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BOERS RECEIVE ANOTHER BEATING.

Discovered in Strength by Advancing British.

WERE FORCED TO RETREAT AFTER STUBBORN FIGHT.

Boers Again Treacherously Using White Flag.

British Advance Steadily Advancing Towards Bloemfontein—The Fight at Driefontein was Unexpected—The Enemy Lost Heavily in Killed, Wounded and Prisoners—Boer Report about Mafeking.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

BOERS DEFEATED.

DRIEFONTEIN, Orange Free State, March 11, 6.35 a. m.—Broadwood's Cavalry Brigade, advancing on Bloemfontein, unexpectedly found the Boers in a strong position in the Driefontein-Korjse, yesterday.

General Kelly Kenny's division arriving, severe fighting ensued.

The Boers resisted stubbornly, but were driven from their centre positions losing a number dead and forty prisoners.

The British force is moving forward today.

During the fighting, in which five regiments took part, with artillery, the Boers though forced from their centre position clung tenaciously to the other kopjes shelling the British freely with three guns and Vicker maxims.

The British cavalry began to turn the Boer position, but the night fell before the movement was completed.

The Boers retired during the night.

LORD ROBERTS' REPORT.

LONDON, March 11.—A despatch from Driefontein to the War Office, from Lord Roberts, dated March 11, 9.55 a. m., says: "I cannot get the precise number of casualties before I march, but will communicate as soon as possible."

The Boers suffered heavily, 102 of their dead being left on the ground.

We captured about twenty prisoners. Among the killed and wounded are: Killed, Captain Enstace of the Buffs; Capt. Loneux, 7th Welsh regiment; Mr. McKattie, a retired Indian civilian of Kitchener's Horse.

Wounded: Col. Hickson in the leg, severely, Buffs; Lieut. Ronald, Buffs; Lieut. Torkington, Welsh regiment; Lieut. Pope, Welsh regiment; Lieut. Kimberley, Welsh regiment; Capt Broadwood, Essex regiment; Lieut Devenish, field artillery; Major Waite, Medical corps; Lieut. Hems, Medical corps; Colonel

Umpry, Australian artillery, (severely).

PRESIDENTS WARNED.

LONDON, March 12.—The War Office has received the following advices from Lord Roberts, dated Driefontein, Sunday March 11, 9.45 a. m.—"The following telegram has been addressed by me to their Honors the State Presidents of the Orange Free State and South African Republic.

"Another instance having occurred of gross abuse of the white flag and of the signal of holding up hands in token of surrender, it is my duty to inform you that if such abuse occur again I will, most reluctantly be compelled to order my troops to disregard the white flag entirely.

"The incident occurred on the kopje east of Driefontein farm yesterday evening, and was witnessed by several of my own staff officers, as well as by myself and, resulted in the wounding of several of my officers and men. A large quantity of explosive bullets, of three different kinds was found in Commandant Cronje's laager and this has been the case after every engagement with your Honor's troops. Such breaches of the recognized usages of war and of the Geneva Convention, are a disgrace to any civilized power.

"A copy of this telegram has been sent to my government with the request that it may be communicated to all the neutral powers."

"A large number of Australians were engaged yesterday."

The first Australian horse brigade, with the Scots Greys, advanced within 800 yards of the Boers under a heavy fire. The New South Wales Mounted Infantry joined in the pursuit of the Boers northward."

REACHED THEIR DESTINATION.

LONDON, March 11.—A despatch from Driefontein to the War Office from Lord Roberts, dated March 11, 7.15 a. m., says: "The enemy opposed us throughout yesterday's march, and from their intimate knowledge of the country gave us considerable trouble.

"Owing, however, to the admirable conduct of the troops, they were unable to prevent us reaching our destination."

The brunt of the fighting fell on Kelly-Kenny's division, two battalions of which, the Welsh and Essex, turned the Boers out of two strong positions at the point of the bayonet."

LAYING DOWN ARMS.

CAPE TOWN, March 12.—The news from Lady Grey, Herschel, and Aliwal North, show the rebels laying down their arms in large numbers and the Boers all along the border are in serious straits.

TEN MILES A DAY.

LONDON, March 12.—Spencer Wilkinson, in the Morning Post, says: With one hundred dead at Driefontein the Boers must have 500 wounded.

We may expect Lord Roberts to continue his march at the rate of about ten miles a day.

MAFEKING IN PERIL.

LONDON, March 12.—The correspondent of the Daily Mail at Lorenzo Marquez, telegraphing on Saturday says:

"According to Boer reports the fall of Mafeking is certain.

"There has been heavy fighting this week and the Boers have been shelling the town from all the outlying forts which they have captured.

"Col. Baden Powell cleared all the natives out of the town, but the Boers drove them back.

"The Boers are preparing for a final assault with the idea that the capture of Mafeking will raise the drooping spirits of the Burgheers.

DETAILED ACCOUNT.

DRIEFONTEIN, March 12.—The Boers fought a stubborn rear guard action yesterday; but just as our parallel advance threatened to envelope them, they fled.

We advanced from Poplar Grove with three columns, each of which had a brigade of cavalry attached to it.

General Tucker to the southward occupied Petrusburg unexpectedly and met no opposition. Kelly-Kenny, after moving along the river bank, turned his force in the direction of Abraham's Kraal.

