

THE BOER ULTIMATUM.

Kruger Demands Arbitration and Withdrawal of British Troops.

He Wants an Immediate Answer—The Transvaal Will Regard a Refusal as a Formal Declaration of War—Londoners Cheer the Australians.

A despatch from London, says:—The Transvaal ultimatum, which is signed by Mr. F. W. Reitz, Secretary of State, concludes with the following four demands:

"First, that all points of mutual difference be regulated by friendly recourse to arbitration or by whatever amicable way may be agreed upon by this Government and Her Majesty's Government;

"Second, that all troops on the borders of this Republic shall be instantly withdrawn;

"Third, that all reinforcements of troops which have arrived in South Africa since June 1, 1899, shall be removed from South Africa within a reasonable time, to be agreed upon with this Government, and with the mutual assurance and guarantee on the part of this Government that no attack upon or hostilities against any portion of the possession of the British Government shall be made by this Republic during the further negotiations within a period of time to be subsequently agreed upon between the Governments; and this Government will, in compliance therewith, be prepared to withdraw the armed burghers of this Republic from the borders;

"Fourth, that Her Majesty's troops which are now on the high seas shall not be landed in any part of South Africa."

To these demands is appended the definition of the time limit for a reply:

TIME UP TO-MORROW.

This Government presses for an immediate and affirmative answer to these four questions, and earnestly request Her Majesty's Government to return an answer before or upon Wednesday, October 11, 1899, not later than 5 o'clock p.m.

"It desires, further, to add that, in the undesired event of an answer not satisfactory being received by it within the interval, it will with great regret be compelled to regard the action of Her Majesty's Government as a

FORMAL DECLARATION OF WAR and will not hold itself responsible for the consequences thereof, and that, in the event, of any further movement of troops occurring within the above-mentioned time in a nearer direction to our borders, this Government will be compelled to regard that also as a formal declaration of war.

"I have the honor to be respectfully yours,

"F. W. REITZ,
"State Secretary."

LONDONERS CHEER THE AUSTRALIANS.

A despatch from London says:—There is no mistaking the significance of the great manifestation combined with warm spirit of Imperial solidarity, that occurred in the streets of London on Tuesday morning when the New South Wales Lancers traversed the city to embark for South Africa. Tens of thousands assembled to do homage to the little handful of soldiers representing the Empire's loyalty.

From the arrival of the squadron at Waterloo station to the entraining at Fenchurch street station tumultuous scenes of wild enthusiasm marked the route traversed. The bands were allowed to play nothing but "Soldiers of the Queen," "Rule Britannia," "God Save the Queen," in which the dense crowds joined. It is doubtful if such a frenzied welcome was ever before witnessed in London. There was an incessant roar of cheers and song until the Mansion house, the official residence of the Lord Mayor of London, was reached.

The Lord Mayor, Sir John Voce Moore, in the full robes of office, restrained the singing and vociferous cheering while he addressed the colonial troops, wishing them Godspeed and expressing the interest of the country in their heroic determination to assist in asserting Imperial authority in South Africa. Sir John Moore said:—"I hope there will not be war, but the necessities of the moment require a demonstration of authority." An inspiring scene closed with the singing of the National Anthem, the Lord Mayor leading.

A similar demonstration took place at Fenchurch street station. The windows in the neighbourhood were crowded with sightseers, who showered miniature Union Jacks and squares of bunting bearing portraits of the Queen upon the passing troops.

DUTCH GIVEN ARMS IN CAPE COLONY.

A despatch from London, Wednesday says:—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News says that at a meeting of the Dutch at Sterkstroom, it was resolved to ask the Government of the Cape Colony to supply them with arms, and in the event of a refusal, to apply to the Orange Free State.

The correspondent adds that a mysterious distribution of Mauser rifles is proceeding at Steynsburg and other

Dutch districts in the Cape Colony.

Outside the momentous news of the ultimatum, nothing of moment has been received in London from the scene of likely hostilities except the announcement that the Boers have constructed forts commanding Laings Nek, and that guns have been mounted on Mount Pogwane and Mount Prespeet.

Friday's Cabinet Council will have to deal with the military situation, and Parliament will have little else to do than to sanction the necessary credits.

The Portuguese Minister to Great Britain, Senhor Soveral, called at the Foreign Office Tuesday afternoon and had an interview with Lord Salisbury, and his visit is naturally connected in the public mind with the alleged purchase by Great Britain of Delagoa Bay. A despatch tending to confirm the report of this public report comes from Lorenzo Marques. It states that the British third-class cruiser Philomel is anchored 15 miles off the port, and is supposed to be waiting the arrival of transports and warships to pilot them into the harbour. It is quite certain, however, that the transports would not go to Lorenzo Marques unless the British were about to fly their flag over the port.

