Rumor Several Days Old Without Confirmation.

RELIEVING FORCES AT ESTCOURT

West Yorkshire Regiment Reported There-Boers Said to be Along the Line to Chievely-Heavy Firing Heard in the Direction of Ladysmith on Monday-War Office Knows Nothing as to Truth of Rumor of Joubert's Death-Relief of Kimberley to be Attempted Soon-Activity at De Aar-Boers Re-name Dundee "Myersdorp."

tery surrounding recent happenings in the war area of South Africa is still is carried on from both the north and unlifted, and nothing has been heard the south. from any important point later than Nov. 9th. Some surprise is expressed balloon is doing good service in locatat the censor allowing Father Mat- and the mere fact of a balloon being thews' story of the surrender at used for this purpose indicates that Nicholson's Nek to pass. It is con- our naval guns are from time to time tended that such a grave allegation is practically a charge of cowardice, and ought, under the circumstances, there are few better examples of proto have been stlenced until an official inquiry could be held and the

The Morning Post declares that it is by heavy artillery.' but a report of a report, and is quite

valueless as evidence. The alleged Boer threats to shoot British officers in case a certain supposed Boer spy is punished lack confirmation, and the best informe in wspapers wholly discredit the story. It is surprising, therefore, to sind the Daily News swallowing the yarn, and declaring that it is of interest to every civilized power to make r resident Kruger understand that such action would be cold-blooded murder, which would inevitably result, when the war was over, in the prompt hanging of both himself and Secretary of State Reitz. The Morning Fost, which complains

that it was unwise tactics on the part is the report of the death of Gen. Piet of the British officers to leave the rail- Joubert, the commander-in-chief of the way intact, on their retirement to Boer forces. The report lacks confirm-Ladysmith, says: "It is another lilus- ation, but many people believe it to tration of Eritish contempt for the be well founded, as the General's death Boers that they treated the retire- is said to have occurred Nov. 9th, ment as though it were an advance, when the Boer riflemen were underand preserved the enemy's line of stood to be within 1,500 yards of communication as carefully as if it Ladysmith. Severe fighting between had been our own.

cables, now amounting practically to regarded in some quarters as five days, and the lack of any definite news from Ladysmith, give rise to some apprehensions, which is only relieved by the fact that no adverse tidings have come from either British or Boer sources. Nothing is known as to the whereabouts of Gen. Redvers

H. M. S. Powerful has arrived at Simonsburg from Durban and begun to coal. The cruiser will return to Durban immediately with more guns. Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, announced in a speech last week that a relief force would immediately be sent to Ladysmith, but beyond that nothing is known of the British plan of campaign, and equal secrecy shrouds the movements of the Boers.

Cronje and Baden-Powell.

The Times prints the following despatches from the war correspondents

the commandant. "General Cronje, in his letter, said:

Geneva convention authorized the Red | have cut the railroad, shows that they Cross flag to be raised over several are adopting a proper strategica. of dynamite mines was opposed to may turn out to be General Schalkthe rules of war.

"Third-He thought it was not law- from was ful to employ natives (black men) against whites. "Colone. Baden-Powell replied:

"First-That the Geneva convention did not stipulate the number of Red Cross flags that could be holsted in a town. There were three such flags flying in Mafeking-one over the hospital, one over the convent, and one over the women's laager. All of these places were outside the limits of the "Second-As to dynamite mines,

Colonel Powell said they were recognized as adjuncts of civilized war-

"Third-As to the natives, he said the Boers had fired on them, raided their cattle, and burned their kraals. The natives had only defended their lives and property.

"The Boers, despite three warnings. continued deliberately to shell the hospital and the women's laager. "Mafeking is certain to make a definite and successful stand until the end of the campaign."

Times' Military Expert. The Times prints the following opinion of the situation in South Africa

from its military expert :

"The arrival of transports at Cape to have gone to Durban to render it | defeating the Boers and killing their fairly certain that before the end of the week the British troops in Natal will be reinforced by 8,000 men. " It is still a question as to the pre-

cise units which are to be landed at Durban, and it is quite possible some modification of the published scheme of the army corps will become necessary, but this is a matter of organization which should not cause much difficulty to experienced officers. " From the first it was understood

that the divisions were largely inde pendent of each other, and the army corps system might not rigidly be followed.

