

BOERS LOSE HEAVILY.

Severe Fighting Reported to the East of Pretoria.

A despatch from Pretoria says:—A force of Boers attacked Balmoral on Tuesday. Colonel Backhouse, with four companies of the Buffs and one howitzer, defended the place. The Boer plan was to have four commandoes make a simultaneous attack on all sides. Fortunately for the British, only three commandoes arrived fighting was severe. The howitzer did splendid work.

The British lost six men killed and nine wounded. Thirty of the Buffs were captured, but they were subsequently released. The Boers lost heavily. They sent out two burial parties after the fighting. The British took a number of prisoners and brought in many wounded, several of whom subsequently died.

Simultaneously with this attack a commando of 600 Boers, with one gun

attacked Wilgeriver, which was held by two companies of the Royal Fusiliers. The fighting lasted for eight hours. Ultimately, the Boers retired with considerable loss. The British loss was one wounded.

The garrison at Bronkhorst spruit sent two guns to relieve the Fusiliers. As the men retired a shell was placed among the Boers, on a kopje, killing or wounding 13 of them.

The commandoes which made these attacks were under Ben Viljoen, Trichard, and Pretorius. The enemy fought at close quarters with the utmost determination.

All the garrisons have been strongly reinforced.

The places attacked are all within a short distance of each other on the railway to the east of Pretoria.

The railway has been torn up in several places, but is now being repaired.

BOERS REPULSED.

Defeated by New Zealanders With Heavy Loss.

A despatch from Bloemfontein, says:—Further details have been received regarding the fight near Rietfontein, between the British under Gen. Paget and the Boers under Commandants Viljoen and Erasmus November 28 and 29.

Gen. Paget, towards evening of the second day, closed in upon the Boers' position with the intention of attacking next day at dawn. The Boers, however, with reinforcements, including three guns, made a desperate attack and severe fighting ensued.

The Boers, who were repulsed with heavy loss, withdrew in a north-easterly direction. Gen. Paget having occupied their position, sent mounted infantry in pursuit.

The New Zealanders displayed great gallantry, losing five out of the six wounded officers.

KITCHENER'S REPORT.

Lord Kitchener reports to the War Office:—

"Settle has defeated Hertzog and occupied Luckhoff. Paget engaged Viljoen and Erasmus on Nov. 28 and Nov. 29, and drove the enemy back to Rietfontein. Lieut.-Col. Lloyd was dangerously wounded. We also had five men killed and fifty wounded. Lyttelton is co-operating with Paget."

ROBERTS AT LADYSMITH.

Gets an Enthusiastic Welcome—Visits Gen. Symons' Grave.

A despatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, says:—Lord Roberts and his daughter arrived at Dundee, Natal, on Friday. The commander-in-chief visited Talana hill battlefield and the grave of Gen. William Penn Symons, who was wounded at the battle of Glencoe shortly after the outbreak of the war, and whose body was interred at Dundee. Afterward Lord Roberts proceeded to Ladysmith. He was enthusiastically received, and the municipality presented him an address of welcome.

DECREASE IN DAIRY PRODUCTS.

It Is Due to Falling Off in the Sales of Butter.

A despatch from Montreal, says:—Although the returns to the factory-men for cheese during the past season show an increase of \$1,862,000 over those of the previous season, the returns for butter show a decrease of \$2,416,000; making a falling off of \$544,000 in receipts for dairy products this season as compared with last.

The make of cheese in Canada during the past year was the largest in the history of the country, the total sales amounting to 2,077,000 boxes, or 180,504 more than those of the previous year, and 177,000 more than those of the season of 1898, which was the next largest on record. The amount received by the factory-men for their product also far exceeded the returns for any previous year, being \$16,560,000, or \$1,862,000 more than that received in 1899, which was the next largest year in point of receipts, and \$4,495,000 more than the total receipts in 1898.

Not only were the make and the return in cash the largest in the history of Canada, but the price per pound exceeded that of all other years, so that the factory-men were better remunerated than ever before.

400 BRITISH SURRENDER.

Garrison Fought Stubbornly, Losing 57 Killed and Wounded.

A despatch from London, says:—The most startling proof that the war in South Africa is still full of vigour is contained in Gen. Roberts' despatches announcing that 400 British troops with two guns have surrendered to the Boers at Dewetsdorp, south-west of Bloemfontein. Gen. Roberts' full despatch follows:—

"It is reported from Dewetsdorp that the garrison, consisting of two guns of the 68th Field Battery and detachments of the Gloucestershire Regiment, the Highland Light Infantry, and Irish Rifles, a total of about 400 men, surrendered at 5.20 p.m., Nov. 23.

"Our losses were 15 killed and 42 wounded. The latter included Maj. Anson, of the Highlanders, Captain Digby, of the Gloucestershires, and Lieut. Collis, of the Irish Rifles, slightly. The enemy are said to have been 2,500 strong. A column of 1,400 men was despatched from Edenburg to relieve Dewetsdorp, but did not succeed in reaching there in time to effect the relief. Gen. Ohas. Knox joined this force on November 26, and entered Dewetsdorp, which was found to have been evacuated, 75 sick and wounded being left in the town. Knox pursued the enemy, and Pilcher reports from Smithfield that Knox fought a successful engagement yesterday near Vaalbank, with Steyn and De Wet, who retired west and southwest. Knox's messenger failed to get through, so I am without details as yet."

