

# ROBERTS AND KITCHENER.

## The Hero of Kandahar to Supersede General Buller.

Lord Kitchener Will Be His Chief of Staff--Balance of the Army Reserve and Volunteers to Proceed to the Cape--Militia Battalions Are Also Called Out.

A despatch from London says:—The War Office announcement, which was posted on Saturday night, ran thus:—“As the campaign in Natal is, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, likely to require the presence and undivided attention of General Buller, it has been decided to send Field Marshal Baron Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford to the Cape as commander-in-chief of South Africa, with General Lord Kitchener as chief of staff.

“Acting on the advice of the military authorities, her Majesty's Government has approved the following measures:—

“All remaining portions of the Army Reserve, including section 'D,' will be called up.

“The seventh division, which is being mobilised, will proceed to South Africa without delay, as well as reinforcements of artillery, including a howitzer brigade.

“The commander-in-chief in South Africa has been authorized to continue to raise at his discretion local mounted corps, and it is intended to send as well a considerable mounted force from home.

“Nine battalions of militia, in addition to the two battalions which have already volunteered for service in Malta and the Channel islands, will be allowed to volunteer for service outside the United Kingdom, and an equivalent additional number of militia battalions will be embodied for service at home.

“A strong force of volunteers from selected yeomanry regiments will be formed for service in South Africa.

“Arrangements are being made, and will shortly be announced, for the employment in South Africa of a strong contingent of carefully selected volunteers.

“The patriotic offers which are being received from the colonies, will, as far as possible be accepted. Preference will be given to offers of mounted contingents.”

### AN ARMY OF 180,000.

The chief interest in the new campaign centres in the Government's decision to use as volunteer forces the yeomanry and militia. For active service the yeomanry should supply a useful contingent. They, as the Daily Telegraph editorially says, “like the rest of the volunteers, are drawn from the great middle and lower middle classes in England, Scotland and Wales. They may not possess the mechanical perfections of drill of the regulars, but there are no better cross-country riders in the world than the British yeoman.”

Section “D” of the reserve which has been called out consists of men who have completed the term of their original enlistment, and who engage to serve an additional four years.

The militia are the same class of men as the regulars, and are in camp, a month, annually. These, together with the reserves, number 113,000 men. Their chief lack is officers. The yeomanry, the backbone of which is young farmers, are well officered, often by men retired from the regular cavalry, who, marrying young, settle on their country estates. They number 10,207. All are well mounted on their own horses.

In the militia are 14,734 artillerymen and 1,863 engineers. Of the militia only 14,600 are over 35 years of age. Similar numbers are aged 30 and 35, and the remainder are under 30. Over 32,000 are agricultural labourers, 13,400 miners, and 10,000 artisans.

The volunteer infantry contains some regiments that are considered the equal of any of the regular regiments. It also includes the best shots,

but their average shooting is lower than that of the regulars.

The Government does not indicate the number of volunteers that will be permitted to serve, but Lord Roberts' grand army will probably reach a total of rather over 180,000 of all arms.

**BULLER BOMBARDS COLENZO.**  
A despatch from Chieveley, Natal, says:—Major Stuart Wortley has raised and brought here 1,200 stretcher-bearers. The men volunteering for this work are refugees from the Boer Republics.

The British bombarded Colenso on Saturday, but the Boers made no reply, though the place is not entirely evacuated.

The whole British force is now camped here, about three miles south of Colenso.

Commandant Botha's camp is visible from here. The enemy are evidently reserving their fire, being unwilling to expose their positions. Their rifle entrenchments are clearly visible. Their position is very strong.

The road bridge has not yet been destroyed. The Boers who were guarding the bridge were temporarily dispersed by the British shells.

### COLONEL LONG'S BLUNDER.

A despatch from London says:—Military men do not hold General Buller responsible for the loss of the guns, nor do they consider “entrapped” an accurate word for describing the accident which befell the artillery. They lay stress upon Col. Long's neglect of ordinary caution in carrying guns along the river without previous reconnaissance or scouting. Veterans assert that this would not have been done in a sham battle at Aldershot, and that every practical manual on artillery tactics lays down as an elementary principle that scouts and cavalry must go over the ground first in order to find out whether it is safe for guns to follow. Col. Long is described as carrying his batteries in a clasp-dash manner along the river where the enemy was known to be in force, and suspected of being concealed. Yet he was one of the most experienced officers of the Royal Artillery.

