

BACK TO FREER.

Scarcity of Water Compels Part of Buller's Force to Return to Former Camp.

General Buller Had a Close Call, a Bullet Hitting Him in the Side.

Describing the Loss of the Guns at the Tugela, a Correspondent Says they Were Served Until the Ammunition was Exhausted—The Second Contingent.

"TO ARMS!"

(Special Despatch to the Sun.)
LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Telegraph publishes a poem by Alfred Austin, poet laureate, "To Arms." The following are two of the stanzas:
"From English hamlet, Irish hall, Welsh fourth and Scottish laird,
They throng to show that they are still sons worthy of their sires,
That those old days we still can do, that those whose fathers fought at Waterloo and died at Trafalgar,
Shoulder to shoulder see them stand wherever men are.
To guard the lordship of the land and treasury of the sea,
Nor in the parent tale alone, springing legends from the ground,
Canadian shore and Austral zone with kindred folk renowned,
From skirmishing plain and snow-dusted stream
Across the deep we come, seeing the British bayonet gleam, hearing the British drum.
Foot in stirrup, hit in hand, freedom to keep men free,
All, all will help to hold the land while England guards the sea."

GENERAL REVIEW.

Sortie from Ladysmith on Monday Last—How Buller's Guns Were Lost.

(Special Despatch to the Sun.)
LONDON, Dec. 25.—The casualties mentioned in the war office despatch from Pietermaritzburg as having occurred in an engagement on Dec. 18, which is the first report of any fight on that date, were all among regiments that are known to be with General Buller, indicating either that another sortie was made by the Ladysmith garrison or that the Boers have succeeded in making their bombardment of the town much more effective than when last accounts were received. This is the only hint of any action in the whole theatre of the war for a week past.

HOW THE GUNS WERE LOST.

The Standard's Chieveley correspondent in a despatch dated Dec. 15 gives the most definite news yet received of Gen. Buller's lost guns. After describing how the batteries reached their too advanced position and remained there an hour and a half under a hail of shell and bullets until their ammunition was gone, and that the casualties represented efficient serving of the guns, the correspondent says: "Then as there were no signs of the much needed ammunition columns, the column doubled back to a donga in the rear. The men remained there for hours protected from the enemy's fire but exposed to the burning sun. Col. Bullcock with two companies of the Devonshire and a few Scouts flustered managed to reach the donga in support, but it was impossible to do anything in face of the terrible concentrated fire that was brought to bear on them."

BOERS CROSSED THE RIVER.

The correspondent then relates how Schofield and Roberts' recovery of part of the guns, and continues: "At daylight hour in the afternoon, while the men were lying without hope of success in the blazing sun, a strong party of Boers crossed the river. Firing was stopped and they surrounded the dongas which had been taken to the dongas for shelter and captured all of them. Col. Bullcock at first refused to surrender, but was told on first sign of resistance he and his men would be shot down. Nevertheless most of the rank and file managed to escape in the confusion. A majority of the artillery men were either killed, wounded or taken prisoners."

ENEMY'S POSITION STRONG.

Nothing new has been received from Modder River, but accounts of the fight at Magersfontein continue to reveal the amazing strength of the enemy's position, which it is now generally admitted is absolutely unassailable by direct assault. There, as at Tugela River, British bravery was completely thrown away as would be arrows against a cannon port. The trenches at Magersfontein are likened to underground dwellings.

BULLER'S NARROW ESCAPE.

(Special Despatch to the Sun.)
CHIEVELEY, Natal, Dec. 17, 4:30 p. m.—General Buller had a very narrow escape Friday, a spent bullet from a shrapnel shell cut the skin on his side. The body of Major Chichester has been found. A Mauser bullet was discovered in his havresack, it having passed through a note book during the battle.

BACK TO FREER

CHIEVELEY, Natal, Dec. 17 (delayed in transmission).—Owing to a scarcity of water part of the troops have returned to Freer.

THE SECOND CONTINGENT.

List of Officers not yet Completed—Col. McLean's Suggestion.

OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—The list of officers of the second contingent has not yet been completed, and the minister will not make any announcement. The transport Montebello arrived at New Orleans today and left immediately for Halifax.

The governor general received a despatch from the war office offering commissions in the British army to graduates of the Royal Military College, not already engaged in the imperial service, and recommended by Hon. Dr. Borden. Out of 363 graduates 129 are now in the army.

THE ARMS TO BE CARRIED.

