

To Oppose the British

Boers Busy Mounting Guns to Meet the Advance from the West.

Transvaal Dispatches Give the Enemy's Version of Recent Fighting.

Burgheers Scouting Parties Engaged—Eighteen Killed and Fifty Wounded

(Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 23, 2:22 p.m.—The absence of news of yesterday's movements north of the Tugela River is occasioning some additional anxiety, but Gen. Buller is engaged in a big operation, which will take considerable time to work out.

Boer Tactics.

Even the slight advancement of Gen. Warren's forces after two days fighting does not appear to have yielded an important advantage to the British, as the captured kopjes were evidently only held as advanced posts in order to delay the progress of the British troops, and enable the Boers to complete their entrenchments and mount guns on the positions which they have selected, upon which to make a stand.

In the afternoon the cannonade became exceedingly brisk, and under cover thereof the infantry advanced in three lines to a second row of little kopjes, which they occupied at nightfall, but they retired to their original position.

During the night a score of shells were fired by the British and a balloon was sent up to spy out the Boer positions.

The naval guns resumed bombardment this morning from a new position, but without results.

Boers Lose Heavily.

The three British positions at Swantskop Drift, where they hold both banks of the river and a point higher up in the direction of Zuckels, where they have bridged the river and established an immense commissariat.

On the summit of the terraces at Swantskop they have placed five naval guns and have brought the field artillery across the river to a small kopje on the northern bank, where they keep up an incessant and terrific cannonade.

Since the beginning of the week communication with the different positions has been kept up under the order of this cannonade, the casualties resulting from this being heavier than those that occurred at Colenso.

One of the shells from the naval guns killed a father and son, Free Staters, who were chatting at the time. Strangely neither had any wounds.

Joubert's Birthday.

Heed Laager, Ladysmith, Jan. 20.—The 69th birthday of Gen. Joubert was celebrated by Gen. Buller reconnoitering in force towards the Drakenberg mountains and turning the British advance after a short engagement.

Gen. Joubert, accompanied President Steyn to the Free State laagers south of Ladysmith. The president was in high spirits. He proposes to make a tour of all the laagers.

Ladysmith sent up many colored rockets last night.

The Boer movement on the British advance referred to Gen. Warren's forward fighting, in which, according to advice from British sources received yesterday, the Boers were on the defensive almost the entire day (Sunday), save once, when they attempted to outflank the British left and were signally checked.

Boers Captured.

Pretoria, Jan. 21.—A dispatch from Colenso, dated January 18th, says a patrol of 200 men, under Field Cornet Opperman, while scouting was surrounded, but succeeded in fighting its way back.

It is reported that four men were killed and that thirty were wounded and made prisoners.

of the Associated Press that no decisive news was expected for two or three days, as the operations at present being conducted by Gen. Buller were necessarily of a lengthy character.

Lord Roberts's Dispatch.

London, Jan. 23.—Field Marshal Lord Roberts reports from Capetown to-day that the war situation is unchanged.

IN NATAL.

Boer Accounts of Recent Fighting—Reconnoitering Party Surprised—Burgheers Lose 14 Killed and 23 Wounded.

Boer Laager, Ladysmith, Jan. 23.—The quarters of Generals White and Hunter were smashed to-day by a shot from "Long Tom."

It is not known whether any of the occupants of the buildings were killed.

Boer Camp, Upper Tugela River, Jan. 19.—The British now occupy three positions along the Tugela River.

Their naval guns have been firing steel pointed armor piercing shells.

Reports are being received that the second British cavalry were attempting to outflank us along the Drakenberg ridge, and a strong patrol was sent to reconnoiter.

Mistaking the signals, the scouts and patrol proceeded to a kopje, from whence a terrific rifle and Maxim gun fire suddenly opened. The Boers lost 14 men killed and 20 wounded.

The British loss was probably insignificant.

The bombardment of the Boer position from Swantskop was resumed yesterday, chiefly from a battery brought across the river.

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Boers were holding their positions. Bombardment of Kimberley.

Kimberley, Jan. 21.—The Boers continue an active and heavy bombardment in this place.

Boers Retire from Mafeking.

Gaberones, Bechuanaand, Jan. 17 (via Lorenzo Marquez, Jan. 23).—Natives who have just arrived report that troops, not Boers, are patrolling around Mafeking.

