

BROKE THEIR HEARTS

The Splendid Practice of the British Artillery at Modder River Won the Day

Canada's Soldier Boys Received a Rousing Reception as They Marched Through the Streets of Cape Town.

Latest Advices Concerning Ladysmith Tell of a Heavy Bombardment—The Transport Ismore Has Broken Up, Resulting in the Loss of Over Three Hundred Horses.

LONDON, Dec. 2. 4.30 a. m.—Absolute silence has fallen over affairs in South Africa. The war office has not yet received Lord Methuen's casualty list. The public and the press, hitherto patient, are beginning to murmur at the apparent needless delay which keeps many families in a state of painful suspense.

It is regarded as practically certain that Lord Methuen has been reinforced by half a battalion of the Gordon Highlanders, a regiment of cavalry and a battery of artillery, and that De Aar is being daily reinforced by troops to hold the lines of communication.

It is supposed that the Natal advance has been delayed by the necessity of getting supplies to Pietermaritzburg, but not a word emanates from any of the various commands. Lieut. General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, who, as already announced, will command the sixth division, has seen much service in South Africa, particularly in the Zululand subsequent wars. He also held a number of high staff appointments at home and is reputed to be a very capable officer.

MONTEAL, Dec. 1.—The Star's London special cable says: The Daily News correspondent at Cape Town expresses the views of Charles Lewis Shaw, the Canadian journalist on the battle of Belmont. Mr. Shaw observes: "How the British scaled the steep kopjes is a mystery. They fought their way up yard by yard, orders from the officers being unnecessary. The 'fast' kopje had been insufficiently shelled when the British reached the foot, so they had to clear the way. There were lost most heavily, forty dropping close together. Then in the face of a terrific fire the kopje was climbed. After a few minutes' taste of the bayonet, the Boers fled. The Lancashire pursued, but their horses were exhausted. Had there been a couple of cavalry regiments with fresh horses, the rout of the enemy would have been turned into a massacre."

CANADIAN CONTINGENT. MONTEAL, Dec. 1.—The Star's London cable says: No specific details of the reception of the Canadian contingent at Cape Town has yet been received, probably owing to the breakdown of the African cables, which also accounts for the paucity of news from the front. As regards the Canadians nothing has been received beyond the mere announcement of the arrival of the contingent in the preparations for their reception Cape Town was smothered in bunting, shops were draped with flags and displayed such mottoes as "Welcome brother loyalists." Even Boers fled. The Lancashire pursued, but their horses were exhausted. Had there been a couple of cavalry regiments with fresh horses, the rout of the enemy would have been turned into a massacre."

THE FIGHT AT MODDER RIVER. What the London Critics Say. The London correspondent of the New York Tribune called Nov. 29. No further light is shown this morning on the nature of the fight at Modder River, and details are anxiously awaited. The action is generally accepted, in advance of the casualty list, as the bloodiest battle of the campaign. General Methuen's own seriousness in explaining that there was no means of outflanking the enemy, that there was desperate fighting for ten hours and that it was one of the hardest and most trying battles in the annals of the British army sobered every one who read the despatch. The two armies were evidently of equal strength. Commandant Cronje's entire force having

back of the advance to the interior lines, or the abandonment of the bridge head defenses. The critic assumes that there was a bridge, and the Boers at the outset were defending the southern approaches to it. The former is more plausible, since General Pollock-Carow was crossing with the help of sappers, which would negate the hope that the bridge was in the hands of the British. The latter is more doubtfully pontooning. Complaint is beginning to be heard against the employment of so many sappers for purely military work, so far from the coast. The complaint is based on the ground that the navy cannot afford to lose men whom it takes so long to make and replace. There are also loud complaints that more artillery and cavalry were not been furnished to General Methuen. It is argued that at the start of his march he did not have sufficient cavalry for pursuit, and to clinch the victories gained, and that that cavalry must have been overworked as to practically worn out.

(London Times' military expert.) Commenting on General Methuen's despatch this writer says: "General Methuen only states that the enemy was made to quit his position. Our troops must have been exhausted to pursue, but if the Boers were driven across the river, assuming it was fordable, their loss must have been severe."

