

Canadians At the Front

Sent With the Australians to
the Belmont Line,

British Losses at Modder River

Officially Stated as 438 Killed
and Wounded.

Interesting News From the Be- leaguered Town of Mafeking.

London, Dec. 2.—The official list of the British killed and wounded at the battle of Modder River totals 438.

The war office has received the following from Gen. Forester-Walker:

"Cape Town, Friday, Dec. 1.—Gen. Gatacre reports no change in the situation.

"Gen. French has made reconnaissances from Naauw Port to Rosmead. The troops returned today.

"Gen. Methuen's flesh wound is slight. He is remaining at Modder River for the reconstruction of the bridge.

"Am reinforcing him with Highlanders and cavalry corps.

"Horse artillery, the Canadian contingents and three battalions of infantry moved up to the De Aar and Belmont line."

London Times' Views.

[Special Cable Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune and The Globe.]

FROM MAPEKING.

London, Dec. 2.—The Times today has the following special:

Mafeking, Nov. 20.—The shelling today was confined to a few shots from 'Big Ben.' The Boers evidently despair of intimidating Mafeking. The view of the enemy's position from our ramparts is of great interest. They are so close that the bandoliers upon the men are plainly discernible, and the men are plainly discernible, and the void immediately in front of the town is cut up by long trenches and gun emplacements, and ladders scattered here and there, while a picturesque element is given to the scene by herds of cattle, lines of horses and the wagons of the commissariat. Behind the elements of war the domestic side of the Dutch character is represented by the presence of women and children in the chief laagers.

HOPEFUL FEELING.

From Gen. Methuen's force there was no definite news yesterday, apart from the casualty list in official hands. The tone of the officials of the war department was confident, and there was no great degree of public anxiety, but a hopeful feeling that the period of suspense would be brought to a close within 48 hours by the relief of both Kimberley and Ladysmith.

SIMILARITY IN SITUATIONS.

The similarity in the military situations at the Modder and Tugela rivers is remarkable. Each relief column is within twenty miles of the beleaguered garrison, and the river in each case has formed the line of the Boer defense. In each quarter the military operations are concealed from view by a vigorous censorship, but both garrisons are known to be quite safe.

CONFIDENCE IN THE TROOPS.

An eminent Englishman remarked to me yesterday: "We may lack confidence in some of our generals as tacticians, but not in our soldiers as fighting men. They win our battles, and never disappoint us. Evidently it is thought that there cannot be too many of them (the soldiers), for it is generally believed that the two additional divisions now going out will be entrusted to a full army corps."

AT FRERE

Gen. Hildyard Says He Hopes Shortly to Give the Enemy the Licking That They Deserve.

London, Saturday, Dec. 2.—The Daily Chronicle publishes a dispatch from Frere camp, Natal, under date of Nov. 28, stating that the Boers had apparently all retired in the direction of Colenso. The British outposts had not seen any of the enemy.

The correspondent adds:

"Several letters that were found yesterday on the site of the Boer camp complained of the scarcity of provisions, and an entire lack of tobacco. Thousands of mealie cobs were strewn on the ground.

"Work on the new railway bridge is proceeding briskly and will necessarily occupy a long time.

"General Hildyard has issued an order thanking all the troops for the splendid work they have done, and saying he hopes shortly to give the enemy the licking they deserve."

"It is fully expected here that the Boers will make a firm stand at Colenso, and that they will destroy all the bridges and cutters on retiring."

The camp is settled here for the next few days, pending temporary repairs to the bridge. The stone-work is untouched; also portions of the cantilever section. Work is going on on both sides. Spans will be used.

Our men are eager for a fight, and are in splendid condition.

A local Dutch farmer named Zekke-

THE CANADIANS

Arrangements for Their Reception at
Cape Town.

A cable to the Montreal Star, dated Dec. 1, says it was known that in the preparations for the reception of the Canadians Cape Town was smothered in bunting. The shops were draped with flags and displayed such mottoes as, "Welcome, Brother Loyallists."

The postoffice even flew the Union Jack, the first time since the war began that a government building was so decorated. Even Sir Redvers Buller had no such reception prepared. The New Zealanders, who went to the front on Monday, had an amazingly enthusiastic reception.

GEN. METHUEN'S MEN

Composition of the Gallant Division
Marching to Kimberley.

Considerable misunderstanding seems to exist regarding the composition and strength of General Lord Methuen's force advancing for the relief of Kimberley. The following details of its composition, taken from the official dispatches, may, therefore, be of interest:

Officers and men.

