

# THE DISPATCH.

VOL. 6. NO. 21.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., OCTOBER 25, 1899.

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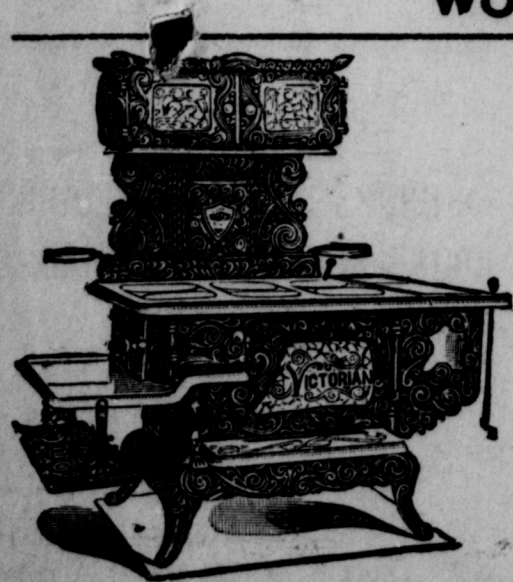
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## BOERS DEFEATED

IN Two Engagements—At Glencoe and Elandslaagte.

Dublin Fusiliers and Royal Kings Rifles Charged the Trenches in face of a Heavy Fire and Swept all Before Them.

### Battle at Glencoe.

The war in the Transvaal is now a well accomplished fact, and news comes in rapidly, a good deal of course authentic, but a great mass of it to be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. The newspapers are bound to make copy, and in their haste to get ahead of each other, reliability is not the most apparent feature of the despatches which comes from the seat of war.

On October 20th there was a bloody battle, in which British forces came off victorious. The following report would appear to be a fair account. Under date of Oct. 20th the news is:—

The battle today has been a brilliant success. The Boers got a reverse which may possibly for a time at any rate, check all aggressive action.

The British military practice in the early part of the day decided the battle. The seizure at Dundee Hill by the Boers was a surprise, for although the pickets had been exchanging shots all night, it was not until a shell boomed over the town into the camp that their presence was discovered. Then the shells came fast. The hill was positively alive with the swarming Boers. Still the British artillery got to work with magnificent energy and precision. The batteries from the camp took up positions to the south of the town and after a quarter of an hour's magnificent firing silenced the guns on the hill.

The correspondent could see shells dropping among the Boers pieces with remarkable accuracy and doing tremendous execution for the enemy were present in a very large numbers and in places considerably exposed.

By this time the enemy held the whole of the hill behind Smith's farm and the Dundee Kopje, right away to the south, in which direction the British infantry and cavalry moved at once. The fighting raged particularly hot at the valley outside the town. Directly the Boer guns ceased firing Gen. Symons ordered the infantry to move on position. The infantry charge was magnificent. The way the King's Royal Rifles and the Dublin Fusiliers formed the position was one of the most splendid sights ever seen. The firing of the Boers was not so deadly as might have been expected from the troops occupying such an excellent position, but the infantry lost heavily going up the hill and only the consummately brilliant way in which Gen. Symons had trained them to fighting of the kind that saved them from being swept away.

The final rush was made with a triumphant yell and as the British troops charged to close quarters the enemy turned and fled, leaving all their impediments and guns behind them in their precipitate flight.

While this was going on a battery of artillery, the 18th Hussars and the mounted infantry, with a part of the Leicester regiment, got on the enemy's flank, and as the Boers streamed wildly down the hill, making for the main road, they found their retreat had been cut off but they rallied for a while and there was severe fighting with considerable loss on both sides. Many of the enemy surrendered.

A rough estimate places the British loss at 250 killed or wounded and that of the Boers at 800.

A newspaper correspondent states that through his glasses during the fighting today he noticed how much the Boers seemed to be non-plussed by the tactics of the imperial troops, especially of the well drilled swift moving horsemen. The enemy are still, as of old, a mob. They are without horses and forage and many of them rely for food upon what they can obtain by looting. Their animals are mostly in a wretched condition. It is understood that before today's battle several Boers had left their commands and gone home to their farms and many others are now likely to follow.

