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BLOODIEST OF CENTURY.

General Methuen Beat the Boers at Modder River.

Details Are Very Meagre, But Official Despatches Show That a Ten-Hours Battle Occurred--The Canadians Have Arrived at Cape Town.

THE CANADIANS ARE AT CAPE TOWN.

Cape Town, Nov. 29.—The Allan steamer Sardinian from Montreal, with the Canadian contingent, 1,000 strong, has arrived here.

THE STAR'S CABLE.

Montreal, Nov. 29.—The Star's special cable from London says: News was received this afternoon of the safe arrival at Cape Town today of the Allan liner, Sardinian, with the Canadian contingent on board, all well. Citizens of Cape Town have been waiting for several days for the coming of the Canadians to show them, in common with the Australians, and the detachment from New Zealand, how much the British people of South Africa recognize the importance of this outward sign of the unity of the empire in the hour of stress. When the Sardinian signalled from Table Mountain many hundreds of people made their way to the wharf to be first to cheer the bearers of a visible helping hand from distant Canada. Details have not yet come to hand concerning the demonstration which will be tendered to the colonial regiments, but there is no doubt it will be a most historic event in the history of the empire and the world.

A BLOODY BATTLE.

Methuen Destroyed the Boers After Ten Hours' Fighting.

London, Nov. 29.—The War office has received the following despatch from Gen. Buller:— "Cape Town, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—Gen. Methuen reports:— "Modder River, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—Reconnoitered at 5 a. m. and found them strongly entrenched and concealed. No means of outflanking the river being full. Action was commenced with artillery, mounted infantry and cavalry at 5.30, the Guards on the right, Ninth Brigade on the left. Attacked position in widely scattered formation at 6.30 a. m., supported by the artillery, found itself in front of the whole Boer force, 8,000 strong, with two large guns, four Kruppers. The naval brigade rendered great assistance from the railway. After desperate hand fighting, which lasted ten hours, our men, without water or food and in the burning sun, made the enemy quit his position. Gen. Buller's force was successful in getting a small party across the river, peacefully assisted by 600 sappers.

"I speak in terms of high praise of the conduct of all who were engaged in one of the hardest and most trying fights in the annals of the British army. If I can mention one name, particularly, it is that of the hero of the day, Gen. Buller."

London, Nov. 29.—A special despatch from Windhoek says that Gen. Methuen's despatch to the Queen, after the battle of Modder River, says:— "The battle was the bloodiest of the century. The British shelled the enemy out of the trenches and then charged. The result was terrible."

MASS FOR THE DEAD SOLDIERS.

Rome, Nov. 29.—A requiem mass was celebrated in the English Catholic church here today for the repose of the souls of the slain in South Africa. The church was filled with British and American, including the ambassador of Great Britain and the United States. The pope sent his blessing.

A BOER REPORT.

Their Reports of Casualties are Extremely Meagre.

Pretoria, Nov. 27.—Gen. Dutoit reports that the British made a sortie from Kimberley early Saturday morning and fired on the Boers with artillery and infantry in the darkness. He says:— "The British sortied where the Bloemhof Boer force was stationed. On our

A revised list of the British casualties at Belmont shows: Officers killed, 4; wounded, 22; non-commissioned officers and privates killed, 46; wounded, 225, of which number guards had 35 killed and 159 wounded.

LADY SMITH A WEEK AGO.

Ladysmith, Nov. 20 (by messenger to Mooi River)—All here are well and cheerful. The Boers are not shelling today, and we have no fear that they will attack the town. Our position we have made very strong without redoubt and bravest of the Boers look forward confidently to the ultimate result.

London, Nov. 30.—The Standard published the following despatch from Ladysmith, dated Tuesday, Nov. 21:— "Last Saturday I had a whole sack full of my correspondence forwarded to me, the difficulty of communicating with the outside world.

"The Boers cannonade us almost daily but there have been no shelling today. Evidently the object of the enemy is to exhaust the spirits of the British troops by incessant harassing. The prospect of British advance from the south has impelled them to redouble their efforts. They are mounting more guns and drawing the lines of investment closer."

THANKS OF HER MAJESTY.

Conveyed in a Letter from Mr. Chamberlain to Lord Minto.

Ottawa, Nov. 29.—Following letter was received today by Lord Minto from Mr. Chamberlain:— "Downing Street, Nov. 15.

"My Lord, I received from you on the 2nd inst. a copy of an approved minute of the dominion privy council, dated the 14th of October, 1899, in which your ministers authorized the equipment and despatch of 1,000 volunteers for service with the imperial troops in South Africa. The great enthusiasm and general eagerness to take an active part in the expedition, which has unfortunately been found necessary for the maintenance of British rights and interests in South Africa, have exceeded the expectations of her majesty's government and the people of this country. The desire to exhibit to the world the loyalty and the loyalty of the dominion and its sympathy with the policy pursued by her majesty's government in South Africa, but also as an expression of that growing feeling of the unity and solidarity of the empire which has marked the relations of recent years. The thanks of her majesty's government are specially tendered to you in the most cordial manner in which they have undertaken and carried through the work of organizing and equipping the Canadian contingent.

