### THE BOER CAMP.

ers Did Just Before the of Natal Began.

of the Chicago Record Natal border, under er 11th, says: invasion of Natal com-

ible bloodshed can be It is now close on midte. The immense camp almost as silent as the hers have gone to sleep a forward movement of Natal, most likely at an early hour toto-morrow night or the tope to be at the very my. The strictest guard is bitterly cold and narching up and down the different laagers. eat coats, and the muzsers showing just above low and then the stilly a "Halt!" and the enge, as a messenger g langer or some lately roaches the lines. Here the men are all ready hent's notice. A stone's he state artillery, stasions on either side of They left their original oon to-day. The horses he gun carriages, with and the gunners asleep ready to advance at

mor of Peace. many still hoped for a this crisis. It was re ly to the Transvaal ulhad protested an anxr and a willingness to sonable proposal for a epublics might care to ily this turns out not

of the way things were vided by the state arers shortly before noon ery soon all was hurry age wagons were loadhorses fed and saddled rawn up in order. Very up the main road and pot they now occupy. was exceptional activt burgher laagers. Adion was served out. In regulation supply each ids of cartridges. The also supervised and the stants were busily enng returns. The men not idle. Each gave aggage and saddlebags snug for marching or-

that the time allowed v to the ultimatum ex-That hour was awaited pation. It came, and ws circulated through republics would have dictum by force of

amiliar Psalms. r, presided over by the ral, and attended by cers, was immediately plans were formulated. andants and field cork to their commandos structions to their sub-

ng meal on all sides be heard singing their ccasionally one would hymn, sung by more ders. Gradually these sh settled on the camp.

## SCHOOLMASTER.

p corporals.

eted that though Latin prove adequate for the rity of the scholars, it satisfying to those who tin, says Andrew F. mber Atlantic. When a in Latin is differentiatstudy together, who is to their Latin? It is udents, those who will best Latin. And so not only because of its e, but because the longit does to illuminate wo are one stady after Greek. The influence advance in Latin is nicken the slower pace

other studies no speded. Their gains are ough not so surprising in and even in Greek compelled to hold their eated attempts to dis make their swift adof depreciatory attack. gains of long peace prosperity. But the Greek are conquests, victory about them. n December Atlantic.

prominent Montical on Monday through a sleigh against a

# Victoria Times.

Twice=a=Wleek

ICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1900.

# FRENCH'S VICTORY IN CAPE COLONY

He Surprised and Defeated Five Thousand Boers, Who Retreated in Disorder.

# COLESBURG OCCUPIED BY THE BRITISH

Our Casualties Were Three Killed and Seven Wounded --Fleeing Burghers Harassed by a Shell Fire.

# TORONTO COMPANY IN ACTION

They Took Part in an Engagement at Sunnyside Which Resulted Norval's Pont. in the Capture of Boer Laager and Forty Prisoners.

eral American firms, has secured the

Another Churchill for the Front.

borough to the seat of war.

It is said that Mr. John Churchill,

Will Have a Good Effect.

While afternoon papers are disposed

promptly followed up, as seems likely

Methuen's Position.

BOERS DEFEATED

By a Force Under General French-Occupa-

tion of Colesburg-Boer Laager and

40 Men Captured.

French has completely defeated the

The general continued to keep the

Boers on the move, and pressed them

them no time to make a prolonged

stand, and when the day broke he was

Last night all the cavalry, artillery

and infantry, the latter riding in wag-

ons to increase the general mobility,

The infantry and the field batteries im-

ject of turning the Boers right.

burg in Gen. French's hands.

---

OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION.

---

General French Tells of His Successful

Operations Against the Boers.

\_\_\_

London, Jan. 2 .- The success of Gen.

French's column is at length confirmed,

officially, the war office this afternoon

ssuing a despatch from Capetown,

"French reports at 2 p.m. to-day from

"Leaving at Rensburg, holding the

enemy in front, half of the first Suffolks

and a section of the Royal Horse Artil-

dated Monday, Jan. 1, as follows:

Coleskop, by heliograph, as follows:

within striking distance of the enemy.

Boers and occupied Colesburg.

(Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 1.-The success of Gen. government contract for the new seven French in driving the Boers from Coles- span bridge over the Tugela River at burg has sent a welcome ray of light Colenso. The firm is working night and through the gloom of the campaign in day to complete orders. South Africa. Everywhere it is commented upon as an example of sound tactics and as an illustration of what younger brother of Mr. Winston Churchmay be done when the right methods are ill, will accompany the Duke of Marlemployed with the Boers.

