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MONDAY'S BATTLE AT LADYSMITH.

Bravely Contested by Our Soldiers Against Vastly Superior Numbers--The British Losses Reported to Have been Very Heavy.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—[Special].—All England was shocked today by the announcement from the War Office that in the battle at Ladysmith on Monday the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the 10th Mountain Battery and the Gloucestershire Regiment were surrounded by overwhelming numbers, and after losing heavily were compelled to capitulate.

The Boers thus got between 1,500 and 2,000 prisoners and captured five screw guns.

General White telegraphs: "I formed a plan, in the carrying out of which disaster occurred and I alone am responsible. No blame to the troops as the position was untenable."

This loss will greatly cripple General White and may compel his retirement from Ladysmith.

The War Office has notified General Buller that extra troops will be forwarded to make good the losses.

The Boer loss in killed and wounded is estimated at between 900 and 1,000.

Lord Wolseley has called out the reserves of Suffolk, Essex and Derbyshire Regiments for African service.

The news today shows that fighting is going on in front of Ladysmith.

The Boers are also planting guns about Kimberly to besiege that city.

The disaster at Ladysmith has given rise to fierce dissension in the Cabinet. It is said the Secretary for war, Lord Lansdowne, overruled the urgent advice of Lord Wolseley in July last to then send troops to South Africa.

It is reported from Colenso, south of Ladysmith, that the Boers have occupied the railway and cut the communication with the coast. The manliness of General White's avowal of it being his fault has awakened the deepest sympathy.

Officials of the War Office say the loss is more likely due to the craze of our younger officers to distinguish themselves and obtain mention in the despatches and earn the Victoria Cross, than the fault of the splendid Indian veteran General White, despite his pitiful avowal.

Terrible excitement prevails in Gloucester and Dublin, the homes of many of the soldiers who were captured or killed.

DUBLIN, Oct. 31.—News of the disaster at Ladysmith has spread consternation throughout Natal. Every available man has set to work to strengthen Pietermaritzburg against a Boer attack.

The Boers are reported near Tugela River, 10 miles south of Ladysmith, near the British position, and reported as feeling their way.

FATHER POINT, Oct. 31.—(Special).—The Sardinian passed here outward at 8.20.

The men are comfortably quartered and declared themselves well satisfied with their situation and with their Quebec send off.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—The War Office received the following despatch, dated 4.30 p. m., Monday: "Employed all the troops here except the obligatory garrison before the works. I sent a mountain battery and the Royal Irish Fusiliers and Gloucesters to take up position on hills to clear my flank.

The force moved at 11 yesterday evening

and during the night the battery mules stampeded with some of the guns, which, however, I hope to recover.

The two battalions have not yet returned but are expected this morning.

I detailed two brigade divisions in the field artillery and five battalions of infantry, aided by cavalry under General French, to attack a position upon which the enemy yesterday mounted guns.

We found this position evacuated; but our force was attacked with considerable vigor by what I believe were General Joubert's troops.

They had many guns and showed in great numbers. Our troops were all in action and pushed the enemy back several miles, but did not succeed in reaching his laager.

Our losses are estimated at 80 and 100. But those of the enemy must have been much greater, the fire of our guns appearing very effective.

After being in action several hours I withdrew the troops and they returned unmolested to their cantonments.

The enemy are in great numbers and

their guns range further than our field guns.

I now have some naval guns which have temporarily silenced and I hope will permanently dominate the enemy's batteries, with which they have been bombarding the town at a range of over 6000 yards.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—The war officials consider that General White will be able to hold Ladysmith despite his heavy loss in yesterday's battle.

They calculate that transports with 10,000 men will reach Durban about November 10th.

The troops would arrive at Pietermaritzburg two days later.

If General White is besieged at Ladysmith he has food and supplies and ammunitions of war, sufficient to last two months.

He will probably be superseded at once.

His admission of his blame for the surrender of his two regiments is regarded at the War Office as an offer to resign.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—It is learned that the War Office has ordered a second army corps to be in readiness to be called out.

The military officials have not yet decided whether the consummation of the plan will be necessary. But they are determined to have everything in readiness either for a demonstration in Europe of Great Britain's capabilities, or for sending even a larger force to the scene of action.

Until receipt of the news of the Ladysmith disaster, the latter course was deemed out of the question. But now there is no knowing what steps will be decided upon.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—Reports are current here that General White may retire to Pietermaritzburg while the railway is intact.

There is much divergence of opinion in military circles as to the advisability of such a step.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—The War Office has sent the following despatch to General Buller: Three extra battalions of foot and one mountain battery with reserves will leave England during the course of ten days, to make good casualties.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—A despatch from Ladysmith says: "The Boers suffered severely during the engagements. Some persons estimate their losses at 900 to 1000 killed and wounded."

CHICAGO MARKETS.

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—(Special).—The following are the closing rates:

Nov. wheat, —; corn, 31½; oats 22½; pork, 8.05.

Dec. wheat, 70½; corn, 31½; oats, 22½; pork, —.

May, wheat, —; corn, 32½; oats, 24½; pork, 8.15.

"Better do it than wish it done." Better cure catarrh by taking Hoo's Sarsaparilla than complain because you suffer from it.

SCOTT ACT ELECTION

CUSTOMS REVENUE

For October Shows Gain Of \$500,000.