The 62nd and 75th Field Batta-

lions, 12 guns and 850

9th Lancashire, about 850

New South Wales Lancers 150

Naval Brigade 500

1st Coldstream Guards 1,010

2nd Coldstream Guards 1,010

2nd Grenadier Guards 1,010

3rd Grenadier Guards 1,010

Argyll and Sutherland Highland-

ers 1,010

2nd Yorkshire Light Infantry 1,000

2nd Northamptonshire 1,000

1st Northumberland Fusiliers 1,010

Part of 1st Loyal North Lanca-

shires 500

A grand total of 11,200 men and 12

guns, exclusive of the naval guns, the number of which has not been men-

tioned in any of the dispatches.

Major Lindsay, who was wounded at

Modder River, was in command of the

75th Field Battery. Lieutenant Buch-

anan-Dunlop, also wounded in that en-

gagement, belonged to the same bat-

tery.

HAIR-RAISING EXCURSION!

Thrilling Experience of an Operative
at Eden Mills.

Guelph, Dec. 2.—On Tuesday Wm. Webb, an employee of Mr. Henry Hor-

top, at Eden Mills, had a very strange

experience and a miraculous escape

from death. He ascended a derrick,

which is 38 feet from the ground, for

the purpose of oiling an axle. The

machinery is driven partly by water

and partly by cable. Mr. Webb missed

his footing and fell on the cable, and

was carried along at a terrific speed

for about a hundred yards towards

the next derrick. He saw the danger-

ous position he was placed in and

thought of alighting on the roof of a

house, but feared that he would be

carried too far and light on a picket

fence, which might be death. He

passed over trees and buildings, and

CAUGHT ON THE FLY

Congress will not get the president's
message until Tuesday.

Prince di Ruspoli, senator and mayor
of Rome, died on Thursday.

Twelve grain ears were wrecked on
the Grand Trunk near Lindsay.

The new Victoria Jubilee bridge at
Montreal has been opened for traffic.

Mr. Joseph Vanalstine was killed in a
runaway accident at Seely's Bay.

Conductor Cabana, of the C. P. R.,
was run over and killed at Montreal.

Jas. Watson, Gladstone, Man., aged
over 70 years, was lost on Wednesday

afternoon on the prairie, and has not
yet been found.

Mr. McPhee and another lady left
Amherst Island in a skiff. Their boat

was found bottom up, and it is feared
the women were drowned.

A reward of \$1,000 is offered by La
Banku National for the arrest of the

robbers who blew up their vault
and safe at Montmagny, Que.

It is understood that J. Pierpont
Morgan, for his fee for organizing the

Southern Railway accepted \$1,500,000 of
the common stock at \$9 a share.

Minnie Kirkham, of Lanark county,
aged 14 years, was shot and killed by

the accidental discharge of a gun in
the hands of her infant brother.

A Brandon dispatch says a woman
named Mrs. Stipp, employed to watch

Hilda Blake, the condemned murderess,
in Brandon jail, has been arrested,

charged with conveying to Miss
Blake for the purpose of attempting to

escape.

The Methodist theological conference
at Toronto was concluded Tuesday

night, when officers for the ensuing
year were elected as follows: President,

Rev. W. H. Hines, L.L.B.; vice-presi-

dent, Rev. S. Selby, L.L.B.; secretary-
treasurer, Rev. E. C. Chubb, D.D.;

Rev. Elber Crumby, B.A., B.Sc.

140 VESSELS RELEASED

The Soo Blockade Was Raised Last
Night.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 2.—The
blockade of Lake Superior navigation

caused by the stranding of the steam-

ers Siemens and North Star across the
channel at Little Rapids, was raised

last night by the floating of the
steamers.

The channel had been blocked since
Tuesday morning, and over 150 boats

had accumulated. The loss to vessel
owners will be very heavy.

VOTING MACHINE WORKS WELL

Ballots and Ballot Frauds Done
Away With

By the New Method—Practicability
Demonstrated.

[Chicago Times-Herald.]

If voting machines had been used in
the recent election in Kentucky, the

peace of that commonwealth would not
now be menaced by the conflicting

claims of the rival candidates for gov-

ernor. There is little doubt that Gen.

Taylor has received a plurality of the

votes cast, but the counting is largely

under the control of Goebel adherents.

The people have registered their ver-

diction in favor of Taylor. If Goebel is

declared governor it must be through a

fraudulent count.

This is the feature of an election

contest that emphasizes the value of

the voting machine, which not only re-

gisters the vote without making false-

fication of returns impossible. As it

works with mechanical accuracy, and

counts the votes as rapidly as they are

received, there can be no holding back

of the returns in certain localities for

needed alterations in tally sheets, or for

manipulation of the ballots.

The practicability of voting machines

has been repeatedly demonstrated in

elections of recent years, but never so

satisfactorily as in the election last

week in Buffalo, Brooklyn, Utica and

STATIONED IN THE LADRONES

Letter From Mr. Fred Strong-
man, Formerly of This
City.

Who Has Been Fifteen Years in the
United States Navy—Interesting
Description of Uncle Sam's New
Possessions.

