

BULLER'S BIG ARMY. His Force by Christmas Will Aggregate Ninety-five Thousand Men.

Boers Are Planting More Guns on the Hills Surrounding Ladysmith. A British Advance Will be Impossible for Some Days, as Additional Artiller Cannot Reach Durban Before Tuesday Next.

LONDON, Nov. 12.—The Allan Line Steamer Sardinian, from Montreal and Quebec, with the Canadian Contingent for South Africa, has arrived at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands.

LONDON, Nov. 11, 4.30.—Complete silence has again fallen upon affairs in South Africa. The British public must therefore be content with the brief, stereotyped reports which the censor allows to filter through from Cape Town. That this condition of things is no longer due to pressure of work of defective cables has been amply proved. The eastern telegraph company reckons that the real delay in transmission is about two days. It is evident, therefore, that the censorship is responsible for the other two days of delay which seems to befall all the despatches.

Moreover, the Daily Telegraph announces that its "appropriated despatch" from Ladysmith, dated Monday, which the war office published on Tuesday, was not delivered in Pretoria until yesterday (Friday) morning. It is believed that the war office received further despatches last evening, but nothing has been published.

SHOULD BE BETTER PREPARED. At a banquet in the city of London yesterday, the Duke of Cambridge, speaking on the war, said: "We ought never to have allowed ourselves to be in the position in which the outbreak of war found us. I could cry over the valuable lives which might have been spared, had we been better prepared."

NOT TILL CHRISTMAS. It is said that Gen. Buller never expected to commence the campaign before Christmas; and it now looks as though this would be the case. Orders for the British guns to reach Durban before Nov. 14, and without additional guns, an advance from Estcourt would be impossible. No doubt, as Lord Salisbury said in a recent speech, England will "muddle through" it, and yet another illustration of muddling has become apparent in the fact that gunnery instructors have only just arrived at Woolwich arsenal for their duties in the Cape.

Thoughtful preparations are being made to prepare the siege trains, the fact that men are at Devonport and the guns at Woolwich seem to show that the idea of the siege train was quite an after-thought.

The Morning Post says: "What will come of such muddling, if we ever come to fighting a foe able to turn it to advantage? Some radical reforms are still needed in our mobilization arrangements."

NEWS FROM LADYSMITH. The statement from Ladysmith that the British guns do not reply to the Boer artillery because the concrete beds or the guns have not yet hardened, is interpreted in some quarters as meaning simply that the British are hoarding their ammunition, as the Boer fire is only a trick to get the British to waste shells.

Among the few items that have arrived from the Cape today is one saying that the Boers are planting more guns from the hills surrounding Ladysmith. All the correspondents in the beleaguered town are safe and anxious to reopen communication.

A gentleman who visited Nicholson's Nek after the engagement counted twenty-five killed and seventy wounded.

KIMBERLEY ADVICES. The latest advices from Kimberley, dated Nov. 2nd, say that all was well there then. An explosion has been heard and the supposition was that the Boers had blown up the railway culvert south of Dronfield.

The Belgian government, it is said, has warned Dr. Leyds, whose headquarters is at Brussels, that Belgium is a neutral country.

A corps of engineers from Gibraltar will accompany the siege train to the Cape, and the men will be used in mounting the heaviest guns. Two battalions of mounted infantry, every man selected for his riding and shooting qualities, will be sent to the front.

TRANSPORTS ARRIVE. LONDON, Nov. 10.—With the arrival at Cape Town of the British transports Roslyn Castle and Moor, to be

western frontier. All the despatches tend to show that the British are holding their own. Col. Powell reports that all was well at Mafeking on Nov. 6. Ladysmith's latest date is Nov. 3. While nothing adverse is heard from the latter point, and confidence is felt in the ability of the Boer forces, experience having shown that the Boer artillery is not very effective—it is beginning to be proved that the acquisition of artillery which has destroyed the quality of the Boer forces has not failed to give them any compensating advantage. On the contrary, the reverse is the case. It is held here that if the Boers had not been hampered by the transport of heavy guns and their receipt from their places, Gen. Joubert might ere this have been in Pietermaritzburg. Unless the heavy Boer artillery justifies itself by reducing Ladysmith, it will again hamper the eventual retreat from Natal, when Gen. Buller sends the relieving force.

