

BLOODY BATTLE FOUGHT

Methuen's Column Drives 8,000 Boers From Their Position Near Kimberley.

Desperate Fighting for Ten Hours Without Food or Water--British Losses Are Very Heavy--One of the Hardest Battles in the Annals of the British Army.

Gen. Methuen reports: "Reconnoitred at 5 a.m. on Tuesday enemy's position on River Modder, and found them strongly entrenched and concealed. No means of outflanking, river being in full flood."

Action commenced with artillery, mounted infantry, and cavalry at 5.30. Guards on right; Ninth Brigade on left. Attacked position in widely extended formation at 6.30, and supported by the artillery, found ourselves in front of the whole Boer force, 8,000 strong, with two large guns, four Krupps, etc.

The Naval Brigade rendered great assistance from the railway.

After desperate, hard fighting, which lasted ten hours, our men, without water or food, and in the burning sun, made the enemy quit his position.

General Pole-Carew was successful in getting a small party across the river, gallantly assisted by 300 sappers.

I speak in terms of high praise of the conduct of all who were engaged in one of the hardest and most trying fights in the annals of the British army. If I can mention one arm particularly, it is two batteries of artillery."

RESULT OF THE BATTLE

As regards the actual result of the battle, the London Morning Post military critic, who has been generally proved, has given foresight, says:

"It does not seem too much to presume that it was won by the British, though the despatch refrains scrupulously from referring to a victory. The enemy was forced to withdraw from his position, which may mean a falling back of the advance to the interior lines, or the abandonment of the bridge head defences."

The critic assumes that there was a bridge, and that the Boers at the outset were defending the southern approaches to it.

The former is the more plausible, since General Pole-Carew was crossing with the help of sappers; which would negative the hope that the bridge was in the hands of the British. The sappers were undoubtedly pontooning.

Complaint is beginning to be heard against the employment of so many sailors for purely soldiers' work so far from the coast. The complaint is based on the ground that the navy cannot afford to lose men whom it takes so long to make and replace.

There are also complaints that more artillery and cavalry have not been furnished to General Methuen. It is argued that at the start of his march he did not have sufficient cavalry for pursuit and to clinch the victories gained, and that branch must now be so overworked as to be practically worn out.

The London Daily News says: "Whatever comes, we must brace our nerves to meet it. Certainly, to-day looks as if we had before us a very stern and earnest struggle before we see our way clear to final victory."

BOERS' RETREAT FROM ENSLIN

The London Daily Chronicle's correspondent at Orange river says that after the engagement at Enslin he limbed the koppie where the enemy's main battery has been. He found that a gun pit had been constructed of ironstone boulders, which practically commanded the railway. Fragments of British shells were everywhere.

On the hills were a dozen horses, all of which had been killed by shells. Inside the fort there was evidence of a hasty Boer retreat. Saddles, overcoats, rugs, and cartridges were abandoned.

A British cavalry cap was found in the fort on the next koppie, where there were over a hundred dead horses.

The correspondent adds that it is impossible to estimate the Boer losses, as they carried off many of their dead.

There was evidence that the British guns had done terrible execution; nearly all the Boer wounded were injured by the shell fire. Packages of dum-dum cartridges were found in several places.

The Daily Mail's correspondent says that the wound caused by a dum-dum bullet is small where the missile enters but where it leaves the body, the wound is the size of a five-shilling piece.

BRITISH LOSSES REVISED.

A despatch from London says: "A revised list of the British casualties at Belmont shows: Officers killed, 4; wounded, 22; non-commissioned officers and privates killed, 46; wounded, 225; of which number the Guards had 85 killed and 159 wounded.

The revised list of casualties sustained by General Hildyard's forces in their sortie from Estcourt, Natal, at Beacon Hill shows: Killed, 13; wounded, 64; missing, 1; prisoners, 8.

LANCER SHOT BY WOMEN.

A despatch to the London Daily Telegraph from Emden says that on Sunday a patrol of the Ninth Lancers rode up to a farm. A number of women outside the house directed a heavy fire against the troops, killing one of them.

CASUALTIES AT MODDER RIVER.

A despatch from London says: "The casualties in the Modder river battle on Tuesday, so far as known, were four officers killed and nineteen wounded."

The losses among the rank and file have not yet been announced by the War Office, and no despatches concerning

on hand the sooner it will be accomplished."

A HEAVY WAR CARGO.

