

CASUALTIES AT SPION KOP.

Upwards of 1000 Men Killed in the Engagement—Many Officers Slain—British Troops Retired in Order—Buller's Sanguine Talk—Canadians Again in Action—News From Ladysmith—145,700 to the Front—Boers' Supplies Short.

A despatch from London says—A special from Frere camp, says: "I have just ridden in here, having left Gen. Buller's forces in the new positions south of the Tugela to which they retired in consequence of the reverse at Spion kop.

The fighting both before and after the occupation of the mountain was of a desperate character. Spion kop is a precipitous mountain, overtopping the whole line of kopjes along the Upper Tugela. On the eastern side the mountain faces Mount Aicoe, and Potgieter's drift, standing at right angles to the Boer central position and Lyttelton's advanced position. The southern point descends in abrupt steps to the lower line of kopjes on the western side, opposite the right outposts of Warren's force. It is inaccessible steep until the point where the nek joins the point to the main range. Then there is a gentle slope, which allows easy access to the summit.

The nek was strongly held by the Boers, who also occupied a heavy spur parallel with the kop, where the enemy was concealed in no fewer than 35 rifle-pits, and was thus enabled to bring to bear upon our men a damaging cross-fire, the only possible point for a British attack being the south side, with virtually sheer precipices on the left and right.

A narrow path admitting men in single file only, the main organs into a perfectly flat table land, probably of 300 square yards area, upon which the Boers had hastily commenced to make a transverse trench. Our men were able to occupy the further end of the table land, where the ridge descends to another flat, which was again succeeded by a round steep eminence held by the Boers in great strength.

The ridge held by our men was faced by a number of strong little kopjes at angles, whence the Boers sent a constant fire from their rifles, supported by a Maxim, a Hotchkiss, and a big long-range gun. What with the rifles and the machine guns, the summit was conferred into a perfect hell. The shells exploded continually in our ranks, and the rifle fire from an absolutely unseen enemy, was very appalling. Reinforcements were hurried up by Gen. Warren, but they had to cross a stretch of flat ground, which was literally torn up by the flying lead of the enemy. The unfinished trench on the summit gave very questionable shelter, as the Boers' machine guns were so accurately ranged upon the place that often 10 shells fell in the trench in a single minute.

Mortal man could not permanently hold such a position. Our gallant fellows held it tenaciously for twenty hours, and then, taking advantage of darkness, abandoned it to the enemy. TWENTY-TWO OFFICERS, KILLED.

A despatch from London says—The War Office has posted a list of casualties among the officers of the fifth division and mounted brigade at Spion kop on January 24, totalling—Killed, 22; wounded, 19; missing, 4. They are as follows:

KILLED.
Staff Captain M. H. Virtue.
Captain S. M. Stewart, Lieut. F. R. Maule and E. Fraser, Second Lancashire Fusiliers.
Capt. C. Muriel, Lieut. W. Lawley and Major A. Wilson, Second Middlesex.
Major A. J. Ross, Capt. M. W. Kirk, and Lieut. A. H. Wade, Second Lancashire Fusiliers.
Lieut. J. H. Wolferton, Second King's Scottish Borderers.
Capt. C. G. Birch and Lieut. F. M. Rachael, First South Lancashire Fusiliers.
Lieut. H. W. Garvey, First Borderers.

Captains the Hon. W. H. Petre and C. S. Knox-Gore and Lieut. C. G. Grenfell, P. F. Newton, P. S. McCroquill, and H. J. Trevor, Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry.
Lieut. Randa and Knockschand, Imperial Light Infantry.

WOUNDED.
Colonel Blomfield (taken prisoner), Major W. F. Waller, and Lieut. R. S. Wilson and L. E. Charton, Second Lancashire Fusiliers.
Major E. W. Scott, Moncrieff and Captains G. W. Saville, Lieut. Burton, G. W. Bentley, Second Middlesex.
Capt. W. Sanbach and Lieut. A. Dykes, J. A. Nixon, and G. R. Stephenson, Second Lancashires.

