

LORD ROBERTS'S ADVANCE

London Critics Think the Boers Will Make a Stand at or Near Winburg.

THE SUPPLIES FOR LADYSMITH.

Seventy-Three Wagon Loads Have Reached the Town—Strong Force of Boers Near Paardeberg—Canadian Militia to Garrison Halifax.

CANADA'S OFFER

To Garrison Halifax Accepted by War Office.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, March 2.—In reply to Mr. McNeil, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said in the House to-day that the war office had accepted the offer of the Canadian government to garrison Halifax with Canadian militia.

(Associated Press.)

London, March 2.—With no prospect of any exciting news coming in from Ladysmith in the future, all eyes turn once more towards Roberts, and his advance into the Orange Free State.

The critics of the afternoon newspapers are almost unanimous in expecting the main stand of the Boers to occur at Winburg, or in its vicinity.

Before Lord Roberts's advance on Bloemfontein can become effective, the strong force of Boers already gathered southwest of Paardeberg must be dispersed. The British lack remounts, and the necessity of a thorough transport organization may delay a decisive action in this quarter for several days.

Making

Making alone now awaits relief, and a force to accomplish this is probably already on its way. No more popular event could now occur for Great Britain than the relief of Col. Baden-Powell's gallant little band. It is believed they are quite able to hold out till succor arrives.

Capé Colony.

In Northern Capé Colony the British campaign progresses well. The whole line of the Orange River should shortly be in their possession.

White's Garrison.

It is suggested that Gen. White's garrison may be sent to the sea to recuperate, but this scarcely seems probable.

Press Comments.

The afternoon papers devote jubilant editorials to the joy that reigned yesterday throughout the empire, translating it as one more sign of imperial union. The editorials in the morning papers are not only jubilant, but are written in a tone of confidence in the future, which contrasts strongly with the gloomy forebodings of the previous six weeks. Gen. Buller's misfortunes are almost forgotten, although it is everywhere recognized that the relief of Ladysmith is largely due to the strategy of Roberts.

The Times says: "The change wrought in Natal within twenty-four hours is indeed dramatic. The siege of Ladysmith will be memorable in military annals upon many grounds. Seldom has the absolute confidence of a general in his men been more strikingly displayed than in the case of Sir Redvers Buller, and never has that confidence been more completely justified. There is good reason to trust that we have at last reached the turning point in the war, owing to Lord Roberts's brilliant strategy."

The Daily Mail says: "Almighty God, whose arm is strength, has blessed the efforts of Buller's army with complete victory, and the cause of freedom has triumphed once more."

Cheering Lady White.

Lady White, wife of Sir George White,

chaunties among his officers during the fighting of February 27th were:

Killed—Col. O'Leary, of the Lancashire; Major Lewis, Capt. Syks and Lieut. Simpson, of Scots Fusiliers; Lieut. Mourlyan, of the Warwickshires; and Lieut. Daly, of the Irish Fusiliers.

Wounded—General Barton and Col. Carr, of the Scots Fusiliers, and twenty-three others.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Could Have Held Out for Six Weeks, but Privations Would Have Been Great.

London, March 2.—Col. Rhodes, brother of Cecil Rhodes, describing in the Times the entry into Ladysmith of Lord Dunderdale and six hundred of the Imperial Light Horse and Natal Carbineers, on Feb. 28th, says:

"It is impossible to depict the enthusiasm of the beleaguered garrison. Cheers on cheers ran from post to post, and staff officers, civilians and soldiers flocked to greet them. At the ford of the Klip River women, with children in their arms, tearfully pressed forward to grasp the hands of the gallant band. Sisters and brothers, friends and relatives met again. It was the most moving scene I have ever witnessed. The contrast between the robust troopers of a dozen battalions and

The Pale, Emaciated Defenders of Ladysmith had come at last.

Gen. White and his staff met the troops in the centre of the town. He was cheered with heartfelt enthusiasm. He addressed the civilians and thanked them and the garrison for their magnificent support through trials which we alone can realize. We could possibly have hung on for six weeks longer, but the privations would have been great and sickness and the paucity of our ammunition would have limited the number of assaults we would have been able to resist.

"We originally started the siege with 10,000 troops, 2,000 civilians and 4,000 natives. Between casualties and sickness, 8,000 soldiers passed through the hospitals. It is impossible to over-emphasize

The Privations of the Sick. Since the middle of January, a man once down, was practically lost. The reduced rations of the soldiers were just sufficient for their subsistence. Daily thirty old horses and mules were slaughtered and converted into soup and sausages. From January 15th to now there have been over 200 deaths from disease alone. The

garrison was reduced to a few hundred men. The Boers were now within a few miles of the town. The British were in a desperate straits. The Boers were now within a few miles of the town. The British were in a desperate straits.

