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Season's

Greetings

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Happy New Year

GORDON & McLELLAN

Men's Stylish Outfitters.....

GEN. WHITE'S VICTORY CONFIRMED Has Produced a Better Feeling.

OPINIONS REGARDING BULLER

He may be Making a Turning Movement.

Military Men think Gen. Buller is moving with the bulk of his force.—Thought that the Boers may ease the pressure on Ladysmith.—New York papers express satisfaction over Gen. White's victory.

SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE EXAMINER.

OPINION IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Jan 9.—Considerable satisfaction is expressed in this morning's papers at the news from General White of the repulse of the Boers at Ladysmith.

But it is feared that the British losses were very severe and the solution of the military situation, in Natal, depends almost entirely upon General Buller's operations on the Tugela.

From reports to hand regarding these movements on Saturday, it is doubtful whether they were of the slightest service to the beleaguered garrison.

The Post points to the despatch, dated 2nd January, from a correspondent in Ladysmith which says that the Boers intend to give one battle and retreat to Majuba. This suggests Saturday's attack which may have been a desperate effort.

OPINION IN LONDON.

LONDON, Jan 9.—General Buller's explanation on Sunday that in response to ominous news from Ladysmith he sent all available troops for a demonstration against Colenso on Saturday afternoon has directed attention to the details of that reconnaissance. Nothing was accomplished, since no reply was drawn from the enemy's guns to the shrapnel of the field artillery or Lyddite shells of the naval brigade, and the troops returned to camp after a futile demonstration of no apparent service to the defenders of Ladysmith.

The list of brigades, battalions and batteries mentioned tends to prove that a large portion of Buller's army was not available at the front and is consequently massed for operations in some other quarter,—either the enemy's right or left.

Military men were confident last night that Buller's advance had been ordered during the day, if not previously in progress, in the direction of Springfield or Weenen and the lower Tugela.

Censorship until a late hour prevented

the slightest glimpse behind the scenes at Frere Camp. But General White's gallant defence has made the relief of Ladysmith imperative—a duty which must be performed without flinching.

THE TRANSVAAL ANNEXATION.

(Montreal Gazette.)

The Duke of Argyll has made an interesting addition to the controversy about the policy of the Gladstone Government in giving back the Transvaal to the Boers in 1881 after it had been annexed to the empire by Sir Theophilus Shepstone. The Duke had really no need to intervene, as everybody but himself had overlooked the fact that he was a member of the cabinet when it decided upon retrocession. But with praiseworthy courage and sense of duty the Duke tells "bound to come forward and stand in a white sheet among his former companions." He resigned his seat in the cabinet on April 8th, 1881; the action on Majuba Hill was fought on February 26, and the whole policy of the Government was decided before the Duke's resignation. He remembers distinctly a conversation he had with Mr. Gladstone on the subject. In this conversation, the Duke says, Mr. Gladstone did not use the absurd language commonly ascribed to him about the duty of "magnanimity." He simply dwelt upon the fact that the Government had opened negotiations with the Boer leaders some time before that battle, and that there was reasonable hope for a pacific settlement. He said he did not think that the defeat of Sir George Colley's small force in an attack of doubtful prudence ought of itself to put an end to the negotiations which had begun; and he stigmatized as "blood guiltiness" the policy of seeking a merely avenging fight. The Duke agreed with Mr. Gladstone that, assuming reasonable terms of peace to be then attainable, they ought not to be abandoned for the mere sake of further fighting to avenge the defeat of Colley; and he is of the same opinion still.

As to the "reasonableness" of the arrangement made, the Duke admits that the ministers were hardly in a position to form an opinion. He writes:

"As a cabinet we were most imperfectly informed. The subject was, for the most part, treated departmentally, and from moment to moment. No document with any grasp of the subject as a whole was ever put before us, so far as I remember. The abominable treachery with which the war had been begun in the slaughter of the 94th regiment at Bronkspuit on Dec 3, 1880, had never been detailed to us. If it had been I think I should have known better how to trust the Boers. I do not remember having ever seen the exact terms of the convention of 1881 before it was concluded. But this I must add—that if I had seen it I should probably have agreed to it, with the knowledge we then had. If it had been honestly accepted by the Boers and honestly acted upon, it might well have been the basis of a lasting peace, and of permanent relations, quite as friendly as those with the Orange Free State. We did not foresee that the Boers would deal with it so dishonestly; nor could we foresee that the gold of that country would give them the means of forming an armed conspiracy of enormous power."

This is a perfectly straightforward statement, and, so far as it goes, convincing. It is probably the best defence that can be made of the action of the Gladstone Government. At the very best, they

stand convicted of a very serious error of judgment, which had calamitous consequences to the empire. They utterly mistook the temper of the people they had to deal with, and they must be held responsible for the consequences of the error, because they disregarded the advice of the people on the spot. They acted in ignorance, it is true, but it was culpable ignorance. The British settlers in South Africa, stood aghast at the retrocession, and protested most emphatically against it. It was made in defiance of pledges by the leading civil and military authorities in South Africa, that the Transvaal would remain part of the empire. British statesmen denounced it at the time as a surrender which was bound to have evil consequences, and when every extenuating circumstance is taken into account it is impossible to acquit the Government with Mr. Gladstone at the head of fatal weakness as well as blindness to its inevitable results.

Nova Scotia Markets.

Halifax advices report that pork has advanced a quarter cent, and now sells wholesale at 5c. and 5 1/8c. for light, and 4 1/2 to 5c. for heavy. Beef figures remain unchanged. Turkeys are 2c. per pound higher than just before the Christmas season, and the wholesale figures are now 13 and 14c. Eggs continue to advance and cannot be obtained in case lots, fresh, for less than 19 or 20c. per dozen. Cheese stocks are light and the price is high. Dealers have only a limited quantity on hand and with very few exceptions factories have none. The advanced price has materially reduced consumption, but it is believed stocks will hold out. The wholesale price ranges from 12c. to 13c. per pound. All descriptions of dairy produce are scarce. In butter, Ontario rolls have advanced 1 cent, and are hard to buy at shipping points. Dairy tubs are almost impossible to get. There is about the usual supply of creamery, production being just about equal to the demand, while supplies of print are none too plentiful. There is no change in P. E. Island potatoes in this market. They are retailing from a couple of vessels at 26c and 28c according to quality and quantity purchased. Besides these a good many cargoes are laid up here, not to be opened up until the spring. There is an upward tendency in hay, and jobbers now ask from \$11 to \$12 per ton for pressed.

At Wardbury, Norway, the longest day lasts from May 21 to July 23 without interruption.

Tokio, Japan, has twenty-two crematory furnaces. It is estimated that 43 per cent of those who die are cremated.

JANUARY MAGAZINES.

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