

The Daily Telegraph

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ABUSING THE CENSOR.

London Papers Complain of Slowness and Say their Specials Are Appropriated.

LONDON, Nov. 11 (4.30 s. m.)—Complete silence has again fallen upon the South African front...

There are signs of greatly increased Boer activity in Natal and along the western frontier...

It is said that Gen. Buller never expected to commence the campaign before Christmas...

It is believed that the Boer retreat will be made over the Drakensberg range into the Zoutpansburg district...

The Morning Post says: "What will come of this muddling, if we ever come to the end of it?"

How the Offer Was Declined. OTTAWA, Ont., Nov. 10—The following is a copy of Mr. Chamberlain's despatch...

The Truth of a Boer Story. LONDON, Nov. 10—The war office has also issued the following: "A report having appeared in the South African papers..."

Troops Reviewed Before Sailing. LONDON, Nov. 10—The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Wolsey reviewed three squadrons of the Household Cavalry...

Message from General White. LONDON, Nov. 10—The British war office has received from Gen. Buller the following despatch: CAPE TOWN, Thursday evening, Nov. 9—Have received by pigeon from Gen. Buller...

Kimberley Vigorously Attacked. CAPE TOWN, Wednesday, Nov. 8 (night)—Despatches from Kimberley show that the town was vigorously attacked...

From the Extreme North. LONDON, Nov. 10—The war office this evening issued the following: "From Buller, Cape Town, 12.40 p. m. by message from Bulawayo dated Nov. 8—A small convoy and escort under Speckler's command was attacked by Boers Nov. 2. Six men missing and lost convey."

Another Transport. CAPE TOWN, Nov. 19—The British transport Moor, having on board the staff of three divisions of the British army corps, is on its way to South Africa, arrived here at 9.30 o'clock this morning.

A German Joins the Boers. BERLIN, Nov. 10—It is asserted that Major Von Reichenstein, winner of the long distance military ride from Berlin to Vienna, has gone to the Transvaal to join the Boers.

Another Troopship Sails. LONDON, Nov. 10—The troopship Bavarian sailed from Queenstown this evening for the Cape, carrying the Connaught Battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers...

Mobilization Orders Issued. LONDON, Nov. 10—Orders for the mobilization of the necessary reserves for the supplementary division announced yesterday by Lord Wolsey, were issued this evening.

Nothing at Making. CAPE TOWN, Nov. 8—News received from Mafeking, dated, says, that, Monday, the Boers shelled the town. One Boer gun, it is added, was knocked out of action and the Boers retired, were reloaded, and were again shelled...

British Treatment of Prisoners. DURBAN, Natal, Nov. 8—Wednesday—The warship has landed a naval brigade with 20 guns, for the defense of the town, amid the greatest enthusiasm.

British Wounded to Cape. DURBAN, Natal, Nov. 8—Captain Perry Scott of the first class protected cruiser Terrible has been appointed commander here in the place of Major Bethune, who will assume active command of the mounted Outland corps.

Lieut. Wood of Halifax Dead. LONDON, Nov. 11—The war office has received the following despatch from Gen. Buller, under date of Cape Town, Nov. 11, afternoon: "With reference to my telegram of the 10th, Col. Gough, with two squadrons of the 10th Hussars, a battery of field artillery and one and one half companies of mounted infantry, found about 700 of the enemy with one gun in position, about 9 miles west of Belmont. He engaged the enemy with his artillery and sent the mounted infantry to the enemy's left flank to discover their weaker."

Col. Gough engaged the enemy for about three hours and then returned to camp. "The death of Lieut. Wood has just been reported."

LONDON, Nov. 11—A despatch from Cape Town dated Wednesday, November 8, indicates that the American minister, Amelie Hensner, is among the beleaguered people at Kimberley. The despatch adds that Mr. Rhodes is sitting here for a minister.

LONDON, Nov. 15—The war office this morning issued the following official despatch from Cape Town, dated Sunday, Nov. 12 noon: "Col. Gough, at Orange River, reports that during the reconnaissance of 15 miles, to a point nine miles west of Belmont on November 10, the officers of the patrol first came on a Boer position taken upon a great semi-circular ridge, standing out into a plain."

The Boers retired firing. Col. Turner reinforced Major Peckham and at 12.45 the enemy opened fire with one piece of artillery at nearly 4,000 yards range. Two guns of the diamond field artillery were then in support of Col. Turner, but the enemy's guns had ceased firing after the fifth round.

