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CAN WHITE HOLD OUT?

It Will be Ten Days Until the Army Corps Arrives.

The Bombardment of Ladysmith Renewed, But Naval Brigade Silence Boer Guns.

Concentration of Lt. Gen. Buller's Force is Being Hurried Along—Lord Roberts of Candahar Takes a Grave View of the War.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—The war office has received a despatch from General Buller, commanding the British forces at Ladysmith, reporting that the Royal Irish Fusiliers, No. 10 mountain battery, and the Gloucestershire regiment were surrounded in the hills by the Boers, and after losing heavily were obliged to capitulate. Gen. Buller adds that the casualties have not yet been ascertained.

LONDON, Oct. 31.—The following is the text of Gen. Buller's despatch to the war office:

LADYSMITH, Oct. 30, 1.35 p. m.—I have to report a disaster to the column sent by me to take a position on a hill to guard the left flank of the troops. In these operations today the Royal Irish Fusiliers, No. 10 mountain battery, and the Gloucestershire regiment were surrounded in the hills, and after losing heavily had to capitulate. The casualties have not yet been ascertained.

A man of the Fusiliers employed as a hospital orderly came in under a flag of truce with a letter from the survivors of the column, who asked for assistance to bury the dead. I fear there is no doubt of the truth of the report.

I formed a plan in the carrying out of which the disaster occurred, and I am alone responsible for the plan. There is no blame whatever to the troops, as the position was untenable. Gen. Buller, in a subsequent despatch, says the following is a list of the officers taken prisoners today:

Staff Major A. J. G. Carrington, Major Munn, Major Kincaid, Capt. Burrows, Capt. Rice, Capt. Silver, Lieut. Herd, Lieut. Southey, Lieut. Philps, Lieut. McGregor, Lieut. Holmes, Lieut. Kelly, Lieut. Donner, Lieut. Kentish, Lieut. Kinahan, Lieut. Joubert, Chaplain Matthews. Of the above, Captains Rice and Silver and Lieut. Donner were wounded.

Gloucestershire regiment—Major Humphrey, Major Capelure, Major Wallace, Capt. Duncan, Capt. Connor, Lieut. Bryant, Lieut. Nisbet, Lieut. Ingham, Lieut. Davy, Lieut. Knox, Lieut. Temple, Lieut. Badice, Lieut. Bredt, Lieut. Hill, Lieut. Short, Lieut. Smith, Lieut. MacKenzie, Lieut. Beasley, Lieut. Gray. Of the above, Captains Duncan and Connor were wounded.

Royal Artillery—Major Bryant, Mountain battery—Lieut. Wheeler, Lieut. Nugent, Lieut. Moore, Lieut. Webb.

FEELING IN ENGLAND. LONDON, Oct. 31.—There was a continuous stream of callers at the war office today until a late hour, everybody anxiously waiting for news of yesterday's casualties near Ladysmith; but the war office declared that nothing had been received since Sir George Buller's despatch communicating the news of the capture of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Gloucestershire regiment.

This delay in getting further intelligence is attributed in part to the breakdown of the east coast cable; but it stands to reason that the war office must be possessed of further news which it is probably not thought

advisable should be published as yet. The disaster has caused a feeling akin to consternation, and in Gloucestershire and the north of Ireland, where the captured regiments were recruited, the blackest gloom prevails, many families there awaiting with beating hearts the names of the slain and wounded, which are fully expected to reach a high figure. Many homes are already in mourning in consequence of losses sustained in these regiments in the previous engagements.

Public anxiety was increased by a special despatch from Ladysmith, published in the late editions of the London afternoon papers, to the effect that before darkness yesterday the Boers re-occupied the old position held by their heavy artillery, which Gen. Buller had reported alienated by the Boers of the naval brigade from the powerful, and had opened fire again.

THE DESPATCH FURTHER SAYS: "The enemy are again closing in, and the situation is one of grave anxiety. Beyond doubt the Boer retirement yesterday (Monday) was a ruse to draw Gen. Buller into the hilly country and away from the British camp."

This last sentence is significant, and confirms the opinion of military experts here that General Buller is following himself to be outgeneraled by Commandant General Joubert. From the scanty advice received up to 11 o'clock p. m., it seems tolerably certain that the disaster was a simple repetition of the battle of Majuba Hill, though on a larger scale. The two regiments were allowed to march into a trap set for them by the Boers. It is simply a case of the Boer spider and the guileless British fly. In fact, the whole engagement on Monday seems to have been brought on by Commandant General Joubert, who skillfully conceived a gigantic trap, out of which, as the official despatch states, Sir George Buller only escaped with difficulty.