The paper proceeds to argue that the Boers' general position possibly pointing southwest, their retirement being to the eastward. Col. Albrecht, who is directing the work of the Boers opposing Lord Methuen, was originally an officer in the Austrian army. He entered the Free State army, and soon brought his artillery to a high state of efficiency. He is known as an able artilleryman and a skilful tactician. It is believed that Lord Methuen will be instantly reinforced from Cape Town by two battalions of infantry, a detachment of cavalry and a battery of artillery. The London Times says editorially: "Ample numbers are our greatest need, and the decision to send out the sixth division has certainly not been taken too soon. Now, however, the Cape Colony has to be faced, even greater efforts will have to be made. The only wise course is to turn to account the somewhat bitter lessons of the last six weeks and employ a large staff of safety."

(London News editorial, Nov. 30.) "Whatever comes we must brace our nerves to meet it. Certainly today it looks as if we had before us a very stern and arduous struggle before we see our way clear to final victory."

METHUEN AND HIS MEN. How They March Forward and Fight as They Go. LONDON, Nov. 30.—The Times publishes this despatch today: With Methuen's force Sunday.—During our eventual march toward Kimberley, except in the most desperate and thinned rations, and fresh food is either commandeered or bought. We begin to march generally at 3 o'clock in the morning, after breakfasting on soup, and then do our fighting, marching afterwards, camp near the best water and dine. In the afternoon we search for the missing and rest. Only bare necessities are allowed us. But the troops are in excellent spirits. The heat is severe from 9 in the morning to 4, but the evenings are cool. We are progressing slowly but certainly to Kimberley. The battle of Belmont is even a more decisive victory than Belmont. In the English engagement the naval detachment alone had a hundred casualties. The Boer losses are estimated at 80 killed, and 50 seriously wounded. Their forces numbered 3,000. Correspondents are limited to 300 words daily.

LONDON, Dec. 4. 4.30 a. m.—The week opens without a word of news as the British public is so anxiously awaiting. With a larger army in the field than the country ever before mobilized, it can only be said that the loss of 3,500 men, entailed before the enemy's borders had been crossed is a serious matter, and while there is no feeling of despondency as to the eventual result of the war, it is regretfully admitted that the Boer resistance has been woefully underrated. It is now seen that this attempt to hold a useless position at Mafeking was a serious tactical mistake. It was also the endeavor to keep the large civil population at Kimberley. MR. HAY'S APPOINTMENT. Perhaps the brightest spot for English readers today is the announcement that President McKinley has designated the son of Secretary Hay to succeed Mr. Macdonald in Pretoria. This appointment is a graceful concession on the part of the United States government to British feeling. Our countrymen's interests will be safe in the hands of the new consul.

SIX DAYS OLD. South African news is now six days in arrears. The correspondence does not yet permit details of the Modder River battle to be transmitted. Some vague statements have been published in the Cape Town papers, and according to these, the Boers numbered 3,000 men, and were on both banks of the stream, although mostly on the northern bank. The British, according to these accounts, drove the enemy across the river, compelling them to retreat and establish themselves on both banks. These details, however, are too meagre to enable an accurate idea of the engagement to be formed. A despatch reached London announcing that Lord Methuen had been struck by a bullet in the chest, and it is also said that Count Gleichen, who was wounded in

the fighting at Modder River, was struck by a bullet in the neck. SERIOUS NEWS. Serious news comes from the northern sections of Cape Colony. The whole border district between Coleridge and Burgersdorp has declared for the Boers. In Ventersdorp alone more than 3,000 have joined the rebellion. The farmers have formed a commanding committee and talk confidently of a triumphant march on Cape Town. Gen. Buller's proclamation has been torn down and trampled upon, and the loyalists are hidden to hurry to Cape Town to prepare for the rebel.

