Boers Have Hands Full

With Two Driving Columns of British and Third Making for Bloemfontein.

Clery Moves Through Perilous Passes But Methuen Across Open Veldt.

Gatacre May Score First by Raising Flag Over Free State Capital.

By Associated Press.

London, Nov. 23.—Three British generals will vie with each other in the next ten days in trying to win glory against the Boers. While they are co-operating in a movement which has tactical unity in its progress, their commands as far as immediate objectives are concerned are independent of each other. The result of this rivalry among them is inevitable, nad the military clubs here will follow the three campaigns with the keenest interest. The three comanders are Major-General Charles F. Clery, in Natal, who will lead the advance to relieve Ladysmith; Major-General Paul S. Methuen, commanding the flying column which has already started to relieve Kimberly, and Major-General William W. Gatacre, commanding the British forces at Queenstown, the central position in Cape Colony, who will push forward to the Orange Free State border, with the object of diverting the Boers from the two British movements to the east and west. All three generals have served with distinction in India, Egypt or South Africa. Clery is an authority on tactics; Methuen has commanded the Bechuanaland Horse and knows as much as the Boers about South Africa fighting; Gatacre is an all-round fighter, who has seen long service in India and fought with Kitchener in Egypt.

The two relief expeditions will hold public interest from the start. They are of widely different characters. Clery, in Natal, is preparing to lead an army of horse, foot and dragoons, with heavy guns up through tortuous passes, where his advance will be stubbornly contested. His ability will be tested to the utmost and his success will accrue to him gradually, culminating in the wresting of Ladysmith from the Boers. Methuen's advance to relieve Kimberly will be over the open veldt. He has no heavy artillery, and his operations will consist of dashes of a brilliant nature and an endeavor to sweep the Boers before him in field fighting, a kind of warfare they are said to dislike. His troops are in the lightest order and will advance as often as possible under cover of darkness. With Methuen victory or defeat will probably be quick and decisive.

Meanwhile Gatacre, with a force of regulars and local volunteers, will attempt to force the Boers from Northern Cape Colony, capture the border towns and push on into Orange Free State territory. His expedition will not attract as much attention as that of Methuen, but those who know Gatacre say that they would not be surprised to learn that he had hoisted the British flag over Bloemfontein.

The forward movement of these generals will constitute the second chapter of the South African war, which Englishmen are expecting will make a pleasanter ending than the first.

The admiralty announces that the first dragoons left Capetown to-day for Durban to reinforce Gen. Clery, whose advance is delayed by lack of cavalry.

ANGLICAN CHURCH AFFAIRS.

Bishop of Ontario to Retire—Trouble Over a Toronto Rectorate.

Toronto, Nov. 23.—(Special)—The Bishop of Toronto witholds his consent to the appointment of Rev. John De Soyrus as director of St. James' Cathedral and at a joint meeting between him and the committee he suggested several other names, none of which were accepted.

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 23.—The Bishop of Toronto pushed matters to a crisis in connection with the vacant rectorate this afternoon by appointing the Rev. A. H. Baldwin to the position, who has accepted conditionally on congregational approval. The congregation say he is not acceptable and will carry the matter to the courts.

Kingston, Nov. 23.—Archbishop Lewis has given notice of his retirement as bishop of the Diocese of Ontario, to take effect in May, 1900.—This is due to old age and infirmities. He has been bishop 38 years. The diocese will give him a retiring allowance of $2,000.

AN OHIO MYSTERY.

Medical Student Found Dead with Bruises Indicating a Murder.

Toledo, O., Nov. 23.—W. L. Thomas of Bradford, Ont., a medical student at a local college, met death mysteriously at Ironville, a suburb, early this morning. His body was found under the derrick of an oil well at 9 o'clock. His clothing was wet and bedraggled and there are contusions on his head and face. Little is known of Thomas here. He has been working his way through college and was employed by Dr. T. A. Miller, 625 Adams street, who identified him, at 8 o'clock this evening. It is thought that Thomas was murdered.

