# The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY, OCTOBEB 23 1899 VOLUME XLIII.—1


## Majuba Hill Reversed.

### Signal Success of the British Troops in the First Pitched Battle.

### Eight Hours Hard Fighting at Glencoe Ends in Boer Rout.

### Shell Landing in British Camp First Intimation of Enemy's Presence.

By Associated Press.

Glencoe Camp, Oct. 20, 2:50 p.m.—After eight hours of continuous heavy fighting Talana Hill was carried by the Dublin Fusiliers and the King's Rifles under cover of a well served artillery fire by the Thirteenth and Sixty-ninth batteries. The Boers, who threatened the British rear, have retired. The fight was almost an exact counterpart of that of Majuba Hill, except that the positions of the Boer and British forces were reversed.

General Symons was severely but not dangerously wounded. He was shot through the left thigh, but no bones were broken. He is cheerful.

London, Oct. 20.—A despatch from Glencoe dated 8:25 this morning announced that the Boers' position had been captured after heavy fighting, during which five guns were taken. The Boers' strength was about 9,000 men. It appears that they posted the guns on the hill overlooking the town, opened fire on the camp and the battle became general. General Symons was wounded in the engagement and it is feared the wound will prove fatal.

The war office has given to the press the following messages:

Ladysmith, Oct. 20, 10:45 a.m.—The following advices from Glencoe camp just to hand:

"The King's Royal Rifles and Dublin Fusiliers are attacking a hill occupied by Boer artillery. They are within 300 yards of the position and are advancing under the cover of our artillery, about 2,000 yards range.

"Scouts report that nine thousand Boers are advancing on Hattingspruit. The Fifteenth Battery and the Leicester regiment have gone to meet them."

Ladysmith, Oct. 20, 11 a.m.—A despatch from Glencoe says that a Boer gun has been captured and that the Devonshire and Dorsetshire regiments are now engaging the Boers.

Ladysmith, Oct. 20, 3:30 p.m.—We were attacked this morning at daylight by a force, roughly estimated at 4,000. They had placed four or five guns in position on a hill 5,400 yards east of our camp. They fired plugged shells. Their artillery did no damage.

"Our infantry formed for the attack, and we got our guns into position. After the position of the enemy had been shelled, our infantry advanced to the attack, and after a hard fight, lasting until 1:30 p.m., an almost inaccessible position was taken, the enemy retiring eastward.

"All the Boer guns have been captured. We can see our soldiers at the top of the hill. Our cavalry and artillery are still out. General Symons is severely wounded and there is reason to fear that the wound will prove fatal. Our losses are heavy. They will be telegraphed as soon as possible."

London, Oct. 20.—A despatch from Glencoe camp says when Sir William Symons was wounded in the stomach General Gate assumed command.

It is reported in the House of Commons this evening that the British had captured seventeen guns at Glencoe, and that the cavalry were still pursuing the fleeing burghers.

The news of the battle was received with intense enthusiasm everywhere in town. The public gathered at the decorations at Lord Nelson's monument preparatory to Trafalgar Day speedily learned what had happened, and cheers and patriotic songs were continuous. Outside the war office, where the successive bulletins giving brief pictures of the contest were displayed, an immense crowd gathered, vociferously exhibiting joy. The news from Glencoe caused a scene of wild enthusiasm on the stock exchange, and Kaffirs rose tremendously.

#### BRITISH WELL PREPARED.

London, Oct. 20.—The war office received the following despatch, dated yesterday evening, from Ladysmith, from General George Stewart White, commanding in Natal:

"The Boers commenced descending the Western passes on Tuesday, and came in contact with our patrols yesterday. They continued to advance, halting for the night with the left flank at Bester's station, their centre at Bluebank, and their right more retired. I moved my camp into the position I have selected, with the object of covering Ladysmith, and hoped to-day that the Boers might have been sufficiently near us to strike a blow. To-day, however, the enemy seems to have retired west, our patrols getting in touch with a comparatively small body at Bester station.

"Communication with Glencoe junction was cut off at Elands Laagte, where they captured a goods train. The Boer force is advancing over Biggersberg Nek. Communication by telegraph is still open via Greytown."