General Woodgate, dangerously.
Capt. E. M. Carlton and Lieut. A. W. Forster and J. W. Baldwin, of the staff.
Capt. R. A. Bettington and Lieut. Howard, of Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry.
Capt. Coleman, Imperial Light Infantry.

MISSING.
Captains W. F. Elmstie, Hicks, and G. B. French, Second Lancashire Fusiliers.
Major G. A. Carton, Second Royal Lancashires.
Lieut. Power-Ellis, Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry.

The announcement of General Woodgate's death in the press despatches was apparently erroneous.
BULLER'S SANGUINE TALK.
A despatch from London says—Gen. Buller read the following from the Queen to Gen. Warren's force:—"I must express my admiration of my troops during the past trying week, especially the regiments you specify, and the accomplishment of your arduous march."
Gen. Buller addressed the men, saying they ought not to think because they had retired that all their work was of no avail.

ley, but having become suspicious, he told the Boer commander that he would not parley. Both retired, and the Boers fired a volley; the colonel only escaping in consequence of their bad shooting."

WILL TRY TO FLOOD LADYSMITH.
A despatch from Lorenzo Marquez says—Information has been received from the Transvaal that the Boers are convinced of the uselessness of again attempting to storm Ladysmith, and of continuing their ineffective bombardment. They have resolved to dam the Klip river some miles below the town, hoping to flood the place, and drive the soldiers and inhabitants out of the bomb-proof caves, so as to expose them to the shell fire. Hundreds of Kafirs and huge quantities of timber and sand-bags have been sent from Johannesburg and Pretoria to perform the work.

BADEN-POWELL AT WORK.
A despatch from Mafeking says: "All well during the past fortnight. Have been pushing out the trenches toward the enemy's big guns, and on January 16 their 94-pounder and high velocity Krupp evacuated their positions toward the eastwards of the town; whence they are capable of little damage."
"Have just pushed the enemy on three sides well out of rifle shot."
"Have opened a new grazing ground for cattle."
"The enemy still have two strong positions on the east side, which we hope to shift with dynamite."

REFUGES IN METHUEN'S CAMP.
A despatch from Modder River says:—Two refugees, Messrs. Norton and Coulter, with their families, entered the camp here. The party had fourteen horses and twenty mules, all in good condition.

Messrs. Norton and Coulter described the conditions in the Transvaal and Free State.
They said that the Republican forces had put their last ounce of strength in the field of Komaggas. The party was not stopped by the Boers. Though they had a pass from Barkly West, which permitted them to go to Kopjes dam, which is the Magersfontein head laager, they did not report there, because it was certain that, on account of their good condition, the horses and mules would be seized.

Norton and Coulter state positively that every available man on the western frontiers of the two Republics, and in Bechuanaland and Griqualand has been commandeered and sent to the Boer positions between here and Kimberley.

SHORT OF SUPPLIES.
A despatch from Sterkstroom, Cape Colony, says—A runner who has arrived here brought a letter from All-worth North, in which it is announced that the Boers have reopened the line between Stormberg, as their supplies were short at Stormberg.
The plains being bare, the camp of the burghers, it is added, has been moved back of Stormberg heights, which are still held.

MRS. JOUBERT AT THE FRONT.
A despatch from London says—General Joubert's wife accompanied him everywhere, and insisted on personally providing for his table.

145,700 MEN AT THE FRONT.
A despatch from London says—The first authentic statement of the total British troops and guns now in the field in the Transvaal, Africa was given in the House of Commons by Mr. George Wyndham, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, in the debate on the address, Mr. Wyndham read the following list, mentioning that it was exclusive of the 8th division, now being mobilized, and the fourth cavalry brigade, under orders to proceed to the front.