BASUTO LABOR NEEDED.

Boers Persuading the Natives to Take in Crops Which Otherwise Would Rot.

London, Nov. 23.—An official despatch from Sir Alfred Milner to Mr. Chamberlain reports that thus far the efforts of the Boers to provoke an uprising among the Basutos or to start civil war in Cape Colony have been unsuccessful.

The Boers informed Chief Jonathan that if he would join them he would be defended. If he remained neutral they told him he would not be molested, but they declared that he must expell the British magistrate and allow his fellow tribesmen to pass freely into the Orange Free State, whose government would in return guarantee Basutoland to the Basutos in perpetuity.

The great concern of the Boers is the crops, which will rot unless Basuto labor can be obtained. Evidently the natives have been affected by the representations of repeated successes.

RAIL TO SIMILKAMEEN.

Columbia & Western Extension May Follow That Valley Instead of Projected Route to Hope.

Grand Forks, B. C., Nov. 23.—It now seems to be definitely settled that the C. P. R. will extend the Columbia & Western line beyond Midway to the Similkameen next summer. Chief Engineer Tye recently drove over the proposed route. As a result, Oscar Eglund, one of his assistants, and a staff of twenty men have just been despatched to the Similkameen, locating the line. It was the original intent on to build the road just to Penticton, and thence to Hope on the main line, but owing to the sudden drop required to get down to Okanagan lake, this route has been abandoned. After leaving Rock Creek, west of Midway, the road as now virtually decided on will run to Keremeos and Princeton through the Similkameen valley and thence to Spence's Bridge, not following the old route to Hope. By the new survey it is claimed that satisfactory grades can be obtained. It is to establish the grades that Mr. Eglund is now in the field with instruction to complete the work as soon as possible. Construction will begin from the Spence's Bridge end, and the first contract, it is understood, will be for 150 miles of grading.

PRISONERS NOT SUFFERING.

American Consul's Report on Both Boer and British Captives.

Chicago, Nov. 23.—A Capetown despatch to the Record says: "J. J. G. Stowe, United Stattes consul-general at Capetown, to-day received a telegram from United States Consul Macrum at Pretoria reporting that the British prisoners held there are in excellent condition, there being no disease among them as was reported. The officers chafe, however, under confinement, desiring release or parole. Mr. Stowe also inspected the prisoners' quarters at Simonstown south of this city, where the Boers captured in battle are confined. He found they also are well treated and in excellent health, but eagerly looking forward to exchange and the chance of another go at the British."

Gatacre Feels The Enemy.

Found Them Destroying Railway but Was Unprepared to Give Battle.

Dutch Rising Beyond Question—Rebel Leader at Colesberg Arrested.

By Associated Press.

London, Nov. 23.—The war office has received the following from General Forester Walker at Capetown:

"Gen. Gatacre reports having yesterday (Wednesday) encamped a battalion of infantry near Putter's Kraal and that reinforcements of mounted troops with half a battalion of infantry arrived at the same camp today.

"The Dutch rising continues in the Broken Nail districts. The police at Molten's report that armed Dutch have left Cravlock, Cape Colony, to join the rebels at Broken Nail, taking with them armed natives.

"Gen. French conducted a reconnaissance towards Arundel, which he found in strength. He withdrew with three men wounded.

"The Boers are reported moving from Natal to the vicinity of Bloemfontein. Telegraphic communication with Belmont has been re-opened and a heavy engagement is reported.

"The postmaster at Hopetown reports that the Kuruman people have defeated the North rebels."

Later details regarding the Arundel reconnaissance say that the Boers there were engaged in destroying the railway. One account of the affair says that after the retirement an ambulance train with doctors was sent out from Naauwpoort. If this were so, the British casualties must have exceeded three.

The Boers occupied Steynsburg, southwest of Burghersdorp, on Monday.