It is believed that the Boer retreat will be made from the Zoutpansburg district, where every preparation for provisioning and maintaining the Boers is said to have been made for the landward, and where it will be difficult to dislodge them. A rumor has been spread that they are in straits for food around Ladysmith, and may, therefore, be obliged to abandon the siege.

GEN. BULLER'S ORDERS. Despatches from Estcourt say that the Boers are being ordered to proceed to Durban, Natal, forthwith, in order to indicate an entire change, or at least a modification, in the plan of advance. It seems that Gen. Buller's first move will be to force Gen. White, thus somewhat departing from the earlier plans credited to him of advancing through the level country of the Orange Free State and Southwestern Transvaal. It has been apparent for some days that the situation at Ladysmith could not be indefinitely prolonged, and it is understood that the quietness of the Boers will shortly be changed by the arrival of the siege train from Pretoria into a determined attempt to deliver a telling stroke. This, it is added, led Gen. Buller to prepare a counter stroke and endeavor to push the Boer back by a direct attack. Such an operation, if attempted, will necessarily entail great expenditure of life, as during the month the Boers have occupied Northern Natal they have fortified most of the passes and other positions suitable to their style of fighting.

ESTCOURT, Nov. 10, Tuesday (night).—An armored train, which has returned within half a mile of Estcourt, saw no sign of the Boers.

LADYSMITH ALL RIGHT. LONDON, Nov. 10.—The British war office has received from Gen. Buller the following despatches: CAPE TOWN, Thursday evening, Nov. 9.—Have received by pigeon from Gen. Buller today the following: The bombardment at long range by heavy guns continues daily. A few casualties are occurring, but no serious harm is being done. The Boers sent in today a number of refugees from the Transvaal under a flag of truce. A flag of truce from Ladysmith left them outside the pickets. When the party separated the Boer guns fired on it before it reached our pickets. Major Gale, of the Royal Artillery, was wounded today while sending a message. The entrenchments are daily growing stronger and the supply of provisions is ample.

ALLEGED BRITISH LOSS. LONDON, Nov. 10.—A rumor emanating from Amsterdam sources says that a British regiment was decimated Friday by Free Staters. It is added that 600 of the British soldiers were killed or wounded, and that 300 horses were captured.

With the additional division announced by Lord Roberts at the Lord Mayor's banquet yesterday evening, Gen. Buller's forces will aggregate 95,000 men by Christmas.

MOBILIZATION ORDERS. LONDON, Nov. 10.—Orders for the mobilization of the necessary reserves for the supplementary division announced yesterday by the War Office were issued this evening. The men will join between Nov. 13th and Nov. 20th.

TRANSPORT SAILS. LONDON, Nov. 10.—The troopship Bavarian sailed from Queenstown this evening for the Cape, carrying the Connaught Rangers, the first battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and a contingent of miscellaneous troops.

ALTOGETHER OVER 2,000 MEN and a large quantity of stores, crowded witnesses, set their faces to the departure of the vessel.

TO JOIN THE BOER FORCES. BERLIN, Nov. 10.—It is asserted that Major Von Reitzenstein, winner of the long distance military ride from Berlin to Vienna, has gone to the Transvaal to join the Boers.

LONDON, Nov. 10, 4.30 a. m.—This morning's news from the seat of war in South Africa continues fairly satisfactory. The official cables are not very detailed with regard to the Belmont incident, which, except for the fact that the Boer loss was not a very serious affair.

There are signs of greatly increased Boer activity in Natal and along the

died of apoplexy yesterday while on a visit to his brother.

