

BRITISH REAR GUARD

Successfully Resisted Long and Fierce Boer Attacks.

The Surprise Occurred in the Midst of a Blinding Snow Storm. Col. Benson, Who was Killed, was Not a Canadian, but Another Officer of That Name and Rank—Gen. Botha Led the Fighting in Person.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—Lord Kitchener has reported to the war office a disaster to the British rear guard, Eastern Transvaal, in which two guns were lost, several officers were killed or wounded, and fifty-four men were killed and 160 wounded. The following is the text of Lord Kitchener's despatch, dated Pretoria, Nov. 1: "I have just heard of a severe attack made on the rear guard of Col. Benson's column when about twenty miles northwest of Bethel, near Brakenlaage, during a thick mist. "The strength of the enemy is reported to have been a thousand. They rushed two guns with the rear guard, but it is uncertain whether they were able to remove them."

Later Lord Kitchener telegraphed as follows: "Col. Barber, who marched from the Constabulary line yesterday, reached Benson's column early this morning (Friday), unopposed. He reports that Col. Benson during his wound, was severely wounded, but he was not killed. "The other casualties are as follows: "Killed—Col. E. Guinness, Major F. D. Murray, Captains M. W. Lindsay and W. T. Thomson, Lieut. E. V. I. Brooke and R. E. Shephard, and second Lieut. A. J. Corlett. "Died of his wounds—Captain Eyre Lloyd."

Lord Kitchener then gives the names of thirteen other officers who were wounded, most of them severely, and announces that 54 non-commissioned officers and men were killed and 160 wounded, adding that four of the latter have since died of their wounds. "The despatch then says: "I assume that the guns have been recovered and that the enemy has withdrawn, but I have no further details. "I deeply regret the loss of Colonel Benson and the officers and men who fell with him. In Benson the service loses a most gallant and capable officer, who invariably led his column with marked success and judgment. "The fighting was at very close quarters and the greatest display of gallantry by both sides. The enemy suffered heavily, but I have not yet received a reliable estimate. "The Boers retired east."

LONDON, Nov. 1.—A despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, received here today, says that Colonel Kekewich, during a night surprise of Van Albert's laager, northwest of Rustenburg (about 60 miles west of Pretoria), captured 78 Boers. ST. CATHERINES, Ont., Nov. 3.—The Colonel Benson mentioned in Lord Kitchener's despatches as having been killed near Brakenlaage, Eastern Transvaal, is not Col. Benson who formerly lived here, as wrongly reported today. His brother, Charles T. Benson of this city, states that Col. Benson has been in London for the past three months. He was chief staff officer to General Kelly-Kenny, but returned to England with that officer, and has since held a commission in the war office. Mr. Benson had a letter from his brother, dated London, last week.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—Lord Kitchener reports that three additional officers were killed and that two more were wounded during the attack recently made on the rear guard of Colonel Benson's column near Brakenlaage, Eastern Transvaal.

PRETORIA, Nov. 2.—Further details have been received regarding the

attack by the Boers under Commandant Gen. Louis Botha, against upon Col. Benson's column near Brakenlaage, Eastern Transvaal. It appears that Gen. Botha, who had been joined by another big commando aggregating a thousand men, attacked Col. Benson's rear guard Oct. 30 on the march and captured two guns, but was unable to retain them. Col. Benson fell mortally wounded in the fight. Major Woolls-Sampson, took command, collected the convoy and took up a position for defence about 500 yards from the entrenchments prepared by the Boers. The captured guns were so situated that neither side could touch them. The Boers made desperate efforts to overwhelm the whole British force, charging repeatedly right up to the British lines and being driven back each time with heavy loss. The defence was stubbornly and successfully maintained through the whole of the following day and the succeeding night until Col. Barber, who had marched all night from Bushman's Kop, brought relief in the morning of Nov. 1. The Boers then retired. Their losses are estimated at between 500 and 600. Col. Benson did not long survive. Not only did Gen. Botha direct the attack, as already stated, but he personally shared in the fighting.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 3.—Boers here in close touch with South Africa declare that the recent disaster to Col. Benson's column was the forerunner of a vigorous campaign, the season being favorable for the swift concentration of commandos and severe blows against isolated British columns. Commandant Grobler, who has been especially selected to head the Boers in the present campaign, is a soldier of the Cape. He is a second lieutenant of the Cape Buffs, and is considered a second lieutenant.

