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THE SITUATION IS DECIDEBLY HOPEFUL

Ladysmith is Considered Able to Hold Out.

Colenso attacked by the Boers and British retire—The Brilliant Fights of Last Week—Boers were taken by surprise and cut up—Two more Army Corps to be Mobilized—Germany expects control of Samoa—Despatch from General Buller.

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The welcome despatches from the front have lifted the veil of gloom enveloping Ladysmith, showing that the British garrison is not merely standing on the dogged defensive but has executed a series of brilliant sorties.

Reports from different sources agree that the laconic official description of Thursday's engagement as an effective shelling of the Boer laager was unduly modest. General White sent a strong force of cavalry and infantry to attack the Boers at Latham's Farm, about ten miles to the North-west, near Bester's, and apparently achieved a surprise, the Boer's being caught on the open veldt, cut to pieces and captured.

Encouraged by this success, General White decided to risk an even more important engagement on the following day, which was again justified by success.

Ladysmith had been isolated and a Boer force had interrupted the railway between Ladysmith and Colenso. This force on Friday had descended below Colenso, and, as shown by despatches from Estcourt, had compelled a hurried abandonment of Colenso, and the retirement of the British to Estcourt.

General White has ascertained that the Boers were attacking Colenso, but he was not aware of the British retirement. White's division caught the Boers in the rear, and after the hills had been shelled the British infantry stormed the position.

Meanwhile the British cavalry swept around the hills as the retreating enemy descended into the plain with the British bayonets behind them, and the river in front of them. They were charged by the cavalry and seemed to have perished almost to a man.

The British then returned to Ladysmith, without coming into touch with the Colenso garrison which had retired to Estcourt. Sunday's despatch from Estcourt, however, shows that an armoured train had been sent back to Colenso to repair the line, and the next news may possibly be of restoration of communication with Ladysmith.

While the British troops were thus engaged in successful endeavors to wipe out the Nicholson's Nek disaster, the situation inside Ladysmith, as shown by an official despatch from the General at Estcourt, was most satisfactory, encouraging the hope that Sir George White may yet retrieve his shaken reputation, and that his force may emerge triumphantly from the ordeal through which they are now passing.

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The following is the text of the despatch from General Buller from Cape Town dated November 7, 12.55 p. m.

"The following despatch has been received from the General commanding at Estcourt, dated November 6. Since Friday there has been a cessation of hostilities. A note was sent on that day to General Joubert by General White, at the request of the Mayor, asking permission for non-combatants, sick and wounded, to go south. General Joubert refused, but agreed to allow them to go to a special camp four miles from Ladysmith. The township refused to accept this offer, and the sick and wounded, and a few inhabitants were removed yesterday. Friday's bombardment was heavy. Shells fell in the hospital, and one burst

in a hotel during luncheon. No one was injured, the only casualty in town thus far from shells being a Kaffir killed. There was a smart action on Friday towards Drowdrop. The troops under General Brocklehurst drove the Boers back a considerable distance and disabled a gun. There was also fighting near Bulwan. Our loss altogether is eight killed and twenty wounded. The position here is now believed to be entirely satisfactory. It has been greatly strengthened during the last twenty-four hours. The people have deserted their houses and are living in bomb-proof places safe from shell-force. There is plenty of good stores of all kinds. Capt. Knapp and Lieut. Brabant were killed in Friday's action." (The foregoing is an exact copy of a press operator telegram brought here by a Kaffir runner. There is no other official news.)

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The London Mail says that the Government has decided to immediately mobilize a second and a third army corps and send 10,000 additional men to South Africa without delay. The second corps, which is roughly estimated at 40,000 will be mobilized and sent to Aldershot. The third corps will not exceed 25,000, as the ten thousand men above referred to are included in this division. This will necessitate the summoning of all the militia in addition to the militia reserve which are all ready in service. The third corps it is said will be used solely for garrison purposes. Nearly every military station in the country will be denuded of troops when the second corps is mobilized at Aldershot.

The Mail says that the mobilization of the second and third corps is unprecedented in the history of Great Britain.

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Republicans Carry Massachusetts.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—The Republicans have carried Massachusetts by 65,000 votes. W. Murray Crane of Dalton will be next Governor. The entire Republican State ticket was elected by practically the same plurality as the head of the ticket. The Legislature of 1900 will also be Republican by the usual large majority, there being few changes in each branch. The Boston Democrats had no difficulty in carrying the city of Boston. For the past three years the city has endorsed the Republican candidate for Governor, but this year Paine, the Democrat candidate, received a plurality of 5,196 over Crane the Republican.

Allan Liner Ashore.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The Allan Liner Turinian is ashore at Blioh reef, off the coast of Mayo, west of Ireland. She had jettisoned some of her cargo of live stock but was thumping heavily, and making water in all her holds. The crew and cat-lemen are reported all safe. She did not carry passengers.

Germany and Samoa.

BERLIN, Nov. 8.—The Lokalanzeiger says that an arrangement has been reached by which Germany has obtained control of Samoa. A correspondent interviewed a high foreign official on the subject. This officer stated that the German government was hourly expecting a despatch from London, saying whether or not Great Britain would agree to cede Samoa to Germany.

BADDECK, June 11, 1897.

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