

VERY CHEERING NEWS.

Yule Made Brilliant March.

White Drove Back the Orange Free State Boers and Is Now Supporting Him.

SOUTHAMPTON, Oct. 21.—The transports Nubia, Gascon, and Gorkha, sailed from this port for the Cape this afternoon with the First Scots Guards, the Second Coldstreams and the Third Grenadiers. The Duke of Connaught and General Lord Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford bade the officers and men farewell and wished them good luck. The docks were crowded, and as each vessel sailed out the scene of popular enthusiasm was renewed. The transport Mica also sailed with 416 men of all ranks in the principal service corps from Aldershot and Woolwich. LONDON, Oct. 22.—The departure of the last battalions of the Coldstream Guards from Waterloo station today was attended by great crowds, although the fog was so dense that the troops could scarcely be distinguished from the sidewalks. Although the fund opened by the Lord Mayor, Sir John Moore Moore, for the Transvaal refugees has already reached £135,000, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, chairman of the patriotic relief fund, have addressed petitions to the Lord Mayor to open a new fund for the widows and orphans of heroes of the war. This will be opened tomorrow. The British transports Favonia and Malia sailed this afternoon from Southampton with troops of Sir Redvers Buller's army corps. There was a renewal of the scenes of enthusiasm that marked the departure of the guards yesterday. Enormous crowds gathered at the quay to witness the embarkation of the troops that were due to sail last evening and this evening from Woolwich and Tilbury were detained in consequence of the heavy fog that has enveloped the London district for 48 hours, seriously impeding the embarkation of troops. It is expected that they will leave tomorrow.

THE TIMES' STORY

Of Sunday's Battle at Elands-laagte.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—Interesting and graphic accounts are supplied by the war correspondents of the battle of Elands-laagte, from which the following are extracts:— The Daily Telegraph says: "General French commenced the action at 6.30 a. m. The enemy had only just finished coffee, when they were surprised and nearly all our prisoners were caught in the vicinity of the captured train. The fighting and railway officials escaped from the enemy and came to us to the number of 37 whites, besides many coolies. "Both of the latter classes have been robbed and compelled to work by the Boers; but the whites were treated fairly well, though they were made to take an oath to remain neutral, etc. A Boer sergeant, a native of Cape Colony, hid his rifle and came in with twenty of his late captives. "The Manchester regiment, with the characteristic hardness of British infantry, all marched straight at the enemy, too often careless of taking cover, despite the rattling, hissing and spitting of the Mauser bullets. Tommy Atkins says in effect: "What! hide from yekel! let 'em shoot." "The panorama was helplessly and colored by the red line of gun flashes, and shells tore along, roaring through the air like express trains in a tunnel, bursting noisily and spouting flame, lead and steel, which hissed like hot iron dropped into water. "The enemy bobbed about over the rocks like jack-in-the-box, firing heavily at us with fair accuracy, for the magazine Mauser rifle is a terrible weapon, although it inflicts clean wounds. Many of them used explosive bullets. "The Boers shells were mostly pepper and threw up volucanes of mud and stones about gun crews. A GALLANT CHARGE. The Way the Troops Carried the Hill. The London Daily News says: "The approaching fall of darkness was a great factor in the last phase of the fight, making the capture of the position at once absolutely imperative. By this time the crack of rifles and the rattle of Maxims had become absolutely fierce. Our men understood the necessity well enough. "Nothing loth, they exposed themselves gallantly in their resolution to drive the Boers from their last stand. Officers and men fell in the line, but nothing checked the fierce onset. Commissions among the Gordon Highlanders, and in the fighting line throughout, was Lord Aya, attached specially to the brigadier's staff. The final rush was a sight to see. With leveled bayonets, cheering as they went, our men sprang over the boulders that were strewn at their feet. The Boers, recoiling, fired wildly, and then dashed down the rugged slope to escape the annihilation threatening them. Some desperately determined on killing, returned, however, to the Nek in the rear of which the Highlanders had crouched behind some boulders. These men fired on ambulance men at work among the wounded. I and others there can

