

BRITISH FORCES UNITE.

Gen. Yule Has Performed a Brilliant Strategic Move.

The British Forces Will Now Engage Gen. Joubert's Army, Which Outnumbers Them Three to One—Restlessness of Basutos Is Due to Boer Threats.

A despatch from London, says:—The chief item of news from the front Wednesday morning was the announcement that the calling back of General Yule from Dundee was a preconceived plan, the attention being the junction of the two British forces under the command of General White to give battle to the Boers' strong force, instead of engaging the enemy in two sections. The movement was successfully accomplished, General White engaging the attention of the Boers while General Yule's force moved down to the main command.

BRILLIANT MOVEMENT.

The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

Gen. Yule has performed a brilliant strategic movement. By a swift march to the south, leaving Glencoe, he has effected a junction of his forces with those of Sir George Stewart White, slightly to the north of Ladysmith.

"The two are now in a position to offer battle. I believe the first attack will be made on the large Free State force which entered Natal by way of Tintwa pass, and which has since been harassing Ladysmith. The military authorities decided that by joining their forces the two generals would be better able to cope with one large force at a time, than by having two small detachments to oppose simultaneously.

HARD FIGHTING SOON.

"Accordingly, after defeating the Free State troops, they will offer battle to Commandant-General Joubert. Only forty miles now separate the two Boer forces. Hence the need for swift and telling action.

"The two sections of the Boer army together outnumber the entire British force by three to one. Hard fighting is certain at a very early date. Our men are confident, and there is much enthusiasm."

It is evident from the official despatches that both Commandant-General Joubert's column on the north and the Orange Free State troops on the west now occupy strong positions, and that nothing hinders the Boers from following up Gen. Yule's retirement and getting around Ladysmith from the south-east.

It is believed that the Government have other despatches that have not yet been published. The Secretary of State for War left Mr. Choate's residence early at the banquet to Gen. Harrison and proceeded to the War Office, where even after midnight there was much activity.

TRYING TO INCITE BASUTOS.

A despatch from Cape Town, says:—The following advices have been received here from Maseru, Basutoland:

A native lately visited a laager of Orange Free State troops just opposite Maseru. He found it to consist of waggon, surrounded by turf, piled three feet high. He noticed only a few Mausers. The Boer commandant questioned him regarding the feeling of the different Basuto chiefs, principally the paramount chief, Lerothodi, and in order to draw the commandant, the native replied that the chiefs sided with the Boers.

Thereupon the commandant said the two Republics wished to kill the British, and to take over and govern the Basutos, restoring to the latter that part of the country which the Free State formerly took from them. As to the British, those whom they failed to kill they would drive into the sea.

The commandant wished a decision on the part of Lerothodi and the other chiefs as soon as possible whether they would fight the Boers or the British—because his contingent was anxious to help the Boers elsewhere. He acknowledged that his men were afraid of the Basutos, as well as their wives and families, as well as their cattle, were within reach of a Basuto incursion.

The Boers on the Basutoland frontier, according to the best information obtainable at Maseru, number about 2,500.

TUESDAY'S FIGHT.

General White has telegraphed to the War Office from Rietfontein, under date of Oct. 24, saying that in the fight near Ladysmith on Tuesday thirteen of the British force were killed, 93 wounded, and three are missing, the casualties being mostly among the Gloucester Regiment.

CUT THEIR WAY OUT.

A despatch from the London Daily Telegraph from Ladysmith, dated Monday, says:—Thirty of the 18th Hussars, who were sent from Glencoe to intercept the retreat of the Boers from Elandslaagte were cut off by the enemy. Under Sergt. Baldrey they bravely fought their way across the Biggarsberg hills, the enemy pursuing and firing at them, at a range of 800 yards along the passes.

"They arrived at Ladysmith at 10 o'clock Monday morning. Three of the troopers are missing, owing to the breakdown of their horses. The Boers used a Maxim. A lieutenant of the Hussars, with a party, was driven back to Glencoe. The Hussars were fired at as far down as Moderspruit."

JOUBERT CLOSE AT HAND.

A despatch from London, says:—It is quite evident that the war in Natal has only commenced, and that the Boers are by no means discouraged at losing the first two battles. Many experts are satisfied General Joubert is

even now close to the heels of the British, and a decisive action may be fought soon.

Later estimates of the Boer losses at Elandslaagte give 300 killed. Their coolness, bravery, and good aim can be judged from the fact that out of 17 or 18 officers with the half battalion of Gordon Highlanders, four were killed and 13 were wounded, while the casualties among the rank and file were 27 per cent. during less than three hours' fighting.