From this it is conjectured that the Boers may have retired from that place, and that the patrollers are some of Col. Baden-Powell's men.

There is increased activity in the Boer's position at Crocodile Pools, but with the exception of a couple of shells, Col. Buller's outposts have not heard from them for some days.

DR. LEYDYS CONFIDENT.

Boers Determined to Continue the Struggle. But Would Consider Peace Proposals.

New York, Jan. 23.—A special to the World from Brussels says:

"Dr. Leyds, the Transvaal envoy, said to-day: I am as confident as ever of the ultimate triumph of our cause. A temporary success of British arms would merely have the effect of infusing fresh vigor into our men and strengthening their determination to hold out at whatever cost."

"While the actual fighting strength of both forces is only now about equal, England might even double her army now in South Africa without crushing our power of resistance. But, however resolved to continue the struggle, we have ever been desirous to take advantage of any turn in affairs which might leave the door open to terms of honorable settlement."

Lieut.-Col. Steele to Command.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Jan. 23.—Lieut.-Col. Steele has been offered and accepted the command of Strathcona's contingent.

The Patriotic Fund.

Montreal, Jan. 23.—The Bank of Montreal has contributed \$1,000 to the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Mr. Macrum in Paris.

Paris, Jan. 23.—Mr. Charles E. Macrum, former United States consul at Pretoria, arrived here to-day. He declined to be interviewed.

A "Gold Cure."

Kingston, Jan. 23.—Capt. John McNair, of "D" company, first Canadian contingent to South Africa, writing from Belmont, says the trip to South Africa is the greatest "gold cure" ever invented, and that a glass of beer or drink of whiskey cannot be procured for a farm.

Day of Prayer.

Kingston, Jan. 23.—February 11th has been set aside by the Archbishop of Ontario and Metropolitan of Canada as a day of special prayer for the success of British arms in South Africa.

Showers of Nitro-glycerine.

Toronto, Jan. 23.—A. McDonald, a coal merchant of this city, says he is one of a syndicate of inventors who have invented machinery for throwing nitro-glycerine or other high explosives in showers. Each machine has a capacity of 100 pounds high explosive per minute. The syndicate is ready to ship machines to South Africa at a week's notice.

The shower can be thrown a thousand yards or more, and the machine, from which it is fired, will be mounted on traction engines which can make a speed of from eighteen to twenty miles an hour over rough country.

Rosebery on the War.

London, Jan. 23.—At the opening of the new town hall at Chatham to-day Lord Rosebery, referring to the war, said: "In such a war we must have had moments, but I trust that in the providence of God we are striking a balance of the evils Great Britain undergoes and the good derived, and I do not think the balance is much against Great Britain."

Militia for Service Abroad.

Her Majesty has been pleased to accept the services of twelve militia battalions for service out of the United Kingdom, in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Forces and Militia Act of 1898.

Seven battalions will serve in South Africa, and are as follows:

- 4th Batt. Royal Lancaster Regiment (Lieut.-Col. W. Kemmle).
- 6th Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P.).
- 3rd Batt. North Lancashire Regiment (Lieut.-Col. R. J. Blythburne).
- 4th Batt. Derbyshire Regiment (Col. N. L. Pearce).
- 9th Batt. King's Royal Rifle Corps (Col. W. Cooke-Colle).
- 3rd Batt. Durham Light Infantry (Col. E. B. Wilson).
- 4th Batt. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Col. A. C. Dick).

The following battalions have been selected for service in Malta:

- 3rd Batt. West Kent Regiment (Col. E. W. G. Bailey).
- 3rd Batt. North Lancashire Regiment (Col. L. Bonhote).

For service in the Channel Islands the following have been accepted:

- 3rd Batt. Devonshire Regiment (Col. F. H. Mountstevens).
- 3rd Batt. Suffolk Regiment (Col. R. Norton).

For service at a station not yet decided on:

- 6th Batt. Laneshire Fusiliers (Lieut.-Col. F. C. Power).

Colonel McCalmont is a member of parliament, and formerly served in the Fowk Guards. He is a millionaire, and the owner of Inchness Coleridge recently passed through Victoria on his return from Atlin.

According to a recent telegram from

Halifax N. S., this battalion has been ordered to Halifax to replace the Leinster Regiment ordered to South Africa.

