

# POOR DOCUMENT

## QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE.

VOL. III.

Published Every Wednesday Morning.

GAGETOWN, N. B.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1899.

JAS. A. STEWART, Publisher.

NO. 45.



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Size 52 in. by 66 in.

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A slight eye strain impairs the health.

The strain which first manifests itself as a slight discomfort should be promptly remedied by the use of glasses.

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#### WAR NEWS.

PRETORIA, Sunday Dec. 10.—President Steyn has sent the following details of the fight at Stormberg Junction:

The British with six cannon attacked the Boers under Swartkop and Oliver and stormed the Boers' entrenched position on the kopje. After a severe fight they were compelled to surrender. The prisoners are Major Sturges, six officers and two hundred and thirty non-commissioned officers and men of the Northumberland and two officers and about two hundred and fifty non-commissioned officers and men of the Irish Fusiliers. It is impossible to state the number of dead or wounded British.

The Boers captured three cannon and two ammunition wagons.

LONDON, Dec. 12.—The military expert of the Morning Post in to-day's issue has this to say of the reverse met by Gen. Gatacre at Stormberg:

"How so large a portion of the two regiments chiefly engaged were captured by the enemy it is impossible to say. They had lost quite an insignificant amount of killed and wounded, and the reverse character of the reverse can only be accounted for by the fact that the men were worn out. The column left Putter's Kraal at midnight Saturday, took a train for Moltens, 22 miles up the line, and left there at 9 p. m. to cover on foot the 12 miles to the Boer position. The march occupied seven hours. At 4.15 a. m. the enemy's position was reached and the retreat began three hours later. The troops only took four hours in falling back to Moltens, thus being nearly twenty-four hours on the move. The men captured were probably dead beat, and could go no further. The other cause, says the expert, "were that the enemy was underestimated and the operation was without sufficient reconnaissance."

New York, Dec. 12.—In summing up the defeat of the British at Stormberg, the Herald's London correspondent cables that the result is that not only is Gatacre's advance delayed, but also the forward movement of General French from Naasport. Gen. Gatacre, before he can take another step to the north, must be heavily reinforced and there is danger that the Boers will take the offensive and try to get south of the British column to cut its communication. Thus the whole plan of the British campaign may have to be changed, especially as it is not certain but what a large part of the Boer force investing Ladysmith has been sent to stop the advance of the British from north Cape Colony.

Cape Town, Dec. 10.—Father Cullinan, a Catholic priest with the forces writes that the recent fight was terrific. The Boers fought magnificently. The Modder river fight was worse than the previous one, and that at Spytfontein is expected to be hotter still. The British losses are a thousand, a tenth of the entire force.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Later details regarding the disaster of Gen. Gatacre's column show that but for the magnificent work of the British artillery the disaster would have been far more extensive, as the incessant Boer shell fire in the midst of the repulsed infantry ultimately led to disorder, which only escaped developing into a rout, through the batteries of artillery occupying successive positions covering the retreat and thus drawing a portion of the Boers' galling fire. Apparently the British were set an impossible task and were treacherously guided. After a trying march and being under arms sixteen hours, they attacked the wrong part of the Boer position, where the hill is impregnable and the burghers were estimated to number 6,000 men instead of 2,500, as the spies had reported. There is little in the story to mitigate the intense humiliation occasioned by the episode, which is almost an exact counterpart of the battle of Nicholson's Nek.

The War office is besieged by anxious relatives and the successive editions of the newspapers are eagerly scanned. The authorities if they have any information are not publishing it. The affair caused the most depressing influence everywhere, not excepting the stock exchange, where consols were at the lowest price in many years and South African securities slumped, not so much on account of the military reverse, which is retrievable, but owing to the profound apprehension as to its political effect. No great surprise would be occasioned if Gen. Gatacre's reverse resulted in Cape Colony becoming adverse from end to end.

The afternoon papers, like the morning papers, withhold the apportionment of blame until they are further acquainted with the facts, and take the reverse philosophically. The Pall Mall Gazette remarks: "The country's calm will surprise the continent. If the blow is more serious than it appears neither the crown nor the ministry will be in danger of even a single seditious, vilifying howl in the street. We have confidence in those who are fighting for us and in their directors."

Attention is called to the fact that it is the flower of the English army that have suffered defeat in the South African campaign. These include the famous guards,

the Grenadiers, the Coldstreams and the Scots, and the greatest fighting regiments England has ever known, the Royal Highlanders, the mighty Black Watch, the Gordons, the Seaforth Highlanders, the Highland Light Infantry, the Argyll and the Sutherland Highlanders. Among them are great Irish fighting regiments, which almost equal them.