8,000 BOERS NEAR MAJUBA.

A special war correspondent of the London Times, dating his despatch Sandpruit, Oct. 9, records therein the details of a four-days' visit that Commandant-General Joubert allowed him to make among the Boer forces in that neighborhood. He says:—

"The strength of the Boers at this point on the frontier is about 8,000 men, scattered in various camps over a wide area. The general's headquarters and the artillery camp are half a mile from Sandpruit Station, and about 10 miles from the border. In addition to the Boer commandoes a Hollanders corps and an Irish corps are here; each is about 250 strong. There are two German corps, one of the latter, under Col. Schiel, being at the Klip river, near the Orange Free State border. The frontier is carefully patrolled, but by special orders no large bodies of armed burghers are allowed to show themselves near the frontier, and none is allowed to cross. The arrangements of the camps and commissariat are rough and ready. There is little drill or discipline as understood in European armies, but the general result is quite satisfactory, each man or small mess looking after his or its own affairs. When the burghers first arrived there was confusion owing to the delay in the arrival of the commissariat, but now there is an abundance of food and equipment. The only defect is the want of good water.

"The whole of the Pretoria commands shifted their position to-day, and got nearer drinkable water and better grass.

"The weather is cold, with heavy rains and hailstorms. This pleases the Boers, as it helps on the grass for their horses."

GREAT BRITAIN'S REPLY.

Right Hon. Wm. St. John Brodric, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announced in a speech at Guildford on Tuesday night that the Government has made the only possible reply to the Transvaal, namely, that "We are not prepared to discuss such terms."

50,000 REFUGEES IN WANT.

In response to a long despatch from Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of the Cape Colony, and British High Commissioner in South Africa, setting forth the sufferings of the refugees from the Transvaal and the Orange Free State, Sir John Voce Moore, Lord Mayor of London, has opened a fund at the Mansion house for their relief. He appeals for subscriptions through the press. It is estimated that nearly 50,000 refugees are already at various places in Cape Colony and Natal, and hundreds are still arriving daily.

INVASION OF NATAL.

A despatch from Bennett Burleigh to the London Daily Telegraph from Ladysmith, Natal, says that a column of Boers, numbering 3,000 men, is now at the Tugela river, inside the Natal border. Others are at Middledale farm, below Tintwa mountain.

Judging from the Telegraph's despatch, the Boer move apparently aims at cutting off the British northern garrisons. They will probably be joined southward of Ladysmith by a column which is believed to be advancing from the Buffalo river.

A despatch from Durban dated Thursday, 8 o'clock a.m., announces that the Boers seized Albertina station and demanded the keys, which were delivered to them by the stationmaster, who reached Ladysmith on a trolley. The excitement at Ladysmith is increasing and the troops are ready to act at a moment's notice.

2,000 BOERS ON RAILWAY LINE.

A despatch from Vryburg says:—A body of Boers have cut the border fence, advanced to the railway, and cut the telegraph wires. Two thousand Boers are now occupying the railway line.

A panic has broken out here, and a hurried exodus has begun owing to British refugees from the Transvaal declaring that a large force of Boers was advancing on the town. The

rumour that Newcastle has been occupied by the Boers is without confirmation.

BRITISH FORCE ON NATAL BORDER.

The situation in Natal need cause no undue alarm. The force in the vicinity of Glencoe is sufficient to stop any serious invasion. It consists of five battalions of infantry, viz., the 1st Leicesters, 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 1st Liverpool, 1st King's Royal Rifle Corps, and 1st Manchester Regiment, the two last named being on their road to this point.

To these must be added the 5th Lancers and 18th Hussars, together with two field batteries and the 10th Mountain Battery.

Over and above these there is a force of about 500 volunteers. It will thus be seen that some 6,500 men, with eighteen guns, are available to deal with any Boer incursions. It may be difficult to stop them destroying the line between Glencoe and the frontier, as it would not be prudent to push the main line up to the Cape Colony side of the Orange river.

Every precaution has been taken at Mafeking against attack, and all the streets are barricaded with waggons. The Boers intend to shell the town before delivering their attack. They are said to possess 12 guns. Every man in Mafeking is carrying a rifle, and the military authorities are confident that they will be able to repel the attack, follow the Boer retreat. The town is fairly quiet. Three Boer spies have been arrested in the town.

