

THE SURRENDER OF CRONJE

The Full Text of Field Marshal Lord Roberts's Message to the War Office.

CANADIANS' DASHING ADVANCE

Eight Men Killed and Thirty Wounded in a Fight This Morning—"A Gallant Deed Worthy of Colonial Comrades."

FOUR THOUSAND BOER PRISONERS.

German Officers Among the Captured—Cronje on the Way to Capetown—British Had Advanced Within Eighty Yards of Enemy's Trenches.

London, Feb. 27.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts: "Paardeberg, Feb. 27, 7:45 a.m.—Gen. Cronje and all his force capitulated unconditionally at daylight, and is now a prisoner in my camp. "The strength of his force will be communicated. "I hope Her Majesty's government will consider this event satisfactory, occurring as it does on the anniversary of Majuba."

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—His Excellency has just received the following message from the Secretary of State for the Colonies: "Her Majesty the Queen desires you to express to the people of the Dominion her admiration of the gallant conduct of her Canadian troops in the late engagement, and her sorrow at the loss of so many brave men. (Signed) "CHAMBERLAIN."

London, Feb. 27.—"Majuba avenged, Cronje surrenders, great British victory." These are expressions being shouted all over London to-day, yet there are few outward signs of the national joy that Lord Roberts's dispatch has really caused. The capitulation of Cronje had been looked upon as almost a certainty for a week past, and now that it has come, enthusiasm finds itself discounted by anticipation. The magnitude of the success of "Little Bobs" is almost overlooked in the satisfaction at the fact that it synchronized with the anniversary of Majuba Hill, and wiped out a score of 18 years' standing.

Press Comments. While the afternoon papers all comment upon this happy coincidence they do not forget the bravery of the enemy. The St. James Gazette says: "The splendid courage of the Boers has not been able to withstand any longer the bombardment which few modern soldiers could have supported for so many hours as they have days. The influence of the surrender not only upon the situation at Ladysmith, but on the whole conduct of the war will be immense. If the news of the relief of Ladysmith only reaches England to-day, and it is quite possible this may be the case, the cup of national happiness would be full."

The Globe, under the heading "Majuba Avenged," says: "We shall not jump at the conclusion that the war is over, but that a victory has been gained which brings the end well in sight. Cronje no doubt succeeded in delaying Roberts's entrance into Bloemfontein, but the delay is all he has been able to accomplish."

Further details of the dramatic surrender of Cronje at Paardeberg are eagerly awaited.

The Queen's Congratulations. Speculation is rife as to how soon Roberts will be able to press on to Bloemfontein, but before he shall enter the capital of the Free State it is expected here that he will have to overcome a powerful force and take strong entrenchments.

The news of Gen. Cronje's surrender was received with unbounded satisfaction at Windsor. The Queen immediately

telegraphed her congratulations to Lord Roberts and the troops.

Reception of the News. No one who did not know of Gen. Cronje's surrender would suspect, from the appearance of the town, that London was celebrating to-day the chief victory of the war. Not a flag was flying, and in front of the places where bulletins were displayed to the public, scarcely more than a dozen people would stop at a time to read the news.

Outside of the war office there was the same absence of crowds, due doubtless to the drizzling rain. In the war office lobbies, when a clerk posted the news of the surrender, quite a crowd was waiting and the tidings were hailed with considerable enthusiasm.

In an incredibly short space of time the news had spread to all parts of London. At the Mansion House the posted news was read by the crowds of business men hurrying to their offices, and cries of "Bravo Roberts and 'Majuba'" were heard.

Lord Mayor Interviewed. The Lord Mayor of London said to the correspondent of the Associated Press that while the surrender of Cronje had been a foregone conclusion, the news was received with a great sense of relief, and the result of the capitulation, he thought, would be the rapid conclusion of hostilities.

Rejoicing in the Provinces. There was a much more outward display of rejoicing in the provinces than in London. The Glasgow and Liverpool stock exchanges were greatly excited. The members sang "God Save the Queen" repeatedly, and cheered for "Little Bobs." Flags were liberally displayed in the municipal and public buildings in all the large towns.