announce with an air of authority, that the government's plan is to terminate the war in the speediest manner possible after the forts at Pretoria and Johannesburg have been raised, and then to promulgate, by order of the Queen, in council, a new constitution for a group of five federal states—Cape Colony, the Transvaal, Natal, the Orange Free State and Rhodesia—under the title of the Dominion of South Africa, the crown to nominate the governor general, and the five states each having power to elect its own lieutenant governor and to have a local legislature, with a dominion parliament, to meet at Cape Town. With some modifications the scheme is based upon lines similar to those of the Canadian government. Gen. White is obliged to concentrate on Ladysmith. It is believed that the government has other despatches that have not yet been published. The secretary of state for war left Mr. Chamberlain's residence immediately at the end of the banquet to General Harrison and proceeded to the war office, where, even after midnight, there was considerable activity, many visitors calling to inquire for information. A courteous note has reached Colonel Baden-Powell from General Cronje, the Boer commander, offering facilities for the interchange of wounded and prisoners. This indicates that when the Boers fired on the ambulance train which was attempting to pick up the dead, they did so by mistake. A native rumor says Col. Plimmer, at Tuli, has engaged and defeated a force of Boers. BABUTOS UNEASY. Blustering of the Boers Has Excited Them. LONDON, Oct. 24.—The colonial office this evening published a cable despatch from the British high commissioner in South Africa, Sir Alister Milner, communicating a significant despatch from Sir Godfrey Lagden, the British resident commissioner in Basutoland, calling attention to the recklessness of the Basutos, who, he says, has been trying to calm the Boer sentimentality in the district. "Our policy, however, has been made difficult by the blustering of the Boers, who have been trying to induce the Basutos to attack Masru and other stations. These threats, combined with intriguing, have contributed to arouse excitement among the natives. It is also on record that the Boers have unwisely attempted to shake the allegiance of the Basutos by offering them a large sum of money to join their ranks. The Boers, therefore, are responsible for any commotion and for the alarm regarding native invasions which now prevails."

OPINION OF A CORRESPONDENT

Who Was There—Gen. Yule Has Executed a Brilliant Move.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing at 9.45 p. m. yesterday, says: "Gen. Yule has performed a brilliant strategic movement. By a swift march to the south, leaving Glencoe empty, he has effected a junction of his forces with those of Gen. Buller, and has, slightly to the north of Ladysmith, the two are now in a position to offer battle. I believe the first attack will be made on the 17th inst. The Boer force which entered Natal by way of Tents Pass, and which has since been harassing Ladysmith. The military authorities deemed that by joining their forces, the two generals would be better able to cope with one large force at a time than by having two small detachments to oppose simultaneously two big Boer forces. "Accordingly after defeating the Free State troops they will offer battle to Commandant General Jonker. Only 40 miles now separate the two Boer forces. It is nearly an artillery duel, in which the Boers have the advantage. "The two sections of the Boer army together outnumber the entire British force in the district. The Boers are confident and there is much excitement. "The fighting today outside Ladysmith was a mere brush. The losses on neither side were significant. It was nearly an artillery duel, in which the Boers came off decidedly the worst."

BOERS DRIVEN BACK.

General White Believed the Pressure on Yule's Column.

LONDON, Oct. 25.—The following despatch from General Sir George Stewart White, to the Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, was received this evening at eleven, was posted at the war office soon after midnight:—"LADYSMITH, Oct. 24, 9 p. m.—Information received yesterday showed that the Boers had established themselves in considerable numbers in an exceedingly strong position west of the main road leading from Ladysmith to Dundee. I had the honor to receive from Gen. Buller, formerly commanded by Gen. Symons, and since his wounding, commanded by Gen. Buller, a report that the Boers were in the neighborhood of the Helmsbank road, and the valleys of the Westbank and the Eastbank. He had expected to reach Sunday River Valley today. "I therefore moved out with a strong force to cover the movement of Yule's column. The enemy was discovered about seven miles out of Ladysmith in a position of exceptional natural strength west of the road. When he saw that preparations were being made against him he opened fire with one gun with great accuracy. "Our artillery soon got into position and the gun was silenced. Our troops were ordered to occupy a strong ridge, parallel to the enemy's position, but nearer the road. "I confined my efforts to occupying him and lifting the pressure on Yule's column. Numbers of the enemy fled to the west and the firing had been practically ceased at 10 o'clock."

