

uated in another bitter pill for the British public... The second serious defeat of General Buller may prove true.

A significant fact is that the war office does not say when Colenso was evacuated, so the statement which emanated on Thursday from Dr. Leyds, diplomatic representative of the Transvaal, who is located at Brussels, that the Boers occupied Colenso, may possibly be true.

SITUATION AT KIMBERLEY.

Boers Still in the Vicinity—Firing on Patrols—Supposed Destruction of Colesburg Bridge.

London, Nov. 4.—The Kimberley correspondent of the Daily Mail, in a dispatch filed on November 1st, and forwarded by the way of the Orange River, says: "The Boers are still in force in this vicinity."

"On Saturday evening our patrol was fired on in the neighborhood of Wessleton mine, the enemy expending a quantity of ammunition, ineffectually, however, owing to the long range.

"A Free State burgher with a pass from the enemy has brought 300 oxen into the town.

"The enemy is reported to have three siege guns in position at Oliphantfontein, four miles from Wessleton."

Colesburg, Nov. 1.—(Delayed in transmission.)—An explosion was heard this afternoon in the direction of Colesburg bridge, and it is supposed that the Boers have destroyed the bridge.

Movements of Boers.

Burgersdorp, Cape Colony, Nov. 2.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The Boers crossed the Bethelie bridge this morning. About 300 more of them are expected to cross this afternoon.

Fort Toli, Rhodesia, Oct. 29.—(Delayed in transmission.)—There have been a few skirmishes with the Boers, whose main body has retired southward.

Capetown, Nov. 1.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The Cape Times says the Boer loss at Reitfontein was 70 killed and 200 wounded. Three hundred horses were captured.

Colesburg, Cape Colony, Nov. 2.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The bridge is intact. The explosions heard yesterday were signals.

Long Range Guns. Ladysmith, Nov. 1 (afternoon), via the Cape.—Four naval long range guns have been mounted here.

FURTHER FIGHTING EXPECTED. Kock's Body Removed to Pretoria—Boers Are Seizing Zululand.

Capetown, Nov. 2.—According to an undated dispatch received here from Ladysmith, the body of General Kock, the Boer commander wounded at the battle of Glencoe and taken to Ladysmith, where he died recently, has been taken to Pretoria.

The dispatch added that the townspeople of Ladysmith, including women, witnessed the battle of Ladysmith.

It was also said the resumption of fighting was hourly expected. Boers are traversing Zululand, hoisting flags over the British magistracies.

Patrols Engaged. Capetown, Nov. 2.—A dispatch from Bulawayo, dated October 29th, announces that in the event of reinforcements being needed, volunteers would immediately be carried out.

A Port Toli dispatch, dated October 29th, says shots were exchanged between Col. Plummer's column and the Boers at Port Toli. The British had one man wounded. The enemy's loss is unknown.

A British patrol reconnoitering at Port Drift on October 27th captured five Boers. It was believed the bulk of the Boer army had retired from Fort Tuli, going south, and leaving an outpost.

Two gunners were lost in the bush and it is feared they have died of thirst. Natives are searching for them.

Another British patrol on October 28th captured a number of Boer horses, capturing five. Col. Plummer was still leading reconnoitering parties up and down the river, and there was little doubt the enemy retired.

Stockley's patrol exchanged shots with the enemy on the 24th. Captains White and Glynn, with 39 men, reconnoitered Koppie and Port Drifts. Capt. Glynn approached at one side and Capt. White on the other. The enemy's loss is unknown. The Boers' rifle fire wounded four British.

Natives say two Boers were killed in the skirmish on October 25th at Fort Tuli.

Edgerton Promoted. London, Nov. 4.—Gunnery Lieut. Egerton, of the British cruiser Powerful, who was wounded by the explosion of a shell at the bombardment of Ladysmith, has

been promoted to the rank of commandant for services in the field. His less than a month's absence has been a severe trial. The officer is a nephew of the Duke of Devonshire.

Special Service Officer. Toronto, Nov. 4.—The Globe's London cable says Canada's reported receipt of a second contingent is received with much favor there.

Quebec, Nov. 4.—Capt. Dobell, son of the Hon. R. R. Dobell, who is in the Imperial service at Hongkong, has been ordered to South Africa as a special service officer.