New York, Dec. 14.—A London cable declares that the Royal household is intensely anxious over the mental sufferings which Queen Victoria endures since the repulse to the British arms in South Africa and the loss of life in the regiments. Her Majesty is continually sending to the War office for the minutest information concerning the state of affairs, and when she receives the information breaks down under the weight of her sorrow. It is asserted that frequently when engaged in correspondence or other business the Queen suddenly bursts into tears and talks of the sufferings endured, not only by the soldiers, but by their relatives at home, and even the Boers are said to be included in her sympathies.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—An official report gives the total number of killed, wounded and missing of all arms in the engagement of Sunday and Monday, north of Modder River, as 817. Of the officers, 15 were killed and 37 wounded, while five are missing and one is known to have been captured. The brigade lost 10 officers killed, 38 wounded and 4 missing.

The War office has received a message stating that three were 290 casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men of the Highland brigade at Magersfontein.

LONDON, December 13.—The War Office publishes the following despatch from General Buller:

"Despatch from General Buller, dated December 11, says: "Last night Colonel Metcalf and 500 of the second Rifle Brigade, sorted to capture a Boer howitzer on a hill. They reached the crest without being discovered, drove off the enemy, and then destroyed the howitzer with gun-cotton."

"When returning, Metcalf found his retirement barred by the Boers, but he forced his way through, using the bayonet freely.

"The British losses were considerable.

"The British losses were the following: Lieut. Ferguson and 11 men killed; Capt. Pain, 2nd Lieut. Davenport, 2nd Lieut. Bond and 41 men wounded; sergeant, 400 of the enemy, and then destroyed the howitzer with gun-cotton."

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troops. After thanking the troops for their valuable services he said he would hire the pleasure of reporting to Gen. Buller, whom he hoped to see in a few days, the good behaviour and help of the volunteers and closed by saying: "We have I dare say, a lot of severe fighting before us and it is a great gratification to me to know that I have the help of such men as I see before me."

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Daily Mail publishes details from its correspondent, G. W. Stevens, at Ladysmith, showing that all the men who took part in the recent attack of the Boer position on Gen. Hill, were on foot. Some wore rubber-soled shoes, and carried no bayonets, and their rifles were not loaded. When they had silently mounted the rocks, passing the sleeping Boer picket, they suddenly heard the challenge, "Who comes there?" No reply was made, and the challenge was repeated.

Then the Boers "cried several times, 'The Redcoats, Shoot.' An officer of the Light Horse Volunteers thereupon shouted in Dutch, 'The red coats with bayonets on their rifles.'"

The British cheered and charged. The enemy's fire broke in front and rear, and the British in front thought their comrades in the rear were firing on them.

Gen. Hunter ordered "Cease fire" to be sounded, and the next minute the Boers bolted. Some thirty were surprised asleep. One of the Sergeants, amid the confusion, seized General Hunter by the throat, crying "Who the devil are you?"

The correspondent adds that a letter written by a Boer gunner was found in which the writer said, "Master Englishman is a very hard fighter, and Ladysmith won't fall yet. We are still strong here nearly 20,000 being engaged."

They, doubtless, are engaged in a very hard fight, and Ladysmith won't fall yet. We are still strong here nearly 20,000 being engaged."

The information alone is worth the casualties sustained by the British.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—A revised list of the total casualties to the British troops at Magersfontein places the number at 832.

MONDER RIVER, Dec. 13.—Details gathered here by a representative of the Associated Press among the wounded British and Boers give some idea of the desperate nature of the fight at Magersfontein. The Highlanders did all that the best troops in the world could do, but it was impossible to face the terrible fire of the Boers. The British artillery again saved the situation and divided the honours of the day with the Boers. The batteries worked for hours under a galling rifle fire. According to the Boer stories, it was impossible for the burghers to escape fearful loss. One Boer prisoner said a single Lyddite shell killed or wounded over 70 Boers and that other shells burst over two bodies of Boers, doing fearful damage.

All agreed that the Boers fought throughout with the utmost gallantry. Their sharpshooters seldom missed the mark. A Seaforth Highlander says that while he was lying wounded on the field he saw a Boer of typical German appearance, fully dressed, with polished top boots, a shirt with silk ruffles, and a cigar in his mouth, walking among the hills picking off the British. This Boer was quite alone, and it was apparent from his frequent use of field glasses that he was singling out officers.