Gen. Roberts also reports a skirmish on Nov. 27, at Bultfontein. Three hundred Boers were dislodged and pursued, losing several men. Bruce Hamilton has cleared the country between the Wilge and Vaal rivers, capturing eleven Boers and a very large number of cattle and sheep.

GARRISON RELIEVED.

Has Had the Honour of Being Relieved Three Times.

A despatch from Vryburg, Cape Colony, says:—The garrison of Schweizer Reneke has been relieved by a column of troops sent from here. The beleaguering Boers resisted, but were driven off.

The siege, or, rather, the loose investment of Schweizer Reneke by the Boers was one of the oddest incidents of the war. The village, which is in the Transvaal, thirty-six miles from Vryburg, first attracted the notice of the enemy at the beginning of September. On September 22 it was announced that the garrison had been relieved by Colonel Settle. With the departure of the relieving force the investment was resumed, only to be interrupted a month ago by a second visit from Colonel Settle. He appears to have made only a short stay, and his retirement was the signal for the Boers to return to the attack. Latest news shows that the town has been again relieved.

PLENTY OF FIGHTING

South African War News Promises to be Most Exciting.

A despatch from Pretoria, says:—Lord Kitchener paid a flying visit to Harrismith, and conferred with General Ruddle. His visit is said to be in connection with the forthcoming movement to sweep the guerillas out of the field.

Recruiting officers hint that there will be plenty of fighting during the next few weeks, when it is hoped that the members of the Boer resistance will be finally stamped out. The movement is likely to be carried out with all the determination which marks Lord Kitchener's action.

Dundee at present presents the striking spectacle of a vast camp. Irregulars are sent thither as they are recruited, and drafts from England are also joining this base.

MINERS TORN TO PIECES.

Dynamite Explodes in a French Mine With Fearful Results.

A despatch from Paris, says:—A despatch from Aniche, Department of the North, says a quantity of dynamite at the bottom of one of the coal mines there exploded on Thursday, from an unknown cause. Sixteen miners were killed and between 30 and 40 wounded, as many as five being very seriously injured.

The disaster has rendered the village the scene of intense mourning. The condition of the rescued bodies is appalling. Most of them are rent and torn in such a way as to be scarcely recognizable.

CANADIANS IN LONDON

Col. Otter and His Men Receive a Great Welcome.

A despatch from London says:—A detachment of 260 men, consisting of Companies "A," "B," and "I," of the Royal Canadian Regiment, Colonel Otter commanding, arrived at Southampton on Thursday on the Hawarden Castle. They were welcomed by Major-General Robert MacGregor Stewart.

General Stewart made a brief speech to the Canadians, during which he said Englishmen rejoiced at their bravery and deeds as much as they rejoiced over the honours achieved by the home troops and their kinsmen from all the colonies brought together by the war.

Colonel Otter expressed his thanks for the sympathetic utterances, and after the reception the men left for London. On arrival here they were met by a deputation headed by Lord Strathcona, the High Commissioner. Among those who accompanied Lord Strathcona and welcomed in hearty British style his fellow-countrymen, who have won the admiration of the Mother Country for their deeds of valour on the battlefield, were the Earl of Onslow, formerly Governor of

New Zealand and Under-Secretary for the Colonies.

The regiment formed in parade order, and, with Colonel Otter in command, marched through the streets to Kensington barracks, and were tendered ovations all along the route, which was crowded with citizens.

At the barracks Colonel Otter read to his men the Duke of Connaught's letter of welcome. General Trotter also heartily welcomed the contingent in a brief, but stirring speech.

The reception was most enthusiastic. Large crowds at the railroad station cheered and cheered them, and the whole route from the station to the barracks was lined with similarly cordial throngs. Flags, including many Canadian emblems were displayed everywhere.

The men marched in splendid order, and appeared to be in perfect condition. While they were drawn up in the barrack square, the Duke of Abercorn, chairman of the Reception Committee, congratulated them on their achievement.

The Canadians will proceed to Windsor on Friday morning and while there will be reviewed by the Queen.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD

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

Toronto, Dec. 4.—Wheat—Ontarios are dull and Manitobas about 1-2c easier. Quotations are as follows:—Red winter, 63 to 63 1-2c; and white, 63 to 63 1-2c, middle freights; goose wheats, 62 1-2c middle freights; No. 1 spring wheat, east, 66c; Manitoba, No. 1 hard, old, g.i.t., 92 1-2c; and No. 2 at 87 1-2c.

Millfeed—Scarce. Ton lots, at the mill door, sell as follows:—Bran, \$12 to \$12.50; and shorts, \$14 to \$14.50, west.

Corn—Steady. No. 1 American yellow, 47c, on track here; and mixed, 46c; Canadian corn, here, 44c.

