

BRILLIANT BRITISH VICTORY IN NATAL

The Boers Routed Near Glencoe After a Battle Which Lasted All Morning.

OUR CASUALTIES WERE HEAVY

Cavalry Are Pursuing the Retreating Burghers—Seventeen Guns Captured—General Symons Wounded—Official Despatches From the Front.

(Associated Press.)
Ladysmith, Oct. 20.—At 5:20 this morning a dispatch was received from General Symons announcing that the Boers were shelling Glencoe camp with big guns, and that troops were moving out to attack them.

Burghers Defeated.
London, Oct. 20.—A dispatch from Glencoe dated 8:25 this morning announced that the Boers position had been captured after heavy fighting, during which five guns were taken. The Boers strength was about 9,000 men. The Boers, it appears, passed the guns on the hill overlooking the town, opened fire on the camp and the battle became general.

The war office, during the morning, received a report that General Symons was wounded in the engagement at Glencoe.

The Boer Advance.
The war office also received the following dispatch, dated yesterday evening, from Ladysmith, from General George Stewart White, the general commanding in Natal.

"The Boers commenced descending the Western passes on Tuesday, and came in contact with our patrols yesterday. They continued to advance, halting for the night with the left flank at Bester's station, their centre at Bluebank, and their right more retired.

"At Acton Homes, Lieutenant Galwey of the Natal Carbineers, is missing, and Trooper Spencer, of the Natal Carbineers, was slightly wounded.

"I moved my camp into the position I have selected, with the object of covering Ladysmith, and hoped to-day that the Boers might have been sufficiently near us to strike a blow.

"To-day, however, the enemy seems to have retired west, our patrols getting in touch with a comparatively small body at Bester's Station.

"Communication with Glencoe junction was cut off at Elands Laagte, where they captured a goods train.

"The Boer force is advancing over Biggersberg Nek.

"Communication by telegraph is still open via Greytown."

The Start of the Battle.
London, Oct. 20.—The war office has received the appended dispatch from Ladysmith, filed at 10:45 a.m. today.

"The following advices from Glencoe camp just at hand:

"The King's Royal Rifles and Dublin Fusiliers are attacking a hill occupied by Boer artillery.

"They are within 300 yards of the position and are advancing under the cover of our artillery, about 2,000 yards range.

"Scouts report that nine thousand Boers are advancing on Hattingspruit. The Fifteenth Battery and the Leicester Regiment have gone to meet them."

Ladysmith, Oct. 20, 11 a.m.—A dispatch from Glencoe says that a Boer gun has been captured and that Devonshire and Dorsetshire regiments are now engaging the Boers.

OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION.
The Boers Routed—Seventeen Guns Taken—British Commander Wounded.
London, Oct. 20.—The war office has received the following from Ladysmith, filed at half-past three this afternoon:

"We were attacked this morning at daylight by a force, roughly estimated at 4,000.

"They had placed four or five guns in a position on a hill, 5,400 yards east of our camp.

"They fired plugged shells. Their artillery did no damage.

"Our infantry formed for the attack, and we got our guns into position.

"After the position of the enemy had been shelled, our infantry advanced to the attack, and after a hard fight, lasting until 1:30 p.m., an almost inaccessible position was taken, the enemy retiring eastward.

"All the Boer guns have been captured. We can see our soldiers at the top of the hill.

"Our cavalry and artillery are still out.

"General Symons is severely wounded. Our losses are heavy. They will be telegraphed as soon as possible."

Chasing Fleeing Boers.
There is reason to fear that the wound received by Sir Wm. Symons will prove fatal.

A dispatch from Glencoe camp says when Sir William Symons was wounded in the stomach General Gate assumed command.

It was reported in the House of Commons this evening that the British had captured seventeen guns at Glencoe, and that the cavalry were still pursuing the fleeing burghers.

The news in London.

The news of the battle was received with intense enthusiasm everywhere in town. The public gathered at the decorations at Lord Nelson's monument preparatory to Trafalgar day, speedily learned what had happened, and cheers and patriotic songs were continuous.

