

# MODDER RIVER BATTLE

## Further Details of the Great British Victory.

### TONS OF SHRAPNEL AND GRAPE POURED INTO THE BOERS

#### Terrific Cannonade From the British Guns Lasts All Day.

**General Joubert Is Ill and Has Retired to Volksrust—Everything Quiet at Kimberley—An Estimate of Boer Losses Up to December 6—Warning to the Disloyal.**

London, Dec. 5.—The Daily News correspondent with Gen. Methune, telegraphing from Modder river on the day after the battle, says: "I hear that the Boers are in full retreat to Bloemfontein."

Telegraphing from Modder river on Thursday the Associated Press correspondent says: "The Waterloo of the campaign has been fought and won. The battle was conducted with unprecedented stubbornness on both sides. There was one continuous roar like the explosion of countless fire crackers. There was no flinching on either side and not a moment's pause."

"For five hours the British batteries poured tons of shrapnel, grape and shells into the Boer positions. Lord Methuen had 22 guns and each fired an average of 200 rounds. The Boers had an almost equal number of guns, which it is reported, were mostly served by French and German artilleryists."

"It is believed that the Boers had occupied the position seven weeks before and had spent the interval in fortifying it and rendering it, as they considered, impregnable. They did not seem to fear to expend their ammunition, and their guns were well and smartly handled. Owing to the bend in the river on the right, the Boers had an opportunity of crossfiring on the British attack. A Boer Hotchkiss was directed with marvelous accuracy against a British Maxim, killing the sergeant in charge, wounding another officer and disabling the gun. This occurred quite at the beginning of the engagement."

"When the Boer fire was silenced in one direction it was immediately reopened in another."

"Owing to the terrific fire nobody on the plain was out of range. Stretcher bearers found it impossible to go forward in the few cases they were called to attend, and the wounded were compelled if possible to crawl out of the lines."

"No quarter seems to have been given on either side. The British assert that amidst the bullets the ambulance wagons displayed their flags prominently to no advantage. These were repeatedly driven back and compelled to take refuge out of sight. It is alleged that the Boers used dum dum bullets."

"While the Argyle Highlanders were pushing across the river, they were fired upon from a house and several fell. Thereupon the Highlanders stormed the house and although the Boers hoisted a white flag, no attention was paid to it, and all the Boers were shot."

"It is reported that Gen. Cronje with his contingent retreated toward Langenberg at 4 o'clock in the afternoon."

"Others followed in the direction of Jacobdal and the main body of the Boers retired with the guns about 8 in the evening."

"On the following morning at day-break the British fired a few shells into the village. Getting no response, a

patrol of cavalry crossed the river and found the enemy's camp deserted. Dead Boers and many who were dying were to be seen everywhere in the entrenchments as well as numerous new graves. Several buildings were in smoking ruins. Some of the Boers' prisoners say that Gen. Cronje was in supreme command. He had to whip his men to prevent them from deserting and despite this, many threw down their rifles and fled."

**GEN. JOUBERT ILL.**  
Pretoria, Dec. 4.—Gen. Joubert is indisposed and has arrived at Volksrust across the Transvaal border not far from Charlestown, in the extreme north of Natal, for medical treatment.

A dispatch to the head laager, where General Schalkburgher is in supreme command during the absence of Joubert, announces that a council of war was held on December 2d with reference to assaulting Ladysmith.

The state attorney has arrived at the camp to advise the Boer commanders.

Everything was quiet at Ladysmith. Dispatches from the west report that there was a heavy artillery duel at Mafeking during the morning of December 2d.

All is quiet at Kimberley.

Comfortable wood and iron houses have been erected at Waterfall, a few miles from Pretoria, for the rank and file of the British prisoners.

Count Deville de Blois, a colonel in the French army, has joined the Transvaal forces as an authorized military attaché.

**BOER LOSSES.**  
London, Dec. 6.—The war office has received the following from General Buller:

Pietermaritzburg, Dec. 5.—It is very difficult to make any statement regarding the enemy's loss. For instance, at Belmont 81 of their dead are accounted for. The enemy gave 15 as the number killed.

There is every reason to believe the enemy's loss in the fight at Ladysmith on November 8th was over 800 killed and wounded.

Information from trustworthy Boer sources shows that in Hildyard's fight on November 23d the enemy lost 36 killed and 100 wounded.

It is impossible to say how far these numbers are correct, but it is evident the enemy does not admit a tenth of the loss suffered.

Intercepted dispatches from Joubert show that even official dispatches contain decidedly inaccurate information.

**WARNING TO DISLOYAL.**  
Capetown, Dec. 6.—The high commissioner has issued a proclamation with the object of dispelling false reports to the effect that the British government desires to oppress the Dutch inhabitants of the country. The British government, Sir Alfred Milner says, desires to give the greatest amount of freedom and self government to Dutch and English alike. The constitution of the Colony, he says, is in no danger,

except from rebellion. He gladly recognizes the law abiding attitude of the majority of the colonists, and warns all others of the consequences of any defection. He also calls upon all to stand together for the support of the crown and the queen's authority. Premier Schreiner, in a separate notice, calls upon the officials to give wide publicity to the proclamation, and requests ministers of religion to disseminate it among their congregations.