EFFECT OF THE FIGHT.

The Free State Troops Cannot Effect a Junction.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—General White has not "Fought his way out of Ladysmith" as published in New York, because he left Ladysmith Saturday morning and captured Elands-laagte which is 18 miles out, and he has since apparently moved towards Waschbank. He expected to be met by Gen. Buller, who was in the neighborhood of Waschbank tonight, so his flight with the Orange Free State troops today must have occurred nearly 25 miles from Ladysmith, and as it took place on the Ladysmith-Newcastle road, which runs some two miles west and almost parallel with the railroads, he evidently encountered the Free State force which had taken up a position in the Biggarsberg Hills and blocked the road between Ladysmith and Glencoe, also threatening General Yule's flank. The dispersal of the Orange Free State forces sensibly improves the British position at Waschbank if General White decides to wait there for General Jonker. THE OPINION OF A MAN Who Was Not at the Front and Does Not Know. LONDON, Oct. 24.—The war office despatch seems to realize the worst fear. General Yule has abandoned not only Dundee, but Glencoe also, and, so far as present news would indicate, he has neither joined General White nor reached Ladysmith. General White's successful action, announced in parliament by Mr. Wyndham, seems to resolve itself into a mere engaging of the attention of the Free State troops while General Yule is slipping southward to occupy strong positions, and nothing hinders the Boers from following up Gen. Yule's retirement and getting around Ladysmith from the southeast. Until reinforcements arrive it seems that

north of Belmont, which is 20 miles south of the Orange River. The defeat in Natal has taken all the fight out of them and they will not attack the British troops, though they may defend a few chosen positions. Indeed, it is believed here that the heaviest fighting of the war is over except for a battle near Pretoria."

WANT A VASTER EMPIRE.

President Steyn Annexes Cape Colony Territory to the Free State.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The colonial office has received a cablegram stating that President Steyn of the Orange Free State has issued a proclamation annexing that part of Cape Colony which is north of the Vaal river. This means Griqualand west and Bochnansland, and is apparently in consequence of the Free State forces having seized the railway and all stations north of Kimberley except Mafeking, unless Mafeking has fallen since the last news from there, which is a week old.

FEELING IN THE COLONY.

The British Wildly Delighted—The Dutch Saying Little.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 22.—The capture of Gen. Viljoen is a cause of great satisfaction to the Outlanders. He is the author of a blasphemous and violent pamphlet virtually intended to incite the Dutch of the colony to the rebellion, and it is sincerely hoped that he will be brought to trial and punished as he deserves. It is difficult to gauge exactly the amount of feeling excited among the Dutch by the recent British victories. Their behavior, on the whole, is excellent, considering the great amount of sympathy they feel for their kinsmen in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. The British receive the news of each success in Natal and of the grand stand at Mafeking with the wildest enthusiasm, but the Dutch are silent. Now and then a few who were more violent than the rest expressed their sorrow openly; but the general feeling is perhaps one of relief at the thought that the British success will not compel them to face the possibility of giving active support to the enemy. A report of the kind treatment accorded the Boers wounded meet with unlimited admiration, bringing into marked relief the magnanimity of Great Britain, magnanimity the Dutch admit had not expected to be displayed toward the Boers. A difficult problem is looming, owing to the increased race feeling aroused by the war; but indications are frequent and substantial that the minds of scrupulous Dutchmen are being dispersed by Great Britain's magnanimity and splendid tolerance, tending to make the Dutch in Cape Colony proud of their British citizenship.

THE HALIFAX MEN.

Canada's Militia May Mobilize to Signalize the Departure.