Outside the war office, where the successive bulletins giving brief pictures of the contest were displayed, an immense crowd gathered, vociferously exhibiting joy.

The news from Glencoe caused a scene of wild enthusiasm on the stock exchange, and Kaffirs rose tremendously.

Reported Attack on Dundee.
Ladysmith, Oct. 20, 9:20 a.m.—An unconfirmed report has been received that the Boer artillery is shelling Dundee.

Train Captured.
London, Oct. 20.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Ladysmith, in a dispatch sent on Thursday night, confirms the statement that a train has been captured at Elands Laagte, and said:

"The train was partly made up of four trucks of cattle consigned to the army purveyor of Dundee. It is reported that one British officer and Mr. Mitchell, the Johannesburg Star war correspondent, besides other war correspondents, were captured.

"The train which preceded the captured train was fired at, but the Boer attack was unsuccessful.

"I am informed there are four trucks of stores at Elands Laagte station.

"The place is full of rumors of fighting, but there is nothing definite.

"There are said to be 4,000 Boers, with a heavy wagon train, encamped near Acton Homes."

Burghers Retire Before Hussars.
Glencoe, Oct. 18.—(Night)—A report having reached camp that the Boers had been sighted seven miles out, a squadron of the 18th Hussars, under Major Lam-

ing, rode out, and sent forward a patrol, under Lieutenant Cape.

On reaching the brow of the hill beyond Hattingspruit station, they discovered a strong advance party of Boers. The Hussars retired on the main body, which in the meantime had been well handled by being moved under cover and made ready to open fire had the Boers continued their advance.

The wily enemy were not to be drawn on. In fact, having met men who were their equals, if not their superiors in swift moves, after hesitating, apparently staggered at their poor success with the rifle, and perceiving that the Hussars manoeuvred out of range, they turned quickly and retired.

Falling light alone prevented the Hussars from following up their advance, and the enemy, failing to make further advance, the Hussars returned to camp.

The Channel Squadron.
London, Oct. 20.—The British channel squadron has been ordered to proceed to Gibraltar next Tuesday.

Canadian Hay Wanted.
Toronto, Oct. 20.—A London cable to the Globe says the imperial war office is making inquiries for Canadian hay.

Canada Again to the Front.
(Special to the Times.)
Ottawa, Oct. 20.—A press cable says that the British postoffice department is sending a number of postoffice officials to the Transvaal.

Hon. Mr. Mulock telegraphed from Toronto yesterday to the Minister of Militia asking him to advise the war office that the department here would contribute five employes, and would pay all expenses.

Dr. Borden instructed his deputy to cable Lord Strathcona, Lieut. Col. P. M. Leane has done so, making an offer of a contribution from the Canadian postoffice department, to join the British postoffice department. Canada pays all costs.

Act of Drunken Soldiers.
A few days ago a couple of intoxicated soldiers in the barracks at Toronto buried Hon. J. I. Tarte in effigy because of his alleged attitude with regard to the Canadian contingent. An inquiry was ordered into the matter, and Mr. Tarte sent a telegram to Colonel Otter, asking him to forgive the poor fellows, who were misled by reports that French Canadians were disloyal.

Canadian Commander.
Toronto, Ont., Oct. 20.—At a garden dinner last evening Col. Otter said he was intensely proud of being selected to command the Canadian contingent, and would endeavor to do his duty to the Queen and his country, and the men. Major McKay, of Quebec, said if a thousand French-Canadians were called there would be a hearty response.

(The Western Column.)
Ottawa, Oct. 20.—Major Arnold, Winnipeg, has been appointed to complete the officers of the western company.

Nurses Volunteer.
Halifax, Oct. 20.—Miss Rose Fairbanks, of this city, and Miss Eaton, of Truro, N. S., have offered their services as nurses to the Canadian South African contingent.

Preparations in Montreal.
Montreal, Oct. 20.—At an enthusiastic public meeting of citizens called by the proclamation of Mayor Prefontaine, held at the board of trade rooms to-day, committees of the leading citizens were appointed to provide for the comfort and to attend to the Canadian South African contingent.

