



PONTOON BRIDGES CONSTRUCTED BY THE ENGINEERS FOR CROSSING THE TUGELA RIVER. [Boston Globe.]

WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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

FROM CANADA.

Mother and Queen, from the golden West,
We offer in love at the foot of thy throne,
All we can give thee, our dearest and best,
Flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone,—
Take them, Queen of the brave and free,
They come in their love to die for thee.

Mother and Queen from farm and mart,
From bank and factory hill and plain,
They gather in love for a noble heart,
To lighten its sorrow and bear its pain,—
Take them Queen of the brave and free,
They come in their love to die for thee.

Mother and Queen, our homes were bright
And pure as the air of the sunlit north
But tears have darkened the woman's sight
Since the day that the brother and son went forth,—
Take them, Queen of the brave and free,
Who come in their love to die for thee.

Mother and Queen of the spotless throne
Lady and Lord of the sea and land,
Thou makest our far-born sons thine own
By the tender clasp of a woman's hand,—
Take them Queen of the brave and free,
They come in their love to die for thee.

Mother and Queen, from the strong old West,
From the rivers and plains where our children roam,
We give thee our dearest, our bravest and best,
Take them, Queen of our heart and home,—
Asking no bounty favor or fee,
They come in their love to die for thee.

FREDERICK GEORGE SCOTT.
March, 1900.

with him in India, accompanying him as his guest on my last tour of inspection of the Indian armies. I saw for myself how two hundred thousand men were shipped him. Since his return from India there have been influences striving to keep him in the background. The disasters of the winter gave him his opportunity, and now the world sees what he has made of it.

"When Sherman set out to march through Georgia, he asked General Grant for an old chum, Cavalry Officer Wilson, I think, and when Wilson came he sat up half the night talking to Sherman, who before retiring said: 'I'll tell you where Grant beats all the rest of us. He don't care a damn for what he can't see the enemy doing, and it scares me like hell.'

"Roberts is like Grant. He is too big to be disturbed at anything, and he quietly does just what he means to do. Accordingly his movements have knocked the Boers out of time.

Dreifontein turns out, by the losses on both sides, to have been one of the hardest fought actions of the war. It has finished the Free Staters and the Free State.

"Roberts entered Bloemfontein on Tuesday and the result has been the Free State resistance.

"The railway was opened without difficulty to the Orange River. The rebellion in the Cape collapsed, the Free Staters turning round wholesale. Meantime the Transvaal Boers solemnly declare that they have made Biggarsberg impregnable, but Buller has no need to run his head against Biggarsberg. Lord Roberts by advancing to the Vaal river would turn Biggarsberg and the Boers then must be between two armies.

"The Transvaal Boers may fight on in the hope of foreign intervention.

They have no other chance, as either British army outnumbers them or they cannot escape, being between two fires, except by perpetual retreat. But, though I can see no chance for them except through intervention, I expect the Transvaal Boers will fight until the last, as their animosity to the British is deep rooted.

"Intervention hardly seems likely, as the British navy is an unknown quantity and the British nation quite determined. The fate of Mafeking is uncertain. All recent reports show that despite the great hardships the garrison will hold out; that the besiegers are growing tired and timid, and that relief movements are in progress north and south, but the news is indefinite. The situation is summed up in the Associated Press' latest despatch that the relief of Mafeking may be expected at any time."

The official statement shows that by far the bloodiest fighting of the war was at Spion Kop, in Buller's attempt to reach Ladysmith, during the week, Jan. 17 to Jan. 24. The loss during the week's fighting, which occurred largely on the day the troops held Spion Kop, aggregated 263 officers and men killed, 347 missing (mostly killed or wounded) and 1,109 wounded, a total of 1,729. And yet even after this terrible loss on the British side the Boers dared not attack the British in turn. How could they hope to win a war by merely sitting still and waiting for attack? The next deadliest battle to Spion Kop was of course Magersfontein, where 171 officers and men were killed, 692 wounded and 107 missing (practically all killed or wounded and captured), a total of 970—in one day—in fact mostly in half an hour. Yet again the Boers dared not take the offensive.

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THE SIN OF WITCHCRAFT.

RUDYARD KIPLING WRITES OF THE CAPE TOWN OFFICIAL.

The first word from Rudyard Kipling since he went to South Africa printed in this week's issue of Harper's Weekly. Mr. Kipling cables a long account of British disloyalty, which he calls "The Sin of Witchcraft." The burden of his complaint is that British civil officials in Cape Town wink at semi-treasonous acts, and to quote his own words: "The Government will take care it does not pay any one to be loyal." He says: "The loyalist on the border has his house ripped inside out by the Boers, or rebels, or both; the disloyalist farm is respected and in return he supplies the enemy with food, horses and information. His risk is small. He may possibly—but not if his friends can stop it—be arrested on a charge of treason. He may then be sent down country to be tried by a sympathetic jury. He hopes, and not without reason, to have his farm restored to him after he has undergone

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