Col. Kekewich, (British commander at Kimberley), reports that the enemy was very active on November 4, principally with the object of driving off cattle. The Orange Free State troops re-acted rapidly before Col. Turner, with- out firing. At 12.30 p. m. the Transvaal corps advanced on Kenilworth. Major Peckham with a squadron of Kimberley Light Horse, was hiding in the bush, and gave the enemy a warm reception. The Boers retired firing. Col. Turner reinforced Major Peckham and at 12.45 the enemy opened fire with one piece of artillery at nearly 4,000 yards range. Two guns of the diamond field artillery

of the plateau out of the infantry fire. The enemy began by firing at our cavalry from a gun at the north end. As the cavalry, in open order began to circle around them, the hills seemed full of sharpshooters. The mounted infantry endeavored to outflank the enemy's left in order to discover the larger, coming under a heavy and unexpected fire from a few sharpshooters.

Our further casualties there were Private Labbe of the Cape police, who was shot through the head and who died on arrival at the hospital, and Sergeant Waterbury, of the Kimberley division of the Cape police, who was wounded, but is doing well.

Col. Kekewich is unable to estimate the enemy's losses, but believes they must have been severe, judging from the precipitate retreat of the Boers. At 6.10 p. m. the enemy opened fire with one piece of artillery from Kamper's Dam on Onoskopje, the latter being held by the Cape police. The enemy indicated no damage.

Despatches from Estcourt say it has been ascertained that the British have captured the Boer gun which was used in the naval gun, showing that there is no foundation for the fear that the Lyddite ammunition at Ladysmith had been exploded. It is also reported from the same quarters that some five have been seen in Ladysmith, indicating that the Lyddite ammunition had been to some extent effective.

A special despatch from Cape Town confirms the earlier report that it was Gen. Buller who ordered the British evacuation of Stormberg and Naasburg. As he considered the frontier line to be insecure, he ordered the evacuation, however, that Naasburg will be occupied again as soon as the advance from Queenstown is ordered.

Strong bids are being made by the Boers for the release of the Dutch, but without much success, although it is believed that the Dutch farmers, especially in the Pekaarburg district, armed and equipped, are ready to respond to any call for arms.

The wounded are recovering in a remarkable manner. The Boer losses are small and heal quickly. Many of the wounded apply for permission to return to the front.

CAPE TOWN, Nov. 8—A despatch from Pretoria dated yesterday, says that the foreign consuls hold weekly meetings at the residence of the Italian diplomat to discuss matters of international interest.

According to the same correspondent the Boer Deep and Fort Beaufort, with their black labor is plentiful and the mint is busy coining gold.

ORANGE RIVER, Cape Colony, Nov. 9—A consultation of the 9th Lancers, with a company of mounted infantry, reconnoitred today in a southerly direction, the break in the railway line, about half a mile from the station. The excursion had the effect of quieting the inhabitants of the district.

BOERS HOLD COLONEN. ESTOURT, Natal, Thursday evening, Nov. 9—An armored train company of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers started at half past one this afternoon and reached the break in the railway line, about half a mile from Colenso, without incident. Capt. Henley, with several men, reconnoitred and met a native who said the Boers were occupying the town. While the conversation was in progress the Boers opened fire from Fort Wylie, but did no injury. Captain Henley thereupon retired upon the train after the Fusiliers volleyed on the low line, and the Boers retreated. The armored train returned here safely at 6 o'clock.

Captain Henley learned from the native that the Boers were numerous on the Ladysmith side of Colenso. During the afternoon there was a cessation of the bombardment of Ladysmith. A helicopter was working from Fort Wylie.

LONDON, Nov. 13—The simultaneous attacks on Ladysmith, Mafeking and Kimberley, which were opened Thursday, manifested recognition by the Boers of the fact that every day lessens their chances of a successful onslaught on any of the three British strongholds. General Buller's chances of reaching Pietermaritzburg can be said to have vanished. This is already reported to be admitted by Colonel Schell, the German officer commanding the Boer artillery, who is supposed to have been largely the author of the Boer plan of campaign, and who, in an interview, alleged to have said: "The Boer intention was to have captured Pietermaritzburg and then to dictate terms. But the hope of accomplishing this was abandoned, although there is no doubt that from the British point of view, the general situation in Natal is rapidly improving."