The following will be the arms carried by the men of the regiment of mounted rifles: 1 Lee-Enfield 303 rifle, 1 sword bayonet, 1 44 Colt revolver. Provisional field service manuals will be published in a few days, which will lay down exactly the equipment required, and how carried, for the regiment of mounted rifles, and the brigade division of field artillery. The arms and equipment now in possession of the men of the militia and of the Northwest mounted police, and not included in the schedules of equipment required, will be left with their respective corps, except in the case of Mexican saddlery for the Northwest mounted police.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE SQUADRON AND A HALF OF THE RIFLES FROM THE NORTHWEST WILL CONSIST OF A MAJORITY OF MOUNTED POLICE, BUT THE AUTHORITIES FORESEE DIFFICULTIES, AS NEARLY ALL THE UNMARRIED CONSTABLES ARE IN THE YUKON, AND THERE IS LITTLE INDUCEMENT FOR MARRIED MEN WITH FAMILIES TO VOLUNTEER, ESPECIALLY WHEN WIVES AND CHILDREN DRAW ONLY A BEGGARLY Pittance, SIXTEEN CENTS A DAY FOR WIFE AND FOUR CENTS A DAY FOR EACH OF THE CHILDREN. THIS DOES NOT GO FAR IN THE NORTHWEST.

COL. McLEAN'S SUGGESTION.

Lieut. Col. McLean of St. John has made a suggestion to the minister that after the departure of the second contingent arrangements be made to mobilize a further force of say five thousand volunteers at Halifax, so that in the event of the home government requiring additional troops from Canada they could be sent with the utmost despatch.

A SMALL QUANTITY OF RED AND WHITE RIBBON FOR GENERAL SERVICE MEDALS WAS RECEIVED TODAY, AND SIX OFFICERS ON THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF ENTITLED TO THE MEDALS WERE THE FORTUNATE RECIPIENTS. Hon. George A. Kirkpatrick, late lieutenant governor of Ontario, received his medal just before he died. The medal to the second recipient is inscribed "Private L. H. Pinausk, Rimouski," the present deputy minister of militia.

A PROPER SPIRIT.

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—A special meeting of the board of trade today passed, with enthusiasm, a resolution favoring the despatch of a second contingent, and adding: "It is incumbent upon the dominion government to strengthen the hands of the imperial government and the bonds which hold the empire together by providing the necessary money for mobilization and equipment in Canada of a still larger force of volunteers to be employed in the performance of such duties as may be found most useful during the present crisis, thereby giving expression to Canada's resolution to do her share in maintaining the national position; also, that a special session of parliament be called to give the people an opportunity to endorse the action already taken and to authorize the government to provide for every possible contingency." B. E. Walker, general manager of the Bank of Commerce, speaking to the resolution, said if necessary parliament should be asked to vote ten or fifteen millions towards the defence of the empire and the preparing of further Canadian contingents.

WHAT THE LONDON PRESS SAYS.

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—The Telegram's special cable from London says: The

Times says: Lord Roberts' admirable message sent to the people of America and the Dominion of Canada, has given adequate and welcome expression to the sentiments of the British nation. The morning Post and Daily News remark that the delight felt in Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg and other Canadian cities when the order for the mobilization of another contingent was received, will strike a responsive chord in every heart in the mother country.

MAY CALL PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—The cabinet last for four hours this afternoon when, it is said, the question of calling parliament together was discussed but no conclusion reached as to the date. Hon. Mr. Tarte, it is reported, is insisting that parliament must meet before the second contingent leaves. If he gets his way, therefore the houses will be summoned much earlier than was anticipated, possibly January 4th of next year. Telegraphic notices would have to be sent to the western members to enable them to get here in time.

NO RECRUITING ORDERS.

MONTREAL, Dec. 22.—No orders have yet been received here for recruiting the second contingent. Any applications have not been received, including several members of the field battery, all the officers having volunteered.

OPPOSES SECOND CONTINGENT.

D. Monet, liberal M. P. for La Prairie and Napierville, has a letter in La Prairie today saying that when the contingent question comes up in the house he will vote against the sending of troops. Since Monet's letter was received it is said the ministers have been in consultation by wire discussing the possibility of other liberal members following suit. The fact is that there is a serious look and may precipitate the general elections.

Mr. Monet argues in his letter that it is not now as in the case of the first contingent, a question of politics towards England, but Canada has taken sides in a war which Hon. Edward Blake has declared to be unjust and oppressive. There is no longer any question of ordinary military parade, but Canadians are asked for their contribution of blood in one of the most murderous wars of the century. Canada has nothing to do with this war, and not having been represented in the cabinet, he would not be asked to support it.

Mr. Monet offers to resign if twenty-five of his constituents will sign a resolution opposing his position and demanding his resignation.

