

Surrounded by Boers

Several British Outposts in South Africa Have Been Isolated.

Kimberley and Mafeking Will Probably Have to Withstand a Long Siege.

Newcastle Has Been Abandoned and Burgers Are Marching Towards Dundee.

(Associated Press.)

London, Oct. 16.—The gradual cutting off of outlying points at the scenes of hostilities in South Africa from telegraphic communication reduces accurate news obtainable to a minimum.

Thus far, however, no reliable information has been received of any actual fighting outside the affair at Kraai Pan and occasional exchanges of shots at various outposts.

There is no lack of circumstantial stories regarding fighting at various points, but these are scarcely published before denied.

Boer Advances.

The only settled facts in this morning's telegrams are that the Boers have advanced beyond Newcastle and formed a laager near Damshanser, 12 miles north of Dundee, and that Kimberley is isolated, and probably besieged.

Kimberley has thus become the immediate centre of interest.

The latest news from Kimberley, prior to the cutting of the telegraph and railway lines by the Boers, said: "All troops at Kimberley are well."

Forces at Kimberley.

As there are three thousand troops in that town, there is little anxiety for the safety of the place, especially as the Boer force is said to be only about the same strength.

Many stories of brisk fighting at that point are in circulation, but although the forces are likely to have come into contact, all alleged details must be regarded as premature and speculative, especially if the report be true that the Orange Free State troops are now in complete possession of the railway from Kimberley to Orange River, 70 miles away.

The alleged virulence of the Boer attacks upon Mafeking and Kimberley can be readily understood when it is realized that Bechuanaland is to the Boers what Alzace Lorraine is to France.

It is therefore probable that both towns will be forced to undergo a long and dreary investment before the British are in a position to send a relieving column to the other side of the country.

Closing Around the British.

The Boers are closing around British outposts, and have already come into touch with them and exchanged shots. Therefore more stirring news is expected.

Official Statement.

Later—Advices from Capetown state that the excitement is kept up there by ceaseless reports of battles, but that little uneasiness is visible in official circles, where the opinion prevails that Mafeking and Kimberley are safe.

It is thought, too, that the Boers are not likely to attack Mafeking in Bechuanaland, owing to the fact that the population in that district is largely Dutch.

The war office issued the following note this afternoon with respect to the situation in South Africa:

"The dispatches received do not point to any material change in the military situation."

"Small bodies of Boers" are reported to have crossed the Natal frontier at various points, and entrenchments are said to have been thrown up at Van Reenan's Pass."

Plans of the Boers.

Capetown, Oct. 16.—A dispatch from Dundee, Natal, says a Boer commando, estimated at 2,000 men, with sixteen field guns, has reached Domboshange northwards of Dundee, with the probable intention of surrounding Dundee and cutting off the garrison from communication with Glencoe and Ladysmith.

It is supposed this force is commanded by Vanloo, and includes German gunners.

The rest of the Boer force from Newcastle is believed to be marching around Glencoe to sever its connection with Ladysmith.

Orange Free State troops have cut the telegraph wires and destroyed the railway track at Norval's Point, just across the Free State border.

Canadian Contingent

One Thousand Men Are Wanted for Service in South Africa.

Preference Will Be Given to Good Marksmen—Troops to Sail Before the 30th Inst.

Ottawa, Sept. 13.—After the cabinet council to-day the following official statement was given out:

"The greater part of the statements published in the press during the past few days respecting the action of the government in relation to the proposed contingent for service in the Transvaal, has been inaccurate."

"The press, in the absence of any official statement, has indulged in speculations, some of which perhaps have misled readers. In matters of this kind there are reasons for official reticence which only men accustomed to the responsibility of government can fully understand."

"It was only within the last few days that the matter assumed such a shape as admitted of government action, and it was necessary that a full council meeting be held to consider a question of so great importance. At no time was there any question as to the desirability of Canada co-operating with the home authorities in any movement necessary for the promotion of Imperial interests. The only question that caused a momentary delay was whether parliamentary authority was not required."

"The sending of a contingent to Transvaal involved not only the expenditure of considerable money, but the taking of an important step that had not been contemplated by parliament, and which might possibly be regarded as a precedent, when in a matter so much consequence precedents ought not hastily to be established. Hence the first view that prevailed was that parliament should be summoned to confirm the action which was proposed. Subsequently it was known that the Imperial authorities had placed certain limitations on all colonial arrangements, which, in reducing the initial cost and in solving a somewhat serious constitutional question respecting the power of parliament, obviated the necessity of a meeting of parliament in order to clothe the government with authority to take action."