London cable: The veil of my the last few days by Boer guns which are in position all around the town. It is evident the bombardment

"It is satisfactory to note that a making an effective reply to the bom-

"In the annals of the British army tracted and animated defence by a handful of colonial troops than the accused officers given a chance to holding out of Mafeking against the

> GEN. JOUBERT DEAD! Rumor That Boer Commander Has

Fallen in Battle. London cable: A despatch re ceived here to-day from Pietermaritzburg, dated November 11th, says it is rumored there that Genera. Piet Joubert, commander-in-chief of the Boer forces, has been killed in action.

POSSIBLE, BUT DOUBTED.

London, Nov. 16 .- The most startling news from the seat of war to-day the British and the Boers the same The great delay in South African | day has since been reported, and it is

squarely and fairly, and his action | captured by the Boers at Nicholson's when Gen. Symons died, in expressing | Nek. his sympathy, elevated him to the high regard of all soldiers. It is claimed that the death of Joubert would be likely to lead to the adoption by the Boers of bolder and more active tactics, as he had considerable difficulty in restraining his hot-headed follow-

The batch of news this morning brings the information that Ladysmith was still undergoing on Sunday bombardment from six 40-pounders. The British naval guns were silent. south The Boers, therefore, have got more heavy guns into position, while either "Mafeking, Nov. 1 .- An envoy from or the British gunners are simply re-

der a flag of truce with a letter to practice made by the besiegers. The reports that the Boers have penetrated southward from Colenso "First-He did not consider that the to Chievely, where they are said to buildings in a town at the same time. plan to impede the advance of the "Second-He thought that the use British relieving force. Perhaps this burger's force, which, when last heard

> F AIDING ZULULAND. This force, it is asserted, may not



COL. MURRAY.

To relieve Col. Scott-Turner from a Town continue to be reported, and a Lancashires, made a sortie out of Kim- hill at 1 a. m. The first mishap was | Died of fever sufficient number of them are known beriev agains, the Boers under Botha, when the mountain battery stampeded Died of wounds commander.

> be heard of south of Estcourt, which they will probably attempt to take before further reinforcements arr.ve. Indeed it is already reported that a Boer force was seen in the neighborhood of the line north of the Mooi River.

Beers are suffering from LACK OF SUPPLIES.



GENERAL SIR REDV ERS BULLER, V. C., G. C. B. The Commander in Chief of the British forces in South Africa.

ed at Pretoria the next day. There are signs that a forward movement for the relief of Kimberley may be expected shortly. There is great ACTIVITY AT DE AAR. sent to Joubert on the same day. The

whence the advance appears likely to be made. There is, it is said, no urgent reason for this unless food at Kimberley is getting low, but the moral effect would be good for the British. The greatest enthusiasm was shown this morning at the departure from Newport of a mountain battery of the Royal Artillery, consisting of six guns. Thousands of people lined that Gen. Joubert, always noted for the streets, cheering and singing, and his personal courage and coolness, may the battery had difficulty in reach have dangerously exposed himself in a ling the train through the dense crowd. personal reconnaissance of the Brit- This was the last mountain battery ish position. Even Gen. Joubert's most | remaining in England, eight others bebitter memies admit that he fought ing in India and the tenth having been

> Nothing is known at the War Office of the reported death of Gen. Joubert. BLEW UP A CULVERT.

