

WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Interesting Particulars of the Struggle Between Great Britain and the Boers.

LAST BOER WAR.

A SKETCH OF THE WINTER CONTEST OF 1880-81.

It was in the winter of 1880-81 that we had the last Boer war. Sir Owen Lanyon, the British administrator of the Transvaal, had the greatest contempt for the Boers, and he wrote home that the agitation against British rule, which all through 1879-80 had been carried on by Kruger, Pretorius and Joubert, would come to nothing. He was destined to be most disagreeably undeceived. In December, 16, 1880, several thousands of Boers met near Heidelberg, a Transvaal station now some 43 miles southeast of Johannesburg, which latter city had not then been founded, declared their independence of Great Britain, and hoisted the Vierkleur, as the crimson, green and white flag of the Republic is termed. The British authorities were totally unprepared, and a few days later a strong party of Boer horsemen entered Potchefstroom, the old capital of the Transvaal, forced the British civil officer, with his guard of 120 men of the 21st Regiment, to surrender, and then printed the declaration of independence. The next thing was a message to Sir Owen Lanyon, summoning him to surrender in the name of the provisional government and the gathering of commandoes on the borders of Natal. Still Sir Owen Lanyon could not believe that war was intended, and the few British troops the authorities had available were moved from point to point with leisurely indifference. It required a massacre to open the eyes of the government. This was provided for them on Dec. 20, through the agency of Alfred Alyward, the Fenian. This fellow, whom it was afterwards discovered had acted as agent for the transmission of Fenian funds to Kruger, Joubert and Pretorius, to assist them in the agitation of 1880, and who later became Joubert's secretary, had wormed himself into the confidence of some of the British officials, who never for a moment suspected his real character. Through them he got to know that 700 hundred and fifty men of the 94th Regiment were to take stores in ox wagons from Lydenburg to Pretoria. He at once informed Joubert, Nicolaas Smidt and Cronje of the intended movement and the Boers laid their plans accordingly. At Bronckers Spruit a Boer patrol carrying a white flag suddenly appeared before the astonished soldiers, who knew nothing of the hostile demonstration at Potchefstroom, and gave their comrade two minutes to surrender the arms and stores. Naturally the demand was met with a prompt refusal. The white flag was immediately dropped, and concealed Boer marksmen opened fire on the troops, who had no time to deploy or retaliate effectively, and in seven minutes two-thirds of the whole force were stretched out wounded or dead.

THE COLONEL IN COMMAND being mortally wounded gave the order for surrender, and the Boers seized the arms and stores. On Dec. 29 Captain Ellis, who with Captain Lambert had been deprived of his arms and set at liberty, was treacherously shot in the back and killed as he forded the Vaal river. His companion, Captain Lambert, was slightly wounded and managed to make his way into the Orange Free State. Here on a journey of three days the unfortunate officer was denied any food or assistance by the Free State Boers, though they were supposed, and pretended to be, friendly to Great Britain. In January, 1881, a few troops were sent from England, the authorities still assuming that to crush the rebellion would be an easy task, and Sir George Colley, appointed governor of Natal in 1880, took command. General Joubert, with 700 men, had crossed the border on Jan. 3, and occupied Laing's Nek. Sir George Colley with his force, consisting of 12 companies of infantry, 120 half-trained mounted men, and 100 blue-jackets, advanced to meet him. The engagement took place on Jan. 28, the British troops attempting to storm the heights on which the Boers were entrenched in such a way behind rocks and boulders that they could hardly be seen. The result was a disastrous check to our arms. The Boers fired steadily at the climbing troops, who were crowded together, and who were forced to retire in confusion, the 58th Regiment alone

losing seventy three killed and having one hundred wounded, the other regiments suffering in similar heavy proportion. After this repulse General Colley resolved to wait for the reinforcements which had been ordered up under Sir Evelyn Wood. His camp at Mount Prospect, however, was menaced in the rear by bodies of Boers, and in order to keep the road open to Newcastle he made a reconnaissance in force to the Ingogo river on Feb. 8, and stumbled into a

CAREFULLY SET TRAP.