The official list shows that a modification has been made in the command of the sixth division. Instead of Lieut. Gen. Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, the commander will be Major Gen. Thomas Kelly-Kenny, Inspector-General of auxiliary forces and reorganizing with Major Gen. Knox and Major Gen. Clements as brigade commander. Major Gen. Kelly-Kenny had had no South African experience. SITUATION IN NATAL. With regard to Natal, it is still doubtful whether the bridge over the Tugela at Colenso has been destroyed. There is a report that the British drove the Boers off while attempting to destroy it, but the probability is that the bridge was mined and fired afterwards. According to a despatch from Pretoria, dated Tuesday, Nov. 28, the Boers were then attempting turning movements from Eisingburg and the districts north of Sterkstroom in co-operation with the rebels by way of Mafeking and Tarkaat, against Gen. Gatacre's column. The wreck of the troopship Ismore is reported to be the loss of 350 horses.

SITUATION REVIEWED. LONDON, Dec. 2.—The message of the day is a list of the British casualties at Modder River and an account of the fact that Lord Methuen is still there awaiting reinforcements. It is only supplemented by a brief account of the Boers' destruction of the bridge over the Modder River before the battle and are now concentrating at Spryfontein, where the final battle before Kimberley is believed to be expected to take place. THE MODDER RIVER BATTLE. The combat has apparently stopped all news messages from the front relating to the battle, which is not regarded as a favorable indication. As to the material results of Lord Methuen's engagement, it is not yet clear. The Boer force actually crossed the Modder River and is still awaiting the rebuilding of the bridge before the artillery and cavalry can cross.

As a significant fact that Lord Methuen's cablegram makes no mention of the Boer loss, which, therefore, is assumed to be small. LORD METHUEN'S ADVANCE. A despatch from Cape Town this evening says Lord Methuen's advance was undoubtedly beginning to affect the Boer strategy and probably explains the withdrawal from Mool River. While it is impossible to obtain exact statistics, it is absolutely certain that the Boers have been killed and wounded in great numbers, which are still increasing. There are now clear proofs that the loyalty of the border Dutch is unable to withstand the proximity of Boer command. The rest of the colony is apparently quiet. ANOTHER LONDON SUMMARY. LONDON, Dec. 2.—As surmised, the British dead and wounded at the hard-fought battle of Modder River numbered hundreds. Up to 2 o'clock this afternoon only the bare total of 439, of which number 78 were killed, had been given out, so it is impossible to deduce from the "butcher's bill" such information regarding the nature of the fight as details as to the losses of the different regiments. Walker's despatch it is proved that all reports of Gen. Methuen's advance after the battle of Modder River were premature, though, with the railroad working, he should not be long in constructing a temporary bridge. His ordered delay will doubtless be of considerable service in giving his main-pushed column needed rest, and in allowing the arrival of reinforcements, of which he had long sorely in need after three such fights placing hours do combat upwards of a thousand men out of less than seven thousand. Gen. Forester-Walker's announcement that the Canadian marksmen and other reinforcements have been pushed forward to the neighborhood of the Orange River to protect Gen. Methuen's line of communications has relieved much anxiety here, where it was fully expected the Boers would attempt to attack the vulnerable points of the line of communications.

SITUATION IN NATAL. The latest news from Natal indicates that the bulk of the Ladysmith relief force has arrived at Frere, though there is considerable conjecture as to the whereabouts of Gen. Clery, whose movements have not been chronicled lately. It is surmised in some quarters that he may re-appear in a totally unexpected quarter on the bank or near of Gen. Joubert's force, which is supposed to be concentrated at Groblers Kloof, north of the Tugela River. As Gen. Hildyard's advance guard was in touch with the Boers as long ago as Tuesday last, developments should not be long delayed. Dundonald's mounted force on Nov. 28, accompanied by four guns, went in pursuit of a body of Boers returning to Colenso. They followed the Boers to within two and a half miles of Colenso, when the Boers repelled the British shells with long-range guns. There were no casualties. Colenso bridge was afterwards blown up. Another detachment of 3,000 troops sailed for South Africa today. Owing to the phenomenal sale of the newspapers consequent upon the war,