London, Jan. 22.—The war office issued the following dispatch from Gen. Buller just before midnight:

Spearman's Camp, Jan. 22.—The following casualties are reported in General Buller's Brigade as the result of yesterday's fighting:

"Killed—Capt. Ryall, Yorkshire Regiment, and five men; Second Lieut. Andrews, Border Regiment, and five men; Second Lieut. Barlow, Yorkshire Regiment, and 75 men. "Missing—8 men. Other casualties will be forwarded when received."

The foregoing was, all the war office had issued up to midnight. Nothing, therefore, is known here regarding Monday's operations.

Sunday's Fighting.

A dispatch from Spearman's Camp, dated Sunday night, which appears in the Daily Mail, says:

"There has been hot fighting all day. At dawn our attack was resumed along the entire line, all the brigades taking part. We soon discovered that the Boers occupied the range of hills in force, their position being very strong. The range is intersected by deep ravines, and many approaches are very difficult of access."

"To-day the Boers who were driven from their trenches yesterday took cover in dugouts, and behind the rocks with which the hills are strewn."

"The forces, therefore, commenced the task of driving them out, and set to work with good heart in the early morning."

"The progress was slow, but gradually British pluck told its tale, and the enemy fell back to another kopje. They swarmed on and occupied it, and then the attack recommenced with the utmost gallantry."

"The country simply abounds in hills, and the Boers are very expert in their use. It is an arduous one. Nevertheless it is being gradually accomplished. Whenever any of the enemy were observed taking up a fresh position, our field batteries were in a moment of shrapnel and rapid movement of the guns, followed by accurate shooting, must have greatly distressed them."

"The enemy were on the defensive at most the entire day, save once, when they attempted to outflank our left, and were signally checked. They relied almost entirely on rifle fire."

"A few shells were fired from a heavy piece of ordnance, but these fell harmless."

"We now occupy the lower crest on the left, and are converging slowly but surely to the Boer centre."

"The Boer loss is unknown, but must have been heavy. Their killed and wounded are carried away to the rear rapidly."

"Strong rumors are in circulation that the Boers are retiring. The battle will be resumed to-morrow."

Boer Casualties.

London, Jan. 23.—A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle, dated Jan. 22nd, 4:15 p. m., from Spearman's Camp, says:

"The Boers admit 31 casualties during General Buller's attack on Saturday."

"General Warren continues pushing, though he is necessarily making very slow progress, as the Boers are numerous and strongly entrenched. Our infantry are working over the range of hills with Lord Dunderdonald's cavalry lying well out on the flank and awaiting developments."

"The Boers contest every inch of the ground."

"This morning General Warren's artillery opened fire, but the Boers did not reply, and our fire became less hot. The naval guns in front of here have been quiet."

"Boer prisoners who were brought in boasted that it would take three months to reach Ladysmith."

Warren's Advance.

The Times publishes the following from Free Camp, dated yesterday (Monday) afternoon:

"On Friday Gen. Warren began a long circuitous march from Triehard's Drift westward. This was abandoned owing to the fact that the long ridge which runs from Spion's Kop was occupied by the Boers, who commanded the route, rendering the main body of columns for transport impossible."

"He therefore returned and camped for the night about two miles from Triehard's Drift."

"On Saturday a frontal attack on the ridges was ordered."

Is Dunderdonald at Ladysmith?

Durban, Natal, Jan. 22.—The statement comes from an excellent source in Pietermaritzburg that Lord Dunderdonald has entered Ladysmith with 1,000 men.

"This is not confirmed from any other quarter, but it is known that Lord Dunderdonald's lying column has been acting well to the left of the lines of advance."

IN THE WEST.

Boers Again Bombarding Kimberley—A Night Alarm at Rensburg.

Kimberley (by heliograph), Wednesday, Jan. 17.—via Modder River, Jan. 22.—Native reports say that a proclamation has been issued at Barkley West by Commandant Bothoff, ordering all British subjects to quit before January 22nd. Ladies are being subjected to great insults.

The Boers are again very active, bombarding heavily from all positions from dawn to 8 p. m. Efforts are being directed chiefly against the redoubts.

Waiting For News

There is Great Anxiety in London Regarding Recent Events of the Front.

War Office Officials Say Nothing Has Been Received From Buller.