An interesting letter has been re-
ceived by Mr. Frank Adams, of The

Advertiser, from Mr. Fred Strongman,
a former London boy, who has been

for many years with the American
navy. A short time after the Spanish

war, Mr. Strongman arrived in London
and spent about a month's vacation.

He had then completed his enlistment
of five years. He has been with the

American navy now for some fifteen
years or more, and when leaving here

last stated that it was his intention
to take out papers again for another five

years' service. He had no idea of
where he would be sent, and this is

probably the first public intimation of
his whereabouts to his many relatives

and friends in this city. The Ladrones
islands were ceded to the United States

as one of the settlements of the Span-
ish war. The island of Guam is the

most southern island among the La-

drones.

Agana, Isle of Guam, Oct. 20, 1899.

My Old Friend and Schoolmate:

As surprises are the order of the day,
I thought I would surprise you with a

description of this one of the islands
of the Pacific, situated in lat. 13 de-

grees 25 minutes north, and long. 144
degrees 33 minutes east. It is one of

the most favored spots on the globe.
Until recently it was the property of

Spain, but the fortunes of war have
given the United States control.

Control that is appreciated by these
people, as it gives them liberties and

advantages that in their most favor-
able moments, they did not dream of.

As is (or was) the characteristic of
the Spaniards these people were kept

as far as possible, in complete sub-
jection, a fanatical idea on the part

of Spain. Very few have had the ad-
vantage of an education. A very small

percentage only can read and write.
And so it is a great boon to them to

be allowed the privilege of a liberal
and unostentatious education. Already

we have established a school for the
children. Others will follow for the

middle-aged. They are intelligent and
quick to learn, so that teaching is

more of a pleasure than a task. The
little ones cannot keep quiet at school

such is their eagerness to learn. To
hear them at their lessons carries one

back to his own childhood (when we
were in the old frame school on Col-

borne street). It is my pleasure to hear
them. So far we lack teachers, but

they will come in time. Until they do
we do the best we can, learning their

language and teaching them ours.
All the islands of the middle and

south Pacific, it is very fertile. Ban-

anas, coconuts, lemons, oranges and
limes can be procured without any ex-

ertion, further than raising the arm
of the coconut palm is needed so that

all that is required is a little climbing.
As every man and boy carries a

machete around his waist the task of
getting the nut is reduced to a mini-

mum. A few strokes and the nut is
bare. This is very convenient, as we

are not allowed to drink the water of
the island. Of course, we can make

lemonade by using the distilled water
from the ship, and I assure you, Frank,

it is not the kind usually sold around
fair time, nor does it need any color-

ing. Pure, healthful and satisfying;
and the fruit tastes altogether differ-

ent when it is plucked ripe, than when
it is plucked green and allowed to

ripen in transit. Of course, the prin-

cipal diet of the natives is breadfruit.
This they make up in a variety of

ways, but always palatable and nutri-

tious. They live almost entirely on
fruit, very little meat being necessary.

This may be due to the fact of its be-
ing scarce, as there is very little live

stock on the island. They have a
species of cattle here called the water-

buffalo. These do all the heavy pull-

ing and hauling of what little work is
done. Nature is so bountiful that very

little labor is necessary. Their im-

plements are all very crude. For
wheels for the cart they simply make

a round, solid block, put a hole in it
for the hub, and it is ready for use.

Nails they hardly know the use of.
For rope (of any size) they twist and

lay up strands of the fibre of the co-
conut. For roofs of their houses they

use palm leaves, laying them on tier
after tier, until they completely shed

the rain; and it does rain, too. Not
the sprinkling, or the few minutes'

heavy downpour of your more north-

...OUR... GREAT SALE

We inaugurate today our
Mammoth Christmas Sale by
making the following startling
sacrifice announcements.

The prices enumerated below
are good until the quantities are
disposed of.

Come early and secure one, as
they will not last long.

17 Colored Tea Sets, \$1.75
44 pieces, sold elsewhere at \$2 50, at.....

11 DECORATED DINNER SETS
97 Pieces of Ware.

One dozen Tea Plates,
One dozen Dinner Plates,
One dozen Soup Plates,
One dozen Cups and Saucers,
One dozen Fruit Saucers,
One dozen Butter Pads,
One Side Dish, 10-inch,
One Side Dish, 14-inch,
One Teapot,
One Sugar Bowl,
One Cream Jug,
One Soup Bowl,
Two Covered Dishes,
One Sauce Boat,
Sold elsewhere for \$5 50
and \$6, at..... \$4-50

23 Good Colored Toilet Sets
—10 pieces, comprizing one Large Ewer, one Basin, one Cov-
ered Chamber, one Soap Dish (three pieces), one Brush
Vase, one Mouth Jug and one Mug. Sold
elsewhere for \$2 25, at..... \$1.50

SHOP EARLY AT

THE CRYSTAL HALL

197 and 199 Dundas Street.

W. J. Reid & Co.