

FELL INTO A TRAP.

Fifteen Hundred Boers Said to Have Been Killed Near Mafeking.

Were Enticed Over Mines Laid for the Defence of the Town.

The Swasie King Buna is Collecting His Forces With the Object of Attacking the Boers—Vryburg Surrendered on Sunday.

COLESBURG, Oct. 17, 9 a. m.—It is persistently reported from widely different sources that a large force of Boers resolutely attacked Mafeking on Friday and after several hours' fighting, were repulsed with heavy loss.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 17, noon.—Commandant-General Buller, who is still on the march from Kimberley, in which the Boers lost more men than they did at Mafeking, is held to prove that their shooting is not so good as it is reputed to be.

It is the general belief here from items of intelligence received that the Boers actually attacked Mafeking and were repulsed. The reports of continued fighting there are regarded as proving that the Boers failed to score a success.

OTTAWA, Oct. 18.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News says that W. P. Schreiner, the Cape Colony premier, was only induced to sign the decree for proclaiming martial law in the northern parts of Cape Colony after Sir Alfred Milner gave him the option of signing or resigning.

KIMBERLEY, Oct. 18.—An armored train, while reconnoitering near Spruitfontein, engaged the Boers, killing five and wounding seven. The British had no losses, and returned to Kimberley unharmed.

The crew of the armored train say the Boers fired 13 shells, but their aim was wretched and not a single shot struck the train, which then made bold to approach nearer and open fire with the Maxims.

The burghers replied with heavy rifles, again shooting wildly. Only three or four bullets struck the train. Subsequently the crew learned that five Boers and two Boer horses had been killed and several Boers wounded. Not a member of the British force was touched.

FREDERICTON, Oct. 17.—Captain Harry F. McLeod of No. 7 company, 71st Battalion, has volunteered for service in South Africa, and has sent to Col. Alexander the names of the following members of his company who are anxious to join the New Brunswick unit: Color Sergt. John Wandless, Sergt. Chas. Ross, Corporal E. B. Wilson, Corporal E. B. Wilson, and Privates Herbert Lovitt, Justus Earle, Albert Smith, John Johnson and John Langley.

Captain John Sanson of No. 2 company, Stanley, has also applied for enrollment and sent the names of several of his men who want to go with him.

HALIFAX, Oct. 17.—The total number now enrolled by the D. O. C. at Halifax for the Canadian Transvaal contingent, is 34 men. Capt. Jacques, who has been given command of the Nova Scotia company, said two days ago that he had the names of a full company who were ready to go to the Transvaal. Halifax, with the exception of one man, did not want the men were clerks and bookkeepers, and did not want the fact of their thus volunteering to be stated till the command of the contingent was officially decided upon, and also that the regi-

at Quebec by the 24th, but the transport will not leave before the 21st, and possibly it may be a day or two later. It will take fully a week to properly equip the men. Preparations are being made for making the journey as comfortable as possible in the ancient capital. The garrison artillery will vacate the citadel and occupy the hill on the Lewis side until the departure of the Sardinian and the South African regiment will, in the meantime, be quartered in the citadel and drill hall.

Although Dr. Borden was out of town today, there was a unusual air of activity in the militia department. The number of visiting officers was very great. Some were looking for commissions for friends; others were trying to secure commissions for themselves.

Col. Sam Hughes, M. P. was here today. In view of recent developments, the colonel wishes all those who have communicated with him about military matters to apply to the nearest commanding officer without delay.

Ottawa ladies are organizing to furnish comforts for the contingent. Col. McLean, of the 2nd battalion, St. John, was a visitor to the department today. It was, however, more of an etiquette call than anything else, the colonel being in town on legal business.

TORONTO, Oct. 17.—Dr. Ryerson announces that the Red Cross society of Canada, with the consent of the government, is preparing to supply extra food, medical comforts, wine and clothing for the sick and wounded of the Canadian contingent.

TORONTO, Oct. 17.—Dr. Borden says he is unable to confirm the statement that the Canadian contingent will go to the Transvaal as a distinct regiment. Sir Wilfrid Laurier says despatches are still passing between the Canadian and imperial governments on the subject.

MONTREAL, Oct. 17.—The colonel and seven commissioned officers of the Prince of Wales Fusiliers have offered for service in the Transvaal. Major McDougall, now stationed at the citadel here, will be adjutant of the Canadian contingent for South Africa.

LT. COL. VIDAL attended at the 2nd club room last evening and met a number of the officers of the Artillery and Fusiliers, but no enrollment of men took place because the orders for enlistment had not arrived.

The statement in the Globe that Capt. B. R. Armstrong had applied for a staff appointment is a mistake. Capt. Armstrong is an applicant for a position on the fighting strength of the force and hopes to be named thereon.