Lieut. Campbell, of the Gordon Highlanders, has since died from his wounds.

FIFTY BOERS WERE KILLED.

Despatches from Cape Town say that advices from Mafeking confirm the statement that 50 Boers were killed by the explosion of two trucks of dynamite, purposely sent out by Colonel Baden-Powell to draw the Boer fire.

The offer of General Cronje, the Boer commander in the vicinity of Mafeking, to Colonel Baden-Powell to exchange prisoners, referred to Capt. Nesbitt and others of the armoured train, wrecked at Kraaipan.

ROYALTY OFF TO THE CAPE.

A despatch from Cape Town says:—The troops of the Inniskilling Dragoons, with 186 horses, at Queenstown on Wednesday night. The officers include Prince Alexander of Teck, third son of the Duke of Teck, a lieutenant of the 7th Hussars, who served three years ago in Matabeleland. Prince Alexander is volunteering for service once more in South Africa. The Siberian carries also a number of Maxims and a large quantity of ammunition.

GEN WHITE'S POSITION.

A despatch from London, Friday, says:—The proposed attack on the combined forces of Sir George S. White and General Yule by the Orange Free Staters, who are supposed to be coming through Tintwa pass, is still to be realized so far as any reports reaching London are concerned. The British continue to stand in readiness for battle, but apparently the enemy is still out of sight.

All reports from the front predict an early, sanguinary fight.

The fact that the Free Staters did not make their expected appearance through the Tintwa pass leads to the well-grounded belief that the Boers have been made aware of the British concentration, and have turned their course so as to join Joubert's Boer force without interruption.

In case the two united forces collide, it is quite likely the most important engagement of the war will be fought.

The War Office is still in the dark regarding the true size of either Joubert's or the Free State legions, as the estimates range all the way from 10,000 to 30,000.

Taking the mean estimate as true, the Boers have at least twice as many men as the British, and an equal number of guns.

The situation is not the best the British army has seen by any means, but it is relieved considerably by the announcement in a despatch received from Ladysmith that strong reinforcements of artillery and infantry had arrived there from Pietermaritzburg. A despatch also reports that a battalion of the rifle brigade.

A summary of the British military strength is published, showing that the total number of troops now in South Africa is 25,500, including 16,400 who landed since September 8. There are 21,000 men en route, and more than 28,000 yet to be embarked.

MORE TROOPS REACH AFRICA.

From Cape Town also the following despatch was received:—The troopship Zayathia, whose voyage from Liverpool was delayed by difficulties with her machinery, has arrived with a battery and a half of field artillery. Her sister transport, with an equal force, which has been similarly delayed, is daily expected.

DEATH OF GEN. SYMONS.

The death of Sir William Penn Symonds, the British commander at Glencoe, who was shot in the stomach in the battle with the Boers there Oct. 20, was officially announced in the House of Commons on Thursday.

A despatch from Cape Town says:—Official reports from Kimberley, dated Tuesday, state that Colonel Scott Turner, with 270 men, proceeded northward to MacFarlane's farm where they unsaddled their horses. At 9 o'clock a party of Boers was seen on the right flank and was quickly scattered. Colonel Scott Turner opening fire on them and several of the army being seen to fall. The enemy moved to a sand heap and opened fire on the British, which was returned.

Colonel Scott Turner attempted to prevent the Boers advancing against Col. Murray, but was met with a heavy fire from a dam wall 600 feet on the left. At 11 o'clock Col. Murray ordered 150 men of the Lancashire Regiment to proceed to the north.

An armoured train is already supporting Col. Scott Turner. At midday Col. Murray started also, with two field guns and two Maxims and seventy mounted men. One of the two British guns opened suddenly upon the Boers, who were in an unfavour-

able position. The Boer artillery fire was brisk. Another armoured train was held in readiness. At 2 o'clock the second train was sent toward with additional ammunition. The Lancashires behaved splendidly and Col. Scott Turner highly commended them.

Commandant Botha and many Boers were killed. The British loss was three killed and 21 wounded. The engagement was a brilliant success for the British forces.

Another despatch says that the Boers were unable to withstand the splendid charge of the Lancashires, who cleared the hill occupied by the enemy, at the point of the bayonet. The Boer losses are described as very heavy. Col. Scott Turner's force consisted of the local volunteers, who, with the Lancashires completed the rout of the burghers, after Murray's artillery had driven them out of their entrenchments. Botha commanded the Boer force.