The government is urged to take the lesson to heart and see that no stone is left unturned in the endeavor to get the to over-rate the brilliancy of Gen. largest possible forces of cavalry and French's success, it will doubtless have ed to enter Colesburg to-day. mounted infantry to the front.

The Retreat of Boers.

Now that Gen. French has the Boers on the run, the hope is expressed that he will give them no rest, but will harass may result in securing Norval's Pont fered heavily from the accuracy of the them until they have found their way miles distants Thank wagon route to the Free State traverses Colesburg, and crosses the river by a fine bridge, 1,340 feet long. It is believed that the Boers retreated towards Norval's Pont, further east, and the question is whether General French will be able to secure these two bridges before the Boers destroy them.

One important effect of the success of Gen. French is that it will probably have a deterrent influence on Dutch dis-

At Modder River the Boers appear to be modifying somewhat their line of de-

New Camps.

Gen. Buller's scouts have discovered Boer camp established in the vicinity of Springfield, southwest of Colenso, by a Free State command.

A similar movement has been made at Modder River. A large force of Boers, it is reported, has formed a new laager about fifteen miles down the stream at

Still Bombarding Ladysmith.

Heliograph reports from Ladysmith show that all was well on December

The bombardment was being continued, but its intensity had relaxed.

Officers Wounded. An official dispatch from Ladysmith confirms the report cabled yesterday that several officers of the Devonshire regiment were severely wounded by the explosion of a Boer shell in the mess

New Armored Train. A new armored train has reached Gen-

eral Buller from Durban. Proposed Exchange of Prisoners. A Capetown dispatch says that an exchange of prisoners is under considera-

The Seventh Division.

The entire seventh division will have sailed from England by January 11th. Lord Wolseley, replying to a correspondent who had asked for information regarding the British artillery, wrote: Our field artillery is at least as good as any field artillery in Europe."

Bridge for Tugela River. A British firm, according to the Daily lery, I started thence at five in the af-News, after keen competition with sev- ternoon, on Dec. 31st, taking with me command at Sunnyside laager this day, a command in the contingent, has enter-

fantry, the infantry carried in wagons, ed. and ten guns. "I halted for four hours at Maidor's Farm, and at 3.30 this morning occupied

the kopje overlooking and westward of Colesburg

"The enemy's outposts were taken completely by surprise.

"At daylight we shelled the laager and enfiladed the right of the enemy's posi- Toronto Company Engaged in Capture of a

"The artillery fire in reply was very hot from a fifteen pounder, using Royal Laboratory ammunition and other

"We silenced the gun on the enemy's right flank, demonstrating with cavalry and guns to the north of Colesburg towards the junction where a strong laager of the enemy was holding a hill and a position southeast of Colesburg as far as the junction.

"Our position cuts the line of retreat via the road and bridge.

"Some thousands of Boers, with two guns, are reported to be retiring towards

"All Remington's scouts proceeded towards Achterland yesterday morning. "Slight casualties, about three killed and a few wounded. Details later." -0-

THE BRITISH CASUALTIES. \_\_\_\_

Three Men Killed and Seven Wounded-Over Five Thousand Boers Were Engaged.

Brief independent messages from Rensburg, filed on the evening of Jan. 1st., supplement Gen. French's dispatch but According to them the British are

still shelling the Boer position at five o'clock on Monday evening, and expecta good moral effect, and it is added, if The British losses were three men kill-

ed and seven wounded, none of them befrom the fact that Remington's guides ing an officer. are already advancing on Achterland, it The Boers are supposed to have suf-

bridge, thus gaining an important strat- British artillery fire. egic advantage, as thence Gen. French would probably be able to threaten Boers were using a fifteen pounder and Bethulie bridge, which is the main line Woolwich ammunition evidently refers of retreat for the Boers, facing Gen. to one of the British guns captured at Stormberg.

The Boer strength in the engagement Other official dispatches dated January with Gen. French was estimated at 1st, say Gen. Methuen's position is un- from 5,000 to 7,000.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

---Boer Gun Captured-Colesburg Has Been Occupied-Burghers Suffered Severely.