#### A PREVIOUS SKIRMISH.

Glencoe, Oct. 18.—(Night)—A report having reached camp that the Boers had been sighted seven miles out, a squadron of the 18th Hussars, under Major Laming, rode out, and sent forward a patrol, under Lieut. Cape. On reaching the brow of the hill beyond Hattingspuit station, they discovered a strong advance party of Boers.

The Hussars retired on the main body, which in the meantime had been well handled by being moved under cover and made ready to open fire had the Boers continued their advance. The wily enemy were not to be drawn on. In fact, having to do with men who were their equals, if not their superiors in swift moves, after the first surprise, apparently staggered at the good success with the rifle, and perceiving that the Hussars manoeuvred out of range, they turned quickly and retired.

Failing light alone prevented the Hussars from following up their advance, and the enemy, failing to make further advance, the Hussars returned to camp.

#### THE CAPTURED TRAIN.

London, Oct. 20.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Ladysmith, in a despatch sent on Thursday night, confirms the statement that a train has been captured at Elands Laagte, and said:

"The train was partly made up of four trucks of cattle consigned to the army purveyor of Dundee. It is reported that one British officer and Mr. Mitchell, the Johannesburg Star war correspondent, besides other war correspondents, were captured. The train which preceded the captured train was fired at, but the Boer attack was unsuccessful.

"I am informed there are four trucks of stores at Elands Laagte station. The place is full of rumors of fighting, but there is nothing definite. There are said to be 4,000 Boers, with a heavy wagon train, encamped near Acton Homes."

#### THE WOUNDED GENERAL.

Appreciative Review of a Useful Career —Fifteen Years of Fighting.

Ian McAllen contributes to the London Daily Mail this review of the career of the officer whom the despatches report as probably fatally wounded at Glencoe:

"Sir W. Penn Symons, at present holding an important command in Natal, well illustrates the old saying that everything comes to him who waits. His promotion was very tardy; he has only lately pulled up the long leeway that left him so far behind in the waiting race. At the commencement of the Zulu war of 1878-9 he had but just become a captain, and yas still at the bottom of the list when a single day, the dread day of the massacre of Isandlwhana, pushed him almost to the top. It was his good fortune to be on duty elsewhere when his comrades fell in heaps under the Zulu assegais. So, after spending twelve years as a subaltern, three carried him from captain to major, and in six more he was a brevet-colonel. Yet he had no great opportunity vouschafed him in this arduous Zulu campaign; at its end he was still a regimental officer, and he was awarded no special honors or distinctions. His merits had, however, become known to his superiors, and comrades predicted great things for him if he got an opening. It came when he passed under the personal observation of Lord Roberts. That fine judge of a man's character and quality was commanding the Madras army when the South Wales Border Regiment, in which Symons was a major, formed part of it.

"It would be a mistake to call such a good 'all-round' officer as Symons a specialist in any one thing, but he was, and is especially strong on the rifle, and how it should be wielded. Musketry instruction and the desire to bring his men to a high standard in marksmanship was his pet hobby, and he was cordially encouraged in it by Lord Roberts, who held exactly the same views.

"When the last Burmese war was afoot in 1885 Symons went with the expedition, first as staff officer, then as commandant of the mounted infantry. Another of his specialtiis was a deep interest in this hybrid arm. He had been associated with it in South Africa, and had recognized its peculiar usefulness under particular conditions, and the body he raised in Burmah did admirable and most effective work. The old experience will probably stand him in good stead now. The Boers are essentially of the class of mounted infantry, and the man who will best meet them in the field is one who is fully an fait with the tactics and capabilities of these composite troops.

"Symons' war services were continued in Burmah and beyond. He was a brigadier-general with the China field force; he commanded the column from Burmah in the Chin Lushai expedition; he was in the Waziristan expedition, and quite recently he was actively engaged in the last hard-fought, tedious campaign on the northwest frontier of India, at first with a brigade in the Tochi field force, and then with a division in the Tirah expedition. He has been fighting almost continuously for the last fifteen years, and is a pastmaster in the business of war, knowing every secret, every move. He is calm, clear-headed, resolute, prompt and vigorous in following up an advantage, tenacious and unyielding when hard pressed. The prestige of the national arms will be assuredly maintained by Sir William Symons."