### The Fight at Elandslaagte.

GEN. WHITE'S ACCOUNT.

LONDON, Oct. 23.—The war office this afternoon published the following despatch to the secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, from the general commanding in Natal, Sir George Stewart White, regarding the engagement yesterday at Elandslaagte, between Glencoe and Ladysmith when the British under Gen. French, routed the Transvaal force under Gen. Jan H. M. Kock, the

secretary in command in the Transvaal army, who was himself wounded and captured, and since died:

### THE BRITISH FORCE.

"White, commander in Natal, to the secretary of state for war. Filed Ladysmith, October 22, 10.30 a. m.—In the action at Elandslaagte yesterday the troops engaged were the following: Cavalry—Fifth Lancers, a squadron of the Fifth Dragoon Guard, the Imperial Light Horse, and two squadrons of Natal Carbineers. Artillery—21st Field Battery, 42nd Field Battery, and the Natal Field Battery. Infantry—The Devonshire Regiment, half a battalion of Gordon Highlanders, and the Manchester Regiment. The whole force was under Gen. French with Col. Ian Hamilton commanding the infantry.

### GEN. FRENCH IN COMMAND.

"I was present in person from 3.30 p. m. to 6.30 p. m. but did not assume direction of the fight, which was left in the hands of Gen. French. Although desultory fighting took place early in the day, while reinforcements, sent out later on ascertaining the enemy's strength, were arriving from Ladysmith, the real action did not begin until 3.30 p. m. At that hour the Boers held a position of very exceptional strength, consisting of a rocky hill about a mile and a half southeast of Elandslaagte station.

### WELL DIRECTED FIRE.

At 3.30 p. m. our guns took a position on a ridge 4,100 yards from the Boers, whose guns opened fire. This fire was generally well directed but somewhat high. Contrary to previous experiences, their shells burst well.

The Imperial Light Horse moved towards the left of the enemy's position and two squadrons of the Fifth Lancers to the right. During the artillery duel, mounted Boers pushed out from their left and engaged the Imperial Light Horse. In a few minutes the enemy's guns ceased firing, and our artillery turned on the mounted Boers who opposed the Imperial Light Horse, who at once fell back. After the artillery preparations our infantry advanced to the attack, supported by our guns in the second position. The Devonshires held the enemy in front, while the Manchester Regiment and the Gordon Highlanders turned his left flank.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 22, 11 p. m.—Later despatches from the front say that the Boers' losses at Elandslaagte were considerable and that the British lost about a hundred men, killed and wounded. A large number of Boers were captured.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 22.—It is believed that the railway between Ladysmith and Glencoe has been repaired.

### BATTLE OF DUNDEE.

LONDON, Oct. 22.—A correspondent in Glencoe camp sent the following despatch under date of Oct. 20th, morning:

"Daybreak disclosed the Dutch all around Dundee. As soon as they were in position on the hill behind Peter Smith's house, where they posted a cannon, rifle fire became general; and to wake us they put several shots and shell slap into the camp, causing a speedy evacuation of the tents and a forming up of all the ranks outside the camp. Our arms were soon in action and replied with telling effect. The whizzing of the enemy's shots as they passed over our heads, their effect was not disastrous.

### ARTILLERY FIRE EFFECTIVE.

"So effective was our artillery fire that in ten minutes the guns of the Boers were all but silenced. I could see from my position how telling it was. I could see members of the staff going about their duties as coolly as if the whole thing was a sham fight.

As soon as the Boer fire slackened, our artillery, which had been beautifully served, trotted into town and posted themselves. They soon compelled the enemy to retire, but yet they appeared like so many bees in groups on every pace of vantage on the ridge which skirts the town, while others were driven towards the coal fields.

"Our guns continued to play on Smith's Hill, where beautiful practice was made. As the shells burst, the Dutchmen could be seen scampering for cover. While our guns were so engaged the Hussars deployed on the left flank. Soon the cannonading ceased, and after five minutes' sharp work all was over.

