

Estcourt Was Reinforced

Buller Likely to Rescue Besieged Points First.

Bombardment of Ladysmith Is Continuous,

But All Was Well Up to Wednesday's Date.

Successful Sortie Made by the British at Ladysmith.

Boers Destroy the Big Bridge Over the Tugela River.

25,000 Troops Have Recently Reached Cape Town and More Are Daily Expected.

New York, Nov. 17.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: Estcourt has already been reinforced, and it is not likely that the Boers will attempt to invest it.

As the Mohawk has arrived at the Cape with the Twelfth Lancers, cavalry, will be available in three days for a relief column.

INVASION MAY BE HELD OFF.

Reports of reconnaissance from Orange River to Belmont accompany accounts of the attack on the armored train above Estcourt and serve to indicate that Kimberley as well as Ladysmith will be relieved before a general advance is made through the Orange Free State. The military experts now agree that the two exposed garrisons on each flank will be delivered from attack by the enemy in superior strength before the original plan of invasion of the two republics and the occupation of their capitals is carried out, and that the latter movement will be deferred until the end of the year, when the new division now mobilizing has disembarked in South Africa.

CAN TRUST BULLER.

"You can trust Buller," said one of his warmest friends, "to choose his own time and field of operations. He is not a man to allow the Boers to force him to fight where they will have strong defensive positions in mountain passes. He will not be drawn away from the open country where the British troops will be free to operate their own way with irresistible force."

The admiralty reports Capt. Lambton, of the 10th Lancers, under the rules of the service he had no right to leave his ship, and it is singular, therefore, that he has been for weeks in the interior. Lambton formerly was Mr. Goggin's private secretary in the admiralty and is possibly privileged.

RELIEF FOR KIMBERLEY.

Mafeking has resisted the Boers so successfully that Gen. Cronje is now reported to be directing his efforts against Kimberley. The relief movement toward Kimberley commenced some time ago. The Ninth Lancers, Northumberland Fusiliers, Munster Fusiliers and part of the Lancashire Fusiliers, who some time ago were concentrating at De Aar Junction, were on Saturday last within 50 miles of Kimberley. It was this column which fought an engagement Nov. 10, which resulted in the loss of Lieut.-Col. Keith-Falconer.

DUNDEE STRATEGY.

London, Saturday, Nov. 18.—5 a.m.—The absence of news of any serious movement against Ladysmith seems to show that the Boers are repeating the strategy adopted by them at Dundee, when they appeared in front and endeavored to effect a surrounding movement. This seems to be their object regarding Estcourt, and since it is impossible that relief should reach there for some days to come, it is not likely that a further retreating movement on Mool River will be made. Major Wolfe-Murray has returned from there to Pietermaritzburg to take charge of the line of communication, and Capt. Long, of the Royal Artillery, has taken command at Estcourt. The force at Pietermaritzburg are too weak to attempt to reopen communication with Ladysmith. Cavalry and artillery are wanted, and it will probably take some time, owing to the necessity of entraining, and of allowing the horses to rest after the long sea voyage.

A BOER REPULSE.

Special dispatches from Pietermaritzburg and Lorenzo Marquez say that Ladysmith is bombarded night and day and hard pressed. On Nov. 9, having during the night placed men close to the town, the Boers, after a heavy bombardment, began an assault, but were repulsed at every point with heavy losses. The Boers have destroyed one of the bridges over the Tugela River. According to

the latest advices, Ladysmith is holding out satisfactorily, everything having been well up to Wednesday.

KIMBERLEY.

Kimberley was safe on Friday, Nov. 10. Last Tuesday a Boer force of six hundred entered Aliwal North, Cape Colony, and hoisted the flag of the republic. The activity of the Boers in this locality would almost point to the necessity of insuring the safety of the column marching to the relief of Kimberley from attack from this direction or Bloemfontein. In view of the reticence of Gen. Buller, it is almost useless to speak regarding the reports of a movement to relieve Kimberley. It can only be intended to withdraw the Boers from Natal. The object of the occupation of Aliwal North is understood to be to prevent the large quantity of ammunition at Herschell being forwarded to James-town and thence to Queenstown. There are reliable reports of mysterious movements of Free State commandos along the Orange River, and important developments are expected. Everything tends to show that the relief of Kimberley could only be safely undertaken by a strong column.

THE BASUTOS AND THE BOERS.

