

ourage of despair, been heightened by nature up to the found time during to get their rest of defence; they lie at their service the operations, and by the code tele- representatives and dowed to exchange, headly powers are they are in posses- sions of food, tion to an extent sem, to prolong the period. Finally, certified in such an almost insignificant be able to hold the n army can be de- Taking all the account, the concul- at that if England victorious she will ad in South Africa reased numerical e quite beyond the ing as yet conceiv- apply for her she

Her Power out in any way ndia or in her coly, the thousands of arts of her Empire willing to proceed d with your able e quite about the t places in Cape eeping touch be- and, for over- of the natives, udicious strength, e result that the easoned men could n battles and other offensive operations. Such men are to ad in England and ies in thousands, your Queen to her e would convert eads of thousands, best material might

into account the hich is at stake on nd, surely the in- ransport and such e fitting out, and ional 30,000-40,000 t to be considered uly such expense an will result if u push on the war ficient troops, all gled slowly by a rmanding. As is all England's mil- the present century ibly to her

ources. Will your ut in view of an every modern ad- as she at last real- and responsibilities government of 400- subjects—the latent with which to suc- abilities of a na- upon this decision or more than the ty of the British end of the press- in South Africa the dismemberment fact, it is hoped, as it is at least ean. An Eng- and destined, not only and victim of all safe to lose all her e rank of a third-

REPUTATION. matism Chamber- a wide re- gion of Richmond, d with that all- speaking of it, he anything that I used Chamber- acts like magic ection, and philo- one good applica- dlered me." For Bros., Wholesale eanover.

erment crop bul- cipal department made of the wheat shols to about 28- causes of shrinkage at in August when and the ravages of sh has probably a in any other living hot time to visit it Forest is Bjlowsh- takes 1,500 r. restora- In this forest this nearly killed by a

nlpep says F. H. eper, of the Tele- tist light changed nnection with the

War Office is Silent

Regarding the Reports That Buller Has Crossed the Tugela River,

And That Methuen's Communications Have Been Cut—Boers Reinforced.

Volunteers and Yeomanry Are Responding Promptly to the Call to Arms.

(Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 19.—Only the most optimistic gave any credit to-day to the rumors that Gen. Buller had crossed the Tugela River, and even they speedily realized that it was incredible the war office would refrain from the immediate publication of news of such importance.

There was also no confirmation of the statement that Gen. Methuen's line of communication had been cut, though there was known to be a probability of such an event occurring at any moment.

Methuen's Position. The latest news from Gen. Methuen, dated Sunday, indicated that the situation appeared to be a complete impasse. The Boers were gathering reinforcements and extending their fortifications on both flanks, but it was believed they would be unable to attack the British position.

On the other hand, it was regarded as impossible for the British to turn the Boers' flank, which was resting on the river to the east, and rapidly approaching the river to the west.

The Boer lines of entrenchments are continuous and capable of rapid connection at any point.

No News From the Front. From elsewhere at the front there is absolutely nothing to throw additional light on the situation.

Responding to the Call. The newspapers are full of stories showing the unanimity with which the volunteers and yeomanry are responding to the call to arms.

The Yeomanry Force. Lord Chesham, commanding officer of the Royal Buckinghamshire Yeomanry, is to command the force of 3,000 Yeomen which he has been authorized to organize for service in South Africa.

Earl Dudley and other titled officers will accompany him.

Employment of Troops From India. Some of the papers express considerable misgivings at troops going from India to South Africa. They think the risk too great, and that it may lead to two continents being ablaze instead of one.

Canada's Loyalty. The most ample recognition is given in the press to the great outburst of loyalty in Canada, and the remarks of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier, and the cabinet, as representatives of both the English and French sections, are especially welcomed.

together with the mounted infantry and mounted militia from Canada and Australia.

It is understood that the Volunteers selected will not form a separate corps, but will join their linked battalions of the regular forces in South Africa.

Rebellion in Cape Colony to be considered. This makes four pressing calls on the Fifth division. The question is who is to decide and on what principle?