A despatch from London says: "The steamer Karama sailed on Friday for South Africa, taking one of the heaviest war cargoes on record. It includes 40,000,000 rounds of small arm ammunition, 7,000 shrapnel shells, 4,000 lyddite shells, 851 boxes of fuses, 40 boxes of pistol ammunition, and a large number of star shells for discovering the enemy's position at night, and for signalling. Each of these shells contain six magnesium light stars which burn for 14 seconds, and seven stars, which burn for 34 to 37 seconds."

BRITISH LOSSES.

A despatch from London says: "A full official list of the British casualties at Belmont has not yet been received, and it is awaited with uneasiness, as it is feared that it will exceed the first estimate."

The estimated losses at Belmont, with 195 casualties at the battle of Graspan, or as it is officially called, Engelskraal, brings the total numbers of British killed, wounded, and missing since the beginning of the war up to 2,945 of all ranks.

KRUGER'S PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

A despatch from Berlin says: "The Deutsche Zeitung claims to have received the following despatch from a diplomatic source:--"

President Kruger and President Steyn instructed Generals Joubert and Cronje, the commanders of the Transvaal and Orange Free State forces respectively, not to split the besieging forces, but to strike vigorous blows. Gen. Joubert concentrated three corps, the first at Ladysmith, the second at the Tugela river, and the third to the eastward of the Pietermaritzburg-Escourt railway to cut off the British retreat."

Gen. Cronje is operating at Kimberley and Modder river, and in General Lord Methuen's rear."

BOERS KILLED BY BOERS.

A despatch from London, Wednesday, says: "The correspondent of the Daily Telegraph cabling under date of November 27 from Nieuwpoort, says that a Dutchman, living near the scene of the skirmish of November 23, declares that a party of Boers dressed in khaki, while approaching their own position, were fired on by their comrades, who mistook them for British soldiers. Five or six of them were killed."

RESERVES RESPOND WELL.

A despatch from London says: "Lieut.-General Sir Charles Massfied Clarke, it is reported, will be the commander of the 6th division."

The latest phase of the mobilization of the reserves has proved as satisfactory as have former calls. Out of 9,786 men summoned, 9,553 have rejoined the colors."

INFANTRY.

First Brigade--Second and Third Grenadier Guards, First and Second Coldstream Guards, First Scots Guards.

NINTH BRIGADE.

First Brigade--Second Yorkshire Light Infantry, First Northumberland Fusiliers, Second Northamptonshires, First Royal North Lancashires, Second West Yorkshires.

ARTILLERY.

At least three batteries, including the Seventh and probably the Fourteenth.

CAVALRY.

Ninth Lancers.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Bluejackets from Cape fleet, Royal Marine Light Infantry.

NEWS FROM MAFEKING.

Colonel Baden-Powell, under date of Mafeking, November 20, has sent the following to the War Office through General Borstier-Walker, at Cape Town:

"All well here. Cronje has gone with a commando, and with about 20 wagons, 100 fighters, Transvaal, leaving most of the guns here with the Maritz and Lichtenberg contingents, with orders to shell us into submission."

"The enemy's 91-pounder became damaged, and has been replaced by another more efficient."

"I am daily pushing out our advance works, with good effect."

"The health of the garrison is good. No casualties to report."

GOING STRONG ON THE 24TH.

Capt. Wilson, in a message from Mafeking, under date of November 24, says: "We are going strong. We are still beleaguered. There is intermittent shelling."

DID SOME HUSTLING.

A despatch from Cape Town says: "While everybody is talking about the good work of the Naval Brigade now fighting under Gen. Lord Methuen, it may not be news to tell how they hustled to the front. During the train journey northward there was a serious collision on the Victoria road. A strong force of constabulary guarded the route. The Emperor and Empress affectionately bid farewell to the Prince and Princess of Wales in the waiting-room of the station. The Prince of Wales condoned the Empress, who wore a lavender costume and violet bonnet, to the royal saloon carriage, and the Duke of York accompanied the Emperor, who wore plain clothes, a dark overcoat, and a derby hat."

The Empress smilingly acknowledged the bows of the few privileged persons who were admitted to the platform.

After their Majesties had entered the train the Prince and Princess of Wales stood at the door of the carriage repeating their farewells. They embraced the Emperor and Empress and the train moved off amid the acclamations of the officials and villagers. The Duke of York accompanied their Majesties to Port Victoria, where they boarded the Imperial yacht Hohenzollern.

ANOTHER BRITISH DIVISION.

A despatch from London says: "Speaking of Thursday, at a dinner given by the Scottish corporation, Field Marshal Lord Wolseley Commander-in-chief of the British army, said he had no intention of criticizing anything that had taken place in South Africa, but he would say that this evening it was decided to call out one more division of the second army corps. Perhaps before the week was out, certainly before four or five days, it would be on the way to South Africa."