#### RECRUITING AT WINNIPEG.

No Lack of Volunteers for Africa—Married Men Now Declared Eligible.

Winnipeg, Oct. 19.—Volunteers are still offering to Capt. Williams, D. O. C., for service with the Canadian contingent for Transvaal. Thirty-five applications were made from Portage in Prairie alone. Capt. Williams announces tonight that married men will be accepted. It was supposed at first that only single men would be taken.

#### ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT.

British Mounted Rifles Almost Cut Off by the Enemy—Maxim Gun Saved Them.

Ladysmith, Oct. 19.—(Delayed)—The Carabiniers and Border Mounted Rifles, who had been in action with the enemy nearly all day, returned this evening. Fighting in the face of two thousand Boers, they were several times almost cut off, but a Maxim gun held the Boers in check.

It is reported that 16 Boers were killed. Several times the Boers came within 400 yards range, but their shooting was bad and the Maxims rendered signal service in stopping their rushes. They have a large wagon train and artillery.

#### ANXIETY IN LONDON.

London, Oct. 20.—The absence of details regarding the British losses in the engagement at Glencoe camp causes the deepest anxiety and the war office is again besieged by relatives and friends of those making up the force that took part in the fight

## A BOER ROUT

### British Camp at Glencoe Surprised at Daybreak Yesterday by Shells Dropped From Neighboring Heights.

### Six Thousand Boers Under Commandant General Joubert Fly Before Heroic Charge of British Infantry.

### Enemy's Retreat Cut Off, and Another Desperate Battle Ensues --Heavy Losses on Both Sides--General Symons Is Mortally Wounded.

By Associated Press.

London. Oct. 21.—A Glencoe camp correspondent under date of yesterday says:

A force of 6,000 Boers led by Commandant-General Joubert has been defeated severely by a force under Gen. Symons and the enemy at this moment are in full retreat.

Nobody in the camp save Gen. Symons and his staff were aware that the Boers intended to attack them and that they would get within three miles of this position before revealing their presence. It was known, however, that the enemy were advancing still further south and therefore unusual precautions had been taken to guard against a surprise during the night.

Just after dawn the Boer artillery opened fire from Glencoe Hill. The range was ill judged and the quality of the ammunition bad. During two hours and a half scarcely a dozen shells burst within our lines.

Our gunners, on the contrary, made excellent practice, which soon began to tell upon the enemy.

At half past seven Gen. Symons ordered a general advance of the infantry brigade, which he himself accompanied. The Dublin Fusiliers were well to the front, the King's Royal Rifles well up on the right, and the Leicestershire regiment on the left. These men advanced smartly, taking advantage of every bit of cover, tactics in which they had been exercised for weeks past.

The advance was covered by a terrific fire from our three batteries and several Boer guns were silenced before the Fusiliers began to climb the hill. By the time the Fusiliers and Royal Rifles got within a thousand yards the Boer batteries had been completely silenced, our own guns having poured into them at 2,500 yards range with crushing effect.

The Boers meantime were keeping up a heavy fire which thinned our ranks considerably.

By 9 o'clock the Fusiliers and Royal Rifles had swarmed over the hill and the Boers were on the run.

Meantime the 18th Hussars and all the Colonial Mounted Infantry and the Leicestershire regiment had been moved northeast, and having cut off the Boer retreat the enemy, caught between two fires, lost heavily.

At this minute fighting is still going on but the defeat of the enemy is already complete and crushing and it looks as though few would escape.

Our losses were probably 300 killed or wounded and that of the Boers thrice as many.

#### SURPRISED THE BRITISH.

Glencoe, Oct. 20.—(Afternoon)—The battle to-day has been a brilliant success. The Boers got a reverse which may possibly for a time at any rate, check opposition. The artillery practice in the early part of the day decided the battle.