Major-General Symons.
Ian McAllen, writing in the London Daily Mail, says:

Sir W. Penn Symons, at present holding an important command in Natal, well illustrates the old saying that everything comes to him who waits. His promotion was very tardy; he has only lately pulled up the long leeway that left him so far behind the waiting race.

At the commencement of the Zulu war of 1879 he had but just become a captain, and was still at the bottom of the list when a single day, the dread day of the massacre of Isandlwana, pushed him almost to the top. It was his good fortune to be on duty elsewhere when his comrades fell in heaps under the Zulu assegais. So, after spending twelve years as a subaltern, three carried him from captain to major, and in six more he was a brevet-colonel. Yet he had no great opportunity vouchsafed him in this arduous Zulu campaign; at its end he was still a regimental officer, and he was awarded no special honors or distinctions. His merits had, however, become known to his superiors, and comrades predicted great things for him if he got an opening. It came when he passed under the personal observation of Lord Roberts. That fine judge of a man's character and quality was commanding the Madras army when the South Wales Border Regiment, in which Symons was a major, formed part of it.

It would be a mistake to say, as such a good "all-round" officer, as Symons is a specialist in any one thing, but he was, and is especially strong on the rifle, and how it should be wielded. Musketry instruction and the desire to bring his men to a high standard in marksmanship was his pet hobby, and he was cordially encouraged in it by Lord Roberts, who held exactly the same views.

When the last Burmese war was afoot he was in the field with the expedition, first as staff officer, then as commander of the mounted infantry. Another of his "specialties" was a deep interest in this hybrid arm. He had been associated with it in South Africa, and had recognized its peculiar usefulness under particular conditions, and the body he raised in Burma did admirable and most effective work. The old experience will probably stand him in good stead now. The Boers are essentially of the class of mounted infantry, and the man who will best meet them in the field is one who is fully an-alf with the tactics and capabilities of these composite troops.

Symons's war services were continued in Burma and beyond. He was a brigadier-general with the Chin field force; he commanded the column from Burma in the Chin Lushai expedition; quite recently he was actively engaged in the last hard-fought, tedious campaign on the northwest frontier of India, at first with a brigade in the Tachi field force, and then with a division in the Tachi expedition. He has been fighting almost continuously for the last fifteen years, and is a postmaster in the business of war, knowing every secret, every move. He is calm, clear-headed, resolute, prompt and vigorous in following up an advantage, tenacious and unyielding when hard pressed. The prestige of the national arms will be assuredly maintained by Sir William Symons.

THE BATTLE OF GLENCOE.
Later Particulars Regarding the Defeat of General Joubert's Force.

London, Oct. 21.—A correspondent at Glencoe camp sends the following dispatch under yesterday's date:

Six thousand Boers under Commandant General Joubert has been defeated severely by a force under General Symons, and the enemy at this moment are in full retreat.

General Symons and his staff alone were aware that the Boers intended to attack them, and that they would get within three miles of this position before revealing their presence. It was known, however, that the enemy were advancing still further south and therefore unusual precautions had been taken against a surprise during the night.

Just after dawn the Boer artillery opened fire from Glencoe Hill. The range was ill judged and the quality of the ammunition bad. During two hours and a half scarcely a dozen shells burst within our lines. Our gunners, on the contrary, made excellent practice, which soon began to tell upon the enemy.

General Symons ordered a general advance of the infantry brigade, which he himself accompanied, at half past seven. The Dublin Fusiliers were well to the front, the King's Royal Rifles well up on the right, and the Leicestershire regiment on the left. These men advanced smartly, taking advantage of every bit of cover, tactics in which they had been exercised for weeks past.

The advance was covered by a Terrible Fire from our three batteries and several Boer guns were silenced before the Fusiliers began to climb the hill. By the time the Fusiliers and Royal Rifles got to the top the Boer batteries had been completely silenced, our own guns having poured into them at 2,500 yards range with crushing effect. The Boers meantime were keeping up a heavy fire which thinned our ranks considerably.