Naauwpoort, Nov. 23, 5:25 p. m.—A British force 200 strong, consisting of mounted infantry and police, with a few cavalry, partly entrained, reconnoitred towards Colesburg to-day under Gen. French and accomplished 18 miles. They were fired upon by a party of Boers concealed on a hill. Three men were wounded.

Capetown, Nov. 23.—Vanrensburg, the commander of the rebels at Colesburg, was arrested just as he was joining a Boer command. Under orders from Gen. Gatacre, he will be tried for treason.

THE SAMOAN PARTITION.

Two Treaties Ready for Final Delivery, Closing This Interesting Bargain.

Washington, Nov. 23.—Two treaties for the final partition of the Samoan Islands have been drawn and one of them already has been signed. The main treaty is trilateral in character, between Great Britain, the United States and Germany, by which the territorial arrangement of the islands is fixed. It is quite brief, comprising only four or five articles, the essential features being that Great Britain and Germany renounce all claims and interests in the island of Tutuila and the outlying islands, which go to the United States, and this government and Great Britain renounce all interest in Upola and Savila, which go to Germany. The present indication is that the treaty will be signed in Washington, in which case Secretary Hays and Ambassadors Pauncefote and Von Holleben will be the signatory parties, although it is still possible that the execution of the document may occur in London.

The second treaty is between Great Britain and Germany and is longer than the first, covering the rights and interests in the Tongs and Solomon islands and other settlements brought about by the Samoan partition. The United States does not sign this treaty, and is only indirectly concerned. It is understood that this collateral treaty has already been executed in Berlin, and that the signing of the trilateral treaty will bring to a close the negotiations for the division of the islands.

SALISBURY ILL.

London, Nov. 22.—Lord Salisbury is suffering from an attack of influenza, and is unable to attend to business.

Open Door To Philippines

Whitelaw Reid on American Position Towards Her Commercial Rivals.

With "Political Control of Pacific" She Should Fear No Competition.

By Associated Press.

New York, Nov. 21.—The 31st annual banquet of the Chamber of Commerce was held at Delmonico's to-night and brought together five hundred representative business men of New York. There were also a number of distinguished guests. President Jessup presided. His introductory remarks were brief. After congratulating the members of the chamber upon the prosperous condition of the country he proposed the toast "The President of the United States." The toast was drunk standing. Next. President Jessup proposed a toast to Queen Victoria, while the orchestra played "God Save the Queen."

The principal speakers were Governor Roosevelt and Whitelaw Reid.

Mr. Reid spoke to the toast "The Existing Friendly Relations Between the United States and Great Britain," and said:

"Long ago Thomas Jefferson remarked that of all the nations of the world Great Britain could do the most harm and therefore we should sedulously cultivate a cordial friendship with her. These latter days have shown that, of all the nations of the earth, Great Britain and the United States can give each other the most cheer and do each other the most good. There is a nobler motive on both sides for the same sedulous cultivation of the same cordial friendship.

"In the lamentable wars in which both are for the moment unhappily involved, the most either need do is to hope for the other as for itself an honorable and speedy end to conflicts which neither began. Few thinking people seriously suppose either war can have any but the one obvious and inevitable results. The heavier battalions will win. For the rest, whatever may be the natural sympathies aroused for the feebler side in either war, and whatever may be urged in partial justification of the attacks by which they precipitated hostilities, the dispassionate observer will not doubt that in both cases the end which is thus foreseen from the beginning, will be best for the security of personal rights, for the ordered liberty and the advancing civilization of the world.