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|-----------------|---------|
| Total troops | 145,700 |
| Siege guns | 36 |
| Field guns | 38 |
| Horse artillery | 36 |
| Field guns | 51 |
| Total guns | 398 |

Mr. Wyndham added that in 1898 the combined forces of the two Republics were estimated at 59,000 men.

SMALLPOX IN WASHINGTON.
The Postoffice Authorities Disobey Orders to Fumigate Mails—Precaution in British Columbia.

A despatch from Washington says—The Postoffice Department, has received a report from Spokane, Wash., showing that the orders to fumigate mails leaving that place for British Columbia have not as yet been carried out. The reports state that neither the postmaster nor the health officers there believe it necessary to disinfect the mails, because they think the smallpox scarce to be unwarranted. The epidemic now in evidence there, they say, is chickenpox. The Postoffice Department has, however, reiterated its instructions, directing the post-office officials there to disinfect the mails.

Rossland, Jan. 27.—No letter mail was received here from Spokane yesterday or to-day, the mail bags being held at Northport until the question of fumigation is settled between the Canadian and American authorities.
Victoria, Jan. 27.—In view of the extreme precautionary measures have been adopted by the civic authorities, Mayor Hayward to-day proclaimed that general vaccination is imperative. Chinatown is also to be thoroughly overhauled. All mail for the Kootenay zone hereafter via the C.P.R. instead of Puget Sound.

The Dutch cruiser Zeehoed sailed for Delagoa Bay on January 25th.
Denmark continues to negotiate with the United States for the sale of her possessions in the West Indies.
Official reports giving details of the recent inundations in Japan show that property valued at over 6,000,000 yen was destroyed. Thirty-five towns were devastated, 7,268 houses submerged and 189 lives lost.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Opening Proceedings—Text of the Governor-General's Speech From the Throne.

A despatch from Ottawa says—With weather 15 degrees below zero the Parliament of Canada was opened. At 3 o'clock the Governor-General drove up to the Parliament buildings, accompanied by the riding escort of the Princess Louise Dragons. When Mr. Speaker Bain opened the proceedings in the House of Commons there were about 150 members present. After the Commons repaired to the Senate chamber, Lord Minto delivered the following speech from the throne: Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

It is again my pleasing duty to congratulate you on the continued prosperity of the Dominion, and on the remarkable increase in the general volume of the revenue and of the exports and imports of the country.
Hostilities having unfortunately broken out during the recess between Great Britain and the South African Republic, it appeared to my Ministers expedient to anticipate the action of Parliament by equipping and forwarding two contingents of volunteers to the seat of war as a practical evidence of the profound devotion and loyalty of the entire people of Canada to the Sovereign and institutions of the British Empire.

In this connection, it is a matter of pride and gratification to the people of this Dominion, that, in addition to the contingents sent by the Government, another Canadian force is being organized and despatched at the personal expense of the High Commissioner of Canada. This generous and patriotic action on the part of Strathcona reflects high honor on him and on the Dominion he represents. I have been instructed to convey to you her Majesty's high appreciation of the loyalty and patriotism so displayed, which, following the preference granted to the present tariff to articles of British manufacture, has had the happy effect of cementing and intensifying the cordial relations subsisting between Canada and the Mother Country.

COST OF THE CONTINGENT.
A bill will be submitted for your approval, making provision for the cost of equipping and paying the Canadian contingents.
The measures which have been taken on this time, to facilitate the safe transportation of goods, to the European markets, have resulted in a large increase in the exportation of several important articles of produce, and it may become necessary in the interest of this very important branch of industry to require a more customary for the purpose of maintaining that high standard of excellence heretofore secured, and which is also indispensable if the people of Canada are to increase their large and profitable trade with other countries in these commodities.