Halifax, Nov. 4.—Orders were received from the war office today to despatch to South Africa five hundred especially selected Boer Artillery men serving on this garrison without delay. Capt. Duffus, a Haligonian, will command. An officer, interviewed by your correspondent, said: "We will take with us six of the latest and most improved type of Maxim's, and, of course, we will be well equipped with other arms. A number of artillerymen will arrive here on Wednesday from Bermuda on the str. Beira. The men to be taken from Halifax will all be selected. The recent reverses in South Africa, together with the trouble at the war office relative to the dismissal of Buller and other matters, is not looked upon in a favorable light. The recent reverses attending the British in Africa has had the tendency of intensifying the feeling against the war office, and the Imperial authorities will take prompt measures to bring the war with the Boers to a speedy termination as possible."

Halifax, Nov. 4.—The special despatches from South Africa, revealing practically nothing further about the disaster to Col. Benson's column, it appears that the first attack was made in a blinding rain storm. The heaviest casualties occurred while Major Woolls-Sampson, who is a Johannesburg reformer and an officer in one of the colonial levies, was gathering the convoy under the cover of a hill, a most difficult task. It is assumed in London that the two fifteen-pounders remained in the possession of the British, but the telegram is not clear on this point. Edgar Wallace, a correspondent of the Daily Mail, writes from Pretoria under date of Oct. 12, again protesting against official optimism, and declares that the war will not be ended for another year. He urges the immediate despatch of large reinforcements of both men and horses. "Even when all that is possible has been done in this direction," he says, "it will be necessary to wait grimly and not to expect any quick result."

LONDON, Nov. 4.—A riotous scene occurred yesterday afternoon in Peckham, a suburb of London. A small gathering of the local branch of the Democratic League undertook to hold a meeting to protest against the war in South Africa. The manifestos started in procession for the place of meeting, but before they arrived there they were hooted, buffeted and dispersed. A crowd estimated at 20,000 gathered to oppose them. There were many ugly rushes, and the police were barely able to protect the struggling protesters from the fury of the populace. After considerable fighting, during which a man was stabbed, the Boers were removed under police protection. The victorious crowd then held a jingo meeting and sang "Rule Britannia."

LONDON, Nov. 4.—Queen Alexandra, following the example of the late Queen Victoria, is sending Christmas gifts to the troops in South Africa. For this purpose she has ordered thousands of briar pipes, each silver mounted and bearing the stamp of the crown and Her Majesty's monogram.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—The Daily Express, a famous military coach, gives what it alleges to be the authentic version of the heliogram sent the Boers by Gen. Buller during the siege of Ladysmith. It is as follows: "I have failed. Unable to try again without siege operations taking a month. Can you hold out so long? If not I suggest your firing away as much ammunition as possible and finally making the best terms if you have any other alternative to suggest I can remain where I am as long as you like." "Further despatches were exchanged," adds the Daily Express, "and learning that Sir Geo. Buller was able to hold out, Gen. Buller settled down to prepare to force the Tugela." Dr. Maguire, through whose hands half the officers of the British army have passed for study, professes to have acquired the information without seeking for it, some months ago.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER MONTREAL, Nov. 3.—Sir Charles and Lady Tupper arrived in town on Saturday from England on the Tyndal. Sir Charles, in the evening, they leave Monday night for Cape Breton to visit Lady Tupper's sister. Speaking of his depression in mining matters Sir Charles declared it was only temporary. This morning the British Columbia were too great to admit of any doubt of the future.