### CAPT. ROBERTS KILLED.

Simultaneously with the announcement of the appointment of General Roberts, of Candahar, to supreme command in South Africa comes the announcement that his only son was a victim of the Colenso battle.

Capt. Roberts was severely wounded while leading some men in an attempt to rescue the guns. Prof. MacCormac, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, extracted the bullet, but Capt. Roberts died from his wound.

Capt. Roberts was an only son, and had been his father's aide-de-camp since 1895. Such was his display of gallantry on Friday in an attempt to rescue the guns that he was recommended for the Victoria Cross.

It is said that if the Victoria Cross were to be granted for every act of conspicuous gallantry on the part of the British troops it would be necessary to distribute the decoration by the hundreds.

### SORTIE FROM KIMBERLEY.

A despatch from Kimberley says:—Col. Chamier, with a force of infantry and cavalry and a battery, made a reconnaissance northward on Saturday morning.

The British shelled the Boers, who were occupying a position at Kamfeens, and forced them to retire from excellently constructed earthworks.

The British loss was one killed and four wounded.

### BULLER'S LOSSES, 1,097.

Gen. Buller reports to the War Office that his losses in Friday's engagement were:—

Killed . . . . .	82
Wounded . . . . .	667
Missing . . . . .	348
Total . . . . .	1,097

### MANITOBA CROPS.

Government Bulletin Reduces the Wheat Estimate 3,000,000.

A despatch from Winnipeg says:—The final Manitoba Government crop bulletin, issued by the Agriculture Department, reduces the August estimate of the wheat crop from 33,000,000 bushels to about 28,000,000. The principal causes of the shrinkage were a period of drought in August, when wheat was filling, and the ravages of the Hessian fly. Harvest time was favourable, although a heavy snowstorm early in October delayed stacking and threshing for a week or ten days. But this snow all disappeared, and since that date up to the first of December the weather has been without exception the finest experienced in Manitoba for over twenty years. Ploughing was continued in all parts of the province to the end of November.

### VILLE MARIE BANK CASE.

The Accountant Arrested for Stealing \$173,000 From the Funds.

A despatch from Montreal says:—There was a sensational development

in the Banque Ville Marie, case on Monday evening, when Ferdinand Lemieux, the accountant, was arrested on a charge of stealing \$173,000 from the funds of the bank.

In the testimony in the case of President Weir, who was convicted of sending a false statement of the bank's affairs to the Government, it transpired that there was a sum of \$175,000 unaccounted for on the bank's circulation, and Lemieux is now charged with stealing the amount.

Bail was refused, and Lemieux is locked up to await appearance before the Police Court.

### DUE TO EATING RAW MEATS.

Cause of Prevalence of Parasitical Diseases in Germany.

A despatch from Berlin, says:—Dr. Leidy, of Philadelphia, who, under the direction of Professor Virchow, has been investigating diseases caused by animal parasites in food, finds that parasitical diseases are far more common here than in the United States. He explains that the prevalence of such diseases in Germany is due to the popular habit of eating uncooked meats. Infection through the parasite cysticercus cellulosa, which is incurable, is much more frequent here than in the United States.

# THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

## THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

### UNITED STATES.

The London water-works has had a clear profit of \$55,000 during the last year.

The National Cycle and Automobile Company has definitely decided to locate in Hamilton.

Philadelphia Quakers are sending food and clothing to the poor Doukhobors in the North-west.

Burglars cracked the safe in Thos. Lawry & Sons' warehouse, Hamilton, and carried off about \$270.

Frederick Schaefer, a prosperous German settler of the Edmonton district, committed suicide by hanging.

Two Chinese officials are at Vancouver to look into the condition of the Celestials in British Columbia.

Tottenham ratepayers have carried the by-law to make a loan to the promoters of the furniture factory there.

The Perman-Littlehales Chemical Co. with \$50,000 capital, has been incorporated, the headquarters of the concern being in Hamilton, and the works in Syracuse, N.Y.