The seizure of Dundee hill by the Boers was a surprise, for although the pickets had been exchanging shots all night, it was not until a shell boomed over the town into the camp that their presence was discovered. Then the shells came fast. The hill was positively alive with the swarming Boers until the British artillery got to work, with magnificent energy and precision.

The batteries from the camp took up positions to the south of the town and after a quarter of an hour's magnificent firing, silenced the guns on the hills.

The correspondent could see shells dropping among the Boers with remarkable accuracy and doing tremendous execution, for they were present in very large numbers and in places exposed.

By this time the enemy held the whole of the hill behind Smith's farm and the Dundee kopje right away to the south, in which direction the British infantry and cavalry moved at once. The fighting raged particularly hotly at the valley outside the town.

Directly the Boer guns ceased firing General Symons ordered the infantry to move on the position. The infantry charge was magnificent. The way the King's Royal Rifles and the Dublin Fusiliers stormed the position was one of the most splendid sights ever seen.

The fighting of the Boers was not so deadly as might have been expected from troops occupying such an excellent position, but the infantry lost heavily going up the hill, and only the consummately brilliant way in which General Symons had trained them to fighting of this kind saved them from being swept away. Indeed the hill was almost inaccessible to the storming party, and any hesitation would have lost the day.

The enemy's guns, so far as the correspondent could see, were all abandoned, for the Boers had no time to remove them.

A stream of fugitives poured down the hillside into the valley, where the battle went on with no abatement.

General Symons was wounded early in the action and the command then developed on Major Yule.

The enemy as they fled were followed by the cavalry, Mounted Infantry and artillery. The direction taken was to the eastward. At the latest reports the cavalry had not returned.

Some reports say that four and some that five guns have been captured.

The Boer artillery firing was weak. A lot of plugged shells were used.

Although the enemy's position was carried soon after 1 o'clock scattered firing went on almost all the afternoon.

The British losses are very severe, but those of the Boers are much heavier.

The final rush was made with a triumphant yell, and as the British troops charged to close quarters, the enemy turned and fled, leaving all their impediments and guns behind them in their precipitate flight.

While this was going on, a battery of artillery, the 18th Hussars and Mounted Infantry, with a part of the Leicester regiment, got on the enemy's flank, and as the Boers streamed wildly down the hills making for the main road they found their retreat had been cut off. They rallied for a while, and there was severe fighting with considerable loss on both sides. Many of the enemy surrendered.

A rough estimate places the British loss at 250 killed or wounded and that of the Boers at 800.

A newspaper correspondent states that through his glasses during the fight today he noticed how much the Boers seemed to be nonplussed by the tactics of the Imperial troops, especially of the well drilled, swift moving horsemen.

The enemy are still as a mob. They are without horses and forage and many of them rely for food upon what they can obtain by looting. Their animals are mostly in a wretched condition.

It is understood that before to-day's battle, several Boers had left their commands and gone home on their farms, and many others are likely to follow.

The movements of the commandos in the Utrecht district are somewhat mysterious. It is supposed that they have some idea of getting around between this place and Ladysmith. Many Boers are reported to be falling back on their old positions. They have been raising a series of fortifications between Sandspruit and Dannyhauser, their object being to contest the grand advance of the Imperial troops. Near Sandspruit camp they have a laager with several pieces of artillery and another between Volksrust. There are guns at Mount Pogwani overlooking Laing's Nek, and Ingogo Heights are fortified and earthworks have been thrown up and guns left at various places on the way south.

## TARTE'S BAULK BOLTS BOURASSA.

### Liberal Member Resigns Because of African Contingent --Hint of Political Trick.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Oct. 20—While the government press have hardly ceased denial and explanation of the well founded story of Tarte's dissent from the decision respecting Canadian troops for Africa, there comes the sensational announcement that Bourassa, one of the members for Ottawa county, has resigned his seat as a protest against the government's action.

Bourassa is an intimate friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, has been mentioned as a cabinet possibility, and the government has already conferred distinction upon him by the honorary appointment of secretary of the joint high commission now existing. This gives some color to the suggestion made in Conservative circles that Bourassa's action may be a theatrical play in a peculiarly safe constituency, designed to strengthen Sir Wilfrid's ministry in the English-speaking provinces, while as on the school question the Premier's nationality would secure him against loss in Quebec.