Reviewing the various positions of the beleaguered commandants and garrisons, the Post concludes that the relief of Ladysmith is the most important emergency and that a victory in Natal would change the whole face of affairs.

Mr. J. B. Robinson, the South African millionaire, writes to the Daily Chronicle reasserting that the Boers have unlimited supplies of ammunition and ample stores of food, and declaring that statements to the contrary should be ignored.

The Daily Chronicle's financial article, which was written by Mr. A. J. Wilson, a leading authority, says: "The expenditure for the war considerably exceeds two million pounds per week, and it is evident that the government must soon come upon the market for money."

SITUATION IN NATAL. Report That Buller Has Crossed the Tugela After a Fight.

London, Dec. 19.—The Daily Mail bears from a hitherto reliable correspondent that General Buller, after a stiff fight, crossed the Tugela River.

The correspondent also states that Gen. Methuen's communications are cut. No further news has been received from Capetown, but the Cape Argus has a dispatch from a correspondent describing the battle of Tugela River, who says: "Gen. Buller carried the village of Colenso at the point of the bayonet and under a raking fire."

The few accounts that are yet to hand fail to give an accurate idea, but the statement that Gen. Cleary commanded the current idea that he was engaged in some turning movement and that the Tugela River battle was only part of a scheme of operations.

Details of Tugela Fight. Describing the Tugela River affair, the Daily Mail correspondent says: "The Boers in great force occupied a strong entrenched position commanding the river and reaching back about 800 yards from its farther side."

"On the right Gen. Hildyard's Brigade, displaying equal heroism, succeeded in entering the village of Colenso. The Sixth Battery encountered a murderous fire and was compelled to retire, leaving guns, ammunition and wagons on the bank."

"The British suffered heavily from a perfect hail of artillery and shrapnel, while their own artillery was very badly mangled. They were therefore obliged to recross the river."

"The entire force retired on Chieveley. Gen. Cleary was in command."

they belched out a stream of fire from all their entrenchments, besides opening fifty-one additional killed.

DEPENDS UPON ARTILLERY. Lord Charles Bessford Advocates the Use of Naval Guns.

London, Dec. 18.—Lord Charles Bessford is quoted in an interview to-day as saying: "The issue of the war will depend more upon artillery than anything else, especially at the siege of Pretoria and other places where the biggest battles are expected."

"The government should immediately commission every ship in 'A' division of the navy as a useful precaution against any nation seeking to take advantage of Great Britain's condition. No friendly nation could object."

Mr. Goschen's Speech. Hon. G. J. Goschen, first lord of the admiralty, when distributing prizes to Volunteers and riflemen in London to-night, said: "I little thought when I accepted this invitation that I should address men to whom an appeal has been made to stand shoulder to shoulder with the regulars in South Africa."

"I am sure, as a great element of security and I am confident that they are all prepared to do their duty. The colonies are also prepared to do their share, and Canada and Australia are to the fore, welcoming the opportunity to go to the front."

The Daily Chronicle assisting the troops in South Africa and testifying to the constant anxiety of naval men to be in the thick of the fighting, Mr. Goschen said: "It is impossible to grant their desires, although these soldiers and sailors would be glad to go to South Africa in thousands, because when 120,000 regulars have already left our shores the responsibility for the efficiency of our navy will be immensely increased."

London, Dec. 20.—A force which Gen. Buller is credited with having demanded all along as an essential of success in South Africa, namely, ten thousand mounted infantry, is to be mobilized.

The war office this morning issued an order to the effect that the government had decided to raise for South Africa a mounted infantry force to be called "Imperial Yeomanry," and to be recruited from Yeomanry Volunteers and civilians possessing the requisite qualifications.

The Royal Dublin Fusiliers, the King's Own Scottish Borderers, and the Connaught Rangers crossed with superb and unflinching gallantry, but the position on the other side was found utterly untenable.

The British suffered heavily from a perfect hail of artillery and shrapnel, while their own artillery was very badly mangled. They were therefore obliged to recross the river.

"On the right Gen. Hildyard's Brigade, displaying equal heroism, succeeded in entering the village of Colenso. The Sixth Battery encountered a murderous fire and was compelled to retire, leaving guns, ammunition and wagons on the bank."

