Ladysmith is certainly its weakest part, and if General Clerly by a flank march can get between the army at Ladysmith and Van Reenen's Pass, he would have the Free State army at his mercy. Of course the difficulties of the ground may make such a march impracticable, but other armies have executed similar movements in a country more difficult than any part of Natal. The operation of Wellington's left wing on the northern march prior to the battle of Vittoria, shows that no difficulties of ground can stop an army that is well led and composed of well seasoned troops.

PATRIOTISM AT HOME.

The action of the Canadian contingent, which is now likely to see active service, will be watched with the keenest interest here, and we all hope and believe that the boys will do well. Necessarily, however, a very small proportion of those who wanted to go could be chosen; and no matter how many wars Britain may be engaged in, and no matter how anxious Canadians may be to take part in them, the chance of the average boy seeing active service is not one in a thousand. There is plenty of consolation, however, for those who are destined to live peaceful lives. There is plenty of opportunity right here in New Brunswick, for the development of pluck, energy and patriotism. We are hearing a good deal in these days about the "dying nations." A nation does not fall into decay merely because it neglects its fleets and armies. There is something below this. When the fibre is weak, the country will degenerate, no matter how the warlike spirit may be cultivated. When the fibre is strong, the strength will come out in war as well as in peace. Hence whoever keeps a sound mind in a sound body, everyone who handles a spade or sails a ship with vigor and honesty and intelligence is helping his country as well as himself. Every intelligent farmer or fisherman, every enthusiastic teacher, every enterprising business man is a patriot in the truest and broadest sense.

The aim of patriotism here should be to build up this country, and it will be to harm if we say to build up New Brunswick. We cannot do a better thing for

Canada and the empire than to work for the prosperity of these provinces by the sea, endowed as they are with fertile lands, forests, mines, fisheries and splendid facilities for shipping, and capable of supporting in comfort and independence ten times their present population. If we and our brothers all over Canada do our daily work in this spirit, we shall build