A Western Liberal member in town today characterized Bourassa's action as idiotic, and the outcome of the swelled head which he has had since his appointment as secretary of the international commission.

Local Liberals are incensed at the incident and Belcourt, one of the Ottawa city representatives, comes forward in striking contrast with a cheque for thirty dollars to go towards the fund for providing comforts for the Ottawa contingent accompanied by a patriotic letter commending the volunteers for fighting in the cause of progress and civilization.

Liberal Member Resigns Because of African Contingent--Hint of Political Trick.

William Redmond, Parnellite member, for East Clare, vigorously denounced the policy of the government and was repeatedly called to order by the Speaker for rambling. He contrasted the attitude of Great Britain towards Venezuela with her attitude towards the Transvaal. In the former case, he said, the United States said that Great Britain would have to arbitrate and the British lion went to sleep. There has been no arbitration with the Transvaal because the Transvaal has no neighbor like the United States.

Mr. Balfour interrupted Mr. Redmond by moving the closure, and the vote for troops was then adopted by 200 against 35.

Proceeding further to discuss the vote of money for the troops, Mr. Redmond again protested against the vast sums being spent in war, declaring that the money ought to be expended in aid of distressed Ireland.

#### REDMOND EXPELLED.

At this point the chairman interposed, declaring Mr. Redmond's remarks were irrelevant. Mr. Redmond, however, insisted that the money should be spent in Ireland, whereupon the chairman again called him to order, but Mr. Redmond persisted in his remarks, and the chairman asked him to resume his seat. This he refused to do, and he was then ordered to withdraw, which order also he refused to obey.

An uproarious scene followed. Mr. Redmond continued and his voice was drowned by the cheers of the Irish members and cries of "Order" and "Withdraw" from the opposition benches. The chairman at length being able to make himself heard, asked Mr. Redmond if he declined to withdraw. The latter replied that he did not wish to be discourteous, but he maintained his right to protest that the money ought to be spent in Ireland, adding: "I will not withdraw. It is mere robbery or plunder."

The chairman then called upon the sergeant-at-arms to remove the offending member, and Mr. Redmond amid a scene of confusion, said he would not trouble the sergeant-at-arms and walked out amid Nationalist cheers and the laughter of the other members.

Turning to the ministerial benches as he quit the chamber Mr. Redmond shouted: "I wish you joy of the blood of the Boer and victory over the poor Transvaal farmers."

After an angry passage between Sir Ellis Ashmead Bartlett, Conservative, and Michael Davitt, Nationalist member for South Mayo, at the conclusion of which Mr. Davitt was called upon to withdraw an expression characterizing a statement of Sir Ellis as a falsehood, Mr. Dillon suggested that a vote be taken upon the main question. He would only ask, he said, an assurance of the same treatment for the enemy's wounded as for the wounded of the British.

Mr. Balfour replied that the dictates of humanity and civilization would ensure that.

#### GEN. SYMONS DYING.

Mr. Balfour then read the following telegram from Major Yule, dated from Glencoe camp at 7 p.m.:

"I regret to report that Gen. Symons is mortally wounded. Other casualties will follow. The important success today is due to Gen. Symons' great courage and fine generalship and the confidence he gave to troops under his command."

The vote of £10,000,000 was then carried, the result being announced as 271 for and 32 against the credit. The house then adjourned.

## An Army At Home.

### British Will Not Become a Nation on Sufferance of Other Powers.

### Militia Embodied to Replace Each Regular Battalion Sent to Africa.

### Effect Given to Elaborate Plans Matured During Past Nineteen Years.

By Associated Press.

London, Oct. 20.—In the House of Commons to-day the first lord of the treasury and government leader, Mr. Balfour, moved an address of thanks to Her Majesty for the royal message calling out the militia.

Mr. John Dillon, Nationalist member from East Mayo, moved an amendment declaring the embodiment of militia unnecessary. This was rejected by a vote of 299 to 36.