"We cannot but regret, in one, that victory will bring some natural pangs to as noble a race as dwells in Europe, the race that stood like a rock when the blood of Spanish aggression threatened to overflok the continent, the race that gave to England William of Orange, and to America the city of New York. But while Dutch sympathy with illusory Afrikander aspirations will breed o bloody feud, it cannot prevent the return of good relations between the two peoples of the world nearest to ourselves in origin, aims and interests, the two great Indo-Germanic peoples ruled from London and Berlin. That is an event momentous in the world's history, auspicious for us, and auspicious for the solution of the Eastern problems in which we must bear our share. No doubt it is our duty to cultivate friendly relations with all peoples, and they may be right who say that in general we should seek no special relations with any, but you cannot overrule the forces of nature or bind with the parchment of diplomatists the hidden and desirable influences of blood and history. I say without hesitation that if there are three great nations in the world that God and nature meant for eternal peace and amity with each other, those three are Great Britain, Germany and the United States. There is obviously every reason why England and Germany should now be friends, yet more should the United States welcome and prize the growing friendship of each. We are rivals in trade just as you friendly merchants of New York are all rivals in trade, but we are also indispensible customers to each other, and we have a common interest in the East, the interest that the United States cannot do what it committed itself to do in the treaty of Paris, maintain, the policy of the open door in its Eastern possessions, but this is a nation based on confusion as to the different uses of the term, in the United States constitution. No use of it justifies the contention that any territory or other property is necessarily an integral part of the United States and the outspoken line of decision by the highest courts for over half a century sustains the absolute right of our country to acquire such territory anywhere and govern it as we please. We have pledged the open door in the Philippines to Spain by a document which is now the supreme law of the land as well as the constitution and what we give to Spain we shall not refuse to the most favored nations. The Philippines then are, through our possession, added to the commercial map of the world, and I venture to think that in the century that is dawning they will fill a large space upon it. Does any one in this company of great merchants ask what good our trade with them will be to us if they are open to everybody? It is open to everybody. Or our trade with France, or with Germany? Does anyone believe that with the political control of the Pacific ocean in our hands we must be such feeble competitors in Eastern markets that we canont command trade? I have not thus rated the enterprise or the ability of my countrymen. We welcome to the East all the world, and are sure that those we shall see oftenest there will be our English friends. Together we shall enter the vast awakening, unknown, where dwell one-fourth of the people of the world, and together in peace rivalry we must bear our respective shares of the white man's burden in the dark places of the earth."

A DAY'S FATALITIES.

Lady Teacher Victim of Driving Accident—Manitoban Drops Dead.

St. Thomas, Nov. 22.—(Special)—Miss Eleanor Moore, teacher of science and mathematics at the Alma Ladies' College, was killed last night by being thrown from a livery rig.

Winnipeg, Nov. 22.—Alex. Morvick, a resident of Beausejour, dropped dead at that place to-day.

THE DEAD VICE-PRESIDENT.

New York, Nov. 22.—The stock exchange will be closed on Saturday, out of respect to the late Vice-President Hobart.

CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

We show 10 patterns to any other stores one.

Axminsters, Wiltons, Brussels, Riche Velvets Tapestry, 370 pieces Carpets, 324 Rugs, 214 Art Squares

UP-TO-DATE GOODS IN EVERY LINE.

Above goods were just received by us in one shipment from the manufacturer.

WEILER BROS, Victoria, B. C.

LOANS FOR THE DOUKS.

Canadian Government Again to Be Banker of Much Discussed Strangers.

Toronto, Nov. 15—Mr. John Ashworth, of Manchester, Eng., who has been investigating the condition of the colony of Doukhobors recently settled in the Northwest, says:

"In the spring assistance will, in all probability, be required in order to provide the new settlers with horses, cattle, agricultural implements and seed.

"Whatever money is needed to assist the settlers should be in the form of loans, at a small rate of interest, and repayable as may be arranged in each particular case. These loans should be issued under the care of the government. Since coming to this decision I have learned that the government is preparing a scheme of loans to the Doukhobors. If this be correct it will relieve those who are interested in their welfare from the necessity of subscribing private funds, which would be in the nature of gifts."

Welcome for The Canadians.

Capetown, Nov. 23.— The military authorities have given permission to the Canadian contingent on its arrival to march through the city, which will be beautifully decorated and the day will be observed as a holiday.

A LULL AT KIMBERLEY.