MOBILIZED FOR SERVICE IN SOUTH AFRICA. LONDON, Nov. 9.—The war office is mobilizing a siege train, composed of 14 6-inch howitzers, eight 5-inch, and eight 4-inch guns, with travelling carriages, and 15,000 rounds of 6-inch and 4-inch shells. The 6-inch guns will have a range of 10,000 yards. Eleven hundred and thirty-six officers and men, supplied with 35,000 rounds of small arm ammunition, will accompany the train.

The armament is now being issued from Woolwich, and part of it has already been forwarded to Devonport for shipment to South Africa.

This will be the first employment of a modernized siege train by an European army; and the progress of the reduction of forts by the 6-inch shells, a preliminary to storming by infantry, will be watched with interest and curiosity by all professional soldiers.

LONDON, Nov. 11.—The day has brought forth no great events, and little change has taken place either in Natal or in the north and northeastern frontiers of Cape Colony. The fact is the opening of the bombardment of Kimberley on Tuesday by Free State artillery, which proved, according to an official statement, utterly ineffective. The Boer investment of the town, however, is said to be tightening.

Skirmishing between the Kimberley-mounted troops and the Boers early in the week resulted in a British loss of one wounded.

Advices from Orange River confirm the report of the Free State troops advance upon the north of Cape Colony, and the retirement of the British forces from the borderland, as serious collision has yet occurred. The coming week, however, is certain to see important developments in this direction.

An official despatch, recording a skirmish near Belmont, in which Col. Falconer was killed, three other officers were wounded—one dangerously—and two privates slightly wounded, is far from clear. It is not known whether Col. Falconer was preparing for a British advance or was merely endeavoring to ascertain the numbers of the Boers. It is considered somewhat remarkable that four out of the six casualties should have happened to officers, and this is thought to need some explanation.

Despatches from Mafeking show that Col. Baden-Powell's little force is still not merely holding its own, but is daily inflicting more or less severe punishment upon the Boers, whose artillery has apparently proved valueless.

Nothing has filtered through today from Ladysmith, which everybody expects to be the theatre of thrilling events during the coming week. The British troops are already en route to Durban, having passed Cape Town, and the Boers must strike a decisive blow at Ladysmith now or never.

FOUGHT FOR THREE HOURS. LONDON, Nov. 11.—The war office has received the following despatch from General Buller, under date of Cape Town, Nov. 11, afternoon: "With reference to my telegram of the 10th, Col. Gough, with two squadrons of the Tenth Hussars, a battery of field artillery and one and one-half companies of mounted infantry, found about 700 of the enemy, with one gun in position, about nine miles west of Belmont. He engaged the enemy with his artillery and sent the mounted infantry to the enemy's flank, and the latter discovered their laager. The losses reported yesterday occurred during this operation.

Col. Gough engaged the enemy for about three hours and then returned to camp.

"The death of Lieut. Wood has just been reported."

CAPE TOWN, Wednesday, Nov. 9, night.—Despatches from Kimberley show that the Boers were vigorously tacked at two different points. It is reported that one of the British force and six Boers were killed. It is believed here that the Boers surround the town in force.

LAUNDED TWENTY GUNS. DURBAN, Natal, Nov. 8, Wednesday.—The warships have landed a naval brigade, with twenty guns, for the defence of the town. The brigade marched through the town amid the greatest enthusiasm.

LONDON, Nov. 11.—It is officially announced that the troopship Gascon, which arrived at Cape Town with 1,010 troops.

SHEDDING MAFFKING. CAPE TOWN, Nov. 8.—News received from Mafeking, undated, says that Monday the Boers shelled the town. One Boer gun, it is added, was knocked out of action and the Boers retired, were reinforced, attacked again and were repulsed. Tuesday they shelled the Cangan Copie, with little damage. Wednesday there was a general attack under cover of artillery, but it was repulsed by the Maxim and Hotchkiss guns. The Boer loss was fifty killed. The British loss was slight. Thursday, shelling by a heavy gun was renewed, and the Boers manned the defence with vigour. The shelling, but this was prevented by a thunder storm. Friday there was desultory rifle fire and an occasional shell, but there was little loss of life. The Boers were very active, due to the excellent health and spirits of the troops are good.

