

## GEN. FRENCH AT KIMBERLEY

### British Force, Under the Brilliant Cavalry Leader, Reached the Besieged Garrison Last Night.

## LORD ROBERTS'S OFFICIAL DISPATCH

### Details of the March From Modder River—Boers Surprised—Our Casualties Were Slight—The Situation At Ladysmith.

(Associated Press.)

London, Feb. 16.—There is tremendous satisfaction and jubilation here at Roberts's and French's success, but those best suited to judge the situation are inclined to the opinion that pending more definite information the news had better be regarded as assuring, rather than as accomplishing, the relief of the beleaguered city of Kimberley.

A careful study of the ambiguity of the wording of Roberts's dispatch leads those people to believe that the actual relief of the place is still a matter of time. Kimberley, it is pointed out, can scarcely be termed relieved till it is feasible to take provisions there. The rapidity of French's march indicates that he was unable to do this, and whether he left his lines behind him is only a matter of surmise.

It is most probable Roberts's and French's brilliant tactical success, for such it is under any circumstances, resembles the first relief of Lucknow when the disposal of the enemy's force was by no means immediately effected.

Roberts at Jacobsdal.

A remarkable feature of Roberts's brief cablegram is the fact that it is dated from Jacobsdal, which was Gen. Cronje's advance base of supplies, and there is no word explaining the British commander's presence there nor word of any opposition which he or French encountered.

Had Roberts inflicted a decisive defeat on the Boers, it is believed he would have mentioned it, as such a success would be greatly paramount to the relief of Kimberley.

However, Gen. French's entry into Kimberley has been effected and doubtless brings joy to the hearts of those who have been shut up in the city for 122 days. Their defenders number about 4,000 men, while French's force is between 6,000 and 8,000 men.

The 6th and 7th divisions have already crossed the river and are probably with Roberts at Jacobsdal. What has happened Cronje and the whereabouts of his forces puzzles the experts.

Boers Leaving Magersfontein.

A dispatch from Capetown dated Wednesday, 14th, received this morning, says:

"The Boers are leaving Magersfontein to reinforce other positions. It is estimated between 7,000 and 10,000 men remain there."

Lord Roberts's wide turning movement via Jacobsdal may have cut off these troops from Bloemfontein, but while the British forces are endeavoring to intercept the Boers' communication, there is a parallel Boer column trying to cut off the British lines to De Aar, and is apparently meeting with some success.

A later dispatch referring to General Clement's retirement to Arundel, says the movement was undertaken for strategic purposes, and that during the course of march the Boers were driven off by heavy fire, the Impskilling charging brilliantly, and inflicting great loss on the burghers.

Burghers Casualties.

A Boer dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez, dated Thursday, 15th, says the initial attack on Colesburg on the 12th resulted in a Federal loss of 9 men killed, 14 wounded and 5 prisoners. The British, it is added, were driven out of

their camp and one of their Maxims captured.

A Paris Rumor.

The news of French's entry into Kimberley was received on the Stock Exchange here to-day with cheers. No boom in stocks was created, but a satisfactory strong undertone prevailed. De Beers rose 1/4, but subsequently fell 1/4 on a Paris rumor that French had merely fallen into a Boer trap.

No News From Buller.

The dispatch referring to the condition of Ladysmith is regarded as reassuring. There is no further word from Buller, and nothing startling is expected to occur in Natal in the immediate future.

Boer Guns Damaged.

According to a dispatch from Chiereley, dated 14th, it has been ascertained that the British artillery during last week's fighting rendered two large Boer guns and one Nordenfeldt ineffective.

Col. Eager Dead.

A Sterkstroom dispatch of Wednesday, 14th, says that Col. Eager, who was wounded and captured at Stormberg, is dead. The Boers turned his body over to the British at Molteneo.

Mr. Balfour's Statement.

London, Feb. 16.—The government leader, Mr. A. J. Balfour, has just announced in the House of Commons that the war office has no more news from the seat of war.

## AT KIMBERLEY.

### French's Column Arrived There Last Evening—Boers Outnumbered—Five Laagers Captured—British Casualties.

London, Feb. 16, 9:51 a.m.—The war office reports that General French reached Kimberley on Thursday evening.

The following is Lord Roberts's message to the war office:

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 15.—French, with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley this evening, Thursday."

Gen. French's Advance.

Riet River, Orange Free State, Feb. 14.—General French, in command of the cavalry division and a strong force of horse artillery, left Modder River on Sunday morning for Rambah, 12 miles east of Enslin, where the whole division concentrated.

The next day he made a rapid march to Riet River, where a party of Boers contested his passage at Dekiel and Waterfall drifts. After some hours' shelling French drove the Boers away and crossed the river.

On Tuesday the column continued its march. At Klip and Rondaval drifts on the Modder River a short engagement again ensued, French shelling the Boers vigorously and forcing a passage. The Boers precipitately retreated, leaving five laagers in the hands of the British, besides a great quantity of camels and 2,000 sheep.

The rapidity of Gen. French's march and the overwhelming nature of his force enabled him, in spite of the difficulties of water transportation, to thoroughly outwit and surprise the Boers.