At Windsor. Windsor was very jubilant at the news which the Queen disseminated after it reached her, and the inhabitants seized the occasion of Her Majesty driving through the town on her way to take the train for a visit to the wounded South African soldiers at Netley Hospital, to give vent to their delight. The Queen, who was looking remarkably well, showed evident signs of deep satisfaction, smiling continually and bowing in re-

sponse to the congratulatory greetings on all sides. Her Majesty took quantities of flowers to distribute to the wounded.

All the garrison towns and ports received the news with the liveliest satisfaction, soldiers and sailors vying with each other in display of delight.

LORD ROBERTS'S DISPATCH.

He Tells of the Surrender of Cronje and of the Advance of Canadian Contingent.

London, Feb. 27.—5:02 p.m.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Paardeberg, Tuesday morning, 11 o'clock.—From information furnished daily to be by the intelligence department it became apparent that Gen. Cronje's force was becoming more depressed and that the discontent of the troops and the discord among the leaders were rapidly increasing.

"This feeling was doubtless accentuated by disappointment caused among the Boer reinforcements which tried to re-join Gen. Cronje, and were defeated by our troops on February 23rd.

"I resolved, therefore, to bring pressure to bear upon the enemy. Each night the trenches were pushed forward towards the enemy's laager so as to gradually contract his position, and at the same time I bombarded it heavily with artillery, which was yesterday generally aided by the arrival of four six-pound howitzers, which I had ordered from De Aar.

In carrying out these measures, a captive balloon gave great assistance by keeping us posted of the dispositions and movements of the enemy.

"At 3 a.m. to-day a most dashing advance was made by the Canadian regiment and some Engineers, supported by the 1st Gordon Highlanders and Second Shropshire, resulting in our gaining a point some seven hundred yards nearer the enemy, and within about eighty yards of his trenches, where our men entrenched themselves and maintained their positions until morning. A gallant deed worthy of colonial comrades, and which I am glad to say, was attended by comparatively slight loss.

"This apparently clinched matters, for at daylight to-day, a letter signed by Gen. Cronje, in which he stated that he surrendered unconditionally, was brought to our outposts under a flag of truce.

"In reply I told Gen. Cronje he must present himself at my camp and that his force must come out of their laager, after laying down their arms.

"By 7 a.m. I received Gen. Cronje and dispatched a telegram to you announcing the fact.

"In the course of conversation he asked for kind treatment at our hands, and also that his wife, grandson, private secretary, adjutant and servants might accompany him wherever he might be sent. I reassured him and told him his request would be complied with. I informed him that a general officer would be sent with him to Capetown to ensure his being treated with proper respect en route. He will start this afternoon under charge of Major-General Prettyman, who will hand him over to the general commanding at Capetown.

"The prisoners, who number about three thousand, will be formed into a command under our own officers. They will also leave here to-day, reaching the Modder River to-morrow, when they will be rated to Capetown in detachments."

Read in Parliament.

The above dispatch was read in both the House of Lords and the House of Commons to-day. The reference to the Canadians evoked immense and prolonged cheering.

The enthusiasm exhibited in parliament over Lord Roberts's graphic details of the surrender of Gen. Cronje, spread quickly to the streets. Crowds of people again gathered about the war office and other public places, in spite of the rain that was falling at the time

and which had been falling since morning. Frequent cheering was heard for "Bob," who is the hero of the hour, and one old soldier became so excited in receiving the details of the victory that he fell down dead.

In the more frequented parts of the metropolis flags were few and far between, and in Pall Mall, where the war office is situated, there was no bunting flying, while only one flag flew over the Strand, and in the east end of London there were many small flags waving from the windows of squatted dwellings, and as the evening fell Londoners gave themselves up to unfeigned rejoicing.

GALLANTRY OF CANADIANS.