It is a matter of regret that the returns from the Post-office Department of our sister colonies in the West Indies, which is hoped may result in increasing and developing our trade with those islands, and possibly with certain portions of the adjacent continent of South America.
It gives me great pleasure to observe that in pursuance of the policy which was defined at the last session of Parliament, a care has been exercised of regulations has been applied, applicable to all railways and works within the Federal jurisdiction, making adequate provision for the safety, protection and medical care of workmen.

SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES.
The attention of the Government has been called to the conflicts which occur between workmen and their employers, which it may not be possible to wholly prevent such difficulties by legislation, my Government has endeavored to devise a method of settling the friendly intervention of Boards of Conciliation, the constitution of which, while not altogether binding, would have much weight with the sides, and be useful in bringing an intelligent public opinion to bear on these complicated subjects. You will be invited to consider whether the provincial legislation in this matter may not be usefully supplemented by an enactment providing for the establishment of a Dominion Tribunal for assisting in the settlement of such questions.

I am happy to observe that the number of settlers who have taken up land in Manitoba and in the North-West Territories is larger than in any previous year, and affords conclusive evidence of the success which has attended the efforts of my Government to promote immigration, and I have no doubt that the greatly increased production of the West will henceforth add materially to the growth of the trade of the whole Dominion.
While the efforts made to secure in the West have been successful, much attention has also been devoted to the re-properous times, have left Canada. You will be pleased to learn that this work has been attended with satisfactory results.

A RAILWAY COMMISSION.
My Government, during the recess, has been giving its attention to the subject of a railway commission. Valuable information has been, in a suitable form, collected, which, when completed, will be submitted to you, and will doubtless receive at your hands the earnest consideration which the importance of the subject requires.

I am pleased to say that our canal system concerning the great lakes with the Atlantic seaboard has been completed, so as to allow vessels having a draught of fourteen feet to pass from the head of Lake Superior to the sea. The vigorous and successful prosecution of these works by my government, has already attracted the attention of those interested in western transportation, and there are good grounds for the hope that when the necessary facilities for the quick and inexpensive handling of each traffic are provided, and which are now in progress, Canadian ports will control a much larger share of the traffic of the west.

OTHER GOVERNMENT MEASURES.
Measures will be introduced to renew and amend the existing banking laws, to regulate the rate of interest payable upon judgments recovered in the courts of law, to provide for the taking of the next decennial census, for the better arrangement of the electoral districts, to amend the criminal code, and the laws relating to other important subjects.
Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The public accounts will be laid before you, and also the estimates for the coming year, which have been prepared with due regard to economy and the rapid growth of the Dominion.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons: I commend to your consideration the subjects I have mentioned, confiding in your patriotism and judgment.

B.C. CONTINGENT ACCEPTED

One Hundred Men or More to Go to Africa on a Separate Steamer.

A despatch from Ottawa says—It is settled that the British Columbia separate contingent will be accepted, and will sail from St. John, N.B., on one of the vessels chartered to carry bay Dr. Borden had a conference with Prof. Robertson on the subject to-night, and this decision was reached. The Minister has wired Premier Smith, of British Columbia, to this effect.
The Mariposa, one of the vessels chartered, leaves St. John on the 10th February, and the Janita on the 17th. The British Columbians will have to get a move on to catch the latter vessel, but if necessary she will be held a day or two.

A message from British Columbia says that the province is on fire with patriotic fervor. The Citizens' Committee of Victoria decided to equip 50 additional men, and other cities have been requested to do the same.
No telegraphic communication has been received from Col. Otter since therefore, no official knowledge of the death of Private Jones, of Victoria.

RECRUITING FOR THE STRATHCONA.
An official notice was issued to-day stating that recruiting for Strathcona's Horse will commence next Monday at the following Mounted Police posts in the Territories—Regina, Maple Creek, Mobsomin, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Macleod, Pincher Creek, Calgary, Edmonton, Battleford, and Prince Albert. In Manitoba, the recruiting stations will be Brandon, Virden, Portage la Prairie, and Winnipeg.