The house having gone into committee of supply the parliamentary under secretary of state for war, Mr. Wyndham, introduced the supplementary army estimates. In the course of an explanation of the nature of the call and the manner in which the nation has responded to it, he said:

"The British military system if it is worth anything, must enable us to send an expedition abroad without depriving our homes of protection. We cannot be satisfied unless we can send such an expedition without destroying the machinery for maintaining our army at home. The result of the recent test has been a source of legitimate satisfaction and is an encouragement to further effort in the future." Dealing with the

#### Army Corps Now Going Out

Mr. Wyndham said it numbered 24,000 regulars, all tried and mature men, including 6,000 cavalry, 114 guns, 261 wagons, from 9,000 to 11,000 horses, and 14,000 mules. It had been necessary to call a portion of the reserves in order to bring some of the regiments to their full strength. The government therefore had called for 25,000 men, assuming that 21,000 would be effective, and this expectation had been fully realized. The British forces in the field would consist of 26,000 men with the colors and 21,000 reserves.

"This may seem a large force," said Mr. Wyndham, "but we must reflect that the two republics by their juxtaposition and situation, have a strategetical advantage allowing them to concentrate for attack on any point on a frontier of 2,000 miles, a frontier everywhere hundreds of miles from the sea; and when we further consider the area involved, which is inhabited by 3,300 natives, it is clear that considerations of humanity dictate that the Empire should display an under to rescue one of its greatest dependencies from the horrors of doubtful and dilatory operations." In explaining the organizations of the

#### Enormous Transport Service,

Mr. Wyndham said the reason it was not mobilized early would be apparent when he declared that the embodiment of three army corps for home defence and despatch of two army corps to a country where facilities of locomotion existed, would be a graver yet a shorter and easier task. By October 25 25,000 men would be shipped, that is, in less than six days. The cost of mobilizing 47,000 men, transferring them six thousand miles, equipping them and maintaining them for four months in a land destitute of supplies, Mr. Wyndham said, would be £8,000,000.

"By despatching these thirty-three battalions," he continued, "we destroy thirty-three machines for training men and instructing officers in their simplest duties; and we break up the more complex organization of brigades and the further instruction of generals and staff officers. The government therefore proposes to embody

#### Thirty-Three Battalions of Militia.

"We should have violated a fundamental principle of our army system if we had mobilized without militia, that principle being that when all the battalions of a regiment are sent abroad we must call out the affiliated militia battalions and form a provisional battalion by welding the militia and men under twenty left behind.

"Cavalry and field artillery are strengthened differently. We propose to raise seven cavalry regiments, maintaining at home a higher establishment, and then raise the nineteen home batteries to six gun establishments.

"The steps I have described will not be made to assist in the war against the two republics, but to put the army in the same position as it was before the war. Such steps are necessary unless we are content, firstly, to exist as

#### A Nation on Sufferance

of other powers, and, secondly, to allow to perish the army machine contrived during the last nineteen years at a great sacrifice on the part of the taxpayers to protect these Islands and to train the forces to defend the Empire over the sea."

Mr. Wyndham concluded with a eulogy of the commander-in-chief, Lord Wolseley, and of the officers of the colonies.

#### IRISH OPPOSITION.

The Irish members and Mr. Henry Labouchere alone opposed the estimates.

Mr. Michael Davitt, Nationalist member for South Mayo, characterized the war as a "hideous and damnable massacre." He said there had never been such "magnificent robbery by force," doubtless because the price was the greatest that ever tempted the cupidity of empire.

John Dillon, Nationalist member for East Mayo, thought a great country ought to be ashamed to have to call out its reserves.


DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Made from Grape Cream of Tartar, and Absolutely Pure

Highest award, Chicago World's Fair.
Highest tests by U. S. Gov't Chemists.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

Imitation baking powders are mostly made from alum. They may cost less per pound, but their use is at the cost of health.


#### A CLERK'S VILE HABIT.

Has Caused Twenty Deaths of Consumption in the State of Michigan.