The armored train on its return reported that the Boers had blown render, says up the line between Colenso and a small culvert was destroyed. On requires confirmation. A chaplain is retirement would probably compel Gen. chances of the Boers coming further derestimated the peril in which he

to 500 Boers, with wagons, is going was nearly exhausted, he had no the British ammunition has given out in the direction of Colenso. This is knowledge either at the time or afsaid to be the foraging party pre- terwards of the fact, while the General Cronje came in yesterday un- serving their fire, in view of the poor viously sighted. The Kaffirs also rumor about the officer who raised report that Gen. White's cavalry had the white flag over 900 men under an engagement with the Boers at the impression that there were only lin Fusiliers, under Capt. Hensley, re-Bester's Station. The result is not ten left, seems hardly credible to a turned here to-night. It reports

FIRED AT A CONVENT. A message from Ladysmith gives A few details of the occurrences of Wednesday, Nov. 8th, when the Boers' shell-fire was increased during the afternoon. It is asserted that they appeared to aim deliberately at the convent on the hill, in the centre of the town, where there were only the sisters, and wounded several of them. The building was twice hit in spite | ber of men reported as killed, woundof the Geneva flag flying. The Boers attempted a demonstration against the war: the western defences, but the groups appearing at long range were easily scattered by the fire of a machine

THAT SURRENDER.

Chaplain Matthews Gives the Story

in Detail. Lorenzo Marquez cable: I interviewed Chaplain Matthews, of the Fusiliers, who was captured with the squadron and taken to Pretoria, but later released, and obtained from him | ed, 3. a detailed account of the capture of the two British battalions and the Killed, 2; wounded, 4. mountain battery at Nicholson's Nek. After explaining that General Joubert | wounded, 5; missing, 25. to Pretoria, where Secretary Reitz set | ing. 871; died of fever, 1; died of him free, Father Matthews said: "We were sent to occupy the position with the object of preventing the

and scattered a whole lot of mules, We formed up again, and gained the top of the hill. The guns were gone, know what stampeded the mules, but cluded, were divided as follows: they knocked me down. It was pitch | Colonels dark at the time, and we had had one | Majors

"Firing began just after daylight. Lieutenants It was slack for some time, but the Rank and file 181 minutes hovering over the Boer posi-According to the latest advices from Boers crept around, and then the This table shows the wounded offi- tions in the mountains. It was, pre-British sources at Estcourt, the firing became furious. Our men made cers and men: a breastwork of stones. After 12 Colonels o'clock there was a general cry of Majors 'cease fire' in that direction. Our Chotains 22 | the fafe delivery of despatches from "From a military standpoint the tie and Dundee, must have been of to cease firing. Then the bugle sounded The following table shows the list of ditional acnouncement was made by evening issued the following notice second Boer war will have served a great assistance to the Boer commis- Cease fire.' There was a rumor in the casualties to British arms to date the War Office this afternoon: Gen. "We are advised that the cable beuseful purpose if it demonstrates con- | sariat. But the task of maintaining our sangar that a white flag had by battalions: clusively the mistake made in employ- a complete investment of Ladysmith been raised by a young officer who ing on foreign service over the seas is probably proving onerous. Lady- thought his batch of ten men were Gloucesters ... an organization fitted only for Euro- smith seems to be well provisioned the sole survivors. We were 900 Irish Fusiliers ... 24 pean warfare, where land frontiers and the entrenchments are daily be- strong, having started out with per- King's Rifles 23 131 have to be crossed and can be simul- ing strengthened. The Boers have re- haps 1,000. I think that many of the Artillery 8 51 taneously crossed by large bodies of named "Meyersdorp," after Gen. mountain battery men escaped. Our Cavalry Lucas Meyer, whose forces fought men and officers were furious at sur- Leicestershires ... 3

wounded of Gen. Meyer's force arriv. I heard that the main body had gal-The men had to give up their arms. The officers were sent to Commandant Steenekamp. The officers then ordered the men to fall in. The officers were

> officers went in mule wagons, and slept at some store en route. Next day they took a train at Waschbank for The officers are very well treated, and so, I have heard, are the men. at Pretoria. The officers are in the | bardment, and a native rumor that

taken away from the men, and were

"I think the surrender was a great of inducing some of the Orange Free blunder, and was caused by a misun- State troops to abandon the siege and derstanding. Major Adys was much to return to their own territory, and put out. The white flag was not also to be accountable for the slack-

hoisted by the Irish Fusiliers." Father Matthews, who is the Ro- smith defences. man Catholic chaplain of the Irish Fusiliers, is evidently eager that no ported that in the attack on the Free stigma shall rest on his regiment. The Times, commenting on the sur-

Chieveley. Not much damage was pleasant reading, and is extremely are going home should prove true, the rence. done, but the rails were bent and perplexing. The white flag incident fact would be most important, as their seeing the British patrols the Boers not necessarily a good judge of mili- Joubert to withdraw northward. retired. Every day lessens the tery requirements, and may have unstood. But it is not easy to under-Kaffirs report that a force of 400 stand how, if the infantry ammunition Railway Cut a Mile South of the civilian. As a matter of course the that it found the stores at Frere officers will be hereafter tried court-martial, when doubtless full facts will be elicited."