"In view of this fact and of urgent reasons for prompt action, the ministers decided this afternoon to carry an arrangement which had been arrived at through communication with the Imperial authorities. The home government agreed to receive into the army in Africa a contingent comprising a number of units of 125 men each, the highest to be a major, so that the units may on arrival be consolidated with the Imperial forces under Imperial officers. The movement is to be entirely a volunteer one."

"The number of officers and men determined on is 1,000, which is a much larger number than that supplied by any other colony of the Empire."

"The military department, which has all its plans in shape, will immediately provide arms and equipment for the necessary forces. Commanding officers of various corps throughout Canada will be asked to obtain the names of volunteers to be forwarded to the minister of militia. Only men in the very best physical condition will be accepted, and preference will be given to good marksmen. It is expected, for obvious reasons, that chiefly unmarried men will form the contingent."

"Arrangements will be made by the Canadian government for the equipment of the contingent, as above stated, and for the transportation of the force to a point of departure in South Africa. On arrival in South Africa, the contingent will be received into the Imperial army, and will come under the Imperial regulations."

"The arrangements respecting the supply of units with no officer of higher grade than a major, is not satisfactory to the Canadian government, who would have preferred to send a complete regiment under command of a general officer. But it appears that the arrangements made by the war office, applying to various contingents furnished by the colonies, without any exception, inasmuch as the whole command is to be under the control of the war office, the Canadian government have not felt at liberty to dissent from the proposed arrangement, though, as already stated, they would have preferred another."

"Enrolment will commence at once. Every part of the arrangements will be pressed forward with all speed, and it is expected that, in accordance with the understanding with the Imperial government, the contingent will sail from Canada for South Africa before the 30th instant."

ALASKA CONVENTION.

Opposed to the Surrender of Any Territory to Great Britain.

Seattle, Oct. 14.—A dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer from Juneau, Alaska, says that Alaska's first territorial convention, attended by delegates from every part of the territory, was called to order in the opera house, on October 10th, and will spend two weeks in preparing for the presentation, to the next congress of Alaska's needs in way of legislation. E. S. Crocker, Superintendent, was elected permanent chairman. Resolutions presented by J. W. A. K. Delaney, of Juneau, were adopted, expressing uncompromising opposition of the convention to the surrender of any territory in any manner, or any territory acquired by the United States from Russia, and calling upon President McKinley and the authorities at Washington to firmly and steadfastly resist all attempts, however insidious, of any foreign power for the dismemberment of Alaska. A copy of the resolution was forwarded to President McKinley.

Canada's Offer Accepted.

The following cable was received this afternoon from Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies: "London, Oct. 16.—Her Majesty's government have received with much pleasure the generous offer of one thousand troops, which they gratefully accept." (Signed) CHAMBERLAIN.

Trafalgar Day

Nine Persons Lost Their Lives During the Burning of the Nutmeg State.

Lifeboat Overturned and Many Passengers Had Narrow Escapes.

New York, Oct. 14.—Nine lives were lost during the fire which, this morning, destroyed the Bridgport Line steamer, the Nutmeg State, off Sand Point, Long Island. The steamer was run to the beach at the outbreak of the flames, and burned to the water's edge.

The dead are: Samuel Jaynes, of Bridgeport, baggage master of the Nutmeg State; Niles Nelson, member of the crew; Charles Anderson, watchman; Patrick Coffey, mate; R. Hendrick, officer; Thomas Murphy, member of the crew; John Conner, one of the crew; two unknown passengers. Others may have perished in the excitement, but the above are positively known to have been either burned or drowned.

The Nutmeg State, with over a hundred persons on board, and bound from Connecticut toward New York, was discovered about 5:30, when she was within a few miles of Sand Point, Long Island. Chief Cook Brown first saw the smoke at 6:30 o'clock, and immediately reported to Capt. C. M. Brooks, who had just gone to his stateroom. The fire was on the main deck and seemed to be a small affair. Capt. Brooks ordered the men called to work as quickly as possible with buckets and hose. For about twenty minutes the flames did not seem to be dangerous, and the men appeared to have them in control. Suddenly they burst into

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TO CONQUER THE FILIPINOS.

United States Will Shortly Have Over 62,000 Soldiers in the Philippines—Plans to Slaughter Americans.