N. B. WAR NOTES.

When the dominion government first decided to send a contingent to South Africa the officers of the 8th Hussars, C. A. volunteers, and it is said many officers and men as the government might allot to the corps. One captain and twenty-three men sailed with the contingent. This offer has been accepted by the majority of the regiment that they may again be permitted to aid in the defenses of the empire.

The Sun has received the following communication from a patriotic citizen Thursday: "If there is any chance to get in a company leaving St. John for South Africa let me know at once. I am ready and willing to go. Signatures and names of the many officers and men as the government might allot to the corps. One captain and twenty-three men sailed with the contingent. This offer has been accepted by the majority of the regiment that they may again be permitted to aid in the defenses of the empire."

Col. H. M. Campbell of the 8th Hussars has received from Col. Vidal, O. C., a letter acknowledging receipt of his offer of a squadron of cavalry from the reserves, and it is said that the offer has been forwarded to General Hutton.

Corporal Ryan of the 8th Hussars was in the city yesterday. He is so very anxious to go to South Africa that he will sell his property, reserving his horse, which he will take with him.

David J. Stockford of Fredricton has not yet received any reply from the militia department to his request for a place on the second contingent, but he and his friends, in view of his experience in the Northwest mounted police force and his special skill in the handling of horses, are taking it for granted that he will be given a chance.

The only other York county man who it is thought will be accepted is Lieut. John Sutton of St. Mary's, who was formerly a member of the Brighton Engineers, and has had a course at the Royal Military College at Kingston as well as a special course in equitation and a course at the infantry school, Fredericton.

Major Malby, commanding officer of the Newcastle field battery, has not been officially notified to the effect that a recruiting station is to be established there, but he is receiving scores of telegrams from men desirous of enlisting. A large number of Newcastle men are anxious to go.

THE LOSSES OF THE BOERS.

To the Editor of the Sun:
Sir—A few days ago you were kind enough to print some remarks that I made about the British losses in South Africa. This encourages me to offer a word or two about the losses of the Boer army, upon which our press has hitherto had very little to say.

One reason for this silence, no doubt, is that the Boers themselves have all the time been taking care to keep their losses a secret, and to hide their losses. Though they by no means neglect their wounded they are still more prompt and careful to get their dead out of sight, even if they have (as

lately at the battle upon the Modder) to throw them into a river. The very few official accounts that they allow to be published allude to the subject of their own losses, and when they do they put forward figures that are utterly absurd. For instance, they lately wished the public to believe that a large Boer force had been driven by main strength out of a position such as Belmont with a loss to themselves of only ten killed and about twice as many wounded. If one could believe this to be a fair part of the truth, what are we to think of the much-boasted Boer bravery?

Joined to their habitual love of secrecy and deception, this singular people have an extra motive just now for concealing their losses. Their whole strength is in the field and every available male not too young or too old to carry a rifle has been pressed into active service. The fact that among the prisoners taken by the British there are boys of 15 or 16 years, old, aged men and stray representatives of almost every (white) race of the position, was taken up in Africa, would seem to show that the whole available population is in the fighting line and that they have no reserve. When every man killed or captured is a serious loss, it is not a little to be gained by keeping exact casualty lists either for your own information or for that of the enemy. So they save themselves the trouble by calling the figures whatever they please to make their losses appear less.

We are so much in the habit of dwelling exclusively upon our own losses that we are apt to forget that the Boers have their losses too, and are far less able to replace them than we are.

TYRABUS, 22nd Dec., 1899.

CAMP CHIEVELEY.

CHIEVELEY CAMP, Natal, Dec. 17.—The camp, which was pitched to the left of the main camp, was taken up by the Union brigade, was shifted from that point this morning to Chieveley.

The wounded are being entrained for Pietermaritzburg. Most of the wounds are in the arms or legs. Doctor Treves is operating on the wounded. Sir Wm. MacCormack attended at the railway platform and several assistant surgeons are giving every attention.

METHUEN ON TOP.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—A despatch from Cape Town dated Sunday, Dec. 17, says that Gen. Methuen's primary object in crossing the Modder River appears to have been to establish a searchlight communication with Kimberley, which is believed to be still in the hands of the Boers. On the other hand, in spite of their usual tactics, it is considered possible that the Boers have been compelled to assume the offensive, the commander having arranged for the disposition of the forces and anticipating difficulty in maintaining food supplies in the present position. Moreover, it is a growing desire among the British Staffs to return home, which is testified to on many sides and may tend to precipitate an action on the part of the Boer commanders.

MASTER OF THE SITUATION.