General Buller advanced the idea of driving the Boers from Tintswanvlei Hill, seven miles out, which General Joubert made an ostentatious show of fortifying on Sunday.

The Boer commander left a force sufficient to draw General Buller, while the mass of the Boers he moved stealthily round the British right, to deliver a flank attack and to endeavor to cut off General Buller from Ladysmith. The British commander succeeded in beating off the attack, but only with great difficulty, and during the turning movement his troops suffered from a flanking fire.

Harsh things are said in military circles of the British tactics, which have made possible the ambush of the 18th Hussars at Glencoe, and now the loss of two fine regiments. It is feared that Sir George Buller is no match for the Boers in that cunning by which Boer tactics are conceived, and it is pointed out that if the British commanders continue to lead their men into obvious traps further disasters must be looked for.

AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED with a British officer, whose name is withheld, but who is described as "a well known general, with a distinguished record during the Indian mutiny,"

in the course of which he passes severe criticism upon the conduct of the campaign. "Yesterday's disaster," says the officer in question, "is only another proof of serious blundering. Although Sir George Buller is a good regimental commander, he does not seem to excel in strategy, or the management of a big division. I regard the Glencoe business as a fair sample of blundering."

Proceeding to discuss the engagement at Glencoe, the officer observes: "Some of the enemy's officers were allowed to occupy and plant guns on Tullana Hill. Nothing was done to stop this until the Boers began to shell Glencoe on the following morning. As for yesterday's casualties, it seems inextinguishable that the two regiments should have been allowed to separate themselves from the main body, especially with a considerable swarm of the enemy against them. I know of an expressing the opinion of many military men that the disaster was due to the war office for having prematurely allowed the instance of glancing reports of victory without sufficient frankness and promptitude in disclosing the circumstances discounting these reports."

Sir George Buller's honest admission of full responsibility and the terms of his despatch are regarded in some circles as virtually placing his case in the hands of the home authorities, and it is even rumored late this evening that the war office has already decided to supersede him. The report, however, is discredited in well informed quarters.

ABOUT 6,000 FRESH TROOPS will arrive at Cape Town on Sunday from England and will be available to reinforce General Buller. Transports will arrive there daily on Saturday until, by the end of next week, 23,000 troops will have been landed in South Africa. These men are intended for General Buller's army, but they will be sent to the front only if the situation there should become perilous. The British army will eventually reach the total of 38,534, of which 6,000 will be regulars and the other 32,534 miscellaneous, but excellent colonial troops.

GOV. GENERAL DEFENDS WHITE. MONTREAL, Oct. 31.—There was a scene of stirring enthusiasm at the Caledonian Society's concert this evening. The governor general was present, and in reply to an address, made a speech which brought the audience to its feet again and again. He said: "The news they had received that Sir George Buller was a prisoner was not cheerful, not encouraging, it spoke of disaster. He did not like the word. He didn't think it was a disaster, but it would only signify a check, but it would only signify a check, but it would only signify a check. He defended Sir George Buller, amidst the cheers of the audience. He would wait some time after time and he would feel ashamed if he did not speak a word for the general in his hour of sorrow. In conclusion, the governor general spoke highly of the Canadian contingent."

ENTHUSIASM IN TORONTO. A special service in connection with the departure of the Canadian contingent, as held in St. James Cathedral today at noon. It packed the edifice to the doors and hundreds were unable to gain admission. In his sermon the Rev. A. H. Baldwin said: "We are defeated, we will lose not merely the Queen's crown, but the African, but shall find the empire weakened in other lands. A fierce cry 'never' from an overwrought worshipper, startled the congregation. When the congregation were interferred."

THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS celebrated Halloween by giving a creditable performance of Midsummer Night's Dream, at the Princess Theatre. A lively episode was the hanging of President Kruger in effigy from the upper gallery, amid the shouts of thirteen hundred students.

YULE IS PROMOTED. LONDON, Nov. 1.—The Gazette announces the promotion of Substantive Lieut. Col. W. A. Yule to the rank of major general on the staff, to command the 8th brigade of the South African field force, with the substantive rank of colonel in the army.

JOY IN FRANCE. LONDON, Nov. 1.—Abroad, especially in France, no pains are taken to disguise the satisfaction felt in consequence of the British rebuff. In Paris every means of spreading the news is used. Some of the more dignified papers adopted a respectful and sympathetic tone, but the majority were overjoyed.