Nearly eight thousand troops reached South Africa during the last 48 hours, and by the end of the week from six to seven thousand men will be added to the British strength in Natal. There will probably be British force there up to 10,000 men, and making a general attack on Ladysmith by General Buller very hazardous. It is expected General Methuen will be able to occupy Colenso and stretch out a helping hand to Gen. White by Monday next.

If all the troops belonging to General Methuen's division will not have arrived by then, the advance from Estcourt may be delayed, but if it is deemed essential to open communication with the beleaguered town at the earliest possible moment, Gen. Methuen it is believed may decide to replace the regular cavalry and artillery by the Natal and Outlander mounted forces and the naval guns, in which case, it is claimed, it ought to be possible to re-occupy Colenso and stretch out a hand to General White by Monday, though it is added, the course to be followed by General Methuen must necessarily be dictated entirely by official knowledge of General White's position and resources and the reports from General Methuen will be able to wait the concentration of the whole division before advancing and thus have a better chance of dealing a telling blow at General Buller's main army which, as asserted, will be caught between two British forces and compelled either to fight a general action or retire to their stronghold. The Drakensberg Kaffirgam by way of Durban, reporting a severe defeat of the Boers at Ladysmith, Thursday, may turn to be correct. Set in view of previous experience it must be received with caution. It appears, however, certain that heavy fighting occurred, and that the Lyddite of the naval guns must have had a dire effect on the burghers, if it reached them. A belated despatch from Ladysmith, dated Nov. 6, by way of Estcourt, under date of Nov. 9, confirms the idea that the temporary cessation of the Boer bombardment was due to Gen. Buller's awaiting the arrival of other positions guns before tackling the work in earnest. It also says: "Everyone is cheerful and confident. We can show a rigid front for weeks to come. Hitherto the bombardment has done little damage. Yesterday the Boers sent in eight wounded men. We have been by train to the Boers' advanced post. The Boers consider their bombardment to be the justness of their cause. They have been guilty of abusing the Red Cross flag. News from the south is scanty. A number of guns are in position all around us. It was difficult at first to locate them, as they are smokeless explosives, but a balloon ascended to discover all the positions. They succeeded in traversing the Boer lines."

LONDON, Nov. 13—The colonial office today gave out the following extract of the telegram received from Gen. Buller: "Lieut. Leithbridge, of the Rifle brigade, who was dangerously wounded Nov. 7 at Ladysmith, Lieut. Nesbitt, of the Gloucester regiment, and the prisoners at Pretoria, are reported by a refugee to be doing well."

Betrayed by a Subordinate. LOUENZO MARQUEZ, Delago Bay, Nov. 9—Father Matthews, who has arrived here from Pretoria, says with reference to the surrender of the Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucestershire troops at Nicholson's Nek that, after the bullets stopped the force got hard pressed by the enemy. They would have held out, however, but some subordinate, without instructions, hoisted a flag of truce, on his own responsibility. Nothing then remained but to surrender. We were sent out, says Father Matthews, to occupy a position with the object of preventing two Boer forces from joining. We started at half-past eight Sunday evening, marched 10 miles and got to the hill about one o'clock Monday morning. The first mishap was that the Mountain battery stamped and scattered the whole lot of mules. We formed up again and gained the top of the hill. The guns were gone but not all the ammunition. It was pitch dark. We had one hour's sleep. The firing began just after daybreak, being somewhat slack for a time. But finally the Boers crept round and the firing became furious. Our men made a breastwork of stones. Soon after 12 o'clock noon there was a general cry of "Cease fire," but our fellows would not stop firing. Major Adye came up and confirmed the order and then the bugle sounded cease fire. In our locality there was a rumor that a white flag was raised by a young officer who thought his batch of ten men were the sole survivors, but we were 500 alive, having started with perhaps 1,000. I think many of the battery men escaped. Our officers and men were furious at the surrender. The Boers did not seem to be in great numbers on the spot, but I heard their main body had collapsed. Our men had to give up their arms and the officers were sent to Commandant Steenkamp. The officers then ordered them to fall in. The officers were taken away from the men and sent to General Buller the same day, traveling in mule wagons and sleeping that night in some store on the way. The next morning they took a train at Wanchob for Pretoria. They are very well treated and so I have heard are the men. There has been no unpleasantness at Pretoria. The officers are in a school building and are allowed to walk as they please in the grounds. The surrender in my judgment was a great blunder, caused by a misapprehension. Major Adye was much put out. The white flag was not hoisted by the Irish Fusiliers.