On all sides the gallantry of the Canadians was much commented upon. Cable dispatches poured in from the colonies and the settlements announcing that the rejoicing in these parts of the world over Lord Roberts's victory was no less enthusiastic than in Great Britain itself. Bombay and Gibraltar, for instance, reported masses of bunting, and that cheering crowds were filling their streets.

It is reported that Lady Roberts, the wife of Field Marshal Roberts, will soon start to join her husband.

MAJOR PELLETIER WOUNDED.

London, Feb. 27, 7:51 p.m.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Paardeberg, Feb. 27.—In a very successful attack made by the Royal Canadian contingent on one side of the enemy's trenches this morning, Major Pelletier was wounded, 8 men were killed and 29 wounded.

"General Macdonald is expected to return to duty in a few days."

THE PRISONERS.

London, Feb. 27.—The secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, announced in the House of Lords this afternoon that the prisoners captured with Gen. Cronje numbered about 3,000 men. Cronje will be sent to Capetown.

London, Feb. 27.—It is now announced that Roberts has notified the war office that the number of his prisoners approximates 4,000, of which about 1,500 are citizens of the Orange Free State. The remainder are citizens of the Transvaal.

OFFICERS AND GUNS CAPTURED.

London, Feb. 27.—6:25 p.m.—Twenty-nine Transvaal officers and ten Free State officers were captured. The guns captured from the Transvaal forces were three 75 centimetre Krupps, nine one pounders, and one Maxim gun. From the Free Staters the British captured one 75 centimetre Krupp, and one Maxim gun.

London, Feb. 27.—7:07 p.m.—The officers captured by Gen. Roberts, besides Gen. Piet Cronje, include the following well known commanders: Chief commandant M. J. Wolverens, a member of the Volksraad, field cornet Prus, a Scandinavian; Major Albrecht, the famous German artilleryman, and Major Deitze, the distinguished German officer responsible for most of the splendid engineering works of the Boers since the commencement of the war.

THE WOUNDED AT PAARDEBERG.

London, Feb. 27.—6:30 p.m.—The war office has issued a list of 721 non-commissioned officers and men wounded in the fighting at Paardeberg on Sunday, Feb. 18th, including 63 Canadians and 274 Highlanders.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES.

Eight Men Were Killed in an Engagement at Paardeberg This Morning—Thirty Wounded.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—A special dispatch received here says eight more Canadians were killed and 30 wounded in an engagement in South Africa.

London.—The following telegram has been received by Lord Minto from Lord Roberts:

"Paardeberg, Feb. 27.—In the very successful attack made by the Royal Canadian Regiment upon the enemy's trenches this morning the following casualties occurred: "Killed—Page, Withy, Ormand, Johnston, Scott, Withers, Riggs and Quinn. "There were 30 wounded."

Corp. Frederick W. Withers belonged to the 13th Regiment, Canadian Artillery. On reference to the roll, necessarily in-

accurate, some of the killed are identified as follows:

Pte. F. C. Page, G.G.B.G., Toronto; Corp. Withers, F. Co., Quebec; Pte. Scott, 13th Cumberland, N. S.; or 27th Lambton or Third Regiment C. A., or R.C.R.I.

Johnston, 27th Lambton (son of Dr. Johnston, M. P.), Johnson of 90th Winnipeg; Pte. Wm. Alfred Riggs, Charlottetown, P.E.I., Engr. Co.; Pte. W. J. Quinn, R.C.R.I.; Pte. Ormand, 93rd Cumberland. There is no such name as Withers on the list.

THE WOUNDED.

The names of the wounded are: Maj. Pelletier (slightly), Hughes, Harrison, Sutherland, Macdonald, Peplat, Proulx, Roy, Thibault, Sibbert, Bagot, Peland, Croft, Thomas, Living, McConnell, Bradshaw, Pelletier, Coombs, Durand, Lovitt, Simpson, Donoghue, Vickers, Holland and Wasdill.

CANADIANS' GALLANT CHARGE.

A Company With the Cornwallis They Stormed the Boer Trenches—Col. Alderworth's Death.