Advices from Maseru, Basutoland, dated Nov. 8, say that Chief Joel, terrified by false Boer assertions that the British have been beaten in every engagement and are being driven out of South Africa, is preparing to join the Boers. The Boers are said to have supplied him with guns, which they have accompanied with expedition to Basuto history know that Chief Joel and Chief Jonathan had a quarrel in their earlier years, and have been on the same side. Chief Jonathan having committed himself to British interests, Sir Godfrey Langden, resident commissioner in Basutoland, according to these dispatches, Maseru suddenly on Nov. 7, in order to meet Chief Lorofotho, the principal chief of the Basutos, who is ill and unable to travel. Sir Godfrey was expected to use every effort to prevent Chief Joel taking a foolish step. The advices go on to say: The country is full of reports of wonderful Boer successes, and color is lent to these by the absence of reliable information of British victories, but the chiefs rely upon the word of the government officials, who declare that a day of reckoning is coming and that the Boers will be punished. It is possible that the Boers will proclaim a strip of Basuto territory to the north to be their own.

BOER MOVEMENTS.

A dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez of the 17th, says: A Pretoria newspaper announced last Wednesday that 4,000 Boers had left Gen. Joubert's force around Ladysmith to join Gen. Botha's force near Estcourt, with a view of assisting to intercept the British advance to the relief of Ladysmith.

Dispatches from Zululand testify to the uneasiness of the residents, whose stores are looted by the Boers, with the result that the Zulus availed themselves of growing insolent, giving rise to a fear that they may attack the unarmed British population.

BOER DISPATCHES.

Pretoria, Wednesday, Nov. 15.—In an engagement yesterday morning, south of Ladysmith, the British advanced 4,000 men, and killed and captured 300 burghers of the Transvaal. A big gun was fired on the troops, who retired at 3 o'clock to Kloof, near Ladysmith. The British loss is unknown. The Boers killed one man and three wounded, and thirteen horses killed.

London, Nov. 17.—The following censored dispatch from Pretoria gives details of the engagement referred to in the above dispatch:

"The Free Staters had taken up a position on a small hill, when an English battery advanced and attacked them, sending a fiery hail of shells on the hill for one hour, when the Transvaal cannon put some shells right in the midst of the battery, and sent them to cover behind the hill. Two burghers were killed and six were wounded. When the British fell back on Ladysmith several shells exploded among them, but their effect could not be seen. At midnight all the Afrikaans troops from the hills surrounding the town opened fire simultaneously on Ladysmith, turning the quietness and darkness of night into a lurid inferno of whistling, shrieking shells, speeding from all points of the compass to the doomed city. Several buildings on fire were seen from Bulwer Hill. During the day the troops left the city deserted and sought shelter in the edge of the hill to escape our death-dealing shells."

AT KIMBERLEY.

Kimberley, Thursday, Nov. 9.—Evening.—Via Hopetown, Sunday, Nov. 12.—The Boers were busy yesterday in throwing up fresh earthworks. There has been no further bombardment. The Boers' mines are practically closed. Thousands of the employees are now domiciled in the center of the town, and are being provisioned by the mayor's relief fund. The military authorities have ordered all civilians to give up their arms and ammunition

with the view of preventing irresponsible firing at the Boers in contravention of the laws of civilized warfare. Natives report that the Boers cheered each shell as it was fired yesterday, believing it meant the destruction of Kimberley. The Boers are now wearing khaki uniforms and blue pug-garees, making it difficult to distinguish them from the British. Locusts are appearing.

Afternoon Dispatches.

GEN. BULLER'S LATEST DISPATCHES.

London, Nov. 18.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Gen. Buller:

Cape Town, Friday, Nov. 17.—Report from Kimberley, Saturday, Nov. 11, says all are well there.

Reports from Ladysmith, dated Sunday, Nov. 12, and Monday, Nov. 13, say all is well there.

Lorenzo Marquez, Delagoa Bay, Nov. 18.—Belated dispatches from a correspondent who was with the Boers near Ladysmith up to Tuesday, Nov. 14, are arriving here after being strictly censored at Pretoria. They throw some light on the fighting already reported from other sources. They say that on Friday, Nov. 10, eight Lyddite shells were fired into the Transvaal central artillery position, without doing any harm. The wooden platform of the second big gun on Bulwer Hill was damaged, but has since been repaired.

