

they appeared in the *British Medical Journal* of the 3rd of February, 1900:—

**BELMONT:**

"In the action at Belmont on Nov. 23rd in which the first movement was made at 3 a.m., and which terminated at about 6.10 a.m. by the capture of the heights and the retreat of the enemy, the casualties, it will be remembered, were 54 killed and 238 wounded. "In addition 20 of the enemy's wounded were taken into the British hospital. Lord Methuen in his dispatch of Nov. 26th, written from Enslin, writes as follows with regard to the medical arrangements of this fight:

"By 10.30 my division was in camp; by one all my wounded were in a comfortable house being carefully attended; by 5 p.m. next day the hospital train conveyed the less severe cases to Orange River, the graver cases to Cape Town. This is the most perfect work I have ever heard of in war, and reflects the highest credit on Col. Townsend, R.A.M.C."

**MODDER RIVER:**

"In this action which was fought on Nov. 28th, beginning at 4 a.m., the number of casualties was 72 killed and 396 wounded. Lord Methuen concludes his dispatch by the following observation of the work of the Royal Army Medical Corps: 'Again I call attention to the splendid hospital arrangements, for at 4.45 p.m. on the day after the fight all my wounded men were on the way to Cape Town. I am glad to have been slightly wounded because in no other way could I have learnt the care taken of the wounded, and there was nothing officer or private soldier required that was not provided at once and the medical officers never tired in their endeavor to alleviate suffering.'"

For heroism let me relate a case as reported by the special correspondent of the Medical Record, New York.

"After the battle of Colenso an officer of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Major Babbie, distinguished himself by a feat of courage and daring which it is to be hoped will be recognized by the military authorities. The R.A.M.C. already possess more Victoria Crosses than any other branch of the service and it now seems possible that Major Babbie's name will be added to the list of holders of this much coveted honor. During the thickest of the fight Major Babbie rode into the donga—the dried-up watercourse in which the British losses were most severe and where Colonel Long's guns had to be abandoned—and remained with the wounded through a hail of bullets doing what he could for them. Among others whom he attended under these terrible circumstances was Lieutenant the Honorable Frederick Roberts, the only son of Lord Roberts, V.C., the commander-in-chief of the British army in South Africa. Major Babbie's horse was killed under him, but he remained in the donga until firing ceased, doling out minim doses of water from his water bottle and rendering such first aid as was possible. It was extremely sad that Lieut. Robert's life could not be saved, but he was shot in the forearm, wounded in the knee by a shell and had in addition a perforating wound in the abdomen. When Major Babbie brought him back he was pulseless and died without rallying. He had