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last fortnight saw the majority of the field batteries unhorsed and the guns permanently posted in our defences. The cavalry and drivers were converted into infantry and set to the trenches. A line of defences had been constructed with the view of a possible final contingency, if the outer works should be carried.

"Since the investment the total casualties have been: "Killed, or died of wounds, 24 officers and 235 men.

"Died of disease, six officers and 340 men.

"Wounded, 70 officers and 520 men, exclusive of white civilians and native Patriotic Fund.

Ottawa, March 2.—The municipality of South Vancouver, B. C., has sent \$100 to the Patriotic Fund.

Condition of Canadians. Ottawa, March 2.—A cable from Sir Alfred Milner says Major Pelletier and Lieut. Mason are improving. Private Lehman, 5th Canadian Artillery, B.C., is in Modder River hospital suffering from a gunshot wound in the face.

WAS PROMISED RELIEF.

Dewet Urged Cronje to Hold Out as He Expected to Reach Him With Reinforcements.

London, March 2.—A special correspondent telegraphing from Paardeberg, on Feb. 27th, says:

"A curious piece of news has just been related to me by Cronje's aide-de-camp. It appears that Cronje was in daily telegraphic communication with Gen. Dewet, who, he supposed, was bringing up reinforcements. Yesterday Cronje telegraphed that unless he was relieved immediately he would feel bound to surrender. Gen. Dewet replied with a cheering message, urging him to hold on longer and that he would soon be relieved, but totally failed to effect any diversion."

The mounted infantry to-day reconnoitered the Boers approaching from the south, and after drawing a shell fire returned.

"The prisoners all appear to regard the blow as severer than it is regarded by the British."

Gen. Cronje's A.D.C. stated to-day that he believed the Free State would continue to fight as long as the Transvaal lasted. On the other hand, many Free State men are anxiously waiting for copies of Roberts's proclamation."

BOER PRISONERS

Tell of Cronje's Night March—They All Admire the Bravery and Pluck of the Highlanders.

Paardeberg, Feb. 28.—All the prisoners were paraded yesterday afternoon. They extended in a long, trailing line across the plain and as far as possible were arranged in commandoes. The Free Staters were kept separated from the Transvaalers.

The look upon the faces of the men as they passed, made it impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that they were all overjoyed at their release from the daily hell of shell and shot which they had been experiencing lately, many not even taking the trouble to conceal their delight from the soldiers guarding them. They chatted freely with the British, discussing the different battles in which they had fought.

All the prisoners have an intense admiration for the bravery and pluck of the Highlanders, and they freely confess that they are incapable of the dash and go of the British.

Some of the sick prisoners have given a vivid description of Cronje's night march. It began in a panic, and terrible confusion prevailed throughout. The huge wagons crowded the narrow road. There was an utter lack of order and desertions were numerous. The Boer rations consisted of one pound and a half of fresh meat daily, and one pound and a half of coffee, three pounds of sugar, and five pounds of flour per man weekly.

Every man who was off duty visited the Boer laager yesterday, and the crowd of curious Tommies spent the day in searching every nook and corner. After what might prove useful to the army had been secured, the soldiers were allowed to take whatever they liked. The men carried off clothing, kettles, cups, and even umbrellas.

"BOBS" AT KIMBERLEY.

Commander of the British Forces Pays a Visit to the Relieved Town.

Kimberley, March 1.—Lord Roberts and Gen. Kitchener arrived here this morning and were warmly welcomed by the municipal officials and thanked for the successful relief of the town.

Lord Roberts said that it had given him great pleasure to assist Kimberley in her time of need, and that he was glad he had an opportunity of visiting the town. He found that he had a day off, so had come, but would leave tomorrow.

There is gratitude and rejoicing over the relief of Ladysmith. Roberts and Kitchener were the guests of Cecil Rhodes while here.

EN ROUTE TO CAPETOWN.

Gen. Cronje and His Wife at Orange River Station.

Orange River, March 1.—Gen. Cronje and his wife passed here last night en route to Capetown. Elaborate precautions were taken to insure their safety.

tions had been taken to prevent the people from seeing him. Even the officers were ordered off of the station, and the refreshment room was kept closed before his arrival, to the discomfort of the Kimberley passengers. Gen. Cronje looks dejected and miserable, and has grown more grey. He entered the refreshment room accompanied by his wife, son, and an interpreter, and Gen. Pretyman and his staff. Taking his seat at a table, Gen. Cronje covered his face with his hands for a few moments as he engaged in prayer.