The fight lasted four hours. Before the sortie Kimberley was apparently in high spirits, as a despatch from there, dated Oct. 23, says everyone was cheerful there at the time, and that a wedding was celebrated there that day. The despatch adds:—

"Great enthusiasm has been aroused here by the news of the British successes in Natal. Several farmers in the neighborhood of Kimberley have been noticed in the ranks of the Boers."

According to further advices from Kimberley the Boers removed the killed and wounded in carts. No reliable estimate of their losses has been made. The townspeople, including the women, mounted the trenches watching eagerly for the return of the troops.

HUSSARS WERE CAPTURED.

A despatch from London says:—The mystery of the Eighteenth Hussars is finally cleared in the official report from General White, and there is no doubt how the Hussars went too far in pursuit of the Boers after the battle of Glencoe, and were captured entire.

The captured force numbers nine officers, with Colonel Moller commanding, and 160 men.

Since the British have several hundred Boer captives, including several high officers, it is likely an exchange will be effected soon, and the Hussars returned.

The troop of the Eighteenth Hussars reported returned by Correspondent Stevens proves to be thirty men, under Sergeant Baldrey, sent to cut off the retreating Boers after the fight of Elandslaagte. These also had a narrow escape from capture, and were chased several miles, and fired at all the way. They lost three men, whose horses were shot. These are perhaps captives, and perhaps hiding and waiting for a chance to return to camp.

BOER HEROISM.

A despatch from Durban, Natal, says:—The Natal Mercury relates an incident of the battle at Elandslaagte. The fire of the British guns was getting too hot for the Boers. Eight Boers suddenly ran forward out of cover and coolly opened fire on the Imperial Light Horse, evidently for the purpose of drawing the British fire while their companions changed their position. Seven of the eight were instantly killed.

1,000 BOER PRISONERS.

A special despatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, dated Oct. 24, says:—"Nine hundred and eighty-eight Boer prisoners were here this morning. They included Captains DeWitt, Hamer, Figulus, Meyer, Vanlegger, and Dotener."

BOMBARDING MAFEKING.

A despatch from Mafeking says:—"All is well. There was a four-hours' bombardment during which a dog was killed."

The following despatch dated Oct. 23, has been received from Mafeking:—"The enemy began a bombardment of Mafeking at 7.40 a.m., to-day at a range of two miles and a half, their battery of three Krupp guns throwing seven pound, nine pound, and twelve pound explosive shells."

"At the outset the firing was erratic, but ultimately the Boers got the range and sent a number of shells into the town. Comparatively little damage was done, a convent which had been converted into a hospital being the chief sufferers. This building was struck thrice. Apparently the Boer ammunition was inferior."

No casualties were sustained by the British, and only one shot was returned. This, however, was so well directed as to disable one of the enemy's guns.

"After three hours the Boers sent an envoy to ask the town to prepare for surrender. Col. Baden-Powell, the British commander, replied in the negative. The shelling was not resumed."

AN EXCITING SORTIE.

A later despatch from Mafeking says:—"The Boers are in possession of the water works, and have cut off the supply. This occasions no anxiety, because an ample supply is available in tanks and wells."

"During a sortie this evening the British encountered the enemy three miles off to the north. The Boers had apparently been warned, and returned our fire in earnest with a well-handled machine gun. Our men had no intention of pressing an attack, they retired immediately. The conduct of our men was splendid. The loss of the enemy could not be ascertained."

Word has been received from Barkly West, no date given, that the Boers have evacuated Klipdam and are apparently re-enforcing the forces that are attacking Mafeking."

BULLER AT THE CAPE.

A despatch from London, says:—Sir Redvers Buller may be expected at the Cape to-day, Sunday. This will be a very fast voyage, the mail steamer usually arriving at Cape Town on Wednesday of every week at the earliest, but the Dunottar Castle, in response to a request of the War Office that Sir Donald Currie should secure

the maximum speed, was provided with nine extra stokers.

As reinforcements will arrive each day at Cape Town, General Buller ought to be in a position very soon to send troops to the relief of Mafeking and Kimberley without depleting the strength of the great army corps which will make a grand parade through Cape Colony and the Orange Free State to Pretoria.

RAISING TROOPS IN HOLLAND.