(Sgd.) J. CHAMBERLAIN.

A BRITISH PROTEST.

Against American Expeditions in Aid of the Dutch.

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 29.—A despatch from Washington to the Evening News says: Great Britain protests against the expedition of this country, intended presumably for the assistance of the Boer army in the Transvaal.

Lord Pauncefote made the protest at the state department. After discussing the matter for some time Secretary of State Hay referred Lord Pauncefote to the secretary of war, with whom the ambassador also had a conference. It is no longer a secret that expeditions of importance are being organized.

The most notable of these has its headquarters in the suburbs of New York. It is under the secret auspices of the state department, the war department and the treasury department have informed the British ambassador that every preparation will be taken to prevent the sailing of armed expeditions in the interest of the Transvaal.

MR. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

The Solution of the War Will Be the Surrender of the British Flag in South Africa.

London, Nov. 29.—Addressing a meeting of 7,000 people in Leicester this evening, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain devoted the greater part of a long speech to a justification of the government's policy in South Africa and to a refutation of the arguments of the Earl of Kimberley, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and others.

"According to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman," said Mr. Chamberlain, "we ought to have skulked back to our holes when Mr. Kruger refused to listen to our peaceful representations. That would have lost us South Africa, weakened our hold upon India and earned us the contempt of mankind."

He reiterated that the war was inevitable, that the Boers, but I must insist that the Boers, by their own action have created a clean sheet, upon which we can write what we please and I feel convinced that our loyal fellow

subjects in Cape Colony and Natal regard no solution as durable which did not provide beyond the shadow of a doubt for the supremacy of the British flag—the only guarantee of settled peace and the only security for the just treatment of all the races of South Africa."

DEAD AND WOUNDED.

Methuen Has Reported Some of His Casualties.

London, Nov. 30.—The war office has received from the general commanding at Cape Town the following list of casualties: Killed—Staff Col. H. P. Northcott; Second Coldstream, Lt. Col. H. R. Stopford, Captain S. Earle; Second Yorkshires, Lieut. Long.

Wounded—Artillery, Major W. Lindsay, Captain Farrell, Lt. Dunlop, Lt. Fuess; Third Grenadiers, Major Count Gleichen, Lt. the Hon. F. L. Lygon; Coldstream, Lt. Viscount Acheson; Medical Corps, G. A. Moore.

The following officers were also wounded: Captain Von Hugel, Engineers; Lt. 1st Dragoon, Third Grenadiers; Lieuts. Elwes and Hill, Scots Guards; Lieut. Flint, Lancashire; Major Earle and O'Leary, 1st Dragoon; Second Yorkshires; Lieuts. Baker-Carr and Neilson, Argyll Highlanders.

General Methuen, it developed later, was slightly wounded by a bullet which inflicted a flesh wound in the thigh.

Col. Northcott participated in the Sherbro expedition, West Africa, in 1883, where he was desperately wounded in the Zulu war, the Ashantee expedition, and the Karagwe expedition in 1888 for which he was made a companion of the Bath. Recently he commanded in the North-east Gold Coast territories.

Major Count Gleichen is a relative of the Queen. Count Gleichen is a major of the Grenadier Guards and is the eldest son of the late Prince Victor of Hohenlohe-Langenburg. He took part in the Nile expedition, 1884, was attached to Sir West Ridgeway's mission to Morocco in 1885; did special service in the Sudan in 1896 and was attached to Mr. Roderick's mission to Abyssinia in 1897. He had been staff captain of the intelligence division of the war office since 1895.

FROM KIMBERLEY.

Firing Indicates a Skirmish With the Retreating Column.

Kimberley, Friday, Nov. 24 (by way of Kloukfontein Nov. 27).—There were a few rifle shots early today from the direction of Wright's farm; but this was regarded as merely one of the numerous Boer tricks to draw our men out by inducing us to believe that the relieving forces are drawing near. This afternoon the Boers blew up two large culverts near the rifle butts on the railway line, the news of the proximity of the relieving forces greatly cheers the garrison and the inhabitants. A few Boers were seen today, but it is believed that the relieving force is only small bands around Kimberley, lots of 50 or so, the greater part having gone to Spoffortin, where firing is believed to have been heard about noon.

The official estimate places the number of Boer shells fired during the bombardment of Kimberley at about 1,000 and ours at no fewer than 600. As the enemy's shells so frequently hit our garrison, the explosive effect is greatly neutralized.