REINFORCEMENTS NEEDED EVERYWHERE. The military experts say that more men are clearly needed in all directions. General Methuen's column is still very weak. In Natal General Clery's relief force is not considered any too large, while Generals French and Gatacre have only small detachments with which to operate in a most difficult country. The fifth division is urgently needed, and the sixth may have to follow. Lord Wolseley announced that the war office had come to the decision to call out another division of ten thousand men of all arms for South Africa. This is the seventh division mobilized since the beginning of the war. Ladysmith was all right on the 25th, and the British relief force is now concentrated at Frere. The Boers are in full retreat toward Colenso. The great Boer stand will undoubtedly be made at the Tugela river, and a battle may be expected at any moment. The British force which is available is about 15,000 men. The Boers might put 20,000 men in line. Mafeking was safe on Friday last. LORD METHUEN'S WOUND. A semi-official statement has been issued that Lord Methuen's wound is not serious, and that he is expected to be all right in the course of a few days. It is certain, however, that the wound will prevent his being in the saddle, and there is great anxiety to know whether he will be compelled temporarily to abandon the personal direction of affairs. He next in command is Major General Colville, commanding the Guards' brigade. He has a reputation as an excellent officer. Lord Wolseley's announcement that a new division will be embarked at once has been received with satisfaction. The Morning Post says: "The sooner we can make up our minds as to the magnitude of the work in hand, the sooner it will be accomplished." Lieut. Colonel Stoford's death ends a most promising career. He was the officer mainly responsible for working out the details of the mobilization scheme. MODDER RIVER CASUALTIES. LONDON, Dec. 2.—An official rectification of the list of Modder River casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men make the total losses of the North Lancshires three killed and 16 wounded, of the Northumberland Fusiliers 11 killed and 24 wounded, and of the Argyll 11 killed and 21 wounded. It also adds to the list Remington's guides three wounded. The aggregate of casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men is 46.

FROM BOER HEADQUARTERS. PRETORIA, Monday, Nov. 27, via Lourenco Marques, Dec. 2.—Commandant De Wet has reported to President Kruger that the Burgers in spite of their determined defence at Gras Pan, Nov. 25th, were completely surrounded by the British and were compelled to retire. The Boer commander on the western border reports that 12 Burgers were killed and 40 wounded in the fighting at Belmont. SCENES OF DEVIATION. FRERE CAMP, Natal, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—The reconnaissance made today by General Hildyard and Lord Dundonald's command, the fact of which has already been called, gave an excellent opportunity for studying the country. On approaching Colenso, the British found on every side scenes of devastation that testified to the thoroughness of Boer looting. The Williams farm and others had been completely surrounded and the contents of every room of the farm house had been destroyed. The Boers had evidently burned what they could not carry off. The poverty of the Boer command was testified by the corn bales that were to be seen about the deserted camp fires of the enemy. THE WRECKED ARMORED TRAIN. The wreck of the armored train, still visible, showed that a Boer shell had broken an axle which had obviously caused the accident to one car that lay on its side. The other car was upright and both were completely riddled by the enemy's artillery fire. Two graves near-by bore the inscription: "To fallen soldiers." The main Boer force is now apparently not far from Chelysval station. WILL HOLD TUGELA RIVER. DURBAN, Natal, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—The Natal Mercury publishes the following despatch from its correspondent at Frere: "The Boers have reconcentrated at their old positions near Colenso, back of Groblers Kloof, and everything points to a determined attempt to prevent the British crossing the Tugela River. "The reports of wanton destruction of property by Boer looters are confirmed."

SKIRMISH AT DERDERPOORT. PRETORIA, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—The Boer laager at Derderpoort was attacked last Saturday by a strong force of the Natal mounted police, Mr. Barrow, a member of the Volksraad, was killed. FROM YOUR OWN POCKET. In order to insure our Assorted Steel Pens we are giving away Watches and Chains, Rings, Bracelets, Antiarths, Jack Knives, Fountain Pens, Cameras, Chairs, Air Rifles, Clocks, Skates, Sleds and numerous other articles to within two and a half miles of Colenso, when the Boers repelled the British shells with long-range guns. There were no casualties. Colenso bridge was afterwards blown up. Another detachment of 3,000 troops sailed for South Africa today. Owing to the phenomenal sale of the newspapers consequent upon the war,

A FARMER'S OPINION.