HALIFAX, Oct. 23.—The departure of Captain Stairs' company has been definitely fixed. They will leave Halifax on Thursday, interspersed officials have made arrangements to give them good accommodation. Colonel sleeping and dining cars will be provided. At St. John they will be joined by the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island companies and they will be sent forward by special train to Quebec. Although it has not been formally decided it is probable that the militia forces of Halifax will be mobilized to signalize the departure of the volunteers. It is expected that the 68th, the 63rd and the 1st C. A. regiments, with their bands, will form a guard of honor and an escort for volunteers as they proceed to the depot. It is also probable Gen. Lord Seymour may order some of the regular troops to participate in the formal demonstration. Among those who were sworn in this morning as soldiers of the Queen, was Ralph T. Keefer, L. L. B., a young barrister of Bridgewater, who is forsaking the technicalities of law for the rifle and bayonet. Keefer has many friends in Halifax, having graduated from Dalhousie in both arts and law. It is possible that he may remain in South Africa to practice his profession. He is six feet tall. LEYDS DISCREDIT'S DEFEAT. However Does Not Account For Important Prisoners. BRUSSELS, Oct. 23.—Dr. Leyds, the diplomatic representative of the Transvaal in Europe, is quoted in an interview as saying it is difficult to give an opinion of the battles fought at Glencoe and Elands-laagte, as the despatches all emanate from British sources. He is said to have added: "My own despatches have not arrived, probably owing to the censorship. In the meantime I do not consider the situation as bad for the Boers as made out by the British telegrams which are intended for the English public and market and are probably too much optimistic. The fact that the Boers retired in order to reform later does not imply defeat. That is part of their tactics and does not prove that they had suffered seriously."

PRISONERS MARCHED IN.

Durban, Natal, Oct. 22, 6.30 p. m.—(Delayed in transmission)—An official despatch from Ladysmith says that about 200 Boer prisoners have been marched into the town, including Gen. Viljoen, Gen. Jan Kock and Col. Schiel.

A Present from Ottawa.

OTTAWA, Oct. 24.—At a meeting of the city council tonight it decided to give two sovereigns each to the officers and men of the Ottawa part of the contingent

FROM THE QUEEN.

A Message From Her Gracious Majesty.

OTTAWA, Oct. 24.—The following cable was received tonight by the secretary of state:—"LONDON, Oct. 24, 1899. "Her Majesty the Queen desires to thank the people of her Dominion of South Africa for the loyalty and patriotism in their voluntary offer to send troops to co-operate with her Majesty's imperial forces in the defence of the Cape Colony and British subjects in South Africa. She wishes the troops God speed and a safe return. "(Signed) CHAMBERLAIN."

DUTCH AND NATIVES.

The Boers Trying to Secure the Basuto's Help.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 24.—The following advices have been received here from Maseru, Basutoland, dated Oct. 23:—"A reliable native lately visited a laager of Orange Free State troops, just opposite Maseru. He found it to consist of wagons, surrounded by turf piled three feet high. He noticed only a few Maserians. The Boer commandant questioned him regarding the feeling of the different Basuto chiefs, principally the paramount chief, Lerothodi, and, in order to draw the confidence of the natives he replied that the chief sided with the Boers. The Boer commandant said the two republics wished to kill the Britishers and to take over and govern the Basutos, restoring to the latter that part of the country which the Free State formerly took from them. As to the Britishers, those whom they failed to kill they would give into the hands of the Boer commandant, who would make a decision on the part of Lerothodi and the other chiefs as soon as possible, whether they would fight the Boers or the British—because his contingent was anxious to help the Boers elsewhere. He acknowledged that his men were afraid of the Basutos because their wives and families as well as their cattle, were within reach of Basuto incursions. The Boer commandant entered into an agreement with the chief, signing the same, to give a very substantial recompense to the tribesmen for assisting the Boers. Falling that if the Basuto would give a written undertaking not to assist either side, the commandant said he would withdraw from the Basutoland border and go to the assistance of their countrymen where the fighting was hottest. The Boers on the Basutoland frontier, according to the best information obtainable at Maseru, number about 2,500."