By 9 o'clock the Fusiliers and Royal Rifles had swarmed over the hill and the Boers were on the run. Meantime the 18th Hussars and all the Colonial Mounted Infantry and the Leicestershire regiment had been moved southeast, and having cut off the Boer retreat, the enemy, caught between two fires, lost heavily.

At this minute fighting is still going on, but the Boers are being completely and crushing, and it looks as though few could escape.

Our losses were probably 300 killed or wounded, and that of the Boers thrice as many.

Another Account.
Glencoe, Oct. 20.—Afternoon.—Today's battle has been a brilliant success for the British. The Boers got a reverse which may possibly for a time put an end to their operations.

The artillery practice in the early part of the day decided the battle. The seizure of Dundee hill by the Boers was a surprise, for although the pickets had been exchanging shots all night, it was not until a shell boomed over the town into the camp that their presence was discovered. Then the shells came fast. The hill was positively alive with the swarming Boers until the British artillery got work, with magnificent energy and precision. The batteries from the camp took up positions to the south of the town and after a quarter of an hour's magnificent firing silenced the guns on the hills.

The correspondent could see shells dropping among the Boers with remarkable accuracy and.

Doing Tremendous Execution.
for they were present in very large numbers and in places exposed.

The enemy by this time held the whole of the hill behind Smith's farm, and the Dundee kopje right away to the south, in which direction the British infantry and cavalry moved at once.

The fighting raged particularly hotly at the valley outside the town.

General Symons ordered the infantry to move on the position, with the infantry charge was magnificent. The way the King's Royal Rifles and the Dublin Fusiliers stormed the position was one of the most splendid sights ever seen.

The fighting of the Boers was not so deadly as might have been expected from troops occupying such an excellent position, but the infantry lost heavily going up the hill, and only the consummately brilliant way in which General Symons had trained them to fighting of this kind saved them from being swept away. Indeed.

The Hill Was Almost Inaccessible to the storming party, and any hesitation would have lost the day.

The enemy's guns, so far as the correspondent could see, were all abandoned, for the Boers had no time to remove them. A stream of fugitives poured down the hillside into the valley, where the battle went on with no abatement.

General Symons was wounded early in the action, and the command then devolved on Major Yule.

The enemy as they fled were followed by the cavalry, Mounted Infantry and artillery. The direction taken was to the eastward.

At the latest reports the cavalry had not returned.

Although the enemy's position was carried soon after 1 o'clock scattered firing went on almost all the afternoon.

The British losses are very severe, but those of the Boers are much heavier.

The final rush was made with a triumphant yell, and as the British troops charged to close quarters the enemy turned and fled leaving all their impediments and guns behind them in their precipitate flight.

While this was going on, a battery of artillery, the 18th Hussars and Mounted Infantry, with a part of the Leicester Regiment, got on the enemy's flank, and as the Boers streamed wildly down the hill, making for the main road, they found.

Their Retreat Had Been Cut Off.
They rallied for a while, and there was severe fighting with considerable loss on both sides. Many of the enemy surrendered.

A rough estimate places the British loss at 250 killed or wounded and that of the Boers at 800.

A newspaper correspondent states that through his glasses during the fight to-day he noticed how much the Boers seemed to be nonplussed by the tactics of the Imperial troops, especially of the well drilled, swift moving horsemen.

The enemy are still a mob. They are without horses and forage and many of them rely for food upon what they can obtain by looting. Their animals are mostly in a wretched condition.

It is understood that before today's battle, several Boers had left their commands and gone home on their farms, and many others are likely to follow.

The movements of the commandos in the Utrecht district are somewhat mysterious. It is supposed that they have some idea of getting around between this place and Ladysmith. Many Boers are reported to be.

Falling Back.
on their old positions. They have been raising a series of fortifications between Sandespruit and Dannhauser, their object being to contest the grand advance of the Imperial troops. Near Sandespruit camp they have a larger with several pieces of artillery and another between Volksrust. There are guns at Mount Pogwan overlooking Laing's Nek, and Ingogo Heights are fortified and earthworks have been thrown up and guns left at various places on the way south.

