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NO. 43.

MOVING FORWARD AGAIN.

Buller Is Forcing a Way Into Ladysmith.

TWO HEIGHTS WERE STORMED ON TUESDAY.

The Relief Column is Now Within Ten Miles of Ladysmith--Gen. Buller and Gen. Kitchener Have Gone to the Front--The Boers Attacking Gen. Gatacre at Sterkstroom.

LONDON REVIEW.

London, Feb. 7, 4.20 a. m.--Lord Roberts has caused to be distributed in the towns bordering upon the invaded colonial territory an invitation to "Free States and Transvaals to go into the desert, offering them good treatment and a restoration to their farms on the British occupation of republican territory."

The minister's guarantee that those bringing horses to sell them. Foreigners will have their passage paid to Europe. Colonial rebels are advised to surrender in preference to being taken prisoners.

Not a word has been received from the correspondents with Gen. Buller for three days. It is as though Natal had been wiped off the map, excepting the telegram from Ladysmith saying that the "Boers are cannonading and that fighting is going on."

Gen. MacDonald, with 4,000 infantry, cavalry and artillery, threatens the Boer right at Magerfontein. This is the first sign of activity on the part of Lord Methuen for some weeks, and, doubtless, has relation to the movements of the British east.

It appears that Gen. French's visit to Cape Town was to ask Lord Roberts for 7,000 more men. Whether he got them or not is not known.

Troops are no longer detained at Cape Town. They proceeded immediately to some point at the front. Three thousand disembarked Monday and were quickly sent elsewhere. No public reception was given to the arriving volunteers at Cape Town, because they had to leave immediately.

The World says it learns that Lord Methuen has disbanded Remington's scouts, one of the most useful colonial commands, because he had ascertained that some members of the corps had been communicating with the Boers.

Captain Walter Congrove, who received the Victoria Cross for gallantry in endeavoring to save the British guns at Colenso, writes: "I never saw a Boer all day, and I do not think anyone else did. Thousands of bullets pattered and shells burst all over the place; but the Boers were invisible."

The Transvaal special war tax of two shillings and six pence per acre affects 3,000,000 acres of English owned land, a part of which is not worth more than the tax.

SKIRMISHING OUTSIDE OF LADYSMITH.

Modder Spruit, Monday, Feb. 5.--On Saturday the Pretoria corps discovered a party of British from Ladysmith, entrenched at a railroad bridge, protecting a number of coolies who were cutting grass. A party of Boers despatched to the scene was attacked from the trenches and all retreated except four who, hid in, permitted the British to advance to within 20 yards when they fired a volley, killing three men. This was seen from the front, but the Boers were not seen.

STILL BOMBARDING LADYSMITH.

Modder Spruit, Feb. 6.--Messages from Ladysmith, dated yesterday, Feb. 5, say continuous cannonading has been proceeding since 5 o'clock in the morning, with the occasional roar of a Long Tom. The firing is added, continues.

CONSUL HAY AT PRETORIA.

Pretoria, Monday, Feb. 5.--Mr. Adelbert S. Hay, the new United States consul here, was received by the Transvaal government today and presented his credentials. He created an excellent impression.

MACDONALD FLANKING THE BOERS.

London, Feb. 7.--The Standard has received the following despatch, dated Monday, Feb. 5, from Koppies Dam: "Gen. MacDonald with a brigade of infantry, a regiment of Lancers and one battery has reached here from Modder River camp in what is regarded as an important movement to the right of the Boer position at Magerfontein."

Koppies Dam commands the roads from Kimberley to Hopetown and Douglas. The Boer laagers at Kamal Hoek and Griquatown are within striking distance. The arrival of Gen. MacDonald's column was opportune, as it just prevented two large commandos effecting a junction. He now holds both banks of the river.

"Our Lancers had two brushings with the Boer patrols. There is great activity among the enemy, and strong forces are concentrating to oppose our further advance. The troops suffered from heat and scarcity of water during the march."

ST. JOHN MAY YET GET THE HORSE.

Ottawa, Feb. 6.--Hon. A. G. Blair has not yet despaired of getting the Strathcona Horse to go by St. John instead of Halifax. A cable has been received from Lord Strathcona expressing a preference for Halifax as being a military headquarters. Blair is endeavoring to get the horse to go by St. John instead of Halifax. A cable has been received from Lord Strathcona expressing a preference for Halifax as being a military headquarters. Blair is endeavoring to get the horse to go by St. John instead of Halifax.

UNDERTAKING.

Belleville, Feb. 6.--Richard Cunningham, a member of "D" company of the Canadian contingent, writes from Belmont, Dec. 29, he had buried a great many Boers since reaching here.

FIRST OF THE STRATHCONA HORSE.

Winnipeg, Feb. 6.--The first detachment of the Strathcona Horse, 200 men and a number of horses, will leave Regina Saturday. Two trains to follow, leaving Regina on the 14th and 21st, will bring the largest number of the horses which the officers are now busy selecting. The Manitoba detachment likely starts about the 13th.

MONTREAL TO BANQUET STRATHCONA.

Montreal, Feb. 6.--A movement is on foot to give Lord Strathcona a public banquet on his return to Canada and to present him with the freedom of the city.

CANADIANS HOLD AN IMPORTANT POINT.

Kingston, Feb. 6.--Lieut. Col. Drury writes to his family that on the 26th of December he led with Gen. Methuen to Modder River. He had been posted to Gen. Buller's staff and is likely to be entirely with Buller's artillery. Bruce Barrington, staff sergeant in charge of the regimental signallers at Belmont, says Lord Methuen told the Canadians they were more likely to be attacked at Belmont than if they were at Modder River as they hold an important point.