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—Commenting upon the South African military situation, the London correspondent of the Tribune says: "It is understood to be the intention of the war office to send five thousand more mounted men out to South Africa during the next six weeks. They are only about seven thousand men at home, so that the military authorities are faced with the problem of training soldiers minus the necessary accompaniment of a cavalry force to meet this obvious fallacy. It is probable that several composite regiments of Yeomanry will be voluntarily embodied for home service. A move will soon be made to bring home from South Africa the men who have served over two years in the war, and their places may be taken by the British cavalry division of seven regiments now in India."

At the service clubs it is rumored that Lord Roberts is anxious to retire. He has never intended to remain the full period at the war office, and he is probably not desiring to pass the winter of his days in quiet retirement in India. While the war lasts, however, it is almost certain the commander-in-chief will not resign his post, reports to the contrary notwithstanding. LONDON, Nov. 4.—At today's session of the South African commission, Major General Sir John Buller, representative of the Netherlands, had accepted Great Britain's terms for the settlement of the claims of Dutch subjects for damages as the result of their expulsion from South Africa.

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LONDON, Nov. 4.—Prior to the debate on the Turkish incident, Mr. Berry asked leave to interpellate the government regarding the measures it proposed to take, in accord with other governments, to call upon the British government to remove the women and children in the South African concentration camps to healthful districts. Mr. Dechaebel, president of the chamber, remarked that it would be difficult to bring the war with the Boers to a speedy termination as possible.

After a brief discussion, during which Mr. Millroye was called to order for speaking of Mr. Chamberlain, the British colonial secretary, as a coward and an assassin, the chamber decided to debate Mr. Berry's interpellation at a later date.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—What is regarded as an important announcement preparing the people of Great Britain for a "South Africa" day, was made tonight by the chancellor of the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in a speech at Bristol. After alluding to the "enormous increased ordinary expenditure" of the government, and viewing the war taxes and surcharges as the ever-increasing demand of the national exchequer, gives reasons for careful thought and even anxiety for the future. "The war in Africa," he said, "is still dragged on. It may be when next year comes, that I may have to speak of this country to bear even greater burdens and to make even greater sacrifices."

PRETORIA, Nov. 4.—It is known that the Boers got away with the two guns captured from Col. Benson's column in the recent movement near Brakenlaage, eastern Transvaal.

BULLER'S HELIOGRAM.

A Famous Cavalry Coach Gives the Authentic Version.

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OTTAWA.

Big Increase in French Population of Maritime Provinces.

Settlement of Dispute Between London Financiers and the Sturgeon Fall Pulp Company.

OTTAWA, Nov. 1.—A telegram from Prof. Robertson states he has placed in Calgary and vicinity an order for half a million bushels of oats for export to South Africa, to be shipped from St. John.

F. W. Hodson, dominion live stock commissioner, leaves for the maritime provinces tomorrow to consult with New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, the agriculturists in regard to the institute work with respect to live stock, and also to consult with the local authorities re the same winter fall to be held at Amherst, December 17 to 19.

OTTAWA, Nov. 3.—Judge Guyon of Brocklyn, who is spoken of as next republican vice-presidential candidate, and Wm. Zeigler of New York, who finished the protest for the Baldwin Polar expedition, have escaped a Canadian prison through the fortunate intervention of a friend. They are sailing in Pontiac county with four great-uncle, but they had not yet reached New York City yesterday to cover licenses and fines. Game Warden Cormier was going to the woods to arrest the whole party.