After sustaining the struggle for seven months, the London, Ont., Trades and Labor Council has declared the strike against the Street Railway Co. off.

Private Ayling is reported to have disappeared from Wolseley Barracks, London, with \$150 of the canteen funds belonging to privates and non-commissioned officers.

The Government has commuted the death sentence passed on Paul Sabourin, an Indian, sentenced to be hanged at Edmonton, Dec. 22nd, for the murder of his sister-in-law.

Liquidators of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, have issued checks to shareholders for a third dividend, making a total of \$166 per share returned to the shareholders to date.

It is announced at Montreal that there will be a general advance in the official classification rates for general freight traffic on the American railways at the beginning of the year.

The C. P. R., traffic through Owen Sound this season has shown a tremendous development. The tonnage of the westbound merchandise will be double that of last year, and the down flour and grain traffic has also largely increased.

Mr. E. F. Hutchings, of Winnipeg, has received an inquiry from the War Office asking him for the price at which he could make one thousand saddles and bridles, to be delivered at Southampton, England, within a certain date.

Two members of the McLaughlin Carriage Co., Oshawa, were in Gananoque, looking over the plant of the defunct Thousand Island Carriage Co. The Gananoque Council is offering inducements to the McLaughlins to establish there.

Some alarm is felt over the mysterious disappearance of a young Englishman named A. F. Downing, who arrived in Winnipeg on the 28th of November, and has since been missing.

Mr. Lothair Reinhardt of the brewing firm of Reinhardt & Co., Toronto, is in Montreal, looking for a site on which to establish a branch brewery, for which a \$100,000 plant will be installed.

A number of actions for damages have been entered by members of “The Sign of the Cross” Company and other passengers of the wrecked steamer Scotsman, against the Dominion Line Company.

Edward Perkins, tenant, and Mrs. James Maine, proprietress of the ill-fated Webster Hotel, at Montreal, have been acquitted of the charge of manslaughter in connection with the destruction of the hotel by fire.

Capt. Spain commanding the Canadian fisheries protection service, has returned to Ottawa for the winter. He states that little trouble was experienced from the United States fishermen this year. Only one cruiser, the Curlew, is now out.

It is announced that 80 per cent. of the imports into the Yukon this year was Canadian produce. The season practically closed on Dec. 1st, and at that time Victoria had shipped goods to the value of \$2,079,000, as compared with \$1,586,000 last year, and \$53,000 in 1897.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

The liabilities of the bankrupt Earl of Yarmouth are reported to be small.

The Duke of Westminster is somewhat seriously ill with laryngitis at the Earl of Shaftesbury's country seat in Dorsetshire.

The total wheat yield in Great Britain for 1899 is estimated at 65,529,325 bushels, as compared with 73,028,656 bushels last year.

The new Cunard Liner Saxonia was launched in the Clyde, and the new Hamburg-American Liner, Potsdam, was launched at Hamburg.

### UNITED STATES.

An anti-trust meeting will be held in Chicago February 12.

The John P. Squire Co., of Boston, has failed for \$3,000,000; assets \$5,000,000.

A scheme is on foot to consolidate all the heat, light power and transportation properties in New York.

Christopher Columbus Beekman, a miser, is dead at his home in Franklin Park, N. J., leaving an estate worth \$500,000.

# BULLER IS DEFEATED.

## He Loses Eleven Guns on His Attack on Colenso, Natal.

Galliant Attempts to Recover the Cannon Were Made, But the British Were Successful in Regaining Only Two of the Thirteen--Losses, Both in Infantry and Artillery, Reported Heavy.

The following is the text of General Buller's despatch announcing his reverse:—“Buller to Lansdowne. Chieveley Camp, Dec. 15, 6.20 p.m.—I regret to report a serious reverse. I moved in full strength from our camp near Chieveley, at 4 this morning. There are two fordable places in the Tugela River, and it was my intention to force a passage through one of them. They are about two miles apart.

“My intention was to force one or the other, with one brigade, supported by a central brigade. General Hart was to attack the left drift, General Hildyard the right road, and General Lyttleton was to take the centre and to support either.