He then moved across the country to Driefontein, where he found General Colville coming along the higher Bloemfontein road. The enemy posted themselves strongly on the ridges connecting a series of kopjes. They had mounted seven guns, with which they opened on our infantry and cavalry, of both columns who were unable to outflank them until the infantry arrived.

Soon afterward Kelly-Kenny's corps crossing to the spot attacked the kopje and ridges on the left of the Boer position. The Welsh gallantly rushed some of the entrenched kopjes and then the Highlanders coming up to the front the Boers ran.

The enemy is estimated to have been several thousand strong.

The Welsh took fifteen prisoners, a part of a Pretoria commando, Kruger's Owa.

The Boer losses were considerable.

Our advance is proceeding. Yesterday's engagement was a surprise apparently to both sides. The fighting seemed likely at Petrusburg, where none took place; while the direct line was reported clear yet a strong opposition was made.

The Boers were surprised by our double line of advance. They had taken their position ahead of the right flank of General Kelly-Kenny, thinking his force represented the general advance. They found, afterward, that a parallel column threatened their rear.

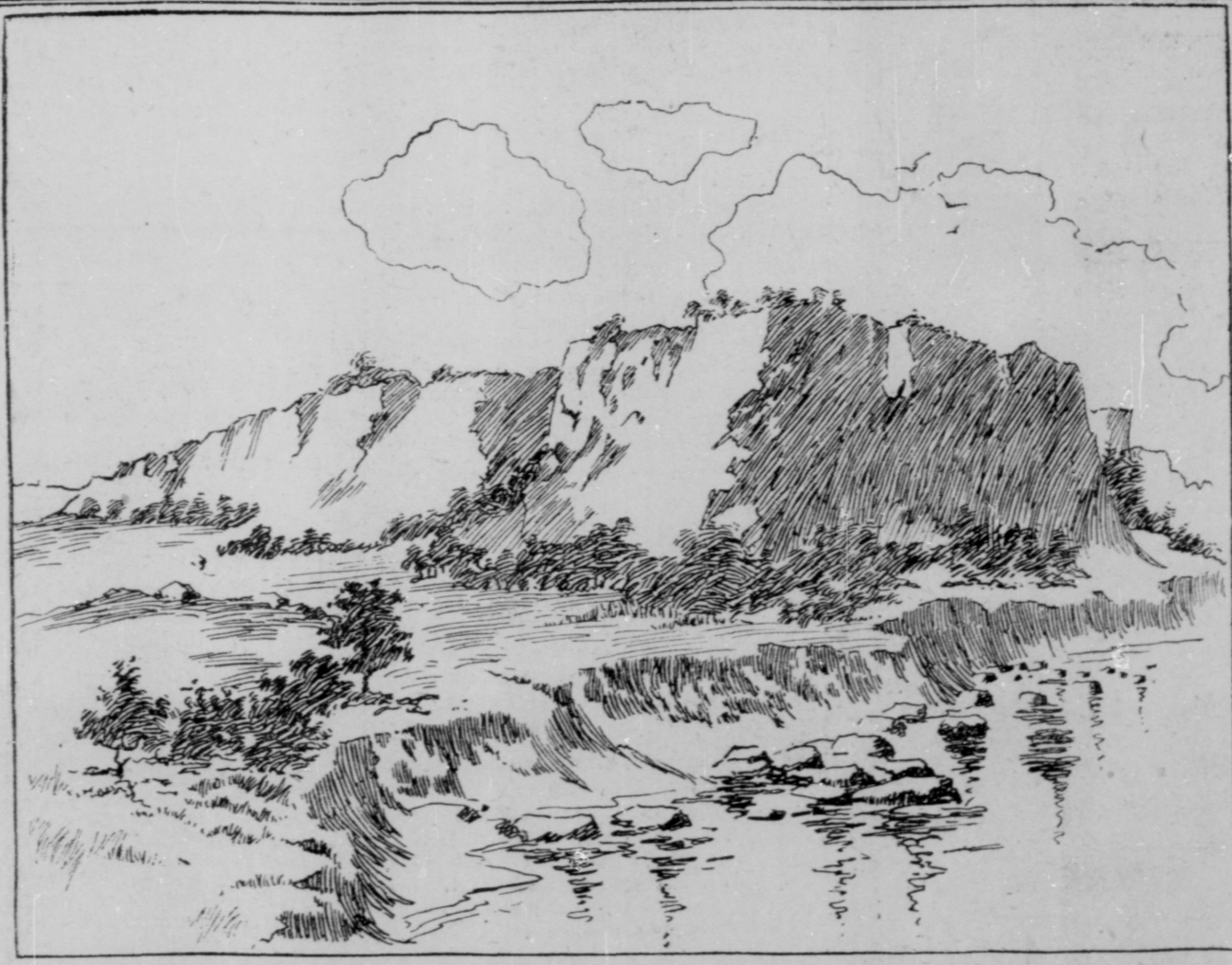
Unfortunately our infantry moving slowly were unable to arrive in time and the Boers thus succeeded in escaping.

Kelly-Kenny's force sustained the brunt of the fighting, advancing against a horse-shoe shaped position. It was not until the Welsh carried the Boer right that the position was cleared. But it was then impossible for General Colville's infantry on Kelly-Kenny's right to have entered the action in time to crush the retreating foe.

Death of Senator Lewin.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

St JOHN, N. B., March 12.—Senator Lewin is dead.



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