London, Nov. 4.—News from the isolated Neck of Natal is eagerly awaited, but days, perhaps weeks, may pass before any word is received. Whatever assistance to the Boers, or otherwise of criticisms passed on Gen. Buller, it is palpable that he no longer possesses the confidence of the public. He may be fully able to withstand attacks of superior forces, and may be ready at any moment to execute a masterly retreat, but as long as he is cut off from communication with the outside world there will exist a terrible anxiety regarding the welfare of seven or eight thousand men.

The most optimistic believe a fortnight is the minimum in which a force of any potentiality can be pushed to Ladysmith, and then it may be too late. It is this interim, embittered by vivid memory of recent disaster, which will try the temper of the British nation.

As a matter of fact, granting that Gen. Buller possesses the qualities of fair generalship, there are many reasons to believe he will be able to hold out till reinforced, even if completely surrounded.

It is presumed that he has employed the past weeks in strengthening his position with earthworks and trenches, which, when manned by such fighters as the Gordons and Irish regiments, cannot be taken without a struggle. His artillery has been reinforced by

the Naval Brigade, and if it is not a match for the Boers, should be able to keep them from coming into too close quarters. He has abundance of stores and apparently has been favored by good weather, and combining these advantages with the military truisms that the opportunity to seize your own position is half the battle, and even it is said that there seems Gen. Buller has fairly even chances of holding his own, in spite of the report that he is outnumbered by two or three to one.

The evacuation of Colenso testifies to the complete investment of Ladysmith by the Boers, which makes the relief of Gen. Buller an extremely difficult operation. Colenso is the point where the railway from Ladysmith crosses the Tugela river, which is now in flood. The town itself is of small importance. It is dominated by the hills on the side from the river and

is untenable if the Boers have advanced, as they seem to have done. Moreover, only a small naval and colonial force was stationed at Colenso. The seriousness of the evacuation, however, lies in the fact that Commandant-General Joubert, while completely investing Sir George Buller at Ladysmith can seize this Tugela bridge and cut off the communication between the British and the Boers, and in any case by destroying the bridge and railroad, can prevent any relief expedition going to Sir George Buller for some time.

Military experts optimistically predict that Gen. Joubert will withdraw from Natal immediately. Sir Redvers Buller's force enters the Orange Free State, but the latter cannot be far on his way for at least three or four weeks, and even then Gen. Joubert may not desire to intercept the British on the Free State open fields, which would suit the British admirably, but he may

wait until the last moment and then proceed by trains to Pretoria. Thus Gen. Joubert might remain in Natal several weeks longer endeavoring to force Sir George Buller into capitulating, the destruction of Tugela bridge helping him by cutting off British relief. Moreover, another Boer force is expected to have reached the Natal frontier. Thus it will be seen, the position in Natal, taking into consideration a possible uprising of the disaffected Dutch, is most disquieting, and, in fact, may be described as critical.

British reinforcements in any number cannot reach Durban before the end of next week.

Artillery Duel. London, Nov. 5.—At Ladysmith dispatch, dated November 2, morning, says: "During the night the Boers moved close to the British positions and mounted guns in fresh places. Meanwhile the naval guns have been moved to more favorable positions near the town, and commanding some of the Boer batteries. At 8 this morning Gen. Buller ordered the bombardment of the enemy and the bluejackets opened the battle. The Boers replied vigorously. They fired straight and some of the British were hit."

A terrible artillery duel has been proceeding for over three hours. So far the naval guns are the only ones that have engaged the enemy."

Another special dispatch, dated November 5, says: "The British guns are firing three shots to the Boers' one."

Prisoners at Pretoria. Capetown, Nov. 2.—(Delayed in transmission.)—A telegram from Pretoria, dated Tuesday, says Col. Moeller, who commanded the Hussars, captured by the Boers, declined on being interviewed, but gave the details of the misfortune, but praised the treatment he had received at the hands of the Boers. The British prisoners were playing football at the time their commander was interviewed. The officers are anxious to be exchanged.

BOER CAMP CAPTURED. Engagement at Bester's Hill—Burgers Routed with Heavy Loss.

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