“Early in the day I saw that Gen. Hart would not be able to force a passage, and I directed him to withdraw. He had, however, attacked with great gallantry, and his leading battalion, the Connaught Rangers, I fear, suffered a great deal. Colonel I. G. Brooke was seriously wounded.

“I then ordered General Hildyard to advance, which he did, and his leading Regiment, the East Surrey occupied Colenso Station and the houses near the bridge.

“At that moment I heard that the whole artillery I had sent to support the attack, the 14th and 66th Field Batteries and six naval 12-pounder quick-firers, under Colonel Long, had advanced close to the river, in Long's desire to be within effective range. It proved to be full of the enemy, who suddenly opened a galling fire at close range, killing all the horses, and the gunners were compelled to stand to their guns. Some of the wagon teams got shelter for the troops in a donga, and desperate efforts were made to bring out the field guns.

“The fire, however, was too severe, and only two were saved by Captain Schofield and some drivers, whose names I will furnish.

“Another most gallant attempt, with three teams, was made by an officer, whose name I will obtain. Of the 18 horses, 13 were killed, and as several drivers were wounded I would not allow another attempt, as it seemed that they would be a shell mark, sacrificing life to a gallant attempt to force the passage unsupported by artillery.

“I directed the troops to withdraw, which they did in good order.

“Throughout the day a considerable force of the enemy was pressing my right flank, but was kept back by mounted men under Lord Dundonald

and part of General Barton's brigade. The day was intensely hot and most trying to the troops, whose conduct was excellent.

“We have abandoned ten guns and lost one by shell fire. The losses in General Hart's brigade are, I fear, heavy, although the proportion of severely wounded is, I hope, not large.

“The 14th and 66th Field Batteries also suffered severe losses. We have retired to our camp at Chieveley.”

### THE NEWS IN LONDON.

A despatch from London, says:—The news of the disastrous reverse of General Buller's forces has filled the cup of British bitterness to overflowing. The attack which Englishmen were impatiently awaiting, even demanding, for the relief of Ladysmith, was delivered Friday morning. If not only failed, but the British force was compelled to fall back to its original position at Chieveley, after considerable slaughter and the loss of a large portion of its artillery. The story is clearly and briefly told in General Buller's despatch to the War Office, which is the only information yet at hand.

This news, so utterly unexpected, did not reach London until midnight, and the general public is still in ignorance at the present writing. There is no need to say that it will startle and arouse England as nothing has done in recent times. From now on the country will go to war as if the life of the Empire depended on the issue. Pretoria has now become as vital to the preservation of the British Empire as the possession of Bombay, Melbourne, or London itself. The struggle in South Africa will now be treated as a great war, which it is, and not as an expedition. England will mobilize the militia and colonial troops, and also call for volunteers, if necessary. She will pour soldiers and guns into South Africa without number.

After midnight the War Office authorized the statement that arrangements would be made for the early despatch of the sixth and seventh divisions, and for replacing the losses of artillery.

### COMMISSION EVERY SHIP.

A despatch from London, says:—The necessity of England being on guard against the machinations of some of the Continental powers is the lesson of the recent setback of the British in the Transvaal, as seen by the military expert of the London Post in its issue of Friday. The expert says:—

“The Boer success has exhibited the British Empire in a very unfavourable light. The British cause has no friends in Europe. Ought not the Government, in a crisis of this kind, to commission every ship in the Queen's navy? Foreign intervention is not expected, but suppose it comes?”

## MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

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

Toronto, Dec. 19.—We had 60 carloads of receipts here, this morning, comprising 2,000 hogs, 500 cattle, 400 sheep and lambs, and a few milkers and calves.

The market was quiet, featureless, and unchanged as far as quotations are concerned.

We had a fair movement in butcher cattle for any choice stuff that was here, but sales of ordinary and common cattle were slow.

Stockers, feeders, and export bulls are unchanged.

Sheep and lambs were steady, and all sold at firm Tuesday's figures, and a few choice lambs sold up to 4 1-8 and 4 1-4c, per pound.

A few good veal calves are wanted.