"This may be put down as the first battle of Dundee.

"The battle was soon renewed with great vigor. At 7.35 a message arrived, telling the camp that 9,000 troops are marching on us with the intention of attacking our rear. A heavy mist which caps the surrounding hills, obscures their approach, and they may be on us any hour.

"The only known casualties on our side are wounding of a trumpeter and a drummer of the 69th Battery."

Have your monogram engraved on table ware. FREE if bought of Jewett.

## ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

A Young Man in York Co. Comes to an Untimely End.

Death of Robert Donaldson at a Ripe Old Age.—James Sweeney Burned to Death at Johnville, Monday Morning.

A very sad accident happened at Waterville, near Nortondale in York County, by which a young man named Frank Morse lost his life. The affair happened on Sunday last about two o'clock in the afternoon. Morse was driving along the road in the direction of Millville. He had recently been on a visit to St. Stephen, where he has relatives. As he passed along the road he saw some partridges, and concluded to shoot one. He had no gun but went to the house of the late Beverly Pickard, and borrowed the gun. Young Pickard accompanied him, and they drove to the spot where the partridge were seen. Morse went in the woods and told the boy to wait outside while he shot the bird. The boy heard the discharge of the gun, and then went in the woods. He found poor Morse lying dead. The fatal shot had gone through the eye. The gun had evidently missed fire, and then Morse looked in to see what was the matter. The result was immediate death. The unfortunate young man was only twenty-one years of age, and leaves a father and mother and several brothers and sisters.

Young Morse had several relatives in the county, besides his father and mother. He has an unmarried sister in St. Stephen, one married a Mrs. Morrison who lives between St. Andrews and St. Stephen. He was well known in Woodstock. The affair occurred four miles from Temperancevale.

### Death of Robert Donaldson.

Robert Donaldson died here Tuesday at a ripe old age. He was one of the most respected citizens in Woodstock. He was 87 years of age, and was born in Glasgow, Scotland. When a lad of thirteen he came to Halifax, and eight years after came to Woodstock. He married Eliza McFadden, who was born in the County Tyrone, Ireland. Fifty years next Xmas would have completed the golden wedding. The widow, two sons, George, of Woodstock, and John, now of Winnipeg, Mrs. James Foster, and Ida of Woodstock, survive. Mrs. John Loane is a niece of Mrs. Donaldson. Mr. Donaldson ran the old Woodstock Hotel 33 years ago, later he ran the Caldwell House and in 1876 he took charge of the Exchange Hotel which he conducted until 14 years ago. The funeral will take place from his late residence corner of Church and Richmond streets on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

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### Circuit Court.

The grand jury found true bills on the indictment against John Dalton, and Charles Merritt and William Nason and they found no bill on the indictments against Mrs. Williams and she was discharged. Dalton pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 5 years in the penitentiary. Merritt and Nason pleaded not guilty, the case was brought to trial, but the jury disagreed. The prisoners were discharged on their own recognisance to apply at the next sitting of court.

S. B. Appleby prosecuted for the crown, and A. B. Connell defended.

In the case of Welch vs. R. Montgomery, an action for trespass, a verdict was brought in for plaintiff of 25 cents. A. B. Connell, Q. C., for plaintiff; Hartley & Carvell for defendant. The court adjourned sine die.

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### Burned to Death.

James Sweeney, of Johnville, got up on Monday morning as usual and lit the fire down stairs, and went back to bed. The house caught fire and the unfortunate man perished in the flames. Mr. Sweeney was 70 years of age, and one of the original settlers of Johnville.

J. J. GALLAGHER has resumed the practice of his profession in Woodstock. He has opened a law office in the Payson Building on the corner of Council and Main Sts, up stairs.

### Trade Was Dull.

"How is Surloyne getting on in the butcher business?"

"Very poorly, I hear. They say he does so little that he can't afford to kill more than half a cow at a time."—Judy.

COOK'S ANODYNE LINIMENT.