Railway communication to the southward is practically at the mercy of the Boers, over 200 miles of the line being within easy striking distance of enterprising commandoes. Sad scenes occurred at the railway station upon the departure of women and children by train. It is thought even should the main line be blown up at any point the damage can be repaired within a few hours.

Some traders at Zerst with whom storekeepers here had contracted for large shipments of ammunition have refused to execute the orders, it having been reported to them the supplies were intended for Boers.

BRITISH ARTILLERY READY.

A despatch from Kimberley states that the artillery stationed there has been out practising at a dummy force at a range of from 2,500 to 2,900 yards. The practice, which was witnessed by many spectators, among them a large number of ladies, showed excellent results. Trees have been felled and cleared away in order to give the artillerymen a good field for their fire. According to the same despatch, defences have been erected in all directions, and the garrison declare that they are "quite ready to meet the foe" when he puts his head above the kopje."

VICTORIA'S WAR CREDIT.

The London Daily Mail's Sydney despatch says:—"The Victorian Parliament on Thursday, on motion of Sir George Turner, Premier, voted a credit of £30,000 for the purpose of sending the Victorian contingent to the Transvaal. The leader of the Opposition seconded the motion, and the proposal was carried by a vote of 67 to 13. The members then sang the National Anthem, and gave cheers for the British Empire."

BOERS ATTACKING MAFEKING.

A Cape Town despatch reports that the Boers are now attacking Mafeking, but says that they have been repulsed several times. It is admitted that if the Boers make a strong attack on Vryburg, south of Mafeking, it cannot be withstood.

An Edinburgh paper, the Scotsman, of Friday morning asserts that a battle has been engaged between General Sir George Stewart White, commanding the forces in Natal, and the Boers who entered Natal by the way of the Breaners pass. General White, the Scotsman says, is very sanguine of the success of the British movement. The foregoing report is considered to be correct, as late Thursday night, the War Office had news of a British advance from Ladysmith, and was hourly expecting further intelligence.

WRECKED AN ARMoured TRAIN.

The Boers wrecked an armoured British train north of Vryburg and then shelled it. The train was en route from Cape Town to Mafeking. The Boers must have had accurate information of the intended movements of the train. Two seven-pounder guns, which were on the train, and which were intended to strengthen the defences at Mafeking, were captured by the Boers.

All the men in charge of the train, with the exception of the engine driver, were captured, but no details as to casualties have been received, although one report states that fifteen soldiers were killed.

The fact that another train, having on board 300 women and children, refugees from Mafeking, was due to pass Vryburg about the time of the disaster, led to the surmise that this was the train that had been derailed. Late telegrams, however, announced that this train had passed the Boer camps and arrived at Kimberley in safety, the wrecked train being the one travelling in the other direction with the guns, as stated.

BOERS HAVE THIRTY MAXIMS.

A despatch from London says:—Hiram Stevens Maxim, chief engineer and director of the Maxim-Nordenflieth Guns and Ammunition Company, Limited, in the course of an interview on Friday said:

"So far as I am aware, the Boers possess thirty Maxims, but the British need not fear the Boer artillery, which has always proved a source of weakness rather than strength to the burghers."

After warmly approving armoured trains and pointing out how useful they had been to the Americans in the Philippines, he went on to say:

The Boers remind me of the people of the Southern States of the American Union. They are excellent marksmen, and as good fighters as can be found anywhere in the world. How-

ever, no one ever fought better than the Southerners, and yet they lost. Just so will England vanquish the Boers. If you wish to see what the English-speaking races can do, look across the Atlantic and see what America has done."

DERAILED A HOSPITAL TRAIN.

A despatch from Vryburg, Cape Colony, says:—A hospital train that started for Maribogo, 50 miles south of Mafeking, has just returned after an adventurous journey. It had reached a curve on a culvert 700 yards south of Maribogo, and had just slackened speed, when it was observed that the rails ahead had been upturned. The brakes were applied, but the engine passed on to one rail partly raised and was derailed. The occupants immediately righted the engine.

At the same time it was observed that a party of Boers were galloping into line east of the railway, but on the Cape Colony side of the border.

Some of the persons on the train say they saw a cannon pointed at the train. The train ran back to Vryburg at full speed, the engine flying a white flag with a red cross. Picks and shovels were seen lying about, and the Boers apparently had been disturbed while removing the rails.