Hogs are steady and unchanged, with too many fat hogs coming in. “Singers,” scaling from 160 to 200 lbs., are selling at \$4.37 1-2 per cwt.; thin hogs sell at \$4; and fat hogs \$4 per cwt.; stores are not wanted.

Following is the range of current quotations:—

Cattle . . . . .	\$ 400	\$ 500
Shippers, per cwt. . . . .	375	450
Butcher, choice, do. . . . .	300	350
Butcher, med. to good. . . . .	250	275
Butcher, inferior. . . . .	225	300
Stockers, per cwt. . . . .	225	300
Sheep and Lambs. . . . .		
Sheep, per cwt. . . . .	300	325
Lambs, per cwt. . . . .	350	400
Bucks, per cwt. . . . .	225	250
Milkers and Calves. . . . .		
Cows, each. . . . .	2500	5000
Calves, each. . . . .	200	1000
Hogs. . . . .		
Choice hogs, per cwt. . . . .	400	437 1-2
Light hogs, per cwt. . . . .	000	400
Heavy hogs, per cwt. . . . .	375	400

Toronto, Dec. 19.—Wheat—Western markets were about steady. Local prices were steady and business was quiet. Red and white Ontario is quoted at 61t 0 66c, according to nearness to the mill. Goose wheat is firm, at 70 1-2c, middle freights, 669 1-2c, north and west Manitobas, higher; No. 1, hard, g.i.t., 77c, and Toronto and west, 76c; and track Midland and Owen Sound, 73c.

Flour—Dull. 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—Scarce. Bran is quoted at \$12 to \$12.50; and shorts at \$14 to \$14.50 west.

Corn—Dull, No. 2 American, yellow, quoted at 41c, Toronto; and mixed, at 40 1-2c; Canadian corn dull, at 39 1-2 to 40c, track, Toronto.

Peas—Steady but quiet. Car lots sold at 57c, north and west, and at 58c east.

Barley—Quiet and rather easier. Car lots of No. 2, middle freights, sold at 38c; and No. 1 was quoted at 40c.

Rye—Easy. Sold at 49c west, and 50c east.

Oats—Quiet. White oats, 25 1-2c, north and west; 26c, middle freights; and 26 1-2c, east.

Buckwheat—Easy. Car lots, east, 49c asked, and west, 48c asked.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, in bags, track, Toronto, \$3.25; and in wood, \$3.35 per bbl.

Minneapolis, Dec. 19.—Wheat—in store—No. 1 Northern, December, 69 1-4; May, 66 5-8 to 66 3-4c; July, 68 1-8 to 68 1-4c; on track, No. 1 hard, 66c; No. 1 Northern, 64 1-2; No. 2 Northern, 62 1-2c.

Milwaukee, Dec. 19.—Wheat—Steady; No. 1 Northern, 65 1-2 to 67c; No. 2, Northern, 64 to 65 1-2c. Rye—Steady; No. 1, 55 1-2 to 56c. Barley—Firm; No. 2, 44c; sample, 36 1-2 to 44c.

Buffalo, Dec. 19.—Spring wheat—Dull; easier; No. 1 hard, 76 1-2c; No. 1 Northern, 74 1-2c; No. 2 Northern, 72c. Winter wheat held above buyers' views; No. 2 red, 70 1-2c; No. 1 white, 70 1-4c. Corn—Strong; No. 2 yellow, 35 3-4c; No. 4 yellow, 35c; No. 3 corn, 34 1-2c; No. 4 corn, 34c. Oats—Quiet; No. 2 white, 28 3-4c; No. 3 white, 28 to 28 1-4c; No. 4 white, 27 1-2c; No. 2 mixed, 26 1-2c; No. 3 mixed, 26c. Rye—Nominally, 49c, in store for No. 2. Flour—Steady.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Flaxseed—Closed—North-Western and South Western, cash, \$1.49 3/8 December, \$1.48; May, \$1.43 3-4; Duluth, cash, \$1.41; May, \$1.45.

Detroit, Dec. 19.—Wheat—Closed—No. 1 white, cash, 70 3-4c; No. 2 red, cash and December, 70 3-4c; May, 73 3-4c.

The Paris Journal says that experiments just finished show that soldiers mounted on stilts can build telegraph lines as quickly as cavalry.