---London, Jan. 2.-The Daily Mail has the following dispatch, dated Jan. 1st, Renburg, Cape Colony, Jan. 1, -- izen. from Rensburg:

"Yesterday afternoon a big force of cavalry and infantry, with ten guns, under the personal command of General French, moving by detour, occupied closely on Saturday and Sunday, giving some hills three miles from Colesburg. where the Boers were in strength, confident in the natural aid afforded them

> "The enemy's position extended six miles around the entire village. "At daybreak our artillery opened the

started upon a night march with the ob-"The Boers were taken by surprise, The flank operations were successful.

but replied vigorously. "An artillery duel was maintained for two hours. Then a Boer Hotchkiss col-

mediately made a feint attack upon the lapsed and was abandoned. We captur-Boer front, and while this was proceeding, cavalry and light artillery got com-"A big Boer gun was silenced, but this pletely around the enemy's flank as arand the other Boer guns were withdrawn to the northward, whither we are har-The programme worked without a

assing the Boer retreat by a damaging she'l fire. The Boers were utterly surprised and "Colesburg is in our hands, and the finding their retreat threatened fled in few remaining loyalists are jubilant. disorder to the eastward, leaving Coles-

"We have captured many wagons and a considerable quantity of stores. "Our losses were slight, but the Boers nust have suffered heavily.

"They may stop at Achterland or cross the river at Norval's Pont, where the bridge is still intact."

LAAGER CAPTURED And Forty Boers Made Prisoners-Three

London, Jan. 2.-The war office received the following from Capetown under to-day's date:

British Soldiers Killed.

"Col. Pitcher reports through the officer commanding at Orange River: "I have completely defeated a hostile

five squadrons of cavalry, half of the Jan. 1st, taking the laager and forty ed into the arrangements with great zest 30th, met a superior force using artilsecond Berks, and eighty mounted in- prisoners, besides the killed and wound- and reports to the department many lery, operated to the rear of the Boers.

> and Lieut. Adie wounded. "I am encamped at Dover Farm, 20

miles northwest of Yelmont and tem

Boer Laager Near Belmont - Two Queenslanders Killed.

Belmont, Cape Colony, Jan. 2.-A dispatch from the Associated Press representative at Dover Farm, dated January 1st, says a mounted force, consistcompany and 200 Queenslanders, commanded by Colonel Rickards, two guns Rougemont, forty mounted infantry under Lieut. Ryan and 200 of the Cornwall by Col. Pitcher, left Bekmont yesterday at noon on a march westward, covering

20 miles before sunset. The force encamped at Cook's Farm, where the troops were welcomed enthus- tional law.

approached a spot where a laager of the Boers was reported.

Col. Pitcher, on approaching the position which was a line of strong kopjes, detached Major De Rougemont with the stand." guns, the Torontos and mounted infan-Queenslanders, towards the south posi-

The British shells were the first indication of the presence of the troops. The Boers left their laager and opened fire, but the Queenslanders completing the movement, the larger was captured

The British casualties were two men killed, three wounded and one missing. movement on the part of Gen. Buller, "that the defence committee of the cab-The whole force worked admirably. Queensland contingent.

ACTIVITY AT MODDER RIVER. ---Many Boers Reported to Have With-

drawn From Their Position. -0-New York, Jan. 2.-Gen. French's occupation of Colesburg is a distinct gain for the British cause, says the London correspondent of the Tribune, and is an object lesson of what British generals can do when they go about it in the right way. Gen. French's success also illustrates what might have been done by other generals if they had not been bent upon frontal attacks, and if the headquarters staff in London had adapt ed the army corps to the needs of the campaign instead of carrying out a prearranged mobilization scheme without

any degree of flexibility. From Modder River there is a series of press dispatches indicating renewed

The Boers' position on the left is reported to have been weakened by a withdrawal of the burghers from the trenches, but this is explained by the heavy cannonading toward Kimberley, while Lord Methuen's men were commenting on the folly of the Boers wasting shot upon the Modder River camp. Gen, Babington has conducted a reconnoissance eastward with a large cav-

relates to a fresh reconnaissance from Chieveley Camp to ascertain whether loyal New Year greetings. I watch with the burghers had vacated their strong position South of Colenso, They are still entrenched on Ilangewana moun-

THE SECOND CONTINGENT. Officers of the Western Squadrons Will be Announced To-Day.

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Jan. 2.-The list of officers who will command the western squadrons will be known to-night. It is generally well understood that Commis r Herchmer will command and that Lieut.-Col. Steele will be second in command, but the matter will not be finally

settled until this afternoon. Volunteers Still Coming Forward (Associated Press.)