Glencoe Camp, Oct. 20, 2:50 p.m.—After eight hours of continuous heavy fighting Tlana Hill was carried by the Dublin Fusiliers and the King's Rifles under cover of a well served artillery fire by the Thirteenth and Sixty-ninth batteries. The Boers, who threatened the British rear, have retired. The fight was almost an exact counterpart of that of Majuba Hill, except that the positions of the Boer and British forces were reversed.

Maxims in Action.
Ladysmith, Oct. 19.—(Delayed in transmission.)—After being in action nearly all day with the enemy the Carabidiers and Border Mounted Rifles returned this evening.

Fighting in the face of two thousand Boers, they were several times almost cut off, but a Maxim gun held the Boers in check.

It is reported that 16 Boers were killed. Several times the Boers came within 400 yards range, but their shooting was bad and the Maxims rendered signal service in stopping their rushes. They have a large wagon train and artillery.

Advance of Free State Burghers.
London, Oct. 20.—The Ladysmith correspondent of the Mail, telegraphing to-day, says:

"I understand that the Free State Boers, undeterred by the defeat of the northern army, are advancing, and it is reported that an engagement is imminent."

Capetown, Oct. 20.—Advices from Orange Free State announce that President Steyn has issued a proclamation calling upon the burghers to a man to take up arms and fight against an unscrupulous enemy.

"We are fighting a just war," says the proclamation, "and cannot be defeated, as God is on our side."

FIGHTING AT MAFEKING.
British Force Under Colonel Baden Powell Scatters the Boers.

London, Oct. 21.—Writing from Mafeking under the date of Oct. 14th, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says:

"I am handing this to my orderly with instructions to take it to Kuruman, 200 miles away, where he will hand it to native runners who will be instructed to reach Hope Town to the southwest of Kimberley, avoiding that place as much as possible, owing to the Boer investment."

"The Boers began the investment of Mafeking in real earnest at six o'clock this morning.

"For some days they have been skirmishing near the town in small bodies, but they have begun to mass in force on the Transvaal side.

"Colonel Baden-Powell ordered the Bechuana and protectorate regiment to go out against them and see if they could break up the strongest force. They went out a distance of four miles and directly they came in range opened fire with their Maxims, scattering the Boers.

"The enemy at once rode off in hot haste further into the veldt, and away from the railway, but the troops pursued and overtook them.

"The enemy were in a sheltered position while our men were in the open and therefore much exposed.

"Volley firing was started at 900 yards, and soon became hot on both sides.

"A number of our men were wounded while many riderless Boer horses rushed across the plain.

"Our fire soon scattered the enemy, but at that moment their general, whom we believed to be Cronje, pushed up reinforcements and a hot engagement occurred.

"Our men behaved superbly. Reinforcements were hurried up by Colonel Baden-Powell from Mafeking, consisting of the rest of the Protectorate regiment and the Diamond Horse, under Col. Hope with two guns and Lord C. Benbow with another couple of guns.

"The artillery got the range and the Boers were splendidly shelled. They were astounded by the accuracy of our fire.

"A second armored train was despatched from Mafeking together with the Chartered Police and a fierce general fight followed.

"Ultimately the Boers, demoralized by the splendid work of our men, began gradually to withdraw and by 11 o'clock they were completely driven off. They undoubtedly suffered heavy loss.

"The British returned to Mafeking exalted over their victory.

"Our loss was three killed and fourteen wounded."

Shelled a Dynamite Train.
Capetown, Oct. 20.—A Mafeking dispatch dated Oct. 14, and carried by dispatch riders via Kuruman and Danieskuil to Hope Town, states that Colonel Baden-Powell inflicted a tremendous blow on the Boers nine miles north of Mafeking.

Two trucks laden with dynamite which it was judged unsafe to keep in Mafeking, several Boers had left their commands and gone home on their farms, and many others are likely to follow.

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