RHODES PATRONIZES ART. LONDON, Nov. 11.—A despatch from Cape Town, dated Wednesday, Nov. 8, indicates that the American miniature painter, Amelia Huddner, is among the beleaguered people at Kimberley. The despatch adds that Mr. Rhodes is sitting to her for a miniature.

KIMBERLEY SURROUNDED. CAPE TOWN, Nov. 11.—The following despatch, undated, has been received from Kimberley by despatch

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paucity of news from the front still leaves the chief interest centered in the arrival of reinforcements. Despatch despatches say that telegraph communication has been established with Ladysmith, but so far no news has been received, the latest date being Nov. 6, which shows that the occupants of Ladysmith had no news of the outside world at Gen. Buller's rescue. Pietermaritzburg and that they were puzzled at the inactivity of the Boers. Every one was confident and cheerful, but all were suffering the inconvenience of the siege.

DASHING SORTIES. Col. Baden-Powell's dashing sorties at Mafeking encouraged the hope that the British garrisons along the western border are well able to hold out. Cecil Rhodes is employing 3,000 men, white and black, at Kimberley in road making as a remedy for desolation.

According to a despatch from Durban the Boers at Kimberley have got the exact range of the mines and are constantly throwing shells at the dynamite huts. Several of the latter have been blown up, and the damage done to the mines already amounts to many thousand pounds.

Among the stories from Brussels is one that General Joubert and Sir George White have been endeavoring to negotiate for the capitulation of Ladysmith, but have failed to come to terms.

UNPLEASANT READING. The story of Father Matthews' called Lorenzo Mafeking regarding the war, under a Nicholson's Nek is too vague to be very convincing, but in military circles it is considered unpleasant reading, and it will be impossible to learn the facts until the officer concerned has been contacted.

The report that the British cruiser Magicienne had fired on the French steamer Cordebe raised the doubtful point whether Great Britain has yet actually declared war. It is believed, however, that European nations have been made acquainted with the severance of relations between Great Britain and the two republics. It is understood that the admiralty, on General Buller's advice, has arranged that cruisers at the Cape should go out to intercept the arriving transports and inform them of the latest orders respecting their destinations, which are to be kept secret.

TROOPSHIPS ARRIVING. LONDON, Nov. 14.—It is officially announced that the troopship Armenian, left Cape Town yesterday (Monday) afternoon for Durban, and that the troopship Orient has arrived at Cape Town with 47 officers and 1,187 men.

LONDON, Nov. 13.—A despatch from Cape Town to the war office announces the arrival there today of the troopship Armenian, with three batteries of artillery and an ammunition column, and the troopship Nubia, with the Scots Guards and half a battalion of the Northamptonshire regiment. This brings the total number of reinforcements to 13,802, of which about 6,000 are already on the way to Durban. The Armenian and Nubia, whose troops belong to the first division, will probably also be ordered to proceed.

Nine troopships, carrying 11,000 men, are due at Cape Town tomorrow (Tuesday).

WOULD HAVE HELD OUT. LOURENZO MARQUES, Delagoa Bay, Nov. 9.—Father Matthews, who has arrived here from Pretoria, says with reference to the surrender of the Tenth Fusiliers and the Gloucestershire troops at Nicholson's Nek that, after the mules stampeded, the force got hard pressed by the enemy. They would have held out, however, but some subordinate without instructions, hoisted a flag of truce on his own responsibility. Nothing then remained but to surrender.

We were sent out, said Father Matthews, to occupy a position with the object of preventing two Boer forces from joining. We started at half-past eight Sunday evening, marched ten miles, and got to the hill about one o'clock Monday morning.

The first mishap was that the mounted battery stampeded and scattered the whole lot of mules. We formed up again and gained the top of the hill. The guns were gone, but not all the

(Continued on Page Eight.)

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