In British Columbia, subject to Lord Strathcona's approval, at Golden Fort, Steele, Nelson, Revelstoke, Kamloops, Vernon and Vancouver.
The ideas that one squadron shall be drawn from Manitoba, Assiniboia, and Saskatchewan, another from Alberta, and the third from British Columbia.
A few men from Strathcona's Horse will be recruited in Ottawa, but this will be the only eastern post. Acceptances will be confined to surveyors and their assistants—men who comply in every respect with the conditions of service, good shots, good horsemen, and who have had experience on the prairie.

BIGGEST B. C. CONTINGENT.
A despatch from Victoria, B.C., says: The Citizens' Committee of Victoria passed a resolution this morning inviting the provincial government of other cities and municipalities in the province to raise and equip 250 mounted men to supplement the Provincial Government's offer of 100, Victoria's quota to be 50.

Mayor Teetzel asks the citizens of Hamilton to make all the demonstrations possible by the ringing of bells, blowing of whistles, etc., when anti-orthodox news comes of the relief of Ladysmith.
The thirteenth annual provincial convention of the Y. M. C. A. of Ontario and Quebec will be held in Woodstock, Ont., from February 8th to the 11th.

Mr. J. K. Osborne of the Massey Harris Company, Toronto has received a call from the War Office stating that his son, Lieut. J. W. Osborne, had been killed in action in the Tugela district on January 24.

Herbert J. Somerset, operating manager of the Winnipeg Electric Street Railway, has received and accepted a position as general manager of the highway, Perth, West Australia. He is a son of Mr. W. A. Somerset, business manager of the Winnipeg Free Press.
The Canadian Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons paid a visit to the Michigan Grand Lodge at Detroit on Tuesday. The visitors presented a silver loving cup, on which the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack are engraved together.
An important deal was put through at Montreal, when the Mascouche Lumber Company sold a portion of its valuable timber limits in the counties of Berthier, Maskinonge, and Joliette to Mr. A. A. Larocque, of Montreal, for \$72,000.

MARKS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Cattle, Horses, and Sheep.

Wheat—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c; in the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Flour—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Horses—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Sheep—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c.

Wool—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Cattle—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Horses—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c. Sheep—In the West, 60c; in the East, 65c.

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Agricultural

DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES OF SEED GRAIN.

Under instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture another distribution of sample packages of the best and most productive sorts of cereals, etc., is now being made from the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The distribution will consist, as heretofore, of samples of oats, spring wheat, hard wheat, Indian corn, and potatoes. Each sample will weigh three pounds. The quality of the seed will be of the best. The varieties true to name, and the packages will be sent free to applicants, through the usual channels. The object in view is the improvement of the character and quality of the grain, etc., grown in Canada, and the wide appreciation and the selection of varieties to be sent out will be confined to those which have been found to succeed well at the Experimental Farms.

These samples will be sent only to those who apply personally. Lists of names of societies of individuals cannot be considered. Only one sample of one sort can be sent to one applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot receive one of wheat or barley. Applicants should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent any time before the 15th of March, after which the lists will be closed, so that samples asked for may all be sent out in good time for sowing. Applicants will please mention the variety of grain they would prefer, and the available stock of the variety. The lists will be sent in its place. Letters will be sent to the Experimental Farms, Ottawa, of postage.

OILING WAGON WHEELS.

Oiling wagon wheels to preserve them.

Canada and England.

THE SERVICES CANADA HAS RENDERED FULLY APPRECIATED.

A prominent Brockville business man, a Tribune to the Canadian Institute in England.

From the Brockville Reporter: One of the most successful men in Brockville, is Mr. Nappy, the well known Englishman by birth and the successful business man achieved in some years past. In a casual conversation with his friends in the Bank of Montreal, he mentioned and Mr. Nappy's name was mentioned and Mr. Nappy's name was mentioned and Mr. Nappy's name was mentioned.

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