Peas—Continue firm. No. 2 sold, middle freights at 61c, and east at 62c.

Barley—Quite firm, and good enquiry. No. 2, east, 41 1-2c; and middle freights, 40 1-2; No. 3 extra, 40c east, and 39c, middle freights. Exporters are liberal buyers of heavy feed barley. They do not object to colour.

Rye—Easy. New rye, 46c west, and 47c east.

Buckwheat—Firm. Car lots west, are quoted at 48c, and east at 49c.

Oats—Quite strong. Choice new white oats, middle freights, are selling at 26 1-2c, and east at 27c. Light white oats and mixed oats, east and west, 24c.

Flour—Dull. Holders ask \$2.65 for 90 per cent, patents, in buyers' bags, middle freights; and exporters bid \$2.55. Special brands sell locally from 10 to 20c above these figures.

PRODUCE.

Eggs—Prices about the same. Demand good for fresh stock, but receipts are light. Prices are as follows:—Boiling stock, 22c; fresh gathered, 17 to 18c; limes, 15c.

Poultry—Receipts of poultry were very heavy again to-day. Buying was good, but the supply was too large, and prices were easier, especially for turkeys and geese. Quotations are as follows:—Chickens, per pair, 25 to 40c; ducks, per pair, 40 to 60c; turkeys, per lb, 7 to 8c; geese, per lb, 5 to 5 1-2c.

Potatoes—Firm. Car lots, on track here, sold to-day at 30c. Sales, out of store, are made at 35 to 40c.

Field produce, etc.—Turnips, out of store, 30c per bag; onions, 60c per bag; carrots, 40c per bag; apples, per bbl, 50c to \$1; sweet potatoes, per bbl, \$2.50.

Dried fruits—Dried apples sell at 3 to 3 1-2c; and evaporated at 4 1-4 to 5c.

Beans—Ordinary white beans bring \$1.20 to \$1.25; choice hand-picked beans are quoted at \$1.40 to \$1.45.

Honey—Demand fair. Dealers quote from 9 to 9 1-2c per lb. for 5, 10, or 60-lb. tins, according to the size of the order. Comb honey sells at \$2.40 to \$2.75 per dozen sections.

Baled hay—Steady. Choice timothy, on track here, \$9.50 to \$9.75; two-ton lots, delivered, sell at \$10.25 to \$10.50.

Baled straw—Car lots of good straw are quoted at \$5 to \$6.50, on track; and ton lots, delivered, at \$6 to \$6.50.

Hops—Dull. New crop is quoted

here at 14 to 15c, and yearlings at 9 to 10c.

LIVE STOCK.

Toronto, Dec. 4.—At the western cattle market to-day nothing particular came in, and scarcely anything was bought or sold. Second-class cattle sold perhaps a little better to-day for the sufficient reason that we had no really first-class stuff on the market, and local butchers had to take, not what they wanted, but what they could get. Milch cows, feeders, bulls, stockers, etc., were not at all changed, few were here, and few were wanted, while prices were generally maintained.

Sheep and lambs are steady and unchanged.

The receipts to-day were only about 30 loads, including 1,100 hogs, 220 cattle, 400 sheep and lambs, a dozen calves, and a few milkers.

Hogs are firm at the recent advance.

Hogs to fetch the top price must be of prime quality, and scale not below 160 nor above 200 lbs.

Following is the range of quotations;—

Cattle.	
*Shippers, per cwt.	\$4.00 \$4.50
Butcher, choice do.	4.00 4.50
Butcher, med. to good.	3.25 3.75
Butcher, inferior.	2.25 2.75
Stockers, per cwt.	2.25 3.00
Export bulls, per cwt.	3.25 4.00
Sheep and Lambs.	
Sheep, per cwt.	2.75 3.50
Lambs, per cwt.	3.50 4.00
Bucks, per cwt.	2.50 2.75
Milkers and Calves.	
Cows, each.	20.00 40.00
Calves, each.	2.00 8.00
Hogs.	
Choice hogs, per cwt.	5.50 5.75
Light hogs, per cwt.	5.00 5.25
Heavy hogs, per cwt.	5.00 5.25
Sows.	3.75 4.00
Stags.	2.50 2.75

*Prices nominal.

DE WET'S CALL TO ARMS.

Burghers Ordered to Rejoin Their Commandoes.

A despatch from Lindley, Orange Free State, says:—Many burghers who have laid down their arms are arriving here for protection in consequence of a Boer proclamation ordering them all to assemble in larger on Thursday, failing which the penalty of death will be exacted at the first opportunity.

De Wet is in constant communication with the Boer laagers. He informs the men that Lord Roberts is being prevented from burning farms, and that the powers will interfere shortly.

It is reported that Hasbroek's commando with four guns is ten miles from here on the Senekal river.

GERMANS WERE DEFEATED

Obliged to Abandon Their Dead and Wounded.

A despatch from London, Saturday, says:—A despatch to the Times from Shanghai says it is stated that the Kalgan expedition has met with a reverse. It is believed that a party of Germans were cut off by Chinese, and obliged to abandon their dead and wounded.