Boer Account of Fighting at Colenso—Reported Heavy British Losses.

(Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 24.—2:45 p.m.—The extreme tension caused by what may justly be designated the most anxious pause since the war began, had not been relieved up to the time of writing by anything save the daily stock exchange rumor, which happened to have started to-day by the "bulls" who assert that Gen. Warren has captured Spion Kop.

Anxiety in regard to the next news is visible on all sides.

The war office was besieged at an early hour this morning and the clubs and other resorts, liable to receive early news, have been crowded with eager inquirers.

It is generally recognized that the Boer position, if ever taken, can only be captured at a tremendous cost.

Fight at Colenso.

A dispatch from Pretoria dated Tuesday, January 23rd, somewhat amplifies the dispatch on Monday, January 22nd, from the Boer head laager, cabled yesterday afternoon. It says: "Four or five times during the day the British replaced their weary soldiers by fresh ones. The Boer casualties to date are one man killed and two men slightly wounded. Our men are in excellent spirits. There has been a large slaughter of British. Gen. Buller is now in sole command, Gen. Cronje having been sent elsewhere."

The same dispatch, apparently referring to the situation at Colenso, says: "One of the large Boer Maxims was temporarily disordered but was soon repaired. The British northern camp is in confusion. People are observed trekking aimlessly in all directions."

America's Attitude.

Commenting on Capt. Mahan's attitude the St. James Gazette says: "His advice is good and needed in America. While strict neutrality is maintained in the official world, and the good-will for England is felt by the better informed, it is simply misleading the people of this country to suggest, as some correspondents are doing, that antagonism to England is confined to a negligible minority of the Americans. The sympathy of America as a whole is as a matter of fact no more with England at this moment than was our popular sympathy with them in the outbreak of the war with Spain, and the contrast of official and popular attitudes is no less marked in the United States than it is in Germany."

No News.

4:10 p.m.—As the afternoon progresses the excitement on Pall Mall reached a high pitch, but the war office officials reiterated at 8:30 p.m. the oft-repeated statement that "nothing has been received from Gen. Buller."

The suspense was increased by the belief that Gen. Buller would never have published his intention to attack the Boers on Spion Kop unless satisfied that the assault would be carried out before the news could be published, and it was fully anticipated that the news of his success or failure would reach London in a few hours at most.

The cabinet ministers called at the war office after lunch to ask for news to-day.

Bombarding Kimberley.

Modder River, Jan. 23.—A heliograph message from Kimberley says the Boers vigorously renewed the bombardment to-day.

Kimberley, Jan. 23.—Bombardments have ceased, but the Boers are perpetually engaged in sniping.

"Long Cecil" is doing excellent work and Mr. Cecil Rhodes has personally fired several shells from the gun.

Private Telegrams Stopped.

New York, Jan. 24.—The Commercial

Cable Company to-day sent out the following notice: "We are advised that the Postmaster-General at Pretoria announces that all private telegrams for the South African Republic will be stopped."

Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—The Canadian Patriotic Fund now amounts to \$17,359.

CARRINGTON WILL COMMAND.

A Force of Irregulars to Be Raised and Equipped by Cecil Rhodes and the Chartered Company.

New York, Jan. 24.—The World prints the following cable dispatch from Belfast:

It is known here now that Cecil Rhodes and the British Chartered South African Company have received permission to make war on their own account.

The mystery surrounding Major-General Sir Frederick Carrington's release from his command in this district, accompanied by an unofficial statement that he was going to South Africa, is now solved.

Heretofore, for reasons best known to themselves, the war office officials have refused to assign General Carrington to any command in South Africa, despite his long experience with British troops in that country. Now it is known that Cecil Rhodes and the Chartered Company have received permission to raise, equip and put in the field, a force of irregulars and the war office has loaned General Carrington to the South African millionaires to command this force.

No one can tell what the strength of this force will be or where it will operate. Neither will the friends of Gen. Carrington here say whether there will be a native contingent with it.

The World adds: This may be considered as equivalent to the issue of what may be called letters of marque for privateering operations to be conducted on land instead of at sea. It is in a sense a revival of the medieval system of enlisting the support of mercenaries acting in almost perfect independence of the Imperial power. How his actions will be viewed by the civilized powers of the world remains to be seen.