**Does Not Use Girlish Expressions.**  
Editor Nugget—Dear Sir: In re News charges against Sun. In the interview with the writer your reporter was not very accurate in taking down my words.

I never use the expression "roar" for complain, nor the girlish phrase "its real mean." I do not swear, but when annoyed at a despicable act, use stronger terms than that phrase, as you will see by last issue of the Sun.

Again you said I "got up" and walked out of the telegraph office. I did not sit down. I walked in, asked the manager, who rose to receive me, if that matter (coming over the line) was for me and on his replying that it was not for us (he was always noncommittal) I supposed it was for the News, asked him to send ours up at once, as I expected very important news, turned around and walked out. Time, about two minutes. The reason I emphasize this point is the fact that I made it a practice to avoid sitting in the office, which the general public know. It seems a little thing, but it makes me do apparently what I was anxious to avoid, as the employees of the office know. I am satisfied that you did not intentionally misrepresent me, but you did not understand how I wished to avoid the charge of making a practice of sitting around the telegraph office during office hours. Thanking you for the space for the explanation,

HENRY J. WOODSIDE,  
Managing Editor Yukon Sun.

**New Fire Alarm.**  
Persons who were ensconced by a warm fire Wednesday afternoon were apt to conclude from the number of steam whistles which were being blown that navigation had reopened and that leviathans of the deep were once more furrowing the water of the Yukon. But nothing of the kind had happened. The whistles were being blown by the engineer at the lower fire house for the purpose of choosing from the various tones a new fire alarm, the bell in use not being sufficient in volume of sound.

Whistles from nearly every steamer tied up in the locality were borrowed for the occasion and purpose, and it was finally decided to adopt the siren whistle of the steamer Lottie Talbot, which steamer is owned by the Alaska Meat Co., the manager of which kindly consented to loan his tooter to the fire department for the winter.

The siren is a peculiar sounding whistle which is very liable to frighten children, dogs and adults from rural districts. Shakespeare in his Comedy of Errors says:

"Oh, train me not, sweet mermaid,  
with thy note,  
To drown me in thy sister's flood of tears.  
Sing siren, to thyself, and I will dote.

In future, therefore, when an unearthly noise is heard vibrating upon the smoke laden zephyrs, do not fear that fiends incarnate have been unchained. It is only Dawson's new fire alarm.

**Additional Fire Apparatus.**  
Wednesday afternoon Lieut. Adair's freighting teams arrived from Scow island with heavy loads. Among the items brought down was a new chemical fire engine and fixtures, the combined weight of which is five tons. The engine is for the use of the fire department, and, by order of the council was unloaded at the upper fire house at the end of the barracks bridge, where it will be put together and made ready for use, after which it will probably be moved to and kept in the lower department house across from the stores of the N. A. T. & T. Co. The additional apparatus will be a great aid to the department in its work of fighting the devouring elements. A large hose truck, intended for the use of the fire ladders is still at Scow island, but will be brought down later.

Arctic Brotherhood buttons, native gold, \$4. Sale & Co., jewelers.

A few outside moccasins \$2; Indian moccasins \$1. Yukon hotel.

## HO, FOR NOME!

### AUCTION!

\$15,000 Worth of  
**GROCERIES**

At a sacrifice. No reserve.  
We Have the Fever! We're Off for Nome!  
FIXTURES FOR SALE!  
Commencing at 2 o'clock, January 2d, until stock is all sold, we will close the entire business, selling to the highest bidder, in SMALL or LARGE lots, an immense quantity of first-class Groceries.

AUCTION AT 2 AND 7 P. M.  
Put in Your Winter's Supply!  
Buy at Your Own Price!

**S. ARCHIBALD,**  
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**ORR & TUKEY,**  
Freighters and Forwarders  
Pack Trains and Freight Teams.  
TEAMING IN TOWN.  
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All kinds of freight contracted for to any of the creeks and removed safely and quickly. Prompt and reliable.  
Office, Waterfront, 1st Building North of S.Y.F. Dock.  
Barns and Corral,  
Second Avenue and Fifth Avenue South

**THE Monte Carlo**  
THEATRE...  
Crowded to The Doors Each Night.  
Entire Change of Program Every Week...  
SEE OUR NEW PEOPLE.  
The Monte Carlo has recently been newly refitted and is now the handsomest theatre in the northwest. Drop in and have some fun.

**D. A. SHINDLER,**  
Hardware...  
Building Material  
PAINTS, OILS, GLASS, LAMPS.  
Front Street, Dawson.

**Mitchell, Lewis & Staver Co.**  
OF SEATTLE, WASH.  
Mining Machinery of all Descriptions.  
Pumping Plants a Specialty. Orders taken for early spring delivery.  
Chas. E. Severance Gen. Agent.  
Room 15, A. C. Building

**One Dollar**  
A splendid course dinner served daily at  
**THE HOLBORN**  
Ask the boys what they think of it. Short orders a specialty. Connecting with the Green Tree.  
BRUCE & HALL, Props.

**MOHR & WILKENS,**  
DEALERS IN  
The Finest Select Groceries  
IN DAWSON  
S. E. Cor. Third Street and Third Avenue  
Opposite Klondike Bridge

**DAWSON BOARD**  
Holds Its R...  
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