New York, Feb. 27.—The Herald this morning prints the following special cable: "London, Feb. 27.—A Daily Mail special says:

"Modder River, Sunday, Feb. 25.—At the battle of Paardeberg, otherwise called at Sluiterfontein, on Sunday, 18th, the principal features were the fighting and self sacrifice of the Highland Brigade, and the impetuous charge on the Boer trenches by the Cornwallis, Canadians and Gordons. These troops, with two brigades of the 9th division, bore the brunt of the fight, and suffered the heaviest share of losses.

"The battle commenced at dawn, when the mounted infantry, which formed a screen for the advance of the 9th division on the left bank of the river, came in touch with the enemy occupying positions of advantage and engaged them. The 5th Dragoon Regiment crossed the river at Paardeberg Drift with part of the 9th brigade, the other portion continuing the attack on the other bank. "Fighting their way along the right bank, the Cornwallis and Canadians came within reach of a Boer laager. Charging the trenches together, they captured the first road, but had to retire. Here Col. Alderworth fell with a bullet in his head, as he was leading his regiment. But at the close of the day, though the British losses were severe, success was achieved, for the Boers were cleared from all positions where they could hamper the British movements, and forced into positions upon which British guns could be brought to bear."

CABLE FROM SIR A. MILNER.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—Sir Alfred Milner cables today to His Excellency the Governor-General as follows: "Cape Town, Feb. 27.—Cronje surrendered at daylight. Congratulate you on the noble share taken by the troops from your colony. (Signed) Milner."

SUPPLIES FOR LADYSMITH.

Dragon Says Transport Reached Town During Spion Kop Fight.

London, Feb. 27.—A letter has been received from a man in the 1st Dragoons, now in Africa, confirming the report that a supply transport reached Ladysmith during the engagement at Spion Kop. He says the Dragons were the escort of the transport which was several miles long, and adds: "That is why Bulter engaged the enemy at Spion Kop. Old Bulter knows what he is doing, and that all are willing to follow him in spite of his reverses."

London, Feb. 27.—A bulletin to the war office from Lord Roberts says: "Cronje and all his force capitulated at daybreak this morning. I hope Her Majesty's government considers this satisfactory, occurring as it does on the anniversary of Majuba Hill."

Cronje sent an officer through the British lines at dawn with a flag of truce. The officer said he had a message for the British general in command.

He was taken to Kitchener, to whom he said Cronje was willing to surrender, he having found his position untenable, and only defeat or capture the prospect if he continued to fight. He wished to avoid useless shedding of blood and to save his women and children. He requested that they be given a safe conduct.

Kitchener granted the request so far as the women and children were concerned, but

insisted that the surrender in all other respects be absolutely unconditional. To this Cronje agreed.

The Boer commander at once left his laager, escorted by half a dozen officers, and entered the British lines.

He was met by Kitchener, who immediately brought him to the headquarters of Gen. Roberts. The greetings between the rival generals were kindly and extremely sympathetic on the part of Roberts, who expressed great admiration for his captive, and brave and dignified on the part of Cronje.

The condition of affairs in the camp of the Boers is something frightful. They had run entirely out of food except trek cattle, and these were eaten rapidly as they were killed by the British shells. Their ammunition had given out, and most of their artillery was badly damaged by the British fire. Most of their wagons had been burned.

THE LAGER WAS

strewn with corpses of the dead, lying in the broad light un-

buried and festering. The wounded in awful plight, the hospital corps insufficient to attend them, and they lay about the laager in heaps, some agonizing, others shivering in their pain, many silently ending their agonies.

The British troops immediately taking possession of the laager were ordered by Roberts to devote all their attention to succoring the wounded and burying the dead, as well as caring for the women and children, who, shocked and in expectation of some awful punishment, could hardly be induced to accept kindness or aid from their conquerors.

The British commissariat was taxed to its utmost to give

IMMEDIATE RELIEF

to the sufferers, but everything possible is being done to alleviate the condition of the captives.