Otatwa, Jan. 2.-Commissioner Herchmer, who all along has been auxious for to retire on Dordrecht.

conficants still filing claims to places. In the course of the day he was com-"Our casualties are two privates killed " to be room. There will be 150 order, assisted by sixty men sent from . Svest Mounted Police on the con- Dordrecht before which we are in positingent, out of a total of 352 in the two tion for defence. The following casual-

Cable Rates.

Montreal, Jan. 2.-The Canadian Pacific railway's telegraph has been advised by the Eastern Telegraph Company that in arrangement has been effected with the cable companies of the ell's staff, were killed during the engagewest coast of Africa, whereby messages ment in which Lord Cavendish-Bentinck for places on the east coast via Loanda and Capetown during interruptions are was to capture Boer cannon. The losses accepted, while the war lasts, at the of the British were very severe. same rates as via Aden.

Miss Kussner in London.

was besieged in Kimberley where she went to paint a portrait of Cecil Rhodes, of 100 Canadians of the Toronto have received a cablegram from her saying: "Safe in London."

The Capture of the Bundesra h. Berlin, Jan. 2.-The Berliner Tageand a horse battery under Major De blatt thinks the English man-of-war was justified in confiscating goods belonging | bless you all." to the Transvaal government, and calls attention to the alleged fact that neither Light Infantry, the whole commanded England or the United States signed the treaty of Paris which laid down the principle that a neutral flag covers on enemy's goods unless they are ...ntraband of war. It goes on to sav, lowever, that the seizue of the Bundesrith they must feel at the fine qualities diswas undoubtedly a breach of interna-

London, Dec. 31.-A Ladysmith dis-At 6 o'clock this morning the force patch received via Weeman, December fight. Now they have had their oppor-

plugged shells containing plum pudding and the compliments of the season. They Imperial unity, the little fight may fairly are fortifying their positions and are be described as one of the most gratifyevidently determined to make a firm ing events recorded in the history of the

The following heliograph message has been received by way of Weenan from try to work toward the right, making Ladysmith dated December 27th: "The a turning movement himself with the Boers are actively bombarding the town. One shell struck the Devonshire mess tent, killing Capt. Dalzell and wounding The manoeuvre was a complete suc- man, Caffyn, Byrne, Safe and Kane."

A Boer Report. London, Jan. 1.-A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marquez, dated December 29th, says: "It is reported from Ladysmith by way of Pretoria that the British are destroying taheir

heavy connon, prior to a final sortie." Forward Movement Expected. London, Jan, 1 .- All the correspondents are beginning to hint of a forward

ures of two reconnaissances In one case the Boer lines at Colenso were to have been bombarded by night. and to place the nation on a par with Mounted men drew the Boer fire, and it was intended that the naval guns should bombard. This, however, failed, and the reconnoitering party was compelled to dated January 2nd, from Lorenzo Marflounder back to camp through the wet

and stormy night. According to the same correspondent a similar fate happened to another rethe town was evacuated, are now on the connaissance in the opposite direction. It is roughly estimated that there are 25,000 Boers between Ladysmith and Colenso, some 400 being on the south side of the Tugela river. At all points

the enemy shows ceaseless activity.

IN CAPE COLONY. Kimberley's Food Supply-Methuen's Position Unchanged-Lord Salisbury's Son Reported Wounded.

London, Dec. 31.-The war office has issued a dispatch dated Capetown, Friday, December 29th, evening, saying that Col. Kekewich wired, through the general commanding at Modder River, on December 28th as follows: "I am desired by the mayor and council to forward the following for transmission through the proper channel:

"To Her Most Gracious Majesty, the "The inhabitants of Kimberley beg to send Your Majesty New Year's greetings. The trouble they have passed through and are still enduring only tends to increase their loyalty towards Your

Majesty's throne and person.

"(Signed) 'R. H. HENDERSON. "'On behalf of the Inhabitants." The war office also issued the following addressed from the secretary of state for war: "Please send the following to The most important news from Natal | Col. Kekewich for communication to the mayor and council from the Queen: 'I am deeply touched by your kind and

admiration your determination and gal-

lant defensive though I regret the unavoidable loss of life incurred." Food for Three Months.