In spite of the delay of General Methuen in advancing, he is regarded as largely the master of the situation, and his entrenched position is believed to be unassailable. In the event of the Boers attacking Kimberley, Gen. Methuen would be enabled to make a counter move with artillery and cavalry. Consequently, such a movement on the part of the Boers is said to be not contemplated. It is apparent, however, that to "make haste slowly" is the truest policy at present. In accordance with General Methuen's dictum the army should not advance faster than the slowest ox wagon.

ENGLAND'S FRIEND.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—A grand meeting of public opinion in Germany regarding the war in South Africa is becoming apparent. The change is led by the inspired section of the press. Today several articles appear in the newspapers, and it is said that "The Cologne Gazette says: 'Germany's real interest is to maintain absolute neutrality in sentiment. It is wise to retain England's good will by not advancing faster than the slowest ox wagon.'"

The Berliner Post contains obviously inspired articles, in which this argument is made: "South African confederation is impossible without the aid of the neighbors. England, as a great power, is necessary for the maintenance of the world's political equilibrium, and Germany's policy will be to keep friends with England."

There is no doubt that the government is beginning to bring the weight of its influence in the press to bear in favor of England. The same is true regarding the army, navy and official world.

Emperor William's influence is now strongly exerted in Anglophile direction. It is said on reliable authority that he has repeatedly expressed his admiration for the British in the following vein: "We must not repeat last year's mistake. Right or wrong we must continue friends with England."

WHAT PARIS THINKS.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—The war in South Africa has all but monopolized public attention this week. The best Paris journals, the Temps, Figaro and Journal Des Debats, have throughout discussed the pros and cons of the dispute with an evident desire to be impartial. A large section of the press of lower standing but wider circulation has been persistently revealing in Anglophobia. This sentiment is apparently shared by a majority of Frenchmen, who regard England as a bully attacking a small, plucky state, and who are bitter against England because of her unparading and often unjust criticisms of France during the Dreyfus trial.

The serious reverses of England had led to the impression here that she might yield and accept mediation. But the absence of despatch money on the part of Britons generally and their apparent determination to fight to a finish came as a surprise to most Frenchmen and evoked admiration for England's coolness and self-confidence from all but the most Anglophobic organs.

The Figaro has warned France against the idea that Great Britain would accept the mediation of Germany, Russia or even the United States at the present stage of the war. "In the United States congress," says the Figaro, "there is much more freedom than in European legislatures, and such questions might be discussed there, but even though congress were to adopt resolutions requesting the president to take the first step on such delicate ground Mr. McKinley would be the first to recognize their misappropriateness and would bury them unceremoniously."

The publication of the Franco-African reciprocity has caused but little press comment.

"IN SOME DARK HIDING PLACE."—LAWRENCE, Mass., Dec. 22.—The Boer sympathizers held another meeting at Hibernian last night which was even more largely attended than the first one; several new organizations being represented. The session lasted two hours and was a secret one. Ex-Mayor Breen, who again presided, said that he was in receipt of many letters from supposed friends of the cause in neighboring cities pledging their support to the movement. "None of the men present would talk for publication on matters which transpired at the meeting, but it is known that hundreds of young men have offered their services in the cause and are ready to leave at once for the Transvaal if transportation can be secured. The local leaders in the movement are working quietly and with the utmost secrecy, as it is believed that there are already men in this city employed by the British government acting as spies. Another meeting will be held next week, to which every Irish society will be invited to send representatives."

HIS OBJECTION TO FOOTBALL PLAYERS.

Father—I wish that football players would quit coming here. Boy—Why so, papa? Father—He always comes the house so with arms.—Ohio State Journal.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

Bolestown, Northumberland Co., Dec. 18.—Wm. Richards, the well known Miramichi lumberman, has been in poor health for some time, but is now getting quite well.

Mr. Herbert H. Gunter, who has been seriously ill with erysipelas, is rapidly recovering under careful treatment.

Large numbers of sportsmen are hunting on the headwaters. One day last week Henry Ewaldwhite brought down an enormous pair of moose antlers, which the famous guide pronounced the best he had ever seen.

Dr. Bishop and his party of Americans arrived by special train on Saturday night, having hired the special for the occasion.

Coun. Everett J. Parker, manager for G. J. Vaughan, spent Sunday in Derby. Rupert Fratt paid this place a short visit last week, calling upon friends.

Millan McConnell, who has had charge of the new flour mill, has completed the grinding for this season. The mill has been kept busy almost continuously.

Andrew Warren spent Sunday in town. Miss Jeanie Forbes, who had been visiting at Mrs. Alex. McMillan's, returned on Saturday to her home in New Brunswick.