The British Government has received positive information that a corps, numbering about 1,000 has secretly been raised in Holland to help the Boers. Wealthy Amsterdam merchants found the money for transport equipment, and over 200 men are already en route. The remainder will follow in small detachments as they can obtain transportation, the rendezvous being Koomati Poort, on the Transvaal-Portuguese frontier, where the commandant has been instructed what to do with them. The men travel as returning Transvaal citizens, and it is not believed that the Portuguese authorities can prevent them from proceeding over the railway to the frontier. Probably the British Government has already made some sort of representations to the Dutch Government, but the first confirmatory news will likely come from Delagoa Bay in an announcement that the Dutch have been prevented from landing at Lorenzo Marques, where the Governor is as zealous as though a salaried British agent, acting presumably on instructions from Lisbon.

It is repeatedly asserted that the Transvaal is prepared to issue letters of marque, their accredited envoy, Dr. Leyds, being fully empowered in that regard, and that arrangements are being made at Amsterdam to fit out a swift steamer. It is believed, however, that this particular project has been abandoned, owing to the vigilance of the British ships of war in the English channel, which would have made it hopeless for any privateer to get clear away into the open sea unobserved.

LOOTING OF DUNDEE.

A correspondent of the Central News who witnessed the evacuation of Dundee by the British under General Yule, and who remained in the town was taken prisoner by the Boers, but who was subsequently released, sends the following additional details of the abandonment of the place. "Early Sunday evening the Boers shelled the British camp from batteries in two positions. The British retired out of range as quickly as possible, abandoning the hospital and a great quantity of stores. The townsfolk thereupon became panic-stricken, and took to flight. They left the place on horseback and afoot, making their way through the pitch darkness and heavy rain to Keker's farm and Rowan's farm, several miles south of Dundee. News reached Keker's farm that Gen. Yule had urged instant retreat to Ladysmith, as the Boers surrounded Dundee. Then ensued a pitiable panic. Three hundred persons, including women and children, plodded all night in the torrential rain over the sodden veldt. Some took refuge for part of the night in a Kaffir kraal. The rest went on to Umsinga, Greytown, and Pietermaritzburg, to which places they were followed by those who had sought refuge in the kraal. The refugees at Rowan's farm had not been heard of Monday morning. The few persons who had remained in Dundee were startled when they found that the troops had gone, and they fled hurriedly."

SHIELLED THE HOSPITAL.

"The Boers were swarming on the surrounding hills, especially Smith's hill, on which they had been defeated Friday. They commenced shelling the hospital, from which a party with a flag of truce went and told Commandant Erasmus that British and Boer wounded were in the building. Commandant Erasmus expressed regret for shelling the place, and immediately ordered the firing to cease. He said he had mistaken the Indian hospital attendants for soldiers."

"At 10 o'clock a large number of Boer soldiers entered the town, and there was a riotous scene. Then a more disciplined contingent entered and planted the Transvaal flag on the Court-house. They informed the few inhabitants that they would not be molested, adding that the Boers only needed provisions, but needed them badly."

WILD SCENE OF LOOTING.

"Subsequently there was a wild scene of looting. The stores were all broken into, the Boers taking the most incongruous mix of 'p' un 'er' ladies' clothing, parasols, etc. One burgher, in addition to a load of articles of every conceivable variety, succeeded in tying a bicycle in front of him on his pony. All took a couple of bottles of liquor, which many of the Boers used over-freely. It was owing to this fact that the correspondent, who had been arrested, managed to get away, his guard, who had taken him outside the town, becoming drunk."

The correspondent returned to Dundee to see the finish of the Boer occupation. By Tuesday they had appointed a town guard. The patrols punished the Kaffirs, who had presumed to join in the looting. A proclamation was issued promising safety to those who remained, and, generally speaking, the Boers were well conducted. The correspondent saw the funeral of General Symonds. He was buried without a coffin, the body being wrapped in a Union Jack.

Meanwhile General Lucas Meyer was informed of the turn of events, and he returned with the Boers, who had been defeated on Friday, to reinforce Commandant Erasmus.

"SOLDIERS OF THE QUEEN."

In the afternoon the Boers entered the town in larger numbers, and securing more liquor they became excited and quarrelsome. Some paraded the streets singing, "We are Soldiers of the Queen," a popular song among the British troops. The correspondent then obtained the commandant's permit to go free. He left Thursday, and reached Ladysmith Saturday. He says that

while among the enemy he learned that many of them were returning to their homes, having become tired of the campaign, which was not like what they expected.

It is noticeable that this correspondent, who was the only one present when the Boers captured the town, makes no mention of the brutal shooting down of the town guard reported by other correspondents miles from the scene.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, &c. in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, Oct. 31.—Only 28 loads of offerings came into the western cattle yards this morning, and little business was done. Dullness, poor quality of the cattle, and unchanged prices, were the characteristics of the market.