The British casualties were slight.

Dispatch From Capetown.

Capetown, Feb. 16.—Gen. French, with cavalry, relieved Kimberley last night.

London, Feb. 16.—The significance of the Capetown dispatch announcing the

relief of Kimberley lies in the use of the word "relieved," which seems to set all doubts at rest.

Col. Hannay, while on his way to Rambah, encountered 500 Boers with two guns holding a kopje commanding the valley leading to the drift. The fighting lasted all day long, and the Boers disappeared during the night. Thirteen men reported missing from Hannay's force are prisoners.

They were captured treacherously during the fight. They were informed that an agreement had been reached between the British officer commanding the extreme left and the commandant of the Boer ambulance, that half a company of the British should be permitted to fetch water from a neighboring farm house. The ambulance then retired, and the Boers rushed out of concealment and cut off the water party. The thirteen prisoners included an officer.

Gen. French now holds both the Modder and Riet rivers between the Boers at Magersfontein and their base at Bloemfontein.

Throughout the march the Free State farms were respected but their owners almost invariably fled, taking their effects.

The health of the troops is excellent, but sickness is prevalent among the horses, and a plentiful supply of remounts will be required.

OCCUPATION OF JACOBSDAL.

Boers Driven From Their Position—Attack on Convoy at Riet River.

Outside Jacobsdal, Orange Free State, Thursday, Feb. 15.—Jacobsdal is now in possession of the British.

Yesterday a small cavalry patrol entered the place and found it full of wounded, including several British from Rensburg.

The place was occupied by only a small force, which fell back before the patrol. After a series of small skirmishes a battery of artillery shelled the environs and drove out the last of the Boers.

Early this morning a large force of Boers from Colesburg with ten guns, at-

tacked a convoy of 200 wagons at the Riet River, shelling vigorously and doing damage, but strong reinforcements have been sent hence, and it is hoped they will bring in the whole convoy in safety.

Gen. French's division seized three drifts on the Modder River. At the third drift the Boers were fairly strongly entrenched. Gen. French bombarded them and drove them off.

To-day he moved rapidly in the direction of Kimberley. The Boers have left Alexander's Fontein, which the British occupy.

Roberts is in excellent health and spirits. The hardships and rapid marching appear to agree with the whole army, who are in splendid spirits under the leadership of "Bobs."

Dispatch From French.

London, Feb. 16, 7:44 p.m.—The war office makes public a dispatch from Field Marshal Lord Roberts saying: "Jacobsdal, Feb. 16.—The following from General French was received this morning: 'I have completely dispersed the enemy from the southern side of Kimberley from Alexander's Fontein to Oliphant's Fontein, and am now going to occupy their ground. Have captured the enemy's laager and store depots, supplies and supplies of ammunition. Casualties—About twenty of all ranks, wounded.'"

"Kimberley cheerful and well."

A BAYONET CHARGE

By Grenadiers on a Body of Boers—Only Seventeen Escaped.

London, Feb. 16.—A mutilated dispatch from Capetown, dated Wednesday, February 14th, says some Grenadiers went through a body of Boers four times and that only seventeen of them escaped.

As the Grenadiers are part of Modder River column the bayonet charge may be connected with Lord Roberts's movement.

Clements Withdraws to Arundel.

Arundel, Feb. 14.—Gen. Clements withdrew from Rensburg during the night, his rear guard arriving at Arundel early this morning. The Boers promptly

followed, and are occupying the old position in the Taabosch hills, whence they have been shelling the British cavalry patrols ineffectually.

Boers Reported Near Naauwpoort.

Capetown, Feb. 16.—There is considerable alarm at Naauwpoort owing to the report that a Boer force has occupied a position on a hill eight miles off that town.

PREPARING FOR SEA.

Ships of the Fleet Reserve at Portsmouth Ordered to Be in Readiness.

London, Feb. 16.—A telegram from Portsmouth says the Admiralty inquiries at the naval ports have resulted in the assurance that 47 additional battleships, cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers could forthwith hoist the pennant.

The Admiralty to-day ordered the ships in the fleet reserve at Portsmouth to be fully armed and ready for sea.

This is regarded in some quarters as preliminary to putting the whole reserve in readiness for commissioning.

## ESCAPED FROM LADYSMITH

### A Correspondent Reaches Durban and Tells of the Situation—Confident of Holding Out.

London, Feb. 16.—A correspondent of the Associated Press at Ladysmith, from which place he escaped on Feb. 10th, and arrived at Durban Feb. 14th, sends the following written before he left Ladysmith:

"Since the furious cannonade in the early part of the week quietness has reigned. The hills on which the relief columns' Lydite shells were bursting in hundreds, are now occupied by grazing cattle.

"Further away on the north side of the Spioen Kop, the Boer laager can be seen evidently bigger than before, showing they have no idea at present of retiring from their position.

"Much disappointment is felt at the non-appearance of Buller, as from the serenity of the fire every heart was glowing with hope and excitement at the prospect of immediate relief—not that we are at all in the blues, for everyone capable of shouldering a rifle is confident of our ability to hold the town against any force the Boers are capable of putting in the field.