"The British suffered heavily from a perfect hail of artillery and shrapnel, while their own artillery was very badly mangled. They were therefore obliged to recross the river."

"On the right Gen. Hildyard's Brigade, displaying equal heroism, succeeded in entering the village of Colenso. The Sixth Battery encountered a murderous fire and was compelled to retire, leaving guns, ammunition and wagons on the bank."

"The British suffered heavily from a perfect hail of artillery and shrapnel, while their own artillery was very badly mangled. They were therefore obliged to recross the river."

with all their quick-firing guns, field and siege guns which were posted from end to end of their position.

When their presence and actual positions had been determined, the British Naval Brigade commenced shelling all the ridges north of the town, with marvellous accuracy. All the time the artillery attached to Gen. Buller's division was busy among the entrenchments on the hills on the British left, under cover of which the Irish infantry brigade marched out in extended order to cross the river and attack.

Undoubtedly, during this battery the Boers sent several shells near the ambulance train which was forced to change its position.

While this was transpiring, the field artillery on the right were busy shelling the ridges north of the town, their excellent practice attracting the attention of the Boers, who retaliated with a scathing fire, almost demolishing all the guns and stamping the gun carriage horses.

England and Delagoa Bay. London, Dec. 20.—The Standard hints editorially this morning that if Portugal continues to allow supplies of war material and foreign volunteers to reach the Transvaal through Delagoa Bay, England will have something to say in the matter.

Will Be No Delay In Sending the Second Canadian Contingent to South Africa.

Contractors Have Orders and Are Rushing Work on Clothing Equipment.

Three Batteries of Artillery to Be Included in the Force.

Special to the Times. Ottawa, Dec. 19.—Dr. Borden was seen by our correspondent this afternoon, and on being asked if he would be able to give out the composition of the contingent, replied that he would not say anything on the subject until he made his report to the cabinet.

It is likely that a meeting of the council will be held late this afternoon and immediately after the programme will be made public.

However, the militia department is not idle. Everything is being rushed so that no time will be lost in outfitting and equipping the contingent.

Although no official information is to be had, it is said to be settled that the contingent will be composed of one thousand men. There will be three battalions, not two as at first suggested. It takes 100 to a battery, so that this would mean about five hundred or half of the contingent. There are two permanent batteries, and the third would be made up from field batteries all over Canada.

The other five hundred will be mounted infantry, composed of mounted police, who will come under the militia, of permanent cavalry who will go as mounted infantry, and recruits from the militia and ex-mounted policemen, etc.

Contractors have got their orders, and clothing and equipment will be ready in time.

Where Are the Guns?

It is Rumored in Durban That They Have Been Recovered.

Report Says Volunteers Brought Them Safely to the British Camp.

Non-Commissioned Officers and Men Killed at Colenso Number 137.

(Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 20.—It still seems doubtful whether the guns General Buller abandoned at Colenso are in possession of the Boers.

An Associated Press dispatch from Durban, filed on the evening of the battle but only now received, states that the guns were covered by the heavy guns of General Hildyard's brigade, occupying an entrenched position.

The dispatch adds that the Boers have thus far not attempted to cross the river and carry off the guns.

Two Hundred and Eight Prisoners. Advice to the Associated Press from Pretoria, under the same date, say that an official Boer dispatch reports two guns, 18 wagons and a quantity of ammunition captured, besides 208 prisoners.

A Surprise. Further accounts of the Tugela River battle emphasize the ignorance of the British intelligence department in regard to the disposition of the Boer forces. The British were not aware that the Boers were entrenched along a series of low lying hills immediately northward of Colenso bridge until a staggering fire compelled them to retreat, when the attack seemed about to succeed.

The Boers also were in greater strength than anticipated.

Outraged by Boer Artillery. It becomes clearer that the British guns were lost in attempting to get within effective range of the Boers' artillery, showing the latter out-ranged the British ordnance, which in spite of superiority, was wholly inadequate to reply to the long range guns.