Judge Burleigh yesterday gave judgment in a novel patent case of Melburn v. Wilson & Co. The defendant's employment of his son in the manufacture of a solution of hydrochloric acid to remove from pickled eggs the deposit of carbonate of lime that forms upon them while being preserved in pickle of lime-water. The defendant is in the process of discovery and that it could be used with safety. No particular directions were given by the defendants in their petition for the patent as to how the acid was to be used, and the plaintiff was also engaged in the egg business, and he moved to set aside the patent on the ground that the defendants had shown nothing in the mode of employing such invention demanding the exercise of inventive faculties. Mr. Justice Burleigh decides that there was no intention and that a patent for a process could not be sustained.

"Another judgment was in the case of McDonald v. the King. This was an action brought by the applicant as administrator of the estate of his son, James William McDonald, to recover damages resulting from the death of the latter, who was killed on the 28th of September, 1898, in a collision on the Montreal railway with a passenger train. The crown offered to settle for \$100. Justice Burleigh increased the amount to \$200 to cover reasonable expenses and pecuniary benefit accruing to the father from the continuance of the son's life.

The cabinet yesterday discussed the seasonal programme in a general way. It was agreed to call parliament together for January 30th or February 6th, the earlier date being preferred in the departmental reports can be set out in time.

OTTAWA, Nov. 4.—Orders were issued by the militia department today for a royal salute to be fired next Saturday in honor of the King's birthday at the following saluting stations: St. John, Halifax, Charlottetown, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, London and Winnipeg. At Halifax, the salute will also be a royal salute fired by the imperial troops.

Arbitration proceedings in the dispute between Edward Lloyd, Ltd., of London, England, and the Sturgeon Fall (Ontario) Pulp Co., which has been progressing for a year, terminating today. An agreement having been reached between the pulp company and the Sturgeon Fall Pulp Co., power and limits, to Lloyd's, but shortly after the agreement had been signed and before the purchase money, approximately one million dollars, had been paid a protest was entered that the property was not up to the representations made by the pulp company. Finally it was decided to refer the dispute to Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick, solicitor general, as sole arbitrator. The agreement sets forth that Edward Lloyd's Limited, will convey to the Sturgeon-Falls Pulp Company the whole of the property. In addition Lloyd's must pay damages to the amount of \$102,471.75. The assets at Sturgeon-Falls to be valued by a surveyor or valuator approved by both parties. In addition Lloyd's agree to give collateral guarantee for an issue of 6 percent bonds of the Sturgeon Falls Pulp Company to the amount of \$25,000 and also to purchase at a fair market price the entire output of pulp at Sturgeon Falls for a period of two years from the time of the mills starting up. Counsel for Edward Lloyd Limited, before the arbitrator will formally withdraw all allegations made in the statement of claim affecting the character and good faith of the pulp company and the truthfulness of their representations. Further, Lloyd's acknowledge that the trouble with the pulp company has been the result of business misunderstandings and will pay the pulp company on account of costs the sum of \$7,000. There has been a formidable array of counsel in the case.

A cable to Lord Minto today says Trooper Chas. Howell of the Imperial Light Horse was accidentally drowned in the Tugela River 17th October. The news of his death was received from Mrs. Howell, Irvine Avenue, Montreal.

A ROYAL WELCOME

Is extended to all who visit Harvey's New Clothing Store and the visit is always profitable to those in need of Clothing. Received 100 Frs. Men's Pants to-day. Will sell them for 75cts. Better Pants from \$1.25 to \$3.75.

MEN'S OVERCOATS, \$4.00, 4.75 and 6.00 to 15.00. MEN'S SUITS, \$3.00, 4.75 to 10.00 and 14.00.

Everything in Clothing for Men and Boys at very low prices. Remember the address J. N. HARVEY, 199 UNION STREET, Opera House Block, St. John, N. B.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

Of a Woman Who Recently Arrived from the United States.