London, Jan. 1 .- A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Kimberley dated Friday, December 22nd, says: "We have food enough for three months. Fresh fruit and vegetables are obtainable daily from Kenilworth and water is plentiful

Dispatch From Capetown. London, Dec. 31 .- The war office publishes the following dispatch dated yesterday from the general officer commanding at Capetown:

"Methuen's position is unchanged. "French reports that the Boers, fearing their communication would be cut by our cavalry, have retired to Colesberg. "Hear unofficially from Sterkstroom British reconnaissance from Dordrecht engaged superior forces and was obliged

the battalion for whom there is not pelled to withdraw to Dordrecht in good ties are reported: One severely wound-

NO. 46.

The Mafeking Sortie.

Pretoria, Dec. 29. Three British prisoners from Malipo report Captains Vernon and Sandiford, of Col. Baden-Powwas wounded. The object of the sortie London, Dec. 31.-Advices from Pre-

toria regarding the sortie alleged to have been made from Mafeking on Monday Terre Haute, Ind., Jan. 2. Relatives last says that Lord Edward Cecil, son of Lord Salisbury, was among the wound-

The Queen's Christmas Greetings.

London, Jan. 1.—The Queen's message to the British troops in South Africa was sent to every general. It ran thus: "I wish you and all my brave soldiers a happy Christmas. God protect and

London, Jan. 3 .- The gallantry of Colonial troops engaged in South Africa is praised by the morning papers.

The Times says: "The Mother Country will share with the Canadians and Australians in the pride and gratification played by their troops in this morning's little engagement."

The Standard says: "The Canadian's and Australians had been spoiling for a tunity and they have greatly distin-"All well. The Boers have been firing guished themselves by their coolness and d'scipline. From the view point of British race

Roberts's Army.

The admiranty has chartered eight more large transports. When all the troops destined for South Africa join those already there, Lord Roberts will be in command of about 200,000 men. seven lieutenants, Dent, Twiss, Tring- Thirty thousand are now affoat or ready to embark. Military observers, in view of what figures mean, cannot see how the British can fail to rush the Boers by mere force of numbers.

Militia For Abroad. The Queen has accepted the services of twelve battalions of militia for foreign stations. Seven of these are assigned to South Africa. Increasing the Artiflery.

"We understand," says the Daily Mail, dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from question of the defence of the Empire. The two men killed belonged to the Frere, recording the unfortunate fail- parpticularly with regard to artillery, shortly call for the expenditure of £5,000,000, to make good deficiencies other great powers."

Medical Corps Safe. The Times publishes the following, quez: "It is asserted that Major Daly and forty men of the British medical corps who were left at Dundee when way from Pretoria to Delagoa Bay."

BULLER'S TROOPS CONFIDENT. Tugela River is Now Fordable-The

Boers Query. Frere Campp, Jan. 1.—The Boers inquired by heliograph to-day: "Why is Roberts coming? What has Buller

The British replied: " v did you ike our lyddite in the battle?" London, Jan. 3.-The Daily Telegraph has received the following, dated January 2nd, from Frere Camp: "The weather is fine. The Tugela river is now fordable. Gen. Buller's army is in fine form, ready and confident for the work

Gen. White reports under date of Decomber 31st that the number of cases of dysentery and fecer is increasing. IN CAPE COLONY.

Dordrecht and Douglass Occupied by the British. London, Jan. 3.-A Capetown dispatch reports that "the rebels in Bark-

ey district are demoralized by the British occupation of Dordrecht." Should it turn out that the Dutch rebellion is thus being diminished, it will be a matter of great relief for the Brit-

sh campaign. The Standard, however, remarks: "Until the Tugela has been crossed and Ladysmith relieved it would be idle to deny that the political position in Cape Colony is one of very great danger.' Douglass, Cape Colony, Jan. 2 .- Col. Pitcher has occupied Douglass, with opposition, and has been received with

enthusiasm by loyalists. Boer Account. Pretoria, Jan. 1 .- Last night (Sunday) the British in great force attacked Commandant Schoeman's commando in the Colesberg district and tried to storm the position. They repeated the attack this morning, but were forced to retreat, the Boers holding the position. The loss of the British is not known,

but it is reported to have been heavy. The Boers consider it a great compliment to the Transvaal that Lord Roberts should have been selected for the supreme command of the British forces.

Six Officers Reported Wounded. Pretoria, Jan. 2.-Three British prisoners who were taken at Malagro say that Capt. Gordon Chesney Wilson, husband of Lady Sarah Wilson with five other officers, whose names they refuse to give, were wounded in a recent sortie "Later Montmorency, on December from Mafeking.