> BRITISH LOSSES TO DATE. nteresting Table Showing the Cas-

ualties in Each Fight. The following tuble shows the numed, or missing in each engagement of

Mafeking, Oct. 15-Nov. 1.-Ki led, 12; wounded, 31. Glencoe, Oct. 20-26.-Killed, 48; wounded, 219; missing, 208.

Elands Laagte, Oct. 21.-Killed, 51; wounded, 213. Crocodile River, Oct. 22.-Killed, 2; wounded, 3; missing, 4. Rietfontein, Oct. 24.-Killed, 12; wounded, 104; missing, 2 Kimberley, Oct. 24-28.-Killed, 4 wounded, 27; missing, 11. Ladysmith, Oct. 28-Nov. 2.- Wound-

Be mont, Cape Colony, Oct. 10 .-Fort Tult, Oct. 25-27.—Killed, 3; promised to release him, but did not | Farquhar's Farm (Ladysmith), Oct. do so, sending him on with the others | 30.-Killed, 60; wounded, 238; miss-

wounds, 19. TOTAL LOSSES. started at 8.30 Sanday night, and Wounded 842

The deaths among officers and men, and placed out of gauge, From inforbut not all the ammunition. I do not wounded, who subsequently died, in- mation obtained from Kaffirs, it ap-Captains

"The bombardment of Ladysmith those of Gen. Symons' there. rendering. The Boers did not seem to Dublin Fusiliers ... 8 44 16 London, Nov. 11.—The last infantry was sent out of being great numbers on the spot, but Manchesters 11 57 1 battalions under orders for South wards Colenso.

Natal Mounted Gordon Highland Mounted Infantry Natal forces Imperial Light Natal Volunteers Border Mounted Fi th Lancers ... Medical corps... ... Natal Police Tenth Mounted

papers are again without news from South Africa, except the announcement of the arriva. of transports at

The Standard, enquiring at the War Office regarding despatches from the seat of war, was informed that a number of despatches had been received from the Cape, but as they dealt with military details, they were not likely to be published.

"Gen. Buller," says the Standard, "is not at Cape Town, but up the country to the north. He has completed plans for the relief of Ladysmith, and the additional troops which are now arriving will be utilized according to the plan of campaign prepared before the general eft England."

Durban, dated Nov. 11th, says: "Lord Methuen and his staff took a train going north in the direction of Ladysmith to-night."

THE PRESS CENSORSHIP.

It is claimed, although there has been no official announcement to offered for transmission are peremp- largely. torily refused by the censor. It is stated that this action has been conveyed secret information. There is now a block on the cable, but telepromptly forwarded. The course of what is undoubtedly a fact, that this privilege has been abused in several instances, and therefore it has been Bay district, however, are allowed to Natal, despatches offered by correspondents are now refused at all points in South Africa. This embargo will probably be lifted shortly.

FREE STATERS WITHDRAWING? Belated despatches from Ladysmith There has been no unpleasantness dated Nov. 7th, tell of a languid bom-Model school, and are allowed to walk | the Basutos are on the warpath, around as they please inside the which is supposed, according to one correspondent, to have had the effect ness of the attempts on the Lady- that, with the reinforcements already

State forces at Dewdrop, the Boers had 300 in killed and wounded. "The narrative is not altogether burghers are tired of the affair and

COLENSO DESERTED.

Estcourt, Natal cable says: An armored train, manned by an engineering staff and a company of the Dubby looted, apparently by Kaffirs, and the met cyclist patrols who reported that the Boers were on the Springfield road, five miles away. The train proceeded cautiously and found the frequently stopped, and Capt. Hensley examined the road ahead before Hensley inspected Fort Nicholson, and proceeding.