Purchasing Saddle.

London, Jan. 24.—The secretary of the British South African Co., has given a curious denial of a statement that the company is purchasing large quantities of rifles and saddlery for prompt delivery in South Africa. He admits the purchases, says they were made by himself in his private capacity, but adds that they were only for the equipment of the Imperial Yeomanry. "There was a growing impression that the company was concerned in the purchase."

A Buffalo Fund.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 24.—An appeal for subscriptions in aid of the fund for the widows and orphans of British soldiers who perish in the war in South Africa was drafted at a meeting held in the Tilt House last Saturday evening. Those present at the meeting subscribed liberally. W. H. J. Cole is acting as treasurer of the fund.

The States and Contraband.

Washington, Jan. 24.—Mr. Pettigrew (S. D.) offered a resolution in the Senate to-day, declaring that the United States government would not recognize the right of any nation to declare as contraband and seize food products as such, and that any seizure would be an act unfriendly to the United States. The resolution went over under the rule.

London, Jan. 24.—The following dispatch from Gen. Buller, dated Spearman's Camp, Jan. 23rd, 6:20 p. m., was posted at the war office early this morning:

"Warren still holds the position he gained two days ago. In front of him, at about 1,400 yards, is the enemy's position, west of Spion Kop. It is on higher ground than Warren's position, so it is impossible to see it properly."

"It can only be approached over bare open slopes, and the ridges held by Warren are so steep that guns cannot be placed on them, but we are shelling the enemy's position with howitzers and field artillery, placed on lower ground, behind infantry."

"The enemy is replying with Creusot and other artillery."

"In this duel the advantage rests with us, as we appear to be searching his trenches and his artillery fire is not causing us much loss."

"An attempt will be made to-night to seize Spion Kop, the salient of which forms the left of the enemy's position facing Triehard's Drift, and which divides it from the position facing Potgieter's Drift."

"It has considerable command over all the enemy's entrenchments."

Warren's Task.

London, Jan. 24.—The Times, commenting editorially upon Gen. Buller's dispatch, says:

"It can but tend to increase the severe strain from which the nation is suffering. We must await the result of his attempt to seize the formidable Boer position, with courage and coolness. His success may be decisive, but the danger of the attempt is evidently great. The intense excitement of the besieged in Ladysmith may be imagined."

"Gen. Warren is moving with commendable, indeed imperative, caution. But it must not be forgotten that delay, however caused, must tell in many respects in favor of the enemy."

"The Boers have, it is true, fallen back when hard pressed, but they have gained time to bring up men, guns, ammunition and supplies to the position they have selected for their principal stand, and to entrench it in thorough fashion—he fashion they understand so well."

"Until that position has been taken and its defenders routed and body cut up, the relief of Ladysmith cannot be considered secure."

From Ladysmith.

London, Jan. 24.—The following heliographed message from Ladysmith dated

while the squadrons sail east and the Game, study in itself, ancient town is noted antiquity, and for counting-advance or another designation of things, lying pul, where the advance; it is para by way of Russians would to their interest-Asian is to the but, however, is miles from the again, is less ra, and several distance from not more than Persia, going by offensive would Russia and as Russian inter- the Persian expansion, it advantage which offensive move- in favor of the ay to fight the the Khyber pass t, Mahar, the Afghanistan, singing on the nces down, then Mahar, ridin' two high road from the road from Farrah to cross Herat is 370 miles and Cir- a natural high- Farrah form- and south; Far- ar the base, ly- and Herat and se, lying north- a right-angled way of Khe- it is 315 miles. Here again the favor of Caboul the ground into a the first move the advantage. andahar to the "The journey is Kojak pass, has been built they down the through the Sul- ra Ismail Khan the case may more than 150 the cross files uthern frontier that the attack l, will be made dahar in prefer- it should go no monstration by it would give ic Advantage ertia, it is like- Russia, in the the sea-board, I could still con- ory shows that of the great here. Herat is ming an inland of modern en- almost a mile an earth-work than 250 feet nted by a wall ck at the base, owers overlook and 16 deep. It d there is rising angle which the water sys- but all these d by competent ng in the same mile square and feet thick and ally, that if the d in Africa is at this time it of a desperate day, when the great Euro- be thoroughly ly that the vic- shed much as o-day.</