It is learned that previous to the starting of the train Maribogo telephoned Vryburg asking that the train be sent up, as all was quite safe. The operator at Vryburg recognized the voice as that of an European store clerk. In view of the subsequent report that the Boers were removing the rails it is believed the Boers compelled the clerk to speak through the telephone.

The nearest Boer command to Vryburg is a laager north of Schweizerenrek, 20 miles distant and two miles inside the Transvaal. The commander sent a message to the Vryburg railway station that if the delivery of three wagon loads of meal and two wagon loads of sugar received a week ago were refused, the Boers would send 600 men to take them. This morning all the goods at the station were made up in two special trucks.

BRITAIN TO SEND 70,000 TROOPS.

A despatch from London says:—When the army corps reaches South Africa the British troops there will number over 70,000 men. Many weeks will elapse, however, before this large force is at the front, as not only the troops but vast quantities of stores must be conveyed across the sea and then over a hundred miles into a country which will be, generally speaking, destitute of the necessities of life.

It is estimated that 35,000 Boers are now in the field, but little reliance can be placed on these figures, as there are said to be 24,000 now within the borders of Natal. The Boers of the Transvaal and Orange-Free State probably number 50,000.

Beginning next Friday, six transports will leave Southampton daily. This means the despatch of over 50,000 troops in six days. It would be beyond the power of any other European country, for the troops will carry with them everything necessary for a lengthy campaign.

The war is expected to last until April, and it is expected that it will cost 200,000,000. The Government will ask Parliament to vote immediately a credit for £50,000,000 or £75,000,000.

BOERS AFTER CECIL RHODES.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Cape Town Sunday evening says that the Boers have cut the railway at Belmont, 56 miles south of Kimberley, and also at a point 12 miles to the southward of Kimberley. The strong defending force at Modder bridge, which is 24 miles south of Kimberley, and between the places where the line is cut, is likely to be attacked.

The Boers have seized the railway station at Snyfontein, which is near Kimberley, and fortified it with earthworks. The object of their energetic operation is believed to be the capture of Mr. Cecil Rhodes.

The Mail's correspondent at Kimberley, telegraphing under date of Saturday, says:—

"The railway service northward to Warrenton, 44 miles hence, where the line crosses the Vaal river and enters the Transvaal, has been suspended. Two passenger trains and a freight train went through here to-day. The latter carried a thousand bags of meal consigned to the Transvaal Government from Cape Town. (When the train arrived at Vryburg, the officials refused to deliver the meal. The Boers threatened to take it, but they were too late."

The despatch adds that 4,000 men are now available for the defence of Kimberley. The people are calm and confident.

There is an unconfirmed rumour that the Imperial forces intercepted a body of Transvaal Boers who were attempting to join the Boer forces at Modder river, and that a heavy engagement occurred at Snyfontein Station, south of Kimberley.

TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES.

War Office Wants Bids From Canadian Cannons.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The Department of Agriculture has received a cable message from the High Commissioner for Canada, intimating that the War Office asks for tenders, required immediately for 850,000 pounds of compressed corned beef and mutton, chiefly in six pound tins, but two-pound and other sizes may be offered. It must be unexceptionable, quality guaranteed and date of canning stated. Prices should be quoted for delivery at Woolwich and Cape Town, stating the earliest date for supply in each case.

TO BE CONTINUED.

This article about grain isn't all here. Of course not. It's a cereal story.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, & in the Leading Ports.

Toronto, Oct. 17.—For an off-day the receipts were large, totalling up to sixty-five loads, including 1,000 hogs, 800 cattle, 600 sheep, and lambs, and a few milkers.

The market was practically unchanged as far as prices were concerned, and business was dull; what good cattle came in was sold readily, but prices showed an inclination to be easier for common stuff.

There was a fair export demand for any kind of presentable cattle at from 4 1-4 to 5c per lb., but inferior shipping cattle dragged.

Good butcher cattle will sell at from 3 3-4 to 4 1-8c, and possibly 4 1-4c for extra prime stuff; ordinary to medium sells from 3 to 3 1-2c per lb., and common stuff cannot well be quoted, as it is not wanted here at any price. The warm, weather considerably interfered with the local trade.

Stockers, feeders, export bulls, and milch cows are unchanged.

Some fair to good calves are wanted; there were none here to-day.

Sheep are inclined to be easy, but there was a fair sale to-day.

Lambs were a fair sale at from 33-4 to 4c. per lb.

Hogs are unchanged.