Publishers Co-operative Farmer, Sussex, N. B.: Gentlemen,—When your agent was around last spring I subscribed for the FARMER for six months, but we like the paper so well that I enclosed \$1.00 for a whole year's subscription. I think it is just the paper the Maritime farmers need. Wishing you every success, I am, Yours very truly, WM CREELMAN, Prinsport, Colchester Co., N. S., Nov. 3, 1899.

IN COMMUNICATION WITH KIMBERLEY.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—The war office has received the following from Cape Town, dated Sunday: "Col. Kekewich reports under date of Thursday, Nov. 30, that the Bechnana police captured the Boer laager west of Kimberley, Tuesday, Nov. 28. Kimberley has been searched with Kimberley has been established from Modder River."

HEAVY LOSSES. LONDON, Dec. 2.—The official list of the British killed and wounded in the battle of Modder River totals up to 439. The revised list of Modder River casualties, non-commissioned officers and men, is divided as follows: "Ninth Lancers, 1 wounded; "Englishers, 2 wounded; "Artery, 1 killed, 16 wounded; "Second Colchester, 10 killed, 56 wounded; "Third Grenadiers, 9 killed, 38 wounded; "4th Hussars, 10 killed, 10 wounded; "Northumberland Fusiliers, 11 killed, 24 wounded; "First Northumberland Lancers, 3 wounded; "Second Yorkshire, 3 killed, 44 wounded; "First North Lancashire, 3 killed, 14 wounded; "Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 11 killed, 24 wounded; "Missing, Frere stream, 20 wounded; "South African Reserve, 1 wounded; "Medical Corps, 1 wounded. SORTIE FROM KIMBERLEY. PRETORIA, Sunday, Nov. 24.—Commandant Dunot (probably Dutoit) sends the following report to the council of war from Kimberley: "Early yesterday the British made a sortie, supported by cannon and maxims. Under cover of darkness they advanced in the direction of Bloemfontein. Two hundred Burgers encountered them and I brought up an additional 100. Nine Burgers were killed and seventeen wounded. The British left two on the ground, but an ambulance removed these."

ABOUT GEN. JOUBERT. LONDON, Dec. 2.—According to a special despatch from Cape Town General Joubert was killed Nov. 10, but General Buller's despatch of Nov. 28 showed that Gen. White was in communication with Gen. Joubert or somebody personating him about Nov. 19. KINGSTON WILL ASSIST. KINGSTON, Ja., Dec. 2.—Following the example of DeWet, the military expedition was organized a popular subscription to contribute to a fund for the families of the British soldiers in South Africa. The Jamaican militiamen have agreed to contribute one day's pay each. U. S. CONSUL AT PRETORIA. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2.—The president has designated Adelbert F. Hay to proceed at once to South Africa as the representative of the state department and take the place of Mr. Macdonald, the present U. S. consul at Pretoria. The state department has decided to Mr. Macdonald's repeated appeals to be relieved, and he will not await the arrival of Mr. Hay before quitting his post. Mr. Hay is the son of the secretary of state. SHIPSHIP ARRIVES. CAPE TOWN, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—The troopship Bechnana, from Cape Town, Nov. 10, with Col. Iver Herbert, assistant adjutant general for the home district, and the foreign military attaches, together with the Comaunt Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and a contingent of miscellaneous troops, in all more than 2,000 men, arrived here today. Col. Herbert and the military attaches immediately landed, and the Bechnana proceeded with the troops, presumably to Durban. CANADIANS TO SMELL POWDER. LONDON, Dec. 2.—The war office has received the following from Gen. Forester-Walker: "The Canadian contingent and three battalions of in-

GREAT REDUCTION In good, reasonable clothing—Overcoats, Suits, Ulsters and Reefers for men and boys. Our low prices will make people talk. Fraser, Fraser & Co., - Foster's Corner, 40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

STANDARD WATCH AND NOVELTY CO. P. O. Box 3 F. St. John, N. B. 1461