Boers Cease the Attack and Are Securing Themselves Against Methuen's Assault.

London, Nov. 23.—The war office this evening issued a despatch from Capetown which is a brief official diary of events at Kimberley from November 12 to 17. It shows that no serious engagement occurred between these dates, that the British losses have been infinitely small and that the Boers' were probably very small. The final entry indicates that the Boers, anticipating the advance of the relief column under Gen. Methuen, have taken up defensive positions to the south of the town.

The despatches follow:

"Kimberly, Nov. 12.—The Boers fired 400 shells yesterday. Our expenditure up to date is about 200 shells."

"Nov. 13.—There was a desultory bombardment to-day, the Boers' practice being indifferent.

"Nov. 14.—The bombardment continued today.

"Nov. 16.—At daybreak our mounted troops made a sortie. The morning was misty and our scouts came suddenly upon the Boers, who fired wildly. An engagement ensued. We had ten men wounded.

"Nov. 17.—There was another sortie at 2 o'clock yesterday from Bulpripein, which drove the enemy to the edge of Alexandersfontein. Our only casualty was a captain wounded. It is reported that the Boers are concentrating south of Kimberly and now occupy laagers at Stagsteinfontein station and Schol's Nek. Their camp is practically surrounded by coppice and the country is suitable for their tactics."

Disorderly Scenes in Examinations Before the Senate as High Court.

Paris, Nov. 23.—The high court (senate) examination of the prisoners in the conspiracy cases concluded to-day and the hearing of the witnesses began. Dr. Bureau, residing at Launion, testified that he was asked in February if he would receive the Duke of Orleans in his house. Dr. Bureau was severely cross-examined by the counsel for the prisoners and by some of the senators and his vague replies elicited tumultuous protests. The two next witnesses deposed that the various demonstrations at Marseilles were paid for by the League of Patriots. Several witnesses testified to the intrigues of the Royalist group at Lille and their designs to seize the prefecture.

A YACHTING DISPUTE.

Royal St. Lawrence Club on Its Dignity About an Offensive Letter.

Montreal, Nov. 22.—A general meeting of the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club was held to-night to consider the report of the sailing committee on the Seawanhaka cup races. The report went fully into details of the disputed fifth race, which Constance protested as her centre board had struck. It pointed out that there was ample room for manoeuvring, that the course was changed three times when it might not have been changed at all had it not been with a desire to give the Constance no cause for complaint and to give them fair play. Annexed to the report was a letter from the sailing committee of the Seawanhaka which was couched in such terms that it was felt that gentlemen could hardly be expected to consider it. An acknowledgment of its receipt was sent without comment. The report of the Royal St. Lawrence sailing committee was adopted unanimously and endorsed. The general feeling was that the cup should be sent back, but it was decided to keep it to back up the rulings of the sailing committee.

Mr. Herrick Duggan, the designer and skipper of Glencairn III, pointed out that in two previous casese Glencairn grounded but no protest was entered, and Constance, which won both, did not offer to sail them over again.

The letter detailing the opinion of last night's meeting will be sent to the Seawanhaka Yacht Club, not to the sailing committee, whose views it was hoped do not represent those of the members of the club.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT.

Festivities at the Castle Interrupted by Death of Princess of Leiningen.

Windsor, Nov. 23.—Emperor William, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein lunched in the great park to-day. The two young German princes visited the houses of parliament in London in the forenoon.

There was a distinctly family dinner at the Castle this evening, but the Queen was not present, owing to the death of the Princess of Leiningen. For the same reason, the military band will not play at the Castle during the remainder of the imperial visit.

Mr. Chamberlain also had an interview with Emperor William.

MR. HOFMEYER'S JOKE.

Thinks Boers Raiding in Natal and Cape Colony Might Be Granted Armistice.