Another wounded Boer says that a Lyddite shell fired on Sunday fell in the middle of an open-air prayer meeting held to offer applications for the success of the Boer arms.

All the wounded are full of praise for the treatment they received from the medical department on the battlefield.

OTTAWA, Dec. 14.—The government has had no information from the home authorities about a second contingent.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Private Chappel, of the Royal Canadian, died of tonsillitis at Belmont, Cape Colony, Dec. 12.

There was a private Chappelle in the company organized in New Brunswick and P. E. Island.

M. C. Chappelle came from the 74th Batt., Baie Verte, N. B.

Chappelle hailed from Moncton, a Montreal despatch says.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The War office has received from General Gatacre the following list of casualties furnished by a correspondent who was permitted to visit the Boer camp with the chaplains, and it is believed to be reliable:

Second Royal Irish—10 killed, 32 wounded.

First East Lancashires—One wounded.

Second Northumberlands—12 killed, 27 wounded.

Of the above wounded men are prisoners.

New York, Dec. 14.—A despatch from the British camp at Frere Station, Natal, dated December 13, tells of the arrival there of Sir William MacCormac and several hundred ambulance bearers. At the time the despatch was sent the Boers were still shelling Ladysmith, though a day or two before the news was that they had stopped using their big guns.

Detachments of Boers are moving towards Springfield with the probable intention of preventing the British from crossing the Tugela river at that point.

(Continued on 8th Page.)

#### ST. JOHN MARKET REPORTS.

WHOLESALE.

CORRECTED TO DEC. 12TH.

Beef (Butcher's) per carcass	\$0 07 to \$0 08
Beef (Country) per quarter	0 24 " 0 06
Lamb per lb.	0 25 " 0 06
Pork, fresh, per carcass	0 05 " 0 04
veal, per lb.	0 05 " 0 07
Shoulders, smoked, per lb.	0 07 " 0 09
Hams	0 10 " 0 14
Butter (in tubs) per lb.	0 12 " 0 16
Butter (in lamps)	0 12 " 0 16
Butter (cream)	0 21 " 0 22
Butter (rolls)	0 10 " 0 14
Fowl, per pair	0 25 " 0 40
Chickens, per pair	0 25 " 0 30
Turkey per lb.	0 10 " 0 13
Ducks, per pair	0 40 " 0 70
Geese	0 40 " 0 70
Eggs, per doz.	0 18 " 0 19
Cabbage per doz.	0 20 " 0 30
Mutton, per lb, carcass	0 04 " 0 05
Potatoes per bbl.	1 00 " 1 35
Squash per lb.	0 02 " 0 03
Radish per doz.	0 03 " 0 05
Turkey per pair	0 45 " 0 55
Calves, per lb.	0 00 " 0 10
Lamb skins	0 60 " 0 80
Hides, per lb.	0 07 " 0 08
Beans per bus, yellow	0 00 " 0 25
Beans per bus, white	1 00 " 1 10
Peas, per bus	0 05 " 0 10
Corn per doz.	0 10 " 0 12
Maple sugar per lb.	0 10 " 0 12
Beets per bbl.	0 75 " 0 90
Tonatoes 30 lb box	0 40 " 0 50
Colely per doz.	0 00 " 0 04
Syrup per gal.	0 80 " 1 00
Blueberries per box	0 04 " 0 05
Black Duck per pair	0 00 " 0 05
Squash per doz.	0 20 " 0 30
Corn per doz.	0 00 " 0 15
Currants box	0 00 " 0 09
Pears, green, per bush	0 00 " 0 05
Apples per bbl.	0 00 " 0 00

#### ST. JOHN MARKET.

Best, per quarter, four cents.

Hope of two hundred pounds or under, five cents, each additional hundred pounds, one cent.

Sheep, lamb, goat or yall, per carcass, each four cents.

Butter in tub, per gallon or dozen, ten pounds and under, two cents; every additional ten pounds or division thereof, one cent.

Butter in roles and lard in cakes, for every ten pounds or under two cents.

Tallow for every ten pounds or under, one cent.

Cheese for every ten pounds or under, one cent.

Potatoes per one hundred pounds, two cents.

Turkey per one hundred pounds, one cent.

Oysters in tub or other vessels per gallon, two cents.

Oysters in shell per bushel, two cents.

Turkey each, one cent.

Geese each, one cent.

Pigeons per dozen, one cent.

Partridges, fowl or ducks per pair, one cent.