GEN. WHITE WOUNDED.

Commandant Wellbach captured a man who reported that Gen. White had been wounded and had gone to Pietermaritzburg, leaving Gen. French in command. This, however, does not tally with the Transvaal information. The prisoner also reported that the British forces were hiding in underground chambers in order to avoid the shells, and said there were about 1,000 wounded in the hospitals. Gen. Joubert had been indisposed, but was better.

BIG GUNS BOOM.

On Monday, Nov. 13, the British forts on the north side of Ladysmith opened on the nearest Boer battery, and the shells fell so thickly that the Boers were compelled to lie flat and sheltered. Later they opened fire on the British batteries, which were firing back. Heavy fighting occurred between the Orange Free State troops and the British south of Ladysmith during the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 14. The result is not known.

From Lombard's Kop the British batteries were visible, shelling the Free Staters' position.

A Transvaal big gun shelled the British batteries.

BLOCKING A RED CROSS TRAIN.

Estcourt, Natal, Friday, Nov. 17.—Dr. Briscoe, who was in charge of the Red Cross effort to prevent the killing and succor the wounded of the armored train disaster, gives an interesting account of a second interview which he had with the Boer commandant who had been shot by Dr. Briscoe. The commandant replied to the doctor's request for permission to remove the dead and wounded by saying that the dead had already been buried, and that the wounded were being well cared for by the Boer hospital corps.

COMPLIMENTS EXCHANGED.

The Boer commandant and Dr. Briscoe exchanged compliments on the pluckiness exhibited on both sides. The commandant spoke English fluently, was of polished manners, expressed admiration for the British soldiers, and promised to do his best to get the names of the killed. When questioned concerning the whereabouts of Winston Churchill, the commandant replied, "I do not know." Dr. Briscoe says the public and all relatives of the dead must be assured that they will be well cared for, as a Scotch surgeon, Dr. Maxwell, was pressed into the Boer service at Ermelo to take charge of the Boer hospital.

KATFRIGRAMS.

Estcourt, Natal, Friday, Nov. 17.—Evening.—A runner had arrived here from Ladysmith today bearing dispatches from Gen. White, who reports that all is well there. He adds that the Boer shells have no effect. Gen. White recently made a sortie and drove the Boers from their guns' position. The British did not lose a man. The town is healthy.

It is rumored that the Boers have occupied the village of Weenen, 25 miles from here. What advantage they hope to derive therefrom is not known.

Successful Sortie.

BOERS REPULSED.

Estcourt, Natal, Friday, Nov. 17.—Evening.—The bombardment of Ladysmith was continued almost daily with big guns. The Boers endeavored on Tuesday, Nov. 14, to make a closer investment, but were repulsed. Gen. White followed this up with a sortie, which drove the Boers from all their positions with considerable loss. The Boers are reported to be seriously short of provisions.

TENSION RELAXED.

London, Nov. 18.—The salient feature of today's war news is the arrival of a runner at Estcourt from Ladysmith and further information, since received, which left Ladysmith under the only recent casualty was a volunteer killed in the tent.

The sortie referred to in the runner's report occurred Tuesday, Nov. 14. The Boers were driven from their guns, and five were killed and two wounded. There has been no news later than this to justify the belief that the comparatively cheerful situation then prevailing at Ladysmith has in any way been altered, so there has been a visible relaxing of the extreme tension which existed all over the country owing to long absence of reliable news from the beleaguered garrison.

THE BIG TUGELA BRIDGE DESTROYED.

Lorenzo Marquez, Delagoa Bay, Friday, Nov. 17.—The Official Volksstem reports that the great bridge over the Tugela River near Colenso was completely destroyed Wednesday, Nov. 15. The Boers are looking forward with great interest to the impending encounter between Colenso and Estcourt with the advancing British. About 600 burghers, with cannon, are guarding the Helpmakaar Pass, eighteen miles

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Bargains for Tonight.

You might almost as well clothe boys in paper bags as in some of the trash sold under the name of Boys' Clothing.

Quality counts here. See the quality in the Single and Double-Breasted \$2.75 and \$3 Suits we are selling on Saturday. Every suit guaranteed.

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Children's Reefers.....

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We have a great variety of good, second-hand stoves, also new springs, mattresses, goose feather pillows and down cushions. Feathers bought and sold at Bed and Mattress Cleaning Factory, 533 Richmond street north, James F. Hunt & Sons, Telephone 97.