He had with him 280 rifles and two big guns, and this force was suddenly attacked on three sides at once. The fight lasted till nightfall, the British, as before, being picked off by Boer marksmen hidden in the kopjes or mounds near the river. The British again had to fall back utterly beaten, just saving the two guns, but leaving 132 killed and wounded on the field behind them. On Feb. 17th, Sir Evelyn Wood arrived at Newcastle with reinforcements, and on the night of Feb. 26th General Colley, with a force of twenty officers and 627 men of the 58th, 60th, and 92nd regiments, and the Naval Brigade, marched and occupied Majuba Hill, a flat-topped eminence overlooking the Boer camp at Laing's Nek. At 10.30 the next morning the Boers assaulted the position, one party keeping up a withering fire on the British at the top of the hill to cover another body that, taking advantage of the numerous jutting rocks and big stones as cover, climbed to the attack. When the top was reached the British, quite out of hand, their officers not knowing anything of manoeuvring troops under fire, attempted to reply with shots instead of the bayonet. The result was they were shot down before they could load, and, eventually outnumbered, the Boers being over 2,000 strong, beat a retreat. Sir George Colley, Capt. Romilly, of the Naval Brigade, and seven other officers died facing the foe and refusing to retire. Fifteen other officers were wounded and captured. The total loss of all ranks was 230, besides a great number who surrendered. This defeat ended the war. Sir Evelyn Wood received

orders from home to oppose the Boers no further, and on March 6th an armistice was declared. The Boers eventually agreed to the British terms and on March 22 peace was proclaimed. This was exactly three months and six days from the time of the first hoisting of the Boer flag at Heidelberg. Ratification of the peace took place on August 8, and the Transvaal Volksraad met on September 21 as the legislative chamber of the republic to confirm the treaty.

DELIGHTED BOERS.

After the Boers at Paardeburch had been captured and disarmed they were extended in a long trailing line across the plain and as far as possible were arranged in commandos. The Free States were kept separate from the Transvaalers. The look upon the faces of the men as they passed, made it impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that they were all overjoyed at their release from the daily hell of shot and shell, which they had been experiencing lately. Many did not even take the trouble to conceal their delight from the soldiers guarding them. They chatted freely with the British, discussing the different battles in which they had fought. All the prisoners have an intense admiration for the bravery and pluck of the Highlanders, and they freely confess that they are incapable of the dash and go of the British. Some of the sick prisoners have given a vivid description of General Cronje's night march. It began in a panic, and terrible confusion prevailed throughout. The huge wagons crowding the narrow road, there was an utter lack of order and desertions were numerous.

CANADIAN DUTY.

La Presse, the Independent Conservative newspaper in Montreal, draws a consoling moral from Canada's losses in the war. It tells us that six thousand miles from home and amidst murderous bullets there has been signed a concordat

of lasting love between the different nationalities which are preparing the future of Canada.

"Let that confraternity of the last slumber in a distant land," adds La Presse, "be also a guarantee of joint existence on Canadian soil without the odious suspicions and reservations of yesterday."

How strongly this contrasts with the gospel of racial hate preached by Mr. Tarte in La Patrie.

Mr. Tarte calls upon his compatriots to suspect Ontario, and pronounces Ontario people "Orangistes," and French Canadians who are loyal, lay figures of the Orangiste faction.

He proclaims himself French first and British afterwards, and warns his followers that the English of the other provinces are preparing to drive them out of the country with muskets.

A dangerous and untruthful man, Mr. Tarte is sowing discord in Canada and distrust of the Empire for his own political purposes, while sound Canadians of all nationalities are battling for union. — Mail and Empire.

La Presse, of Montreal, in a recent issue gave utterance to sentiments which will be echoed from Charlottetown to Victoria. It said:—"Six thousand miles from home, there has just been signed, under fire on a field of carnage, amidst murderous bullets, what might be called a concordat of lasting love between the different nationalities which are preparing the future of the Canadian nation. The mourning is great, but the hope is still greater. If our first thought, that of the heart, is for the bereaved families the second, coming from reason, goes to our country, which has valor to register in its annals. Those were men, then, that we sent there. What could we know about it in the long period of peace with which Canada is favored? The art of war is not learned; it is in the blood. Our men have just proved it. As regards our country it seems that the roots of a nation will be strengthened in that pure fertilizer extracted from our veins. There is nothing like a common fate, dangers shared, solidarity in glory. We have just sown, side by side, blood in the same furrow; the promised harvest must be union, good will, confidence between us, for nature has fixed it that life should proceed from death. Let that confraternity of the last slumber in a foreign land be also the confraternity of joint existence on Canadian soil, without the odious suspicions and reservations of yesterday."