War Office Denounced. The British war office comes in for a scathing denunciation from the Times to-day for not providing effective artillery.

It is pointed out in this connection that the longer ranged naval guns participating in the same attack escaped.

There was no news this morning to enlighten the general situation.

New Zealanders Under Fire. The war office reported that Gen. French reconnoitered northward of Arundel on December 18th. After shelling Jansfontein farm, three miles eastward of the Boer position, the New Zealanders advanced and occupied the farm. The Boer guns then opened and the Boers advanced to the attack, so General French ordered a retirement.

the abandoned guns and that a party issued from the camp after midnight and brought in the guns, which were uninjured.

Casualties at Colenso. London, Dec. 20.—Revised lists of the British casualties at Colenso show that 137 non-commissioned officers and men were killed.

IN THE WEST. Situation at Mafeking—Bombardment Continued—Colonists Threatened to Attack the Railway.

London, Dec. 20.—The latest news from Mafeking, dated December 16th, says a desultory bombardment was continuing, and that sharpshooters were engaged in smart duel morning and evening.

Africaner's Protest. London, Dec. 20.—A Capetown dispatch dated Saturday, December 16th, says: "Five hundred colonists of the Victoria West district have perfected an apparently anti-British organization there, and as individuals have openly expressed disloyalty and have threatened to attack the railway station, which is on the direct line between Capetown and De Aar. The Anti-British Committee at a meeting there, passed a resolution that the troops in the vicinity irritated the farmers dangerously. The meeting proclaimed its loyalty, but declared the conduct of the troops forced the people to use expressions and commit acts which were capable of being interpreted as disloyal."

Canada's Second Contingent. Montreal, Dec. 20.—A military man in the confidence of the government just returned from Ottawa, says the military authorities informed him that the second contingent has been composed of 1,064 men, 946 horses, the units being three squadrons of cavalry, and mounted infantry, and three squadrons of field artillery. Col. Drury of "A" battery, Kingston, is to command the artillery, and Col. Levesard, the mounted infantry. Both colonels are now with the first contingent in South Africa. It is understood two squadrons of mounted cavalry will be taken from the Northwest Mounted Police. The artillery is to be taken from "A" and "B" batteries.

Excitement at Montreal. Montreal, Dec. 20.—Local military circles have been stirred by a demand from Ottawa for the corrected names and addresses of Canadians at the front, which is taken as indicating an engagement.

Attack on Mr. Chamberlain. Aberdeen, Dec. 20.—Mr. James Bryce, M.P., in a speech here to-day, severely attacked Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. He denounced his "methods, manner and whole conduct."

Orders for Canadian Hay. Toronto, Dec. 20.—A Globe London cable says the British war office placed an order for another three thousand tons of Canadian hay yesterday.

In Favor of Arbitration. New York, Dec. 20.—Leonard Charles Van Koppes, a member of the Universal Netherlands Union, arrived here to-day with an appeal of the union to nations represented at the Hague, asking England to submit the South African question to arbitration. Signatures are also being secured in Continental countries.

Movement of French Troops. New York, Dec. 20.—A dispatch from Port of Spain says France has sent 5,000 troops to Guadeloupe and Martinique. It is thought that this is an outcome of the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain's Leicester speech.

Arrested at Rochester. Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Norman P. Breck, who inserted an advertisement asking "single young men wishing to see service with the British in South Africa, to communicate with him," was arrested last night. When arraigned he pleaded not guilty. Bail was fixed at \$500, for examination on Jan. 4th.

The Seizure of Flour. New York, Dec. 20.—A Twomey, of the New York Produce Exchange and the Pennsylvania Milling and Export Co., sent a protest to Washington to-day against the seizure by the British of flour sent to South Africa by his firm.

GENERAL LAWTON KILLED. At San Mateo—United States War Official Have Not Yet Received Confirmation of the Report.

(Associated Press.) Manila, Dec. 10.—Major-General Henry Lawton has been shot and killed. General Lawton was killed at San Mateo.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Up to one o'clock this afternoon, the war office has received no word of Gen. Lawton's death except that conveyed in the Associated Press dispatches.