The second of a series of assemblies was held on Saturday evening at Avery's Portage. A large number of Boletown people attended, and report very enjoyable times. Among the gentlemen present were Coun. W. A. Campbell, Elijah Murphy, Millan McConnell, Murray Rowan, Julius Legere and many others.

Section foreman Wm. McMillan is rapidly recovering. During his illness Nathaniel S. Peasley has had charge.

A short time ago a number of Rev. Matthew R. Knight's parishioners, mostly from Parker's Ridge, invaded the parsonage and presented their pastor with a handsome fur coat. Mrs. Knight was also remembered in a substantial manner by the kind donors.

Trade in holiday goods has been very good. The local merchants have all shown very fine exhibits.

Joseph Sanson spent Sunday in this place. Wm. Whyte of Doaktown was here today.

A NOVEL INDUSTRY.

Photographing tombstones is a novel industry which has been instituted by a colored man of Philadelphia, who was at one time boy-of-all-work in a photograph gallery, says the Record of that city. He has recently branched out for himself, and has already established a remunerative business, which promises to open up even a wider field in the future. He visits the various cemeteries with his camera, and when the day is fair he takes pictures of many of the imposing monuments. After he has developed his plates he takes proofs around among the relatives of the deceased, and usually finds a ready sale for his pictures. Of course he has to take chances, for his works entirely without orders, trusting to sentiment for his sale. Still, he says it is very seldom that he doesn't get an order. He also has a habit of handling the marble works where tombstones are made, and by striking while the iron is hot he takes a picture before even the bereaved relatives have seen the stone. This is always a tontrick.

Cook's Cotton Root Compound is successfully used monthly by over 100,000 Ladies, Sufferers, Ladies and your druggist for Cook's Cotton Root Compound. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all ailments and is recommended by all responsible Druggists in Canada.

No. 1 and No. 2 sold in St. John by all Wholesale and Retail Druggists.

After the prodigal came to himself he came back to his father.

Get ahead in the world if you can, but don't go a head in a saloon.

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He'd been preaching and exhorting for a score of years or so in a period of the Vinoyard. Where the harvesting was slow; Where the temporal inducement From his assiduous diligence Was a promise of four hundred For his yearly recompense.

Unrelenting was the ardor He devoted to the cause. And though slowly came the dollars Still he labored without pause. Till one day there came and told him, As he kicked against the pricks That they'd raised their offered stipend From four hundred up to six.

Then the good man rank exhausted As he feebly made reply, "Don't I pray you men and brethren, Thus my patience overtry. Not to glean the four you've promised, Such so warped my vital store, That 'twould kill me if you taxed me To collect two hundred more."

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

Children Cry for CASTORIA. EXTRADITION PAPERS ISSUED.

An associated despatch from Washington says: The state department today issued papers of extradition for the sailor Maxwell, now held at St. John, N. B., on a charge of murder on the high seas.

U. S. Consul Myers told a Sun reporter yesterday that the papers had probably been forwarded to Ottawa. Mr. Myers does not know when he will receive any further information.

Mayor Sears has received from the Hon. James S. Sanborn of Lewiston, Me., a fine framed picture of his imported coach stallion Gemara, 134. The picture is beautiful and shows not only the horse but in the background the beautiful Elmwood Farm, where Mr. Sanborn keeps his stud.

Claimants, Man & Co's Barbados circular of Dec. 8th, reports the arrival of 23 P. E. Island horses, which were offered at \$120 to \$160 per head. Two cows sold at \$75 each; 22 sheep at \$7 per head; 125 geese at \$3 per pair; 100 hens at \$1.25 per pair. The stock was ex. charr. Evelyn. Oats on the same schooner went on to Trinidad.

FOR SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS THE Semi-Weekly Sun

Will be sent to the address of any new subscriber in N. B., N. S. or P. E. I. until 31st December, 1900, together with a large War Map of the Transvaal, showing where the fighting is now going on. Address

Sun Printing Co., St. John, N. B.

IMPERIAL GREAM TARTAR BAKING POWDER PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST.

Contains no Alum, Ammonia, Lime, Phosphates, or any injurious.

E. W. GILLETT, Toronto, Ont.

EPPS'S COCOA GRATEFUL COMFORTING

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FREE! This beautiful little illustrated book of 24 pages, containing 24 recipes, will be sent to you on request. Write and we will send you a copy of this little book, and you will find it a most useful and interesting one. Usual postage.

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SURPRISE

is stamped on every cake of Surprise Soap. It's there so you can't do to deceive. There is only one Surprise. See to it that your soap bears that word—SURPRISE

A pure hard soap.

THE PARSON'S LIMIT.

(Boston Courier.)

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INTE

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