(Associated Press.)

Washington, Oct. 16.—When all the troops and ships under orders shall have reached the Philippines, there will be 62,000 fighting men and 1,500 non-combatants, and the navy 45 ships, 4,907 bluejackets and 1,184 marines.

Manila, Oct. 16.—Mail advices state that there is great tension between the Visayans and Tagalos, growing out of the Tagalos holding Aranceta, a leader of the Visayans, a prisoner since the threatened revolt against the Tagalos a month ago. The Visayans are incensed to a point of rebellion. While the Tagalos nominally control only the military organization of the so-called Filipino republic, they have crowded out the Visayans from civil branches, whereat there is great discontent. The Tagalos are reported to be concentrating troops at Santa Barbara, where Delgado, chief of the revolutionary government, commands, with a view to putting themselves in a position to suppress the Visayans. Four thousand Tagalos, who have been held in reserve at Cebu, in the northern part of the province of Panay, last week embarked for the purpose of being taken to Concepcion, whence the Tagalos would march to Santa Barbara. Adverse winds prevented the landing, however.

General Scallions, from Buena Vista, is also reported to be going to Santa Barbara. The insurgents will have 32,000 men, and three or four thousand rifles there.

General Magbana, according to letters, plans an attack on the suburbs of Dolo with this force, carrying the city and slaughtering Americans.

A body of Tagalos, estimated to number between 1,500, has crossed to Peralante, on the Island of Negros, for the purpose of aiding Intopapaiso's bandits in keeping under the inhabitants who are friendly to the Americans.

New York, Oct. 16.—A cablegram from Manila to the Herald is as follows: "Manila, Sunday.—General Otis has permitted the medical department here to cable to Washington for twenty additional surgeons and thirty more nurses."

DEWEY AT BOSTON.

Boston, Oct. 14.—The residents of Boston and vicinity, augmented by thousands of visitors from other sections of the country, and from adjacent states, to-day did honor to Admiral Dewey. The heavy gathering with which Dewey was received when he arrived last night was completely overshadowed to-day when the famous Vermont appeared in public, and after those who had come to witness the ship in the front ranks of the brilliant naval and military pageant, which was the chief event of the day.

THE QUEEN ASSISTS THE WIDOW.

London, Oct. 15.—The Queen has sent a personal contribution of £400 to the family of the French sailor recently shot by British snipers while fishing in British waters. The British consul at Boulogne has been instructed to convey an expression of Her Majesty's regret at the accident, and sympathy with the family.

HON. JOSEPH MARTIN'S VISIT.

British Columbia Affairs—A Wisly-Washly Platform Framed by the Colony's Secretaries.

Hon. Joseph Martin, of Vancouver, arrived in town Tuesday evening from Portage la Prairie, accompanied by Mrs. Martin. Mr. Martin is on his way to Ottawa on a case before the Supreme court. He has still considerable property in Manitoba, which requires a visit about once a year to look after it, and it is with this object he visited Portage and Winnipeg.

Mr. Martin is looking very well, and says that affairs generally in British Columbia are prosperous. He, however, wished to give this caution, that while British Columbia was fairly prosperous it was the poorest place in the world for people to go to looking for work, especially in the professions and business occupations. For every vacant position as clerk, professional man, in business houses, etc., there are twenty or fifty applicants. It would be advisable for such people to follow the rule not to go to British Columbia unless they have something in sight, for they are sure to be disappointed. People who see accounts in the newspapers of general poverty, which are probably not exaggerated, imagine that all they have to do is to come to British Columbia and get good jobs at high salaries, while as a matter of fact the influx of people from the East has brought down wages, while the cost of living is high.

Upon politics generally he did not touch, but of the platform drawn up by the recent convention of British Columbia Conservatives he spoke freely. He described that platform as the most wishy-washy public document ever issued. There is not in it a single distinct pledge upon any matter of importance upon which they can be called down. Every question of principle which they do touch is dealt with in such a way as to enable them to do as they like without being called down.

Mr. Martin will likely leave tomorrow for Ottawa.

On his return to Winnipeg he will, in response to urgent requests, address a public meeting in one of the large halls—Wintapek Tribune, Oct. 11.

A Steamer on Fire

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Notes from Vancouver

For Refugees.

15.—The following resolutions passed by the Cork district Parnell body, that having regard to the people as a nation have felt in Ireland every pillage and atrocity which will give the Irish opportunity of obtaining their

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