FIGHTING NEAR LOBATSI. Despatches from Beria, dated Saturday, state that the Boers advancing eastward, were repulsed at Lobatsi station. The doubtless means that Col. Plumer's force, advancing to the relief of Mafeking, had encountered the Boers.

The Times' Lobatsi correspondent, telegraphing under date of Oct. 14th, says: The Boers were around us all day yesterday and broke up the line in several places between Pittani and Mafeking. They were attacked and

defeated by a party of our men from Mafeking. Thirty Boers were killed during the night. Another lot broke up the line a mile north of Lobatsi, cutting the wires. The station master and all of us here set to work and have just restored communication.

A runner has arrived bringing news of Col. Baden Powell's success in keeping the enemy at bay.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Ladysmith says no newspaper representatives are allowed to proceed from there either to Bester's station or Acton Homes, and adds that Gen. Joubert's forces are advancing against Glencoe and Bester's station on the Prinsmuth-Lynch line.

According to the same authority some volunteers who had just come into Ladysmith from Bester's station and Acton Homes before the despatch was sent, reported that 300 Boers tried ineffectually to cut off small parties of British troops; but the Natal men were too wary to be caught and retired firing. The enemy as usual hid themselves behind hills and rocks and in gullies, but were unable to advance. They used cannon against the British riflemen who, nevertheless, maintained a stout resistance. The firing was heavy. The country about Acton Homes, adds that Gen. Buller mounted volunteers there are retiring upon Deydrop. Two thousand Boers were engaged at Acton Homes and rather fewer at Bester's station. It is reported that the enemy retreated severely.

The Daily Telegraph, commenting upon the foregoing despatch says: "It is difficult to understand the references to Glencoe and Bester's station except upon the theory that Com-

mandant Gen. Joubert is dividing his forces."

The Cape Town correspondent of the Times under date of Tuesday says: "All is well at Kimberley, though communications are almost entirely cut. There is no means of learning anything that happens north of the Orange river unless perhaps by way of Rhodesia and Beira."

LONDON, Oct. 19.—There is still no authentic news from Mafeking, but all reports tend to confirm the belief that Col. Baden Powell is holding his own, and no credit is given to the vague rumor that a flag of truce has been displayed.

BRITISH MUST MOVE OUT. LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The authorities at Johannesburg have announced that they will make a house to house search on Monday and will compel every British subject to leave the town."

The imperial authorities have impounded 150,000 sovereigns which arrived at Johannesburg for the Transvaal. The money will be kept here until the war is ended.

Conyngham Green and Lady Greene sailed for England today. An enthusiastic crowd assembled to bid them farewell.

ALLIANCE NORTH DESERTED. ALIWAALNORTH, Oct. 17, 11.50 a. m. (Delayed in transmission).—The town is deserted and the railway has been cut. The Dutch farmers are quitting their farms. Several prominent British residents have been warned to leave, there is danger of a famine, but this does not alarm the loyalists, who calmly await events. The Boers are now close to the town. A force of 500 police guards the frontier bridge.

MONTREAL, Oct. 18.—A despatch from Ladysmith says that a letter was brought to the British pickets by Boer cyclists bearing a white flag, signed by the Newcastle magistrate Sir George Stewart White, in which he proposed to offer battle and the camp is placed at the prospect of striking a definite blow.

HOSTILE TO BOERS. LONDON, Oct. 18.—The Daily Times' Ladysmith correspondent telegraphing on Tuesday, says he learns that the Boers are making a serious attempt to strike a blow against the Boers who are working hard to get the idea of getting the south of Ladysmith and attacking in force, with the co-operation of Commandant Gen. Joubert.

At Glencoe the British patrol covered a wide area in order to prevent outposts and were subjected to a hot fire by persistent skirmishers. Gen. Sir George Stewart White is quite prepared to offer battle and the camp is placed at the prospect of striking a definite blow.

LADIES JACKETS.



We are now showing the largest and most attractive assortment of COATS, CAPES, JACKETS, REEFERS and CLOAKS, in Ladies, Misses and Children's sizes, shown by any one house in the Maritime Provinces. The range of styles is larger than that to be seen in any one house elsewhere. The exhibit is one of great interest to those who are seeking the VERY LATEST STYLES in well made and properly finished garments at popular prices.

OVER 2,000 GARMENTS TO SELECT FROM. DOWLING BROS., 95 KING ST., ST. JOHN, N. B.

MEDICAL STAFF APPOINTED. OTTAWA, Oct. 18.—The minister of militia left for Montreal this afternoon to close the contract with the Allans for the Sardinian.

Four officers will be appointed to the staff of the Canadian contingent. It is settled that Col. Sam Hughes, M. P., will either be offered one of these positions or else a captaincy.