RECEIVED WITH SATISFACTION.

As men are needed in all directions, Lord Wolseley's announcement that a new division will be embarked without delay has been received with the greatest satisfaction. The transports will soon be returning from the Cape and it is hoped that the men will be despatched speedily.

On this point the Morning Post says:

"The sooner we can make up our mind as to the magnitude of the work

on hand the sooner it will be accomplished."

PUT A BULLET IN HIS HEAD.

J. Turner-Routledge, Son-in-Law of Sir Hugh Allan, Committed Suicide.

A despatch from Montreal says: "A sad occurrence took place at Georgeville, in the Eastern Townships, on Monday. Amongst the most prominent residents of this summer resort were J. Turner Routledge, a young Englishman of good family, who came to Canada several years ago and married the youngest daughter of Sir Hugh Allan, of Montreal. Routledge, for a number of years was engaged in ranching in the North-West, but had lately been living quietly at the family's summer home at Georgeville. Monday he was found dead at his residence, and it was found that he had committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. He leaves a widow and young child."

\$3,100 FOR HIS INJURIES.

Parry Sound Railway Mulcted Heavily in Damages by Ottawa Jury.

A despatch from Ottawa says: "In the case at the assizes of Richier against the Ottawa and Parry Sound Railway Company, the jury awarded the plaintiff \$3,100, finding that the flagman had been negligent, that the proper warnings had not been given from the engine, and that the train was running at too high rate of speed at the time the accident occurred."

Mr. Richier was driving across the company's tracks when struck by a train. His two companions were killed and he was badly injured.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Grain, Cattle, Cheese, &c. in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, Dec. 5. About twenty car loads of offerings were received at the Western cattle yards this morning, including a small run of cattle, 2,000 hogs, about 600 sheep and lambs, and a few milkers and calves.

A few odd lots of export stuff were purchased, and represented the shipping business here to-day. All unaltered.

Only the best butcher cattle appears to be really wanted, and what else sells is at weak prices. The quality generally is poor.

Stockers are a slow sale at from \$2.25 to \$3 per cwt. The Buffalo market is still off.

Export bulls, feeders and springers are just about the same as on Tuesdays.

Ewes were weaker to-day, and sold at from \$3 to \$3 1/4 per pound.

Lambs were steady at from \$3 1/4 to \$3 5/8 per pound.

Bucks unchanged in price.

A few extra choice milkers are in demand.

Good veal calves are wanted.

About 1,500 turkeys were received.

There is no change in the price of hogs. Choice hogs, scaling from 160 to 200 lbs, are selling at \$4.25 per cwt. In fact, all at \$3.75 and fat hogs at \$4 per cwt.; stores are not wanted.

Following is the range of current quotations:

Cattle.

Shipper, per cwt. \$4.00. \$4.50

Butcher, choice do. \$3.75. 4.25

Butcher, medium do. 3.00. 3.50

Butcher, inferior do. 2.50. 2.75

Stockers, per cwt. 2.25. 3.00

Sheep and Lambs.

Ewes, per cwt. \$3.00. 3.30

Lambs, per cwt. \$3.25. 3.65

Bucks, per cwt. 2.25. 2.75

Milkers and Calves.

Cows, each. \$2.00. 50.00

Calves, each. \$2.00. 8.00

Hogs.

Choice hogs, per cwt. \$4.00. 4.25

Light hogs, per cwt. \$3.00. 3.75

Heavy hogs, per cwt. \$3.75. 4.00

Toronto, Dec. 5. Wheat--European markets were about steady. There was no change here. Red and white Ontario, sold to millers at \$4.12 to \$6. according to nearness to the mill. Goats, wheat unchanged at 70c; middle freights, and 69c, north and west. Manitoba, quiet; No. 1 hard, girt, 76-1-2c, and Toronto, west at 75-1-2c, and track, Midland or Owen Sound 72c.

Flour--Dull and unchanged. Straight roller, in buyers' bags, middle freights, \$2.60 bid, with \$2.70 asked. Same in wood, for local account, \$3 per bbl, asked, and \$2.90 bid for single car lots.

Millfeed--Steady. Stocks light. Bran quoted at \$12 to \$12.50, and shorts at \$14 to \$14.50 west.

Pearls--Steady. Car lots sold at 57c north and west, and 59c east.

Barley--A trifle steadier, especially for choice malting barley. Car lots of No. 2, middle freights, sold at 30c, and No. 2 was quoted at 41 to 42c.