Capetown, March 2.—Gen. Cronje and his party arrived at Simonstown to-day. General Cronje was received by Gen. Sir Frederick Forrester Walker and a representative of Sir Alfred Milner, the Governor of Cape Colony.

FROM LORD ROBERTS.

A Visit to Kimberley—Boers are Four Miles From British Front.

London, March 3.—A cable from Lord Roberts to the war office dated Oosfontein, March 2, at 4 p.m., says:

"I have just returned from paying Kimberley a hurried visit. I was gratified at finding the joy among the Kimberley people regarding the care of the sick and wounded, and much pleased to note with wonderment the harmony of the wounded Boers and our men, who chatted together upon experiences of the war."

Oosfontein, March 2.—The Boers have now been definitely located four miles from the British front, their left resting on a high kopje and their right on the river. The butcher force is estimated to number between 5,000 and 6,000.

Oosfontein, March 3.—The British camp has been moved here. Heavy rain is falling. Supplies are arriving and the men are in good health despite the fact that they have been on half rations for a fortnight. Mr. Cecil Rhodes has sent a quantity of champagne from Kimberley to be drunk to the health of Lord Roberts.

BOERS IN FULL FLIGHT

From Ladysmith District Into the Orange Free State.

Ladysmith, March 1.—Gen. Buller, accompanied by his staff, arrived here at 11:40 a.m. to-day. He entered the town unnoticed, as more cavalry was coming in during the morning.

The news of his arrival soon spread, however, and Gen. White and his staff at once went to meet him. They met amid a scene of tremendous enthusiasm and Gen. Buller had a great reception.

The Boers are in full flight toward the Free State, and a flying column of Ladysmith troops are pursuing them.

The Boers left many wagons and guns and quantities of provisions and ammunition behind them.

Buller's Dispatch.

London, March 3.—3 a.m.—The following dispatch from Gen. Buller has been received at the war office:

"Ladysmith, Friday, March 2.—6:30 p.m.—I find the defeat of the Boers more complete than I had dared to anticipate. This whole district is completely clear of Boers, and except on top at Van Boven's Pass, where I see several wagons, can find no trace of them.

Their last train left Modder Spruit station about 1 o'clock yesterday. They then blew up the bridge. They packed wagons six days ago, moving them to the north of Ladysmith.

Vast quantities of ammunition of all sorts were left behind.

"It delighted me to see our soldiers sharing rations with Boer prisoners before they commenced their march for Modder River. Some of the poor fellows were very hungry after having been half starved."

Fight at Pieters Hill.

Colenso Camp, Feb. 28.—The Boers lost heavily during yesterday's fighting. The Lyddite wrought fearful havoc in the trenches. Many of the wounded were "yellow" from the effects of the gas. Over a hundred prisoners were taken. Many of them were Hollanders and a few were genuine Boers. Considerable ammunition for rifles fell into the hands of the British, as well as damaged Maxim guns.

Boers of sixteen years were among the wounded. The prisoners had not heard of the surrender of Gen. Cronje and discredited it. The majority seemed to be glad to be captured. They admit heavy losses recently.

The women remained with the Boers in the trenches until three hours before the British charged. Two women were found, one dead and the other fatally wounded. She has since died. She said her husband would not let her leave the trenches, she was such a good shot. The woman was only 19 years old.

An idea of the intensity of the shell fire can be gathered from the fact of 95 runs in action, the 19th battery alone fired 794 rounds, firing every ten seconds.

The British casualties were about 200 men.

ATLANTIC LINERS AGROUND.

(Associated Press.)
New York, March 3.—The Hamburg American line steamer Pennsylvania, which left her dock this morning bound for Plymouth and Hamburg, ran aground at 6:30 in Gedney channel, near buoy No. 8. There was apparently something wrong with the Pennsylvania's machinery, as she hoisted two black bills indicating "not under control." Three tug boats went to her assistance. The French line steamer La Normandie, en route bound for Havre, was reported at 11:50 a. m. to be aground on the other side of Gedney channel. A tug was standing by. At 1:30 p. m. La Normandie hoisted the two black bills.

All cases of weak or lame back, headache, rheumatism, will find relief by wearing one of Carter's Smart Wood and Holloman Backache Plasters. Price 25 cents. Try them.

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CREAM Baking Powder

Dr. Price's Baking Powder is the true friend of all the people, rich and poor alike. It supplies a pure, wholesome leavening agent, which makes the biscuit and cake of highest healthfulness at medium cost and protects the food from alum, which is the greatest dietary danger of the day.

The foremost baking powder in all the world.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

NOTE.—Alum baking powders are low priced, as alum costs but two cents a pound; but alum is a corrosive poison and it renders the baking powder dangerous to use in food.