The editor of the Patrie hung the Transvaal and Orange Free State flags out of the office window. The Presse predicts a general revolt of the Dutch population in South Africa. The Sotr hints its regret that France did not adopt a different attitude during the Boer crisis. The Courriere Du Sotr thinks that the continental powers will propose arbitration.

M. Yves Guyot, in the Siecle, is almost alone supporting Great Britain against the Boers.

MONDAY'S DISASTER. LONDON, Nov. 1.—The British war office today made public a despatch from Gen. Buller describing the operations of Monday. It was as follows:

LADYSMITH, Oct. 31, 7.50 p. m.—I look out from Ladysmith a brigade of mounted troops, two brigade divisions of the Royal Artillery, a heavy field battery and two brigades of infantry to reconnoiter in force the enemy's main position to the north, and, if the opportunity should offer, to capture the hill behind Farners farm, which had, on the previous day, been held in strength by the enemy. In connection with this advance, a column, consisting of the Tenth Mounted Artillery,

four half companies of the Gloucesters and six companies of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, the whole under Lieut. Col. Carrington and Major A. J. G. Carrington, advanced at 1.35 p. m. on the 29th to march by night up Delta Spruit and seize Nicholson's Nek, or some position near Nicholson's Nek, thus turning the enemy's right flank. The main advance was successfully carried out, the objective of the attack being found evacuated, and an artillery duel between our field batteries and the enemy's guns of the position and Maxwells was understood to have caused heavy loss to the enemy. The reconnaissance forced the enemy to fully disclose his position, and, after strong counter attack on our right, the infantry brigade and cavalry had been repulsed. The troops were slowly withdrawn to camp, pickets being left on observation. Late in the engagement the mounted contingent, under Capt. Lambton of H. M. S. Powerful, came into action, and, with their extremely accurate fire, the enemy's guns of position.

The circumstances which attended the movements of Lieut. Col. Carrington's column are not yet fully known, but from reports received, the column appears to have carried out the night march unopposed, until within two miles of Nicholson's Nek. At this point two boulders rolled from the hill, and a few rifle shots stamped the infantry mules. The stampede spread to the heavy guns, which broke loose from their leaders and got away with practically the whole of the gun equipment and the greater portion of the regimental small arm ammunition. The reserve was similarly lost.

The infantry, however, fixed bayonets, and, accompanied by the personnel of the artillery, seized a hill on the left of the road, two miles from the Nek, with little opposition. They remained unmolested till dawn, the time being occupied in organizing the defence of the hill, and constructing stone sangers and walls as cover from fire. At dawn a skirmishing attack on our position was commenced by the enemy, but made no way until 9.30 a. m., when strong reinforcements enabled them to rush to the attack with great energy. Their fire became very searching, and two companies of the Gloucesters, in an advanced position, were ordered to fall back. The enemy then pressed to short range, the losses on our side becoming very numerous.

At 9 p. m. our ammunition was practically exhausted, the position was captured, and the survivors of the column fell into the enemy's hands. The enemy treated our wounded with humanity, Gen. Joubert at once despatching a letter to me offering a safe conduct to doctors and ambulances to remove the wounded. A medical officer and parties to render first aid to the wounded were despatched to the scene of action from Ladysmith last night and the ambulance at dawn this morning.

The want of success of the column was due to the misfortune of the loss of the guns and small arm ammunition and the reserve. The official list of casualties and prisoners will be reported shortly. The latter are understood to have been sent by rail to Pretoria. The security of Ladysmith is in no way affected.

THE BRITISH LOSSES. LONDON, Nov. 1.—The war office today issued the following official list of 53 casualties sustained by General Buller's force from the time of the battle of Glencoe until it joined the force of Sir George Buller:

King's Rifles—Four killed; thirteen wounded. Leicestershire Regiment—One wounded; nine missing.

Artillery—One killed; one wounded; two missing. Mounted Infantry—Twenty-seven missing.

The last mentioned were attached to the squadron of the 18th Hussars that were entrapped by the Boers after the battle of Glencoe. They were subsequently captured with the Hussars.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—A careful calculation of the British losses in all the engagements since the outbreak of hostilities, excluding the casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men in Monday's disaster at Ladysmith, which are unknown here, gives a total of 915, to which probably 200 will need to be added with details regarding the Ladysmith reverse are received. The total is made up as follows:

Officers—133, being 19 killed, 61 wounded and 53 captured. Men—733, being 137 killed, 492 wounded and 154 captured.

GERMANY BACKS ENGLAND. BERLIN, Nov. 1.—The Neutete Nachrichten, in the course of an article evidently inspired, says: "Germany has no intention of playing into the hands of France by intervening in the Transvaal. She intends to pursue a course of absolute neutrality."