CRONJE FAILED AT MAFEKING.

Brave Despatch Riders—One More Battle Will Be All.

LONDON, Oct. 25.—The Daily Telegraph has the following from De Aar, Cape Colony, dated Monday evening:—"The Transvaal government is about issuing a proclamation declaring the district north of the Vaal river and including Bochnansland to the Boer territory. "Commandant Cronje, who has been twice repulsed at Mafeking, is said to be advancing on Kimberley, and to be impressing men and seizing stores and munitions in British territory. He left a small force investing Mafeking. The Free State Boers are moving westward in order to join him for an attack on Kimberley. "The despatch riders who are coming down to the Orange River from Kimberley are performing thrilling feats. They ride through the Boer lines under cover of darkness and get to the Orange River without taking any rest. The distance is 80 miles. "One rider who got into Kimberley last Friday was chased seventeen miles by Boers, narrowly escaping with his life. The news was returned safely with despatches to Orange River today. "He reports that the Boers are three miles from Kimberley, but are afraid to attack the place and are awaiting for the arrival of Commandant Cronje there. No Boers are to be seen

THE SITUATION.

Would Be Better if White Was Free to Advance.

LONDON, Oct. 25.—Although there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the despatch from Cape Town to the Daily Mail regarding General Yule's movement, it is curious that General White's telegram to the war office is also dated at 9 p. m., but makes no mention of a junction of forces. "When the war office despatch was issued, just after midnight, the officials announced that nothing more would be communicated until Wednesday forenoon, so that it is impossible to conform to the news. General Yule had a heavy fight Monday over the Stratford Slopes and the Zarlstein table, both over five thousand feet high and arrived after dark at Tuli, which is half way between Rorke's Drift and Waschbank. He had still a heavy march and was hardly expected to join General White at Ladysmith until today. His movements were actuated by sound judgment, since he soon would have been surrounded in a desperate position. The combined forces at Ladysmith now amounting to some 15,000 men, are insufficient to act on the defensive. A few more victories like Glencoe and Elands-laagte would leave the British troops without any necessity. "While the Boers have failed to take advantage of their strategic position, leading to the capture of Ladysmith, the British have no cause for congratulation over the results of the Natal operations. They have suffered heavy losses in men and in victuals, and have practically gone for nothing, the whole of Northern Natal being now abandoned to the Boers. "It would have been better to have concentrated on Ladysmith in the first instance; but General White and General Buller were not to yield to public agencies and to the local reluctance to abandon an inch of territory more than was necessary. "It is interesting to note that the wounded left at Dundee will suffer inconvenience, except in being prisoners of war. "The correspondents who were taken prisoners in the train at Elands-laagte have since escaped. They report that the Boers were not so much as they were expected to be, and that the Boers and British seem to have been mutually helpful. "At Cape Town it is proposed to raise a Cape irregular force."

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THIS BRITISH SUCCESS.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—News has at length been received direct from Col. Baden-Powell, dated Mafeking, October 15. It confirms the statement that in the armored train fight the British had two men killed and 15 wounded, including Lieut. Lord Charles Bentinck, of the 9th Lancers, slightly wounded. The Boer loss was estimated at 53 killed and many wounded. "A despatch from Kruman dated Oct. 19 via the Orange River, says a despatch rider had furnished details of the fight at Mafeking Oct. 14. They confirm the Mafeking Press accounts and show Col. Fitzmaurice's squadron was nearly outflanked by the Boers. The armored train was unable to assist them for fear of hitting the British soldiers. Colonel Baden-Powell signalled to Fitzmaurice to retire but the latter replied that he was hampered by his wounded, could not desert them and could not retreat without reinforcements. Lieut. Lord Charles Bentinck, of the 9th Lancers, were then ordered with a squadron, to charge Fitzmaurice and the retreat was effected in good order. "The efficacy of the armored train was thoroughly tested throughout the engagement. The crew did great execution. While the fighting was proceeding outside the townman stood by the defenses of the town. Splendid spirit is said to have been shown by everyone, even women shouldering the Lee-Met-