The medical staff of the contingent will consist of Surgeon Major Wilson, and Garrison Artillery, Montreal; Surgeon Osborne of the 4th Field Battery, Hamilton, and Surgeon Lieut. Fleet of 88th Temiscouata and Rimouski Batt.

CHARLOTTETOWN VOLUNTEERS. CHARLOTTETOWN, Oct. 18.—Enthusiasm prevails in the city, and volunteers are enlisting. The following were bulletined at noon today as volunteers: Lt. Col. Moore, D. O. C.; Major Weeks, engineers; Capt. F. W. Elmore, Capt. M. Jones, Lt. J. A. McDonald; Lt. A. B. Melish, Lt. Arthur Peske, Lt. C. G. Richards, Lt. L. N. Stewart, Lt. J. P. Leslie, Surgeon Capt. H. D. Johnson, M. D., twenty-four non-commissioned officers and men from the 2nd battalion, twelve four non-commissioned officers and men from the 3rd battalion, twelve non-commissioned officers and men from the commission officers and men from the engineers, nine non-commissioned officers and men from the artillery, four recruits.

There will be a parade of the artillery, engineers and the 2nd battalion to St. James Presbyterian church on Sunday morning to bid good-bye to the South African contingent. The sermon on the occasion will be preached by the chaplain of the artillery, Rev. J. Fullerton. It is expected that the contingent will leave on Monday morning. There is great disappointment here that only twenty-five men are required from this province.

HALIFAX RATHER SLOW. HALIFAX, Oct. 18.—The total number who have so far enrolled in Halifax for service with the Canadian contingent in the Transvaal is only fifty-three, and it begins to look as if the one hundred might not be secured. Captain Jacques' company has not yet materialized. He is confined to his house by illness.

A TRUE CANADIAN. This telegram by Lt. Col. Jones has the proper ring about it: THIRD REGIMENT NEW BRUNSWICK ORGANIZED FOR DEFENCE.

To the Editor of The Star: St. John, N. B., October 7. In my opinion the present occasion affords a unique opportunity for demonstrating to the world that we exist, not as colonies or nations, but as one indivisible people, united by a common language and a common sense of duty. It is a time when we should show to the world that we are capable of self-government and that we are worthy to be regarded as a nation in our own right.

AN OTTAWA despatch of Wednesday's date stated that the Wellesley, son of Lt. Col. McLean, who has been appointed a lieutenant in the Canadian contingent, Mr. McLean is a student at Kingston Military college and is only 19 years of age.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Daily Mail's Cape Town correspondent says that a refugee who has reached Grahamstown from the Rand states that a train arrived at Johannesburg on Monday from Klerksdorp with 300 wounded burghers. Every available conveyance, the refugee says, was called into requisition to take the wounded men to the hospital.

The Daily Mail suggests that those wounded were from Mafeking.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED KILLED. The Daily News' Cape Town correspondent says: "It is rumored here that news has reached the War Office that the Boers attacked Mafeking in force, but were repulsed. The defenders, seeing the enemy retreating, pursued them for some distance. Then a faint was made, and they commenced to retire on the town, allowing themselves to be driven in by the Boers, who, eager to retrieve their position, again advanced to the attack, and were drawn over dyke mines laid for the defence of the town. It is reported that fifteen hundred Boers were killed by the explosion. It is reported from Delagoa Bay that the Swasie King Buna is collecting his forces, with the object, presumably, of attacking the Boers. It is stated that the Portuguese forces at Delagoa Bay will be raised to war strength."

It is announced from Pretoria that an eccentric person known as Barth De Gulsberg has been court-martialed and shot as a spy. Plans of the local forts were found in his possession.

VRYBURG SURRENDERED. LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing at 10 o'clock Thursday night, says: "Vryburg surrendered Sunday. To-

night's despatches from Kuruman, ninety miles west by south of Vryburg, state that the police, having withdrawn from Vryburg, the town surrendered to the Boers, the inhabitants fleeing in all directions, mostly toward Kuruman. When the police withdrew, the Cape Boers notified the fact to the enemy, thus inviting them to take possession. The British are wildly indignant at this scuttling."

WAR OFFICE BULLETIN. LONDON, Oct. 19.—The war office this evening issued the following bulletin: "No news of importance has been received from Natal today. The cavalry attached to our forces at Ladysmith and Dundee are engaged in observing the enemy's movements. Steps have been taken to secure Pietermaritzburg and Durban against raids on the western frontier."

There is no recent reliable intelligence from Kimberley or Mafeking, both places being cut off from railway and telegraphic communication. It is believed, however, that a skirmish took place on Sunday six miles south of Kimberley, and that the Boers were beaten off, with some loss, by an armored train. There was some fighting at Mafeking on Friday and Saturday, ending with a repulse of the attacking force.