ANOTHER DONATION.

Calcutta, Feb. 6.--The Maharajah of Jaipur has made a donation of 100,000 rupees to the South African fund.

BRITISH MOVING EVERYWHERE.

London, Feb. 8, 4 p. m.--The British columns are putting themselves in motion in all parts of the South African war field. A combined attack upon the Boers appears to be in progress. General Buller has obtained a footing on the plateau north of the Tugela river after two days' fighting.

On the far western border Lord Methuen has begun a turning movement against the Boer right, while General MacDonald threatens the Boer flank, thus relieving the pressure on Lord Methuen's front. Lord Roberts who, according to an informant in close touch with the war office, is in the middle of the theatre of war, has begun the march on Magerfontein.

The Boers have taken the initiative against General Gatacre, attacking two of his positions at Sterkstroom. Three thousand more militia have been ordered to prepare for embarkation. The obsolete guns at various coast defences are being replaced with modern naval guns. The government is preparing a plan to be submitted to parliament for the conversion of the Yeomanry, volunteers and militia into a well organized and properly equipped army for home defence.

WAR OFFICE STORY OF THE FIGHT.

Spearman's Camp, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 6 p. m.--Gen. Buller commenced the advance for the relief of Ladysmith Monday. The naval guns opened at 7 in the morning and a feint attack was made in front of our position. Three battalions advanced toward the Brakfontein with six batteries.

At 11 the Boers opened with artillery fire and sent several shells among the British infantry, who retired an hour later. Meanwhile a vigorous attack was made on the extreme right, where the Engineers expeditiously constructed a position. Several pieces of cannon, half hidden among the trees on Zwart's Kop, bombarded heavily. The British infantry advanced and the Boers were entirely surprised.

At 4 o'clock a high hill, a continuation of the Brakfontein, had been taken. The operations were excellently planned. The name of the hill taken is Krantz Kloof.

The bombardment of the Boer position was resumed this (Tuesday) morning. The Boers worked a disappearing cannon from the high Doornkop range, on the right of the captured hill; but the British shells exploded in its magazine, and the guns were put out of action until late in the day.

Musketry fire was intermittent until the afternoon, when the Boers made a determined effort to retake the hill. Reinforcements rushed up cheering; the Boers were repulsed, and the British advanced along the ridge.

The Boer position consisted of a line of kopjes, strongly entrenched, extending three miles from Spion Kop and curving sharply at the eastern end to the south. About opposite Zwart's Kop, which is a steep hill south of the Tugela that the British occupied before the seizure of Potgieter's Drift.

The artillery behaved splendidly throughout, ably covering the infantry retirement from the feint attack in the face of a heavy shell fire. It is believed that the Boers suffered very heavily as their ambulances were hard at work.

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The Boer entrenched position at Brakfontein kept the enemy busily employed. While this diversion was being made the remainder of the infantry told off for the attack, who had bivouacked Sunday night under Mount Alice, moved along at the foot of Zwart's Kop in the direction of our right.

A pontoon bridge was thrown across the Tugela by the Engineers under the fire of the enemy. The first battalion to move across in the forenoon was the Durham Light Infantry, of Gen. Lytton's brigade. They advanced against Vaal Krantz, which lies on the most direct road to Ladysmith; and, after two hours' steady work, they got within charging distance of the Boers.

The first of the kopjes was carried by them at the point of the bayonet, with the utmost gallantry. Almost simultaneously the first battalion rifle brigade cleared the second kopje and after moving across the long ridge they bivouacked.

The feint attack at Potgieter's Drift having served its purpose in preventing the concentration of the Boer forces, the critical point the 11th brigade fell back to the river.

In the course of the operation both the infantry and the artillery had been subjected to a severe shell fire. "Yesterday (Tuesday) at 4 o'clock in the afternoon the enemy, encouraged by the Boer position, endeavored to recapture the position taken by us at Vaal Krantz. They were beaten back, however, with losses which were magnificently done. The shell and Maxim fire poured in by the Boers has been extremely heavy, and, comparatively speaking, small.

The Durham Light Infantry took a few prisoners in the course of their charge. The enemy was usual fought with the utmost stubbornness. The British maneuvering and the accuracy of aim on the part of the British artillery during the fighting on Monday were beyond praise. There is not the slightest likelihood that the Boers will succeed in driving us from the positions we have gained and the prospects of the relief of Ladysmith are decidedly hopeful."

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BOER STORY OF THE FIGHT.

Boer Head Lager, Ladysmith, Tuesday, Feb. 6.--Since yesterday the British, with naval and other guns, have bombarded our positions on the upper Tugela. The troops crossed the river at the Pont and at Molen Drift, with the object of storming our positions. At the former Gen. Bunge beat them back and they recrossed in disorder. The fighting continues at Molen Drift with the Standerton and Johannesburg commands. The cannonade was the fiercest yet experienced. There was a continuous roaring all day long. This morning it recommenced with an increased number of guns.

The word "crossed" will be a surprise to our readers. The Boers are still in possession of the kopje and the big guns have ceased firing.

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BOERS PUSHED FOR SHELLS.

London, Feb. 8.--Europe is being scoured by Boer agents for ammunition. The Boers are running short. Big gun projectiles seem to be the thing they need most for the most tempting offers. Most of the contracts will probably go to continental makers as English manufacturers will not accept the most tempting offers. The shortage in big gun ammunition probably accounts for the lack of systematic firing on Ladysmith during the past week or more. Helio-graphic reports show that the shell fire on the town has recently been very slack.

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