London, Nov. 22.—It is reported that Mr. Hofmeyer, the Afrikander leader, has taken an important step in the hope of hastening the close of the war. He is said to have charged Mr. Sauer, the minister of public works, to get in touch with the Free State forces in an endeavor to arrange that the Boers shall apply for an armistice. The ostensible object of Mr. Sauer's trip is to induce his constituents at Aliwal North to remain passive.

The impressing of men and supplies by Boers proceeds briskly only on the northern border of Cape Colony, but Gen. Gatacre hopes soon to be in a position to rush the Free Staters back within their own borders.

The occupation of Naauwpoort by the British is the first step in this direction, but strong forces of Boers are laagered at Colesburg and threaten a further immediate advance from there.

BRUSH AT MOOI RIVER.

Boers Had Howitzer With Five Mile Range—British Did Not Assume Offensive.

Durban, Nov. 22, 2 p.m.—The day's engagement at Mooi River found the British almost entirely on the defensive. A correspondent of the Natal Advertiser says the Boers' second shell fell within a few yards of a detachment of British infantry, that the shells did little or no damage and that firing continued for about half an hour at intervals of from three to four minutes.

According to this account the British troops prepared with the utmost promptitude and advanced under cover wherever possible. The British artillery was in position behind the hotel where Gen. Burton and his staff were being accommodated.

Major Thorneycroft's mounted infantry moved on a ridge on the enemy's left flank. The Devonshire Regiment and the Welsh Fusiliers occupied the trenches. There was but little firing, the correspondent says, but the enemy possessed at least one howitzer with a range of five miles, besides several six-pounders.

Prince Christian Victor has been appointed to the staff of Capt. Percy Scott, the Durban commandant.

LONG DISTANCE WHEELING.

Kansas City, Nov. 22.—In the final spurt in the bicycle race to-night, at the end of the eighth hour John Lawson came in ahead, having covered 165 miles two laps. Miller, Waller, Reipen and Julius also covered 165 miles, two laps and Gus Lawson was two laps behind them.

JOHN HAYES HAMMOND.

New York, Nov. 22.—John Hays Hammond, the American rendered famous during the Jameson raid in the Transvaal and well known for the responsible position he holds in connection with mining enterprises in various parts of the world, arrived here to-day on the White star steamship Teutonic with his family.

GOOD AUSTRALIAN MEAT.

Washington, Nov. 22.—The transport Celtic has sailed from Cavite for Brisbane, Queensland, to secure a cargo of fresh meat for the troops in the Philippines.

QUEER OFFICIAL RETURNS.

Pretoria, Nov. 21.—The official returns of the Transvaal casualties since the outbreak of the war show 90 men have been killed and 200 wounded, of whom a number have recovered and returned to the front.

THE VISITING EMPEROR.

Likes the Look of Khaki Uniform—Incidents of Yesterday's Diversion.

Windsor, Nov. 22.—Emperor William of Germany to-day inspected a corporal and two troopers of the Life Guards in khaki field service uniform in the quadrangle of Windsor Castle. His Majesty expressed great satisfaction with the uniform. Then he mounted his favorite white charger, which he brought from Germany, and accompanied by the Empress went for a ride in the park. Their majesties visited Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and then lunched with the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Bagshot Park.

A semi-state dinner was given at the Castle this evening at which 37 guests including a few members of the diplomatic corps were present.

Emperor William and the Empress will go to Sandringham Thursday as the guests of the Prince of Wales, and will remain a day longer than he had originally planned, not leaving for Germany until Thursday.

Although the Kaiser has declined the invitation of the Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Voce Moore, to attend a banquet proposed in his honor at the Mansion House, he and the Kaiser will go to Blenheim on Friday where they will luncheon with the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough. A special train will carry them from Windsor at noon and they will return here at 4 o'clock.

DILKE ON THE PEACE.

Thinks Free State May Be Dealt With Separately When Forces Take Bloemfontein.

London, Nov. 22.—Sir Charles Dilke, speaking at Chelsea this evening, said: "When the British forces enter Bloemfontein, some declaration regarding the future will have to be made. If the peace to be offered is one in which Cape Colony can concur, the Free State government will abandon the violent element in the Transvaal forces.