FOUND THE LINE CUT. a mile south of Colenso. Two lengths of



GENERAL SCHALK BURGER, In command of the Boers on the Eastern Transvaal Border.

2.304 | the rail on each side had been lifted pears that the Boers left the vicinity of Colenso early this morning, proceeding in the direction of Buluwan Mountain. A balloon was observed for several

sumably, a British balloon from Lady-

that the bombardment of Kimberley were no casualties. British, and have refused to reap the been resumed. Heavy firing was heard Free State crops, which are rotting, early this morning. An armored train

Africa left England to-day, and last of the Hussars also sailed, leaving the Household Regiment the only cavalry still to be despatched, and last, but not by any means least, the first battery of the howitzer artillery has started. Great things are expected of the howitzer battery, of which there are only three in the British army. These five-inch breach-loaders are claimed to be of a superior character, and are expected to be particularly serviceable in removing the Boers from the hills.

MANY WAITING.

The entire absence of news of any importance from Ladysmith is having its effect on the nerves of the country, and the reference in the censored despatches of abnormal losses heightens the anxlety. It is pointed out that the absence of serious news in such despatches as have been received from Gen. White proves nothing, for the general is not likely to send anything unpleasant or indicative of anxiety by pigeons, which are so liable to fall into the hands of the Boers. There are signs that the greater part of the Boers are concentrating between Ladysmith and Colenso. but the stories are so contradictory that it is impossible to assert this absolutely. If true it is pointed out that while it cuts off Ladysmith, the

RISK TO THE BOERS is also great, for it will give General White a great chance to intercept A despatch to the Daily Mail from their retreat when Lord Methuen's division advances from the southward, unless, in the meanwhite, Gen. Jonbert succeeds in crushing the beleagured garrison. That the latter is completing preparations for a series of desperate attacks on Gen. White's position it is not doubted, and heavy fighting may be heard of at any mothat effect, that the British authori- ment. Gen. White's force, it is asties have imposed three days' delay serted, must be enduring a daily oron all telegrams allowed to come deal which will hardly improve their through from South Africa. As a fighting efficiency, and the danger of matter of fact, most of the messages | the shortness of ammunition looms up

On the development of the situataken because, early in the campaign, tion at Ladysmith in the immediate when the correspondents and future depends, probably, the others were allowed considerable length of the war. It is pointed out liberty, apparently innocent messages | that if Gen. White can maintain his position until Nov. 26th or Nov. 28th, the British authorities will grams passed by the censors are be fully satisfied that all the danger in Natal will be over. Should the Government in refusing transmis- he fail to do so and be compelled to sion to diplomatic telegrams between abandon his guns and stores and rethe powers and their representatives tire with heavy loss southward, at Pretoria has brought out protests, where he will meet the Boers in pobut the British authorities point out, sition on the Tugela River, it is impossible, it is added, to predict what may happen. On the other hand, the critics say should the situation at cancelled. The despatches from Portu- Ladysmith not be materially changed gal to the Governor of the Delagoa before Nov. 28th, it is confidently predicted that the majority of the pass through. Except at Estcourt, Boer force will be caught between two British forces and compelled to retreat over the difficult Tintwa Pass or Livershook, after abandoning its guns. The Boers have expressed the intention of capturing Ladysmith and then marching on the capital of Natal, and . the fact of their retaining Tugela bridge intact places confidence in their ability to carry out their plans. Gen. Schalkburger's flanking movement, via Zuiuland, most shortly de-

velop, if it is to be effective, but the experts here SCOUT THE SUGGESTION there and the big naval guns continu-Another correspondent says it is re- ally arriving at Pietermaritzburg, there can be any serious danger. There is nothing corroborative of the rumor from Brest of a disaster If the reports that the Free State | to a British troopship. The Admiralty

has no knowledge of any such occur-Sunshine so brilliant that it compelled Queen Victoria to resort to a sunshade for protection greeted Her Majesty's return to Windsor this morning, when she inspected three detachments of the Household Cavalry, bound for South Africa. The Royal Horse Guards and the Second