Boers in considerable numbers are assembled opposite Allwalport and Botha, on the Orange River. Rail-communication with the Orange Free State, and Transvaal has ceased, the remaining refugees having been ordered to leave by way of Delagoa Bay."

FIVE TRANSPORTS READY. LONDON, Oct. 19.—Almost everything is now in readiness for the great departure of troops from Southampton tomorrow, when five transports, each carrying a thousand British officers, will start for South Africa.

BOER REVERSE. ORANGE RIVER, Oct. 18 (afternoon, delayed in transmission).—The Boers suffered a reverse on Sunday at Spruitfontein, ten miles south of Kimberley. An armored train went to bring in a train reported to have been captured by the Boers near the Spruitfontein siding. A party of Boers who were encamped nearby lowered the railway signal and displayed a white flag, apparently with the idea of inducing the driver to proceed. The driver suspected that the Boers were in possession, and stopped the train, whereupon Boers issued in large force and opened fire, but without any effect.

The soldiers replied from the train, and about half a dozen Boers were killed. The British were unscathed. Several hundred Boers surprised a party of 18 Cape Colony police who were guarding the railway at River-ton road, 13 miles north of Kimberley, on Sunday morning. The police were killed. A terrific explosion was heard later, and it is believed that the Boers blew up the station.

A relief party of 25 police sent from Kimberley met the Boers near River-ton. The enemy displayed a white flag to induce the troops to fall into their trap, but the police were ordered to retire. Then the Boers opened a heavy fire upon them, discharging about four hundred rounds. A bullet struck the horse of Surgeon Major Cullinan, who, with a trooper whose horse had stumbled and dismounted him, was captured.

VOLUNTEERS DID WELL. LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, in a despatch dated Thursday, says: "The brunt of the fighting at Bester's station yesterday was sustained by the volunteer patrols. The fighting was brisk. The Boers numbered 2,000. The volunteers at one moment were in great peril, being nearly cut off, but the officers handled their men splendidly and the Maxims effectively stopped the Boer rushes. The Boer shooting was wretched. Our men were in the saddle three days and two nights with hardly a rest. Basuto natives were fighting with the Boers. It is reported that sixteen Boers were killed."

I learn officially that Commandant Gen. Joubert has moved his headquarters to Dannhauser."

RIFLE CORPS MUTINIED. LADYSMITH, Oct. 18 (delayed in transmission).—The Unvoiced rifle corps, which is largely recruited from the Dutch colonists, has mutinied.

TRAIN CAPTURED. LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Ladysmith correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, under date of Oct. 19, afternoon, says: "The Boers fired on and captured a train which left Ladysmith at 12.30, near Blandsdrags. It contained several officers and a few men, besides invalids, all going to Glencoe or Dundee. The enemy cut the wires, severing communication with Glencoe."

ON THE EASTERN BORDER. LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Ladysmith correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, telegraphing at 10 o'clock Thursday night, says: "Vryburg surrendered Sunday. To-

(Continued on page 8.)

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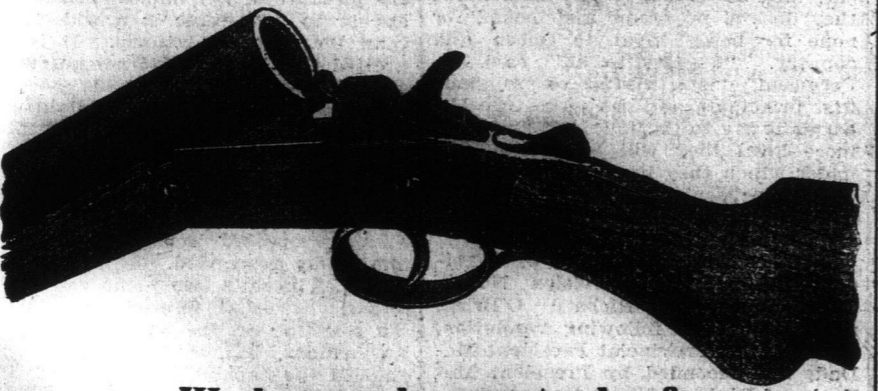
MONTREAL. The Organ La Patrie on the Contingent—Sir Charles's Telegram in the Premier.

AL, Oct. 11.—Le Patrie, the organ, tonight says: Laurier the other day defined the government's policy of exposing the future of whatever in the governing or sending a contingent previously consulting an government did not military contingent to the government.

CHARLES TUPPER. The Grand party of New York arrived to sing here the first four weeks. The company inclusive, Sembrick, Suzanne, Ampanazi, Piancon and Ed-Rieszke.

ROOKE, Que., Oct. 15.—At the of the 53rd battalion last number of men volunteered.

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