Albany, N. Y., Oct. 20.—The state board of health yesterday received a communication from the board of health of Michigan stating that twenty clerks in that state who were working over several volumes of records were taken with consumption and had died. The books were examined by a bacteriologist who found them full of tubercular bacilli. He thought that they became infected from a clerk who had consumption who had the habit of moistening his thumb with saliva when he turned a page.

#### DISSECTED BY SIR CHARLES.

Owen Sound, Oct. 19.—Sir Charles Tupper addressed two large meetings here in which he exhaustively criticized the speech of the Premier at Bowmanville.

#### THE FIGHTING AT MAFEKING.

Boer Attacks Unsuccessful and Their Loss Reported Heavy—Armored Train Proves Effective.

London, Oct. 19.—The war office this afternoon issued the following bulletin: "No news of importance has been received from Natal to-day. The cavalry attachment to our forces at Ladysmith and Dundee are engaged. Steps have been taken to secure Pietermaritzburg and Durban against raids on the western frontier. There is no recent reliable communication.

"It is believed that a skirmish took place Sunday, six miles south of Kimberley and that the Boers were beaten off by an armored train. There was some fighting at Mafeking on Friday or Saturday ending with a repulse of the attacking force.

"Boers in considerable numbers are assembled opposite Aliwal North and Bethulie on the Orange river. Railway communication with the Orange Free State and the Transvaal has now closed, the remaining refugees having been warned to leave by the way of Delagoa Bay."

London, Oct. 19.—Unofficial reports of British successes in Mafeking district are persistent, and in the absence of contradiction from Boer sources, may be accepted as true in the main, although the alleged killing of three hundred Boers is discredited.

A despatch to the Daily News from Capetown says a gentleman who left Bloemfontein on Sunday and was interviewed at Prince Albert road, states that a government official informed him before he left that the Boers were heavily repulsed at Mafeking and heavier guns had been requisitioned and were en route from Rustenburg. He also adds the armored train of the British had done great execution.

Apart from their desire to gain the initial advantage by capturing Mafeking and thereby attracting the Dutch colonists, the object of the Boers in massing in Bechuanaland is due, doubtless, to the fact that this splendid stock country is full of cattle.

Capetown, Oct. 19.—A despatch from Kimberley dated October 17, says: "All well here. Col. Hore engaged the Boers at Mafeking on October 14th with great success. Mafeking was still safe on October 15."

A special despatch to the Cape Argus reiterates the statement that in the fighting at Mafeking, Col. Hore repulsed the Boers, inflicting a loss of 300 men.

The Cape Times publishes the following despatch from Kimberley: "Reliable information from Mafeking says an armored train, while reconnoitering to the north of the town last Saturday, engaged 500 Boers, who suffered heavily. Col. Fitz Clarance's column foiled the Boers, inflicting severe loss. The British casualties were two killed and fourteen wounded, two severely."

#### MR. MULOCK'S INSPIRATION.

Postmaster-General Volunteers Five Trained Men Fully Paid by Senders.

Ottawa, Oct. 20.—A cable having stated that the British post office department would send a number of post office officials to the Transvaal, Hon. Mr. Mulock telegraphed from Toronto yesterday to the minister of militia asking him to advise the war office that the department here would contribute five employees and would pay all expenses.

Dr. Borden instructed his deputy to cable Lord Strathcona and Lt.-Col. Pinault has done so, making an offer to send five trained men for the Imperial postal corps, Canada to defray all expenses.


Seems as if all the things we like disagree with us, and all the things we don't like agree with us. Dyspepsia lurks in most of the good things we eat, and indigestion follows the gratification of appetite. Of course it isn't Nature's fault. Nature does the best she can, and if a man will only help her a little bit at the right time, he may eat what he likes and as much as he likes. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are for people who are troubled with indigestion. Particularly for those in whom it manifests itself in the form of constipation. The "Pellets" are quick and easy in their action. They are in perfect harmony with Nature. They effect a permanent cure. You need take them regularly only a little while. After that, use them occasionally when you need them—when you have eaten anything that disagrees with you. They may be taken just as freely as you would take water or any other necessity of life. Once used, they are always in favor.