"Still the continued diet of horse and mule flesh is getting monotonous, although the health of the camp, taking everything in consideration, is better than

it could be expected. Enteric fever and dysentery have abated. The camp fever is not violent, but is slightly increasing.

"The scarcity of vegetables is very trying to the troops. Eggs are 36 shillings a dozen, small fowl 18 shillings and sixpence, pumpkins 12 shillings each, small vegetable marrow 6 shillings, a tin of jam 12 shillings and sixpence, a tin of milk 7 shillings and sixpence, box of sardines 3 shillings and tobacco 90 shillings a pound. A case of whiskey was raffled for £145.

"The Boers are smuggling tobacco into camp through natives. A local factory is turning out excellent horse sausages, and another is cooking nourishing soup, which is appreciated by the troops, who have increased in strength since these were served out."

## FORGES IN THE FIELD.

### Boer Army Numbers 61,893—Great Britain Now Has 37,000 Mounted and 142,000 Unmounted Men.

London, Feb. 16.—The British intelligence department estimates the number of Boers liable to service in the Transvaal at 31,314; in the Orange Free State, 22,314; disloyal Dutch, 4,000, and foreigners enlisted, 4,000, making a total of 61,893, from which 1,897 men are deducted for the police. The Boers, it is said, have 18 old guns of all kinds, 19 captured from Great Britain and 73 new guns, classified as follows: Cruze, 15 C guns, 16, 3.7-inch, 21, 7.5-inch, 32, and 4.7-inch howitzers, 4.

Against this the British have sent out: Mounted guns, 12; horse artillery, 54; field artillery, 234; 5-inch howitzers, 36; naval guns, mostly 4.7-inch, 38; heavy siege train guns, 36. The British forces prior to the war, consisted of 3,600 men, 7,600 unmounted and 2,000 mounted. On the date of the ultimatum, October 9th they had increased the forces to 12,900 unmounted and 3,400 mounted, a total of 16,300. On January 31st there were 83,000 unmounted and 19,800 mounted. On February 28th there will be 37,000 mounted men and 142,000 unmounted.

THE ZULUS.

London Press Comments on Mr. Chamberlain's Statement.

London, Feb. 16.—In commenting on Mr. Chamberlain's declaration of the government's decision to encourage and assist the natives in every way in defending their territory against Boer invasion, the newspapers, while not denying the possible necessity for the decision, regard it with misgivings.

The Times says: "In the circumstances described by Mr. Chamberlain this decision is necessary and inevitable."

The Standard says: "It is a hint which is not necessarily to be translated into practice. There are reasons, many and grave, why we should not add to the calamities of South Africa the misfortune of hostilities between the dominant and subject populations. The Boers will do well to take the warning to heart."

The Daily Chronicle says: "We trust the government will pause before taking the exceedingly dangerous step of putting arms into the hands of blackmen."

The Daily Mail says: "From every point of view, except the permanent well-being of South Africa, we have all to gain by calling the blacks to battle. For every native whom the Boers can rally to their side, we can call twenty. It behooves them to play a straight game rather than to raise a monster beyond their power to control."

Plenty of Men.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—Col. Steele says that he could have raised another regiment in the Northwest. He is receiving applications daily for positions. One came from a gentleman who has just come out from Dawson and is worth \$200,000.

Lieut. Col. Myles Cotton, R.C.A., has been appointed in charge of the Maxim guns with the Strathcona Horse.

Col. Steele at Ottawa.

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—Lieut. Col. Steele, commander of Strathcona Horse, who arrived in the city from Winnipeg today, expresses himself well pleased with the composition of his force, and declares them well trained for the work they will have to do in South Africa.

Toronto's Congratulations.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—Mayor Macdonald this morning cabled to Lord Lansdowne, secretary of war, on behalf of the citizens of Toronto, congratulating the Imperial authorities upon the successful relief of Kimberley.

Rejoicing at Montreal.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—The news of the relief of Kimberley has created wild enthusiasm in Eastern Canada, flags being hoisted in many places as tokens of rejoicing.

Telegrams From Kimberley.

New York, Feb. 16.—The Commercial Cable Co. at 2 o'clock this afternoon sent out the following notice: "We are advised that telegrams can now be accepted for Kimberley, South Africa, at the sender's risk, and not exceeding twelve words."

American Ship at Lorenzo Marquez.

Capetown, Feb. 15.—The American ship Sea Witch, Capt. Howes, from Wallaroo, Dec. 3rd, has arrived at Lorenzo Marquez with eight hundred tons of flour. She evaded the British war ships until within the three-mile limit.



"Cream of tartar" is the acid of the grape, highly refined and ground to a powder. Fruit acids are among the most wholesome and important constituents of food. In grape cream of tartar is combined the most useful of leavening agents and a healthful food article. This is the material from which Dr. Price's Baking Powder is made. It is many times more expensive than materials used in many baking powders, but it makes a more efficient baking powder and adds healthfulness to the food.

NOTE.—In imitation baking powders poisonous alum is used instead of healthful cream of tartar. Alum powders seriously affect the health.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.