Hogs are off to-day one-quarter. Quotations for hogs to-day were 4 3-8c per lb. for choice hogs, scaling from 160 to 200 lbs., and 4c per lb. for light and fat hogs.

Following is the range of current quotations:—

Cattle.			
Shippers, per cwt.	425	500	
Butcher, choice do.	375	412-1-2	
Butcher, med. to good.	325	350	
Butcher, inferior.	275	325	
Stockers, per cwt.	275	350	
Sheep and Lambs.			
Ewes, per cwt.	300	350	
Lambs, per cwt.	350	400	
Bucks, per cwt.	250	300	
Milk and Cream.			
Cows, each.	25.00	45.00	
Calves, each.	200	700	

Choice hogs, per cwt. 412-1-2 437 1-2
Light hogs, per cwt. 400 400
Heavy hogs, per cwt. 400 400

Toronto, Oct. 17.—Wheat—Steady. Cables closed same as yesterday. Chicago easy at opening, and closed 1-2c below Wednesday. Toronto wheat market steady and not much doing.

Ontario wheat is quoted at 66 1-2 to 67c, red and white, west, with no buyers. Spring scarce at 67 to 67 1-2c, east, and 65 1-2 to 66c, west. Goose slow and quoted at 70 to 71c, low freight, to New York, Manitoba firm, No. 1 hard sold to-day at 82 1-2c, grinding in transit, and 81 1-2c, Toronto freights. One sale of ten cars was reported made at 83c, g.i.d.

Flour—Better demand and steady. Straight roller, \$3.25 to \$3.30, Toronto freights. A sale of straight roller for export was made to-day at \$3 to \$3.05, f.o.b.

Barley—In fair demand to-day and steady at 43c, west, and 44c, east, for No. 2.

Millfeed—Market steady. Bran is quoted at \$11.50 to \$11.75, and shorts at \$14 to \$14.75, west.

Peas—Without change. No. 2 is quoted at 59 1-2c, north and west, 64 1-2c, on the Midland, and 62c, east. Rye—Rather dull at 53 1-2 to 54c, west, and 55c, east.

Corn—A firm market. No. 2 American, yellow, quoted at 42c, on C.P.R., Toronto; and No. 3, American, yellow, 40 1-2 to 41c.

Oats—Demand light. White quoted at 26 1-2c, east, and 25 1-2c, west; mixed, 24 1-2 to 25c, west.

Oatmeal—Dull, at \$3.40 for cars of bags, and \$3.50 for bbls. on track, Toronto.

Buckwheat—Quoted at 48 to 50c, west.

Chicago, Oct. 17.—Wheat—No. 2, cash, 71 3-4c; December, 74 1-4c bid. Corn—No. 2 mixed, 34c; shorts—No. 2 mixed, 24c. Rye—Neglected. Cloverseed—Prime, cash, and October, \$6.20; December and March, \$5.40. Oil—Unchanged.

Buffalo, Oct. 17.—Spring wheat—Dull; No. 1 Northern, old, 78 1-8c; new, 76 1-8c; No. 2 Northern, new, 73 5-8c. Winter wheat—Nothing doing. Corn—Strong; No. 2 yellow, 39 1-4c; No. 3 yellow, 38c; No. 2 corn, 38 to 38 1-2c; No. 3 corn, 37 3-4c. Oats—Firm; No. 2 white, 29 1-4c; No. 3 white, 28 3-4c; No. 4 white, 27c. Rye—Unsettled; No. 1 quoted at 43c; Canal freights—Higher; corn, 3c; wheat, 1 3-8c; flaxseed, 3 3-8c; to New York, Flour—Steady.

Chicago, Oct. 17.—Flaxseed, North West and South West, cash, \$1.20; October, \$1.20; December, \$1.19 1-2; Duluth, cash, \$1.17 1-2; to arrive, \$1.17; October, \$1.17 1-2.

Detroit, Oct. 17.—Wheat—Closed: No. 1 white, cash, 71 1-4c; No. 2 red, cash, 72 3-4c; December, 74 3-4c; May, 79 1-4c.

Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 17.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 72 1-2c; No. 2 Northern, 68 to 69c. Rye—Steady. No. 1, 58 3-4 to 59c. Barley—Firm. No. 2, 46 1-4c; sample, 38 to 41 1-2c.

WHEAT GOES UP.

English Farmers Refuse to Sell for Less Than 90 Cents.

A despatch from London, says:—The outbreak of war has sent up the price of English wheat, and on various country markets the farmers have refused to sell wheat under 30 shillings per quarter, in some cases even holding out for a still higher price.