NATAL NEWS.

Estcourt, Nov. 27.—The Twelfth Lancers are reported to have attacked Piet Retief's force at Weenen and to have inflicted great loss on the Boers.

General Hildyard's troops bivouacked yesterday night at Pieter's.

The Boers were captured. One of them, a doctor, entered the British camp under a belief that it was a Boer bivouac.

Col. Buller is reported to have retreated to Colesburg yesterday by way of Chieveley. He travelled in an omnibus drawn by six horses. It is rumored that he is hurrying back to oppose Col. Buller.

Two Estcourt trains arrived at Pieter's yesterday evening. There is great rejoicing at the reopening of the line.

Boer prisoners report that Gen. Hildyard's night attack with the Coldstreamers paralyzed the numbers, whose ranks were 30 killed and over 100 wounded. The authorities in London are unable to explain the reference to Col. Buller-Powell contained in the Estcourt despatch, but think the name must be wrong.

PRESS COMMENTS ON CHAMBERLAIN'S SPEECH.

London, Dec. 1.—It has been long since a public speech has been delivered that has excited so much comment as Mr. Chamberlain's, yesterday. Every provincial paper, important or unimportant has leading editorial this morning discussing the colonial secretary's deliverance. The Liberal and Radical papers naturally are little pleased. They think that England ought to continue the policy of withholding herself from entangling alliances, and they attack Mr. Chamberlain hotly for the irritating tones he adopted toward France.

On the other hand most of the conservative and moderate Liberal organs comment upon the speech with great approval, alleging that there never was a time when such an understanding was essential between nations who are natural allies for peace and civilization.

LADYSMITH BOMBARDED.

London, Dec. 1.—The Times publishes the following despatch from Pretoria, dated Monday, Nov. 27:—"Ladysmith was heavily bombarded today."

MINISTERS IN CHARLOTTE.

BRILLIANT AND ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING HELD IN ST. ANDREW'S.

Hon. Mr. Blair and Sir Louis Davies Made Powerful Speeches in Acknowledgment of an Address Presented Them by the Liberal Association of Charlotte.

St. Andrews, Nov. 30.—Never in the history of St. Andrews has there been such a splendid political gathering as that which assembled here tonight to listen to addresses from Sir Louis Davies and Hon. Mr. Blair.

The hall was crowded with representatives from St. John's, St. George's, the islands and all other parts of the county. Colonel Tucker, M. P., drove all the way from St. George's to present Dr. Ellis, M. P., who was also here from St. John's. Among other St. John men seen on the platform were Mr. E. H. McAlpine and Mr. C. H. Milligan.

Promptly at 8 o'clock the chair was taken by Mr. R. E. Armstrong, chairman of the Liberal committee of St. Andrews. After a brief introductory address he called upon Hon. A. H. Gilmour to welcome the ministers to Charlotte.

Mr. Gilmour was very happy in his remarks. The chairman then read the following address:—

To the Honorable Andrew George Blair, Minister of Railways and Canals of Canada, and to the Honorable Sir Louis Davies, K. C. M. G., Minister of Marine and Fisheries of Canada, Gentlemen,—It affords me no little pleasure, on behalf of the Liberal committee of St. Andrews and of the Liberal electors of Charlotte county, to extend to you a cordial welcome on this, the occasion of your first visit to the section of the dominion. Our pleasure is rendered all the greater by reason of the fact that it is the first time in the history of St. Andrews that its residents have had the signal honor bestowed upon them of meeting on the public platform two responsible ministers of the crown.

We feel honored because of your personal worth and attainments; we feel honored because you are distinguished not only to the country, but, above all, we feel honored because you are one of the representatives of our own section of the dominion. It is a matter of public interest that Canada has ever had the good fortune to possess. By its prudent yet vigorous administration of public affairs, Canada, we are proud to say, is enjoying a measure of prosperity such as she has never enjoyed in her history. Her waste places are being rapidly filled up; sections are being rapidly developed and a broad nationalism is now standing where it stood; differences between race and creed, which threatened to undermine the foundations of the dominion have, we hope, been forever swept out of sight. By the granting of preferential treatment in matters of trade to Great Britain, by the securing of the abrogation of distasteful foreign treaties; by the bringing about of imperial preferential postage, and particularly by the departmental policy of your government in so promptly responding to the appeal for troops to be sent to Africa, and in offering to the imperial government a second volunteer contingent, Canada has been brought in closer touch with the motherland than ever before and a healthy patriotism has been created which, we feel sure, will rebound to the future advantage of Canada as well as to the empire at large. As head of the department of railways and canals, and as the New Brunswick representative in the cabinet, we feel gratified at the success which you, Mr. Blair, have attained in the extension of the Intercolonial Railway to Montreal, the providing of elevator and deep water facilities at St. John's, the completion of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, the deepening of the canals—all of which projects tend to the material advancement of the dominion and to show that Mr. Blair's policy is not only a success but a success which you have won for your department and for Canada. We congratulate you upon your successes and we trust that you will long spare us to assist in the direction of the affairs of the nation.