On October 28th the evening train from the United States brought to this city a young woman and a child. Although this occurred but a few days ago, Mrs. Clara St. Elmory and her four-year-old daughter have been brought prominently before the public. Their story is this: The unhappy mother and little one, who had been in the United States, were on their way to New Liverpool, Maine, the husband and father, according to the mother, being an inmate of Dorchester penitentiary. Upon arriving here the mother and child went to D. J. Driscoll's hotel on King square and, preparing to secure employment as a maid, Mr. Driscoll being in need of a chamber maid, offered her employment at a certain wage, upon condition that the child be placed elsewhere. The woman went out and returned shortly, saying that this could be satisfactorily arranged, the child to enter the home on the following Saturday.

On this understanding Mrs. Elmory was engaged, she had been but a few hours in the house when the help became superstitious of her and reported to the proprietor that she was smoking cigarettes in the lavatories and had been seen putting a drug in her tea or coffee. Mr. Driscoll took action at once, with the result that the woman was found in her room with her head buried in her hands, resting on a table. Near by was a small bottle marked carbolic acid, and when the woman was made to raise her head, her lips and mouth were found to be badly burned. Mrs. Driscoll immediately interrogated the woman as to what she meant, and she informed him that she was very ill and desired to be sent to the Salvation Army hospital.

Her wish was complied with. The hackman left her at the institution mentioned, where she was attended by Dr. St. John. The managers of the Salvation hospital hardly approve of the unceremonious way in which the patient was placed in their charge, but are extending their well known sympathy to the unfortunate Mrs. Elmory, who is in a dangerous condition from peptonitis.

SILVER WEDDING.

G. W. Ganong, M. P., and Mrs. Ganong Are Pleasantly Surprised.

(St. Stephen's Courier, Oct. 31.) A most pleasant society event of the week was the surprise given to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert W. Ganong last Thursday evening, when, through the invitation of Mrs. Deinsiedt and Mrs. Frank T. Ross, a party of about forty of their friends called upon them to spend the evening and to congratulate them upon reaching the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding day.

During the evening, Rev. W. C. Goucher, with a short and appropriate speech, presented Mr. and Mrs. Ganong several handsome pieces of silver, gifts from their friends as souvenirs of the happy occasion. Mr. Ganong most happily and gracefully replied to Mr. Goucher and thanked the guests for their kindness.

The evening was spent in conversation, and those who wished played the ever enjoyable game of whist. Half-past eleven refreshments were served. The evening passed most rapidly, and it was near midnight before the guests, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Ganong many years of happiness and that they might live to celebrate their golden wedding, dispersed to their respective homes.

KILLED BY A LION.

The Unfortunate Fate of a Soldier in Koozmat Valley.

LONDON, Oct. 27.—The Daily Graphic, on the authority of one of the comrades of the unfortunate man, tells the following story: "Trooper Collins of the 7th Dragoons (formerly to General Pole-Carew) was carried away at night by a lion from Koozmat Valley and was mangled to death. The lion came from the bush to the camp fire, where Collins was sitting, and then carried him off to the left of the Koozmat, where the body was found the following morning. About 400 mounted troops were stationed there at that time, but owing to the darkness no one was able to follow in time to be of assistance.

PRINCE OF WALES.

LONDON, Nov. 5.—It is announced that the Duke of Cornwall and York will shortly receive the title of Prince of Wales.

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from St. John for orders. Oct. 28—Mrs. Sarah G York for Portland; Maud York for Calais; T. L. York for St. John; B. I. Eaton, 48 for Calais. Oct. 28—Mrs. Bonajista, Vests Pearl, from Glenville St. John; H. J. Hay, from St. John; St. John (to lead for Africa). Oct. 27—Mrs. E. J. J. J. for St. John. Oct. 27—Mrs. Bonajista, Vests Pearl, from Glenville St. John; H. J. Hay, from St. John; St. John (to lead for Africa). Oct. 27—Mrs. E. J. J. J. for St. John. Oct. 27—Mrs. Bonajista, Vests Pearl, from Glenville St. John; H. J. Hay, from St. John; St. John (to lead for Africa). Oct. 27—Mrs. E. J. J. J. for St. John.

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