

Under Shell Fire, with Poor Food and Unhealthful Water the Garrison Stubbornly Refused to Give Up—No One Hinted of Surrender.

The siege of Ladysmith will, perhaps, remain the most remarkable episode of the present war, says the London Daily Mail.

The general in command, however, was of opinion that in the event of hostilities the position there was untenable, and he therefore counselled the withdrawal of all troops to Ladysmith.

War broke out on October 10, and on the 12th, the Boers crossed the front of Natal. For the next week they marched southwards in three divisions.

The investment of Ladysmith became closer, and on November 2, General Buller, who has since that date distinguished himself elsewhere, succeeded in leaving the beleaguered town by the last train that ran through to Durban.

The garrison consisted of the following troops: The 1st Liverpool, 2nd Rifle Brigade, Natal Borderers, and a detachment of the Natal Mounted Rifles.

case became very high. It is not known yet precisely how many men died, but The Periodical Lists

which were telegraphed to Colenso, and then transmitted to Durban, made painful reading.

Cases of enteric fever were prevalent, and at one time seemed almost epidemic. The death of Mr. George W. Stevens was universally lamented by the whole garrison, and the tributes to his memory were sincere and touching.

There does not appear to have been any very great scarcity of food, and although at one time the besieged inhabitants were compelled to subsist on reduced rations, this was probably only as a precautionary measure.

On January 6, the Boers made a determined attack on the town in the neighborhood of Caesar's Camp, but they were repulsed at all points with heavy loss, though it cost many lives among the Boers.

Towards the end of the month of January, the attempt of General Buller to take Spion Kop was eagerly watched from Ladysmith, and hopes were high that relief was at hand.

These were, however, doomed to failure, and another long period of enforced inactivity ensued. Gradually, however, and despite his frequent failures, General Buller crept closer and closer to the town, and the spirits of the garrison rose proportionately as they heard the British guns.

Shelling the Enemy's Positions. So at length, on the first day of February, after a siege of 118 days, relief came—and none too soon.

OPPOSITION OBSTRUCTION AND ILL TEMPER.

Ottawa, March 20.—Last evening furnished another illustration of the utter insincerity of the opposition, even when they pretend to be most in earnest, and of the manner in which grievances against the government are manufactured.

Mr. Foster gave another exhibition of his but temper, yesterday, by calling Mr. Fielding "small" because in answer to a question in regard to the expenditure of Canada for a number of years he included 1885, which had not been called for.

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Thus the total role of those removed from the fighting line was about 1,200 out of a force which hardly exceeded at the start 10,000.

The Conservative Senators are Lords of the Land.

Ottawa, March 21.—(Special)—The senate had the redistribution bill up today on second reading, which was moved by Mr. Allen. The bill, he said, was based on the principle enunciated by Sir John Macdonald in 1872.

The senate would be derelict to its constitutional duty if it rejected the bill. He hoped the senate would not stand in the way of the will of the people being carried out.

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THE "ABSINTHE"-MINDED BEGARAR.

(WITH APOLOGUES TO RUDYARD KIPLING.) When you've shouted "Mort aux traitres!" And you've sung out "Vive l'Armee!"

When you've shouted "Mort aux traitres!" And you've sung out "Vive l'Armee!" And when you've drunk back Absinthe-Lorraine, in your mind.

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The Continental Press Sees the British Empire Means More than the Island of England.

Berlin, March 21.—The Kreuz Zeitung in a remarkable article dealing with the South African war, says:

The war has demonstrated the unity of feeling among the English. They are all standing together through good or evil.

Washington, March 21.—The European coal famine is becoming more acute.

According to reports to the state department from its consuls all over the continent.

Today's issue of the consular reports from the bureau of foreign commerce presents in a striking manner the crisis in Austria-Hungary.

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