Electric Turkish Baths.

When rheumatic, nervous or tired, take a good Electric Turkish Bath, and see what benefits will obtain from them. Satisfaction in every case is guaranteed. 320 Dundas street, ywt

Gentlemen if You Are Bald

See Prof. Dorenwendt's Art Coverings in Wigs and Toupees, worn on thousands of heads. They are protection against Colds, Catarrh, etc., and give a most natural and younger appearance to the face. He will be at the Grigg House, London, Tuesday, Nov. 28. 694 4-k wtw

Explanatory.

For the past month there has appeared in the advertising columns of The Advertiser the legend "Tiny Tablets," and there has been considerable curiosity expressed as to its meaning. The explanation is furnished elsewhere in this issue by the announcement of the Dr. Hope Medicine Company, Limited, of Toronto. From the large sum of money these gentlemen have invested in Dr. Hope's remedy, they must have a good deal of faith in its remedial qualities.

A pretty face is often made prettier by good teeth. The teeth nature gave you are the best you will ever have. Andrews' Plugs are common sense treatment for toothache. Price 10 cents per bottle. Andrews Dental Company, 34 Yonge street, Toronto.

OVER-EDUCATED.

"It seems to make some fellows blamed fools to send them to college," observed Farmer Haycraft. "Here's a letter from my boy Elijah. He signs in Greek now, and that's the Greek form of the name."

Ole Bracke, a Swede from Iowa, has become insane over love for Helen Gould, and is confined in a New York asylum.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES

John Paul, of Garrett, Ill., who was traveling by wagon in Florida for the benefit of the health of his insane wife, is dead of marsh fever.

George H. Ward, formerly president of the Detroit board of trade, and well known to many Canadian dealers, died in New York on Wednesday.

The whaling fleet, now on its way home, will bring a revenue to San Francisco of about \$1,500,000. The total catch of ten vessels is 153 whales.

At Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, the C. L. and B. Company's sawmill closed down after a season's cut of 60,000,000 feet, which breaks all records.

Mrs. A. C. Hollands, Lima, Ohio, died from the effects of ab eating, said to be administered by her husband. The woman would not admit his guilt.

At New Albany, Ind., the heirs of Bourbon Graham were given judgment for \$2,000 against the Supreme Tent, Knights of Maccabees, insurance claim.

The loss on the cargo of the steamer Conestoga, which was sunk on Thursday at the mouth of the Chicago harbor, will be \$100,000. The crew had a narrow escape.

Three hundred delegates, representing 250 companies, with a capital of \$175,000,000, attended the fifth annual convention of the National Hardware Association in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Skaguay Alaskan tells a thrilling story of starvation and death in Northern Alaska. They tell us that M. C. Daly, of Boston, Mass., and two Frenchmen, whose names could not be learned.

The steamship Managua, from Guatemala ports, reports that since the government put on an export duty of 10 cents a stem on bananas planters have stopped cutting, and cargoes of the fruit are not obtainable. The tax is to defray the expenses of the recent anti-revolutionary operations.

THE D. & L. EMULSION OF COD LIVER OIL may be taken with most beneficial results by those who are run down or suffering from after-effects of the grippe. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Limited.

There is usually something radically wrong when a small boy goes through a gate rather than climbs a fence.

B.B.B. Banishes Blemishes.

There is no other remedy equal to B.B.B. for making the blood pure, rich and red, and the skin clear and smooth. Here's proof from Bertha J. Tozer, North Esk, N.B. "I have had pimples on my face for three years, and about two years ago I took an attack of nervousness. I got so bad I could not sleep and lost my appetite and was very weak and miserable. I was taking different kinds of medicines but seemed to be getting worse. A friend advised me to try Burdock Blood Bitters, I did so, taking in all four bottles. As a result I sleep well, have a good appetite, my face is free from pimples, my skin clear and my health is in every way perfect."

Every Man To His Trade

We frequently have customers come to us with copy and say: "Put it in attractive form and make the price reasonable." In such case the work is always satisfactory, and brings excellent results.

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The Best Natural Laxative Water.

ONE DOSE gives IMMEDIATE RELIEF.

ORDINARY DOSE, A Wineglassful Before Breakfast.

Its good effects are maintained by smaller and steadily diminishing doses, repeated for successive days.