Not are we less mindful, Sir Louis, of your brilliant achievements on behalf of your country, achievements which, we are proud to say, have been fittingly recognized by your sovereign. As a member of the international commission, you have not only shown a marked zeal for the material interests of Canada and a thorough grasp of its needs, but you have also exhibited a courage and a loyalty to Canadian interests that have won for you golden opinions on all sides. We regret that your labors on the commission have not been attended with the degree of success that had been anticipated, but we recognize that the responsibility therefore does not rest upon your shoulders. As the responsible head of the department of Marine and Fisheries you not only have manifested a deep interest in the success of the great fishing industry of this country, but you have also shown a regard for the welfare of the men employed in it that we can assure you, is greatly appreciated by them.

In presenting this joint address, the committee would embrace the opportunity thus afforded of expressing their hearty approval of the government's expressed policy with regard to the ocean business of Canada. They believe it to be essential in the interests of the dominion that the ocean business of Canada should be done through Canadian ports both in summer and in winter. Furthermore they are of the opinion that the rapidly increasing volume of trade transacted through the port of St. John, and which must continue to increase as a result of the deepening of the canal and the development of the west, justifies the belief that another port will soon be

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required to care for the overflow of traffic from our great western domain. Holding these views, they would urge the many advantages that the government possesses as a winter harbor, in the hope that such action will be taken as will result in the utilization of St. Andrews as one of the ocean ports of Canada, and thereby give a lasting impetus to the development and prosperity of this section of the dominion.

In conclusion, we would again express our deep sense of appreciation of the honor that you have done us in visiting us at this time. We hope that your visit will prove as profitable to you as we believe it will be gratifying to us, and that you will return to your departmental duties with pleasing recollections of the day spent in the shiretown of Charlotte and with a better knowledge of its people and its needs. We would further have you carry back to your distinguished leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the assurance of our profound respect and of our hearty approval of his course as premier, both with respect to the affairs of Canada and to the British Empire. We would also beg leave to tender to you our best wishes for your future health and prosperity, and for the welfare of your respective families.

On behalf of the Liberal Committee of St. Andrews.

R. E. ARMSTRONG, President.

Sir Louis Davies was the first to respond. He spoke for over an hour in defence of the government policy. He showed most conclusively that this government was a government of performance not promise. His exposition of the Atlantic difficulty was listened to with deep interest. He was eloquent throughout and his points were applauded to the echo.

Hon. Mr. Blair was equally forceful. While following to some extent the lines of Sir Louis Davies' address, he showed the Conservatives for the lamentable failure they made while in office. He declared that while they criticized the government's policy they had failed to point out one respect in which they could prove it. They have no alternate policy and they have no material in the history of the British Empire. Sir Charles Tupper lived in an age that was dead. He had never led his party to victory and he never would. Mr. Foster, while an orator of ability, was only an orator. Should he die tomorrow he would leave no monument except a monument of his own making. He had failed to do anything for his province.

The most glaring failure he had made was in allowing a steamship contract to be accepted by a cabinet that did not include St. John. Mr. Blair reviewed the apologies that the opposition would have to make to the people if they were called upon in another election. They would have to apologize for a failure to provide preferential tariff for corruption and for their many other mistakes and omissions.

The concluding portion of his address dealt with the position of the government in the matter of the Transvaal contingent. He denounced, in unmeasured terms, Sir Charles Tupper's conduct in trying to make political capital out of this question, and for the efforts which had been put forth by a section of the conservative press to show that Mr. Tupper's policy was a success. He said that many of his French followers in Quebec were disloyal to the empire. He thought they must be hard pressed for political ammunition when they have to adopt the loyalty cry.

Mr. Blair made his points so convincingly and drove them home with such vigor that his speech was punctuated with applause throughout.

The meeting dispersed with cheers for the Queen and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Even the Conservatives admit that the meeting was a splendid one. The ministers go to Woodstock tomorrow. Sir Louis had partially arranged to visit Grand Manan Saturday, but has found that circumstances will not permit him to do so.

THE MINISTER HAS SAT ON GEN. HUTTON.

Ottawa, Nov. 30.—Dr. Borden has given instructions to General Hutton to issue any more militia orders without his (Borden's) approval. This has been done because General Hutton placed Major Stone as chief staff officer and senior lieutenant-colonel when he had no right to do so. The legal aspect of the matter is to be referred to the justice department.

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