"The settlement in order to pacify South Africa as Canada has been pacified, must be a settlement in which the constitutional position of Cape Colony and Natal must play the leading part. The big guns and forts must be got rid of."

Held by the Grand Jury.

City of Seattle Tied Up at Skagway Because of the Totem Pole.

Canadian Development Company's Party From Dawson Arrive at Cariboo.

Steamer Cottage City, which arrived from Alaskan points last night, brought news that the steamer City of Seattle is tied up at Skagwap awaiting a decision of the grand jury of Alaska now in session at Juneau. It will be remembered that last summer the Seattle business men's excursion made a tour of the points of interest in southeastern Alaska, during which a large totem pole was secured, which has been placed in one of the public squares in Seattle. Now the Port Tongass Indians are in arms over the matter, and here it is that the trouble comes in. They claim that the business men's excursion landed at their burying ground while they were absent and took from the plot a sacred totem, which was the resting place of one of the Tongass' most powerful families. Those versed in the ways of the Indians claim that they were greatly incensed at the loss of the totem, and that should the thief go unpunished white prospectors and fishermen who may visit Cape Fox will be harmed by reason of the distrust of the Tongass tribe toward the whites.

It was on Tuesday last that the Cottage City left Skagway, and her officers then could form no idea as to how long the City of Seattle would be detained. The present circumstances, however, might be considered the culmination of a long controversy between the press of Seattle on the subject.

The Cottage City had a very stormy trip down from the North and carried fewer passengers than she has accommodated for several months. W. H. Toland was one of three who were with Capt. Ritchie's party coming out from Dawson. The party was left at Caribou with many sacks of gold and $130,000, consigned to the Canadian Development Company. Toland says he left Dawson on the 14th of last month and found travel easy. The ground was slightly covered with snow, but the weather was mild and the lakes were nearly all open. He reports that great excitement prevails in Dawson over the Cape Nome gold diggings, and that there will shortly be a big exodus from the former to the latter place. Dawson mine owners seem aware of the gravity of the situation, and less they should be forsaken in a mad rush to the Nome beach are signing men to work for them until after the spring wash-up.

There have been no big events in Dawson since communication with the outside world has become infrequent, Mr. Toland states. On his way out he heard from the Northwest Mounted Police of two drowning accidents in which seven in all lost their lives. In one of the accidents a man named Smith, a river pilot, he thought, was river. The other accident occurred somewhere near the Stewart river. A party of five bound down for Dawson on a loaded scow met with a mishap and all were drowned. Although Mr. Toland only remembers the name of one as Dumbolton, it was learned at Skagway that the party was composed of the brothers McNamara, Mrs. Rundolt, Mr. Kelly and Mr. and Mrs. Dumbolton. Further particulars were not learned.

Mr. Toland says that the steamer Stratton cannot be either seen or found at the Selwyn river, as the current has carried her a long way down stream. He also reports that Engineer Gilbert, of the steamer Anglian, had his two feet badly frozen. Some half dozen miners left the Cottage City at Victoria. A number of the passengers were from Ketchikan and one or two from Yakutat. These latter state that they have been up the Alsak river and found no prospects whatever.

MARCONI FORMS A COMPANY.

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 22.—Articles of incorporation were filed to-day with the secretary of state for the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. of America, with an authorized capital of $10,000,000, one-half of which is preferred stock, with 8 per cent. non-cumulative dividends. The incorporators are Gulielmo Marconi, London, Eng.; Isaac L. Rice and August Belmont, New York; Clement A. Griscom, Philadelphia; and Robert Goodbody, Paterson, N. J.

Methuen's First Blow.

Complete Victory Over Boer Forces Opposing His Dash to Kimberley.

Infantry Against Severe Fire Carry Three Ridges at Point of Bayonet.

British Loss Was Sixty Killed and 167 Wounded and Missing.