The supplies of shipping cattle were light, and we had little enquiry; prices range from \$4 to \$4.25 per cwt., for a few choice lots 10 and 15c more was paid.

Good butcher cattle is much wanted, and for the right kind of stuff 4 to 4 1-4c per pound is paid; very choice might bring a little more. Medium and inferior cattle is weak.

Stockers are dull at from 2 1-2 to 3 1-4c per pound.

Feeders and export bulls are unchanged.

Sheep are not wanted, and trade is quiet at from 3 to 3 1-2c per pound.

Lambs are steady at from 3 1-4 to 3 3-4c per pound; for extra choice lambs 4c was paid.

Good veal calves are wanted.

About 2,500 hogs were received to-day. Prices are unchanged, but the market is weak, and the outlook is for lower prices.

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.	\$4.00 \$4.25
Butcher, choice, do.	3.60 4.00
Butcher, med. to good.	3.25 3.50
Butcher, inferior.	2.25 2.75
Stockers, per cwt.	2.25 3.25
Sheep and Lambs.	
Ewes, per cwt.	3.00 3.30
Lambs, per cwt.	3.25 3.75
Bucks, per cwt.	2.00 2.50
Milkers and Calves.	
Cows, each.	25.00 45.00
Calves, each.	2.00 7.00
Hogs.	
Choice hogs, per cwt.	41.2-2 43.7-4
Light hogs, per cwt.	4.00 4.00
Heavy hogs, per cwt.	4.00 4.00

Toronto, Oct. 31.—Wheat—Is dull. Red and white are quoted at 65c to 6 1-2c west, spring at 66 1-2c to 67c east and 70c on a low freight to New York, and 60c north and west. Manitoba wheat is steady at 81c for Toronto and west.

Montreal, Oct. 31.—Grain—The grain market is quiet and shows little change. No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat afloat Fort William is quoted around 60c. October delivery. No. 2 hard was quoted at a spread of 3c below. No. 2 oats, afloat Montreal, spot, 30 1-4c to 30 1-2c; peas, 67 1-2c; rye, 61c to 62c; No. 2 barley, 50c to 50 1-2c; and feed barley 48 1-2c; buckwheat, 56 1-2c.

Buffalo, Oct. 31.—Spring wheat — Stronger; No. 1 Northern, old, spot, 77 3-8c; new spot, 75 3-8c; No. 2 Northern, new, 72 1-8c. Winter wheat—Nothing doing; No. 2 red, 74 1-2c; No. 1 white, 78c. Corn — Barley steady; No. 2 yellow, 39 1-2c; No. 3 yellow, 39 to 39 1-4c; No. 4 yellow, new, 39 1-2c; No. 3 corn, 38 1-4 to 38 1-2c; No. 3 corn, 38 to 38 1-4c; Oats—Stronger; No. 2 white, 29 1-4 to 29 1-2c; No. 3 white, 28 3-4 to 29c; No. 4 white, 28 to 28 1-4c; No. 2 mixed, 27c; No. 3 mixed, 26 1-2c. Rye — No offerings; No. 2 on track, quoted at 63c. Canal freights — About all the offerings of grain were taken this morning; corn went at 3 1-2c, flaxseed, and wheat at 4 1-2c, to New York. Flour—Steady.

Chicago, Oct. 31.—Flaxseed closed: North-West, \$1.29; South-West, \$1.28 cash; October, \$1.27 3-4; December, \$1.27 1-2; May, \$1.29; Duluth, to arrive, \$1.24; cash, \$1.24 1-4; October, \$1.24; December, \$1.21 1-4; May, \$1.24 1-2.

ALL EUROPE WONDERS

Why the Mobilization of Such Immense British Forces?

A despatch from London, says:—The sensational rumours of the designs of foreign powers inimical to British interests meet with scant credence, though it is admitted it is difficult to explain the immense forces on land and sea which Great Britain is now mobilizing.

In Vienna it is reported that the British naval movements are due to a rumour that Russia, with the assent of France, is about to acquire from Spain Ceuta or some other naval station on the African coast.

Elsewhere it is stated that the movements of the French Mediterranean fleet in the neighbourhood of the Levant, where it could easily be joined by the Russian Black Sea fleet, via the Straits of Dardanelles, are occasioning suspicion.

The German Catholic missionary stations at Kribi and Bambe, German Cameroon West Africa, have been destroyed by the Bulungu tribesmen. The missionaries fled to the coast. One was wounded.