It is believed that the surrendered force will number between 7,000 and 8,000 combatants.

Besides these there are over 2,000 men, children and Kaffir laborers, and numbers of the Red Cross relief corps.

THE ADVANCE TO LADYSMITH.

Buller Has Reached the Last of the Boer Positions.

London, Feb. 27.—On Saturday Gen. Buller faced the last positions of the Boers who bar his way to Ladysmith. The strenuous fighting indicates a struggle between armies rather than a mere guard action protecting a retreat. On Thursday and Friday he lost 45 officers killed and wounded, representing probably 400 to 500.

Gen. White's guns worked Saturday on Boer position and a helicopter from Ladysmith reported that the Boers were retreating and that larger rations were being issued in view of the fact that relief seemed at hand.

The following dispatch from Pietermaritzburg dated Friday, February 23rd, appears in the Times:

"The Dublin Fusiliers again distinguished themselves by volunteering to take Grobeier's Kloof, which they did. This gallant battalion, which began the campaign eight hundred and fifty, can now muster on parade only between 100 and 200 of its original numbers."

In a dispatch to the Morning Post from Free Camp dated Sunday, Mr. Churchill says: "The idea that the Boers are raising the siege of Ladysmith is premature. The advance is being pursued in the face of the most stubborn opposition and of heavy loss."

Mr. Churchill describes heavy fighting last Friday, in which the Transvaals approached within 500 yards of the summit of the rocky Boer position and gallantly charged the foe in the face of a hail of bullets. He says: "After repeated attempts, however, and having lost heavily, they recognized that they were unable to prevail. Nevertheless they refused to retreat, but lay down on the slope behind the shelter of a wall. The Connaughts and the Dublin Fusiliers were sent to their support, but the night failed and night closed in before the main attack developed."

THE SEIZURE OF THE SABINE.

London, Feb. 26.—Investigation shows that the London Standard's editorial referring to Captain Mahan's speech at Saturday last, on Sea Power and the Fall of Ladysmith, was based on a news agency report, which proves to have been quite inaccurate. It was announced, under New York date, that Washington dispatches said Lord Salisbury told Mr. Choate that he regretted the seizure of the Sabine and that the British commanders had been instructed to be careful in stopping American vessels, adding that Lord Salisbury had handed Mr. Choate formal papers on the subject.

All these assertions were vigorously denied to-day at the foreign office and at the United States embassy, and a representative of the Associated Press learned that the facts in the case were as follows: Late on Saturday Mr. Choate called on the foreign office, and Lord Salisbury informed him the government had that day received confirmation of the dispatch announcing the Sabine's release. In view of that, Lord Salisbury said it was not necessary to go further into the discussion, but instead of expressing regret, the Premier rather assumed the attitude that he failed to see how American interests had been seriously affected.

CELEBRATIONS IN CANADA.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—There was intense enthusiasm to-day all over the city when the news was received that Cronje had surrendered. Flags floated from every vantage point in the city, and everybody was rejoicing.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—The news of Gen. Cronje's surrender caused much joy throughout Eastern Canada, many flags being displayed in honor of the success of the British.

YACHT AROUND.

Life Savers Who Went to Rescue of Passengers Have Not Returned.

Fire Island, Feb. 27.—The sloop yacht Rambler, with a party of several persons on board, has been aground on Little Fire Island, in Great South Bay, since Saturday night, and there must have been bitter suffering from the intense cold. The sloop's life saving crew went to the rescue on Sunday, but has been prevented from returning by the heavy gale on Sunday, and the freezing over of the bay. There is a small hut on Little Fire Island, and it is thought possible that the party abandoned the sloop yesterday and found refuge in it with the life savers.

"Difficulties give way to diligence" and disease germs and blood humors disappear when Hood's Sarsaparilla is faithfully taken.

provision stores the town in gangs. This has already Jeppetown, and Fordsburg end of

who is appointed town, has issued no natives are to newspapers in the to the establishing factory, he ing of all master ors, cutters, trim- her hands in the

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TIMMER KELLY.