Life Guards had journeyed up from London, joining the First Life Guards, Amid scenes of

GREAT ENTHUSIASM

the troops formed in two lines, unmounted, in khaki uniform. An immense crowd of people witnessed the assembly. Brigadier-General Trotto: the district commander, with his full staff, conducted the inspection. The Queen's farewell to the soldiers was as follows: "I have called you here Bluespruit bridge intact. The train to-day, my soldiers, who are always near me, to say farewell before you cross the seas to a distant part of proceeding. Nearing Colenso Capt. my Empire to assist your comrades who are fighting so bravely for your sovereign and country. I know you will always do your duty, as heretofore, and I pray God to bless you and give you a safe return."

BOERS ARE INACTIVE The Dutch allies have become mactive all along the line at the critical stage in their fortunes, when they have no time to lose. They have not advanced from Co.enso, nor made headway in the invasion of Cape Colony from the southern frontier of the Orange Free State, and their campaign on the western border remains indecisive.

The Women are Plucky.

A Daily Mail despatch from 1st court shows that the women of Lady smith are possessed of real grit. In replying to Gen. White, who requested permission for non-combatants to leave the town, Commandent Joubert replied that the women and children might go under the Boer guns to Umbulwane for protection. The reply was read at a public meeting and the women unanimously resolved to form a laager rather than accept protec tion from the Boers.

War Notes.

There is no confirmation of the report of Gen. Joubert's death. Six of Signor Marconi's assistants have gone to the Cape at the request of the British Government with sets of instruments. He says he has sent no plant either directly or indirectly

to the Transvaal. The Admiralty has engaged the fast steamers Gaul, Norman, Donne Castle and Avondale Castle to embark the The natives here are undertaking greater part of the fifth division of 10,000 troops at Southampton for the

Buller wires to-day, 10.15 a, m., that | tween Mozambique and Lorenzo Mar-Kill'd. Won'd. Capt'd. | Col. Kekewich reported Nov. Sth. | quez has been repaired.'

Estcourt, Nata!, Nov. 13 .- Noon .-Nov. 7th did no damage, and there The West Yorkshire Regiment has arrived here.

The Basutos continue faithful to the The bombardment of Ladysmith has London, Nov. 11 .- The last infantry | was sent out on a reconnaissance to-

any announceme recent bereaven the confession, f not receive much One afternoon, turned from sch strated with ber and dust, and w

right homesickn she found the note was lying dressed to her, writing. It stat had gone out of inquirles about Ruby felt ver a hard day in and find the one to speak made her doub She dropped the table, and, the sofa, let th

She might h

minutes when t

Thinking it with the mail mured a low The door op ed and closed resolute, as been guilty of Ruby looked Edmund Carpe hat in hand, a an anxious loc She sprang vividly with of found her ther " Is Mrs. Gor advancing, and to Ruby No: Estelle the afternoon ed," she replie "I do not k

bottom of her refuse and gd But he had had known be should not at home. little plot ar and he had co alone, and will here said his l hawing a chi while she resu At first he tice the eviden erted himself

He knew we

will not be

sit down ?"

ter of form,

was a thorou and had plenty tongue's end. But Ruby w of mind, and to be polite, 1 would have m to herse.f. "I do not well to-day, penter remar in the convet glanced weari "I have been to-day, and th headache," she ored with vex ing admitted *This teachi I knew it wou

ed, with tend

ing her face

ten troubled

"Oh. no, I

trying to spe "It is," he I ing thin and not fit for su do not c Carpenter, and a triffe like his tone. position, and nrlly." "But you been weeping it distresses able. If you care of you from all thi to me. dar you from a you going

pittance. 6 to me, and sorrow; no ever touch y with every wish, and t sides." Edmund C earnest. B shook with pose, and I was actual intenseness " Why W such things she said, it " Because you!" he "I never b

common wor

elined to s at it in oth it. I can Ruby; my fect blank Ruby star face crimsol " You mus I cannot list she was aln allowing by word of love "I told ! tinued, "thi I could neve "You mus her gently the veins st

his forehea I will not il don. You ha of your ch chantress-