By Associated Press.

London, Nov. 23.—The secretary for war has received the following despatch through Gen. Forester Walker from Gen. Methuen dated Belmont, November 23:

"Attacked the enemy at daybreak this morning. He was in strong position. Three ridges were carried in succession, the last being prepared by shrapnel. The infantry behaved splendidly and received support from the Naval brigade and artillery. The enemy fought with courage and skill.

"Had I attacked lated I should have had far heavier losses. Our victory was complete. Have taken forty prisoners. Am burying a good number of the Boers, but the greater part of the enemy's dead and wounded were removed by their comrades. Have captured a large number of horses and cows and destroyed a large quantity of ammunition.

"Brigadier-General Featherstonhaugh was severely wounded and Lt.-Col. Crabb of the Grenadier Guards is reported wounded. Our other casualties are:

Grenadier Guards Third Batt.—Killed, Lt. Fryer; wounded, Lt. Blundell, dangerous. Second Batt.—Wounded, Lt. Leslie, Lt. Vaughan, Lt. Guerdon Rebow and Lt. Russell; reported wounded, Lt. Lyon and Lt. Cameron. Grenadier Guards—Rank and file, killed, 26; wounded, 36; missing, 13.

Coldstream Guards, First Batt.—Wounded, Lt. Grant. Second Batt.—Wounded, Lt. the Hon. C. Willoughby and Lt. Burton, the latter severely. Rank and file—Killed, 8; wounded, 33; missing, 5.

Scots Guards First Batt.—Wounded, Major the Hon. North Dalyrymple Hamilton, severely; Lt. Balkely and Lt. Alexander. Rank and file—Killed, 9; wounded, 34.

Northumberland Fusiliers First Batt.—Killed, Capt. Eager and Lt. Brines; wounded, Major Rashwood and Lt. Festing, dangerously; Capt. Sapte and Lt. Fishbourne, severely. Rank and file—Killed, 12; wounded, 32.

Northampton Regiment Second Batt.—Wounded, Capt. Freeland and Lt. Barton, severely.

South Yorkshire Regiment Second Batt.—Rank and file, wounded, 3.

CAPE SYMPATHIZER THERE.

Orange River, Nov. 23.—The Hon. Mr. Logal, a member of Cape Colony legislative council, who has just returned here from Belmont, says the British troops engaged the Boers this side of Belmont, their artillery practice being splendid. The British infantry carried the kopjes at the point of the bayonet and drove the Boers from their positions.

LONDON KNOWS NO MORE.

London, Nov. 24., 5 a.m.—Before anxiety as to the situation in Natal had been relieved there comes news of a great battle at Belmont. This has happened sooner than was expected. Only the official account is yet to hand, but so far as can be gathered the fighting appears to have been almost a repetition of the battle of Elandslaagte. A despatch of the previous day estimated that the Boers in that vicinity numbered 2,000 and that they hade five guns, and judging from the absence of any statement to the contrary in the official despatch it is believed that the British were slightly superior in numbers to the enemy. The Boers had chosen a position with their customary skill and were strongly entrenched. The British were obliged to carry three ridges in succession. Apparently the Guards bore the brunt in carrying the last ridge by a bayonet charge after its defenders had been shaken with shrapnel. Nothing is said as to whether the positions thus gained were held and the destruction of ammunition seems to indicate that the contrary was the case. While Gen. Methuen can be congratulated upon a brilliant victory, it is again with a cost of a heavy loss of officers and men.

NEW ZEALANDERS ARRIVE.

Capetown, Nov. 23.—The steamer Waiwera, with the New Zealand contingent of troops on board, has arrived here.

BIG FIRES IN TORONTO.

Toronto, Nov. 22.—The C.P.R. elevator at the foot of Bathurst street, owned by the harbor commissioners, burned to-night; loss $10,250.

A fire in the Toronto Feather and Mattress Company's warehouse on Melinda street did $20,000 damage.

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