The relief of Ladysmith is indeed a notable event in British history. There

have been few sieges better withstood, and both defence and relief are creditable to British bravery and perseverance. Bonaparte complained that the British did not know when they were beaten, and the relief of Ladysmith, after four long months of what the world regarded as hopeless effort, proves that Bonaparte's accusation was well-founded. The stubborn resistance of the besieged garrison, suffering from disease and subsisting on horseflesh, was truly heroic, but not one whit more so than the work of the oft repeated and oft repelled but never defeated army of relief. In the history of the empire there are few chapters that will better illustrate the characteristics that have made for British success the world over than the chapter that relates the defence and relief of Ladysmith.—Halifax Herald.

Dear Sir,—I was for seven years a sufferer from Bronchial Trouble, and would be so here at times that I could scarcely speak above a whisper. I got no relief from anything until I tried your MILD'S BONEY BALM. Two bottles gave relief and six bottles made a complete cure. I would heartily recommend it to anyone suffering from throat or lung trouble

J. F. VANBUSKIRK, Fredericton.

WANT HOUSEKEEPER

To come in and look over our groceries. Our stock is fine and fresh and guaranteed to be satisfactory. We keep everything in our line that is necessary.

FOR HOUSEKEEPING

The prices—well, that is what we want you to see when you are looking at our goods. Their lowness will surprise you.

BRISCOLL and HORNBY, QUEEN STREET

Telephone Company

The Annual Meeting of "the Telephone Company of Prince Edward Island," for the election of directors and such other proceedings and business as it is competent for the shareholders to deal with and determine, will be held on Wednesday, the 14th day of March, 1900, at the hour of 8 o'clock, p. m., at the office of the Company, Queen Street.

H. J. CUNDALL, President. Ch'town, March 1, 1900. 3i-2, 9, 14

NEW HATS NEW HATS

New Caps New Caps

OPENING TO-DAY 5 Cases

Newest Styles in Men's and Boys' Hats & Caps

J B McDonald

& Co

MUNYON'S GUARANTEE.

Strong Assertions as to Just What the Remedies Will Do.



Munyon's Remedies cure all cases of rheumatism in a few days; that his Dyspepsia Cure will cure indigestion and all stomach troubles; that his Kidney Cure will cure 90 per cent. of all cases of kidney trouble; that his Catarrh Cure will cure catarrh no matter how long standing; that his Headache Cure will cure any kind of headache in a few minutes; that his Cold Cure will quickly break up the common cold and so on through the entire list of remedies. At all drug stores, 25 cents a trial. If you need medical advice write Prof. Munyon, 1506 Arch St., Phila. It is absolutely true.

Bramah Tea

BRAMAH the famous Indian tea, possesses great strength combined with delightful freshness. Try it.

OUR PRICE 24cts SANDERSON & CO GROCERS 24cts



BLANK BOOKS

For all the leading Mercantile Houses in Prince Edward Island. Haszard & Moore

Do Not Be Deceived

BEWARE OF SUBSTITUTES Or Teas named to sound like BRAHMIN.

Haszard's Brahmin IS THE ONLY GENUINE. ASK FOR IT AND TAKE NO OTHER

FOR SALE BY: J. D. McLeod & Co., Beer & Goff, Jenkins & Son, J. R. Warren, R. J. Wood, R. F. Maddigan, & Co., R. H. Mason, J. H. Myrick, Edward Cullen.

HORACE HASZARD, Agent For Canada

Redeem The Time

Now is your time to purchase a nice Oak or Walnut Clock, as we are selling them at a big discount, at the Modern Jewellery and Fancy Goods Store, Sunnyside.

Jury & Co. A beautiful Calendar given free with every clock.



BRITISHERS' FIRST INVASION OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE. Gen. Babington's Troops Burn the House of Commandant Lubbe. —Boston Globe