SCOTT ACT ELECTION

In Westmoreland Fixed—Fatal at Hotel Fire in Montreal—Names of Victims.

MONTREAL, Oct. 31.—(Special).—A fire early this morning destroyed the Webster Hotel, St. James Street, near the Grand Trunk depot in the flames. Four persons perished.

Capt. Oswald a retired military officer; James Benbow of Ottawa, who had been at the Quebec farewell to the troops, of which his son is one; Jane Gaffney, a servant woman; J. E. Wilson, bailiff of Sherbrooke.

OTTAWA, Oct. 31. [Special].—The Customs revenue for the month of October was \$2,460,020 against \$1,973,271 in 1898.

The Scott Act election in Westmoreland N. B. will be held November 28th.

Canadian Flour for South Africa.

OTTAWA, October 30.—The war office enabled the Ogilvie Milling Co., Saturday, ordering ten thousand bags of best Hungarian flour for use in South Africa. Immediate shipment is directed and probably the flour will go by way of New York, as it is almost impossible to secure transportation via Montreal.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERALS CONGRATULATIONS.

Colonel Moore, District Officer Commanding, received last evening the following Telegram from the General Officer Commanding the Militia: Convey to you District that His Excellency has been pleased to express his cordial satisfaction at Soldierly appearance and disciplined embarkation of our comrades and representatives of the 2nd Special Service Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment, yesterday's event. Express my congratulations to all concerned upon this auspicious event in Canadian Military history.

(Signed) GENERAL HUTTON.

THE WEATHER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(Special) Rain, northeasterly gale of hurricane force.

MARRIED.

At Wheatley River, on Oct. 26th, by Rev. J. W. Distant, William J. Hickox of Hunter River, to Janie A. Worthy of Wheatley River. P. E. I.

DIED.

At her home in Pleasant Valley, Lot 21, on August 30th, 1899, of partial paralysis, Christie beloved widow of the late John McLennan, aged 79 years.

ROYAL Baking Powder

Made from pure cream of tartar. Safeguards the food against alum. Alum baking powders are the greatest menaces to health of the present day.

"GEGGIE DAY" IN TRURO TOWN

Rev. A. L. Geggie Farewelled on Sunday, After a Notable Twelve Years' Pastorate.

(Halifax Herald Oct. 31.) Sunday may well be called "Geggie day." It was the last day of the pastorate of Rev. A. L. Geggie over St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Truro. Mr. Geggie came to Truro over twelve years ago from Scotland, and was called to the charge of St. Paul's when only 24 years of age. During his twelve

years' stay here, he has always been what some style a crank on temperance and young men's problems. He has always been the guardian of the young man, and especially hard is he fought against the illegal sale of liquor in this vicinity which he claims is Truro's worst enemy. So active has he been in connection with the latter that he has received much criticism and many hard words from different sources. But yesterday showed that his friends extend far beyond the bounds of St. Paul's. He preached his farewell in the morning to a full church. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon he spoke at the Railway Man's meeting and at 4 at the Y. M. C. A. and gave his final address in his own church in the evening.

At the evening service the large church was packed to the doors. When the opening hour arrived the vestibule and church steps and for some distance out on the street crowds were packed.

He was presented with addresses from the Y. M. C. A. and the D. J. T. A. and his little daughter received a kindly address from her teacher and schoolmates. Mr. Geggie will also receive a presentation of a purse of gold before he leaves for Toronto on Wednesday. He goes to Dunn Avenue Church, one of the largest in Toronto.

Bentley's Liniment The Modern Pain Cure Price 10c.

PLACED on Stanley Bros. front counter today 30 remnants colored and black cloths, in tweeds, broad cloths, jacket cloths etc, suitable for Ladies skirts and jackets, and children's wear—lengths from one yard to three and a half yards. 1 21.

LETTER FROM QUEBEC.

OCTOBER 26th. In my last letter we were looking forward to leave Quebec on Tuesday, but we will be away on Monday. I have not much time to write you a long letter to-day.

The boys are all well and our outfit is of splendid quality. The quarters are very comfortable, and we have been provided with everything for active service and all are looking for the word to embark.

The Island boys are the best in the Contingent, without exception. They are orderly, clean, prompt, well-drilled and willing to do anything.

Since arriving in Quebec, Joseph Riley has been made Lance Corporal of G. Company, and Lorne Stewart, Corp. G. Co. When we board ship other appointments will be made.

The food is good and superior to what the boys expected to get.

Major Weeks is very careful not only of the Island Contingent but of the whole of Company G.

We are all waiting to give Rev. Mr. Fullerton a warm welcome. When word came that he was coming all you could hear was "Isn't that good."

The boys are disappointed that there are no more of the Islanders coming. I'll write again from the Sardinian.

L. S.

BULBS!

Direct From Holland

HYACINTHS, TULIPS, CROCUS, NARCISSUS.

ALSO—Bermuda Easter Lilies, and Chinese Sacred Lilies.

GEO CARTER & CO

BULBS

For Winter Forcing and Spring Flowering

IMPORTED FROM THE North, South, East, and West, A good selection of choice high grade bulbs in Hyacinths, Daffodils, Tulips, Lilies etc.

Now is the time to plant. See our bulb catalogue with cultural instructions for hardy bulbs for house and open ground.

Haszard & Moore.