

## The Relief Of Kimb

**An Exciting and Clever  
Dash in General Fre  
Brigade.**

## The Boers Very Much ed—Great Loss Horses.

The following extracts from the letters of a cavalry officer give an idea of General French's dash and courage in his flight from the Modder river. The first of which we have placed first is

An opportunity occurs of s

quarters, so I write a few  
hurry, as it may catch the  
there. I am trying to write  
diary of our march, but it is  
cult to find time. It is im-  
describe all one has gone  
have, of course, never had s-  
and magnificent time.

present to say, we have re-  
berley, and by a rapid and  
march have got in front of  
treating army and stopped  
infantry have come up and  
him, and his surrender is ex-  
minute. This we have done  
of about 70 killed and woun-  
with the loss in horses ha-

though the loss is  
rrible, and we can now harly  
of 5,000 with which we start  
berley we shot or left behind  
in five days. The work has  
so far as moving and galloping  
I am perfectly well, and the  
fire repeatedly have mere  
spared. We are resting to-d  
we hope to try and

**THE START.**  
Klip Drift, Modder River.

We formed up the division and marched out of Modder River Camp as soon as it was light.

or rather before, as we were about in the darkness for a moment and then halted till sunrise. The previous evening Lord Roberts had visited the various cavalry camps. When he saw all commanding officers he made a speech. Said we were to start on an expedition which we should rejoice at as an opportunity to test the traditions of the cavalry.

maintaining the traditions of the cavalry, that we formed the largest cavalry division that had ever existed together as one division, the object was the relief of Kimberley that it must be done and that because the information he had Kimberley was that the British brought up another big gun to the carriage killing women and

that things there were now  
and we must make a dash  
that he would follow us as he  
in support with rest of  
Kitchener had also been  
in the morning and said  
to relieve Kimberley, even  
half our force; that if we  
move after this we might be

So all this rather altered idea, which was that we were to make straight for Kimberley thus cutting Boer communications generally demoralizing them, the rest of the army worked its way to Kimberley.

was to Ramdan, about twenty miles south and a little east of Merv. Ramdan is only a farm-holding, with a large water supply and a good well. We arrived within a few days of the enemy, and the general took up quarters in the village, which had been hastily evacuated. Almost everything taken

almost everything, and in the morning, Monday, February 1, we marched at 4. Formed up and waited for dawn, and moved almost due east for the day, which we were to cross soon. We held both banks and secured the infantry. About 8 a.m., we saw the enemy on our left front. At first we thought it was

patrol, but they soon opened with two guns. The German round Broadwood's Brigade on our right and hold some killed would then become the right position. The ground was in steep and rocky, very trying. One shell fell just in front and another burst by General

the middle of his staff, but The General soon decided for the river, and brought which was Gordon's Brigade retired, but showed in some left, and were evidently pre- tend a particular drift the thought or hoped we were The General, decided to

DASH FOR THE  
further to our right, and  
able to cross it by fording  
and holding opposite bank  
toons could come up. We  
what we thought was two  
the river to let Gordon do  
tack, the General moving s

tack, the General moving to the rest remained halted. He sent back for the 3rd lance at the gallop, and the engineer officer, Winter Weir, in charge of the pontoons, the staff led the way to the could see where it was by line of bushes. We were cited at this, and we dashed

bank as hard as we could  
the Boers to fire on us at  
Luckily they weren't there  
we got to the water's edge  
who entered to try to force  
bogged in the sand. How  
was to secure a position for  
There were two kopjes on  
the bank about half a mile

General got some squadrons as quickly as possible, and covered a track which led further to our right up the hill, ed certain that it must lead. He pressed on in direction which did lead to a ford. Mounted infantry crossed. We were under fire. In fact,

the river by five minutes only by galloping—a remainder of the value of cavalry.

**THE RIET SECO**

Thus, General French led his river by a feint to his left flank, and then by galloping