Replying to the anti-Semitic, pan-German outcry against the emperor's expected visit to England, the Neutete Nachrichten remarks: "Although Germans individually may disapprove of England's policy, the actions of the emperor must be dictated by Germany's interests, which do not allow her unnecessarily to arouse bad feeling in England. It would be a great mistake to prejudice German interests in South Africa by a one-sided attitude in view of the future organization of the political situation there. Moreover, the great sea power and the great land power have every reason to co-operate in union and harmony."

SILLY FRENCHMEN TALKING. PARIS, Nov. 1.—A society has been founded to render assistance to the Transvaal government. Col. Montell is president, and MM. Combarieu, Coppe, Jules, Lauriat, Henri Rochet and Drumont, proprietor of the Libre Parole, are the honorary presidents.



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The organization is enrolling volunteers to fight for the Boers, and the promoters claim that more than 300 have volunteered.

They have difficulty, however, in finding the necessary funds, and it is doubtful whether Dr. Leyds, the special representative of the Transvaal government in Europe, will be able to supply these. Under these conditions the whole movement, which is in the hands of the most violent section of the nationalists and anti-Semites, will probably collapse.

BRITISH STATESMEN

Have Confidence in Gen. Buller and in Ultimate Victory.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—Lord George Hamilton, secretary of state for India, speaking at Ealing this evening regarding the situation in South Africa, said:

"Our ultimate victory is certain; and when the terms which we as victors will propose to the vanquished are known, foreign nations will see that the main cause which has forced us to embark upon this contest is not a desire for pecuniary profit or of territorial aggrandizement, but a determination to emancipate a vast territory for the common benefit of mankind, from an ignominious and degrading tyranny."

The Earl of Selborne, under secretary of state for the colonies, speaking at Dumfries, said:

"It is not the fault of the statesmen of the Transvaal that we have not become embroiled with some European power. If the hostilities had not come at a moment when the Transvaal was at the height of its power, we should have been able to do so."

Baron Tweedmouth, former parliamentary secretary to the treasury, speaking at Edinburgh, said:

"The public mind has not been so moved since the news of the disaster in the Indian mutiny. We, unfortunately, are warring with a nation of the same stock and religion as ourselves. At this crisis, all hearts go out to the brave Boers and to the small British army in Natal, which, against fearful odds has performed magnificent feats of valor. It is not the time to call our opponents names or to utter cries of vengeance, but to back up our noblest ministers, who have a fearful, yet an awful, responsibility upon their shoulders."

The Earl of Carrington, liberal, speaking at Buckingham, gave expression to a view of the same convictions. The Earl of Lonsdale, honorary colonel of the Third Battalion Border Regiment, at a banquet this evening at Whitehaven, declared his confidence in General Buller.

Referring to Emperor William's cable message to President Kruger at the time of the failure of the Jameson raid, Lord Lonsdale said: "If his majesty's late despatch had been rightly understood, it would have been a totally different effect. It was sent with a view of allying two warring powers, and it was not a declaration of war. I have the pleasure to know the views of the German emperor, and they are in accordance with the views of England."

EDINBURGH, Nov. 1.—Lord Rosebery, toastmaster of the evening at the banquet given this evening by the local provost of Edinburgh, to the officers of the Gordon Highlanders and the Scots Greys referred to the reverse in Natal, and said:

"It is much to be regretted, but in a considerable campaign, we must look out for such incidents. It is not in the nature of Britain to take much notice of them. We have had a good many of the same kind and have generally got out right in the end. But whatever happens, we must see this thing through, even if it should cost still more battalions and still more millions."

"Some day there will be an indignation as to the preparations made for this war, but the time for that is not now. Our duty now is to support those who have the direction of affairs."

TIMES ON LAURIER'S SPEECH. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's address to the Canadian South African contingent prior to his embarkation at Quebec was warmly commended. The Times says Sir Wilfrid described the present situation in language which could not be bettered by English statesmen. It quotes from the premier's speech and says it would be impossible to put the more tersely, more clearly or more justly.

LONDON PRESS ON CANADA'S ACTION. MONTREAL, Nov. 1.—The Star's London correspondent cables: The Times's report of Monday's

send-off at Quebec has deeply stirred the feeling of the people here.

The Pall Mall Gazette devotes its chief editorial to the subject and says: "Quebec has given a crushing answer to those who wrote themselves down 'little Englanders' for good, by asking what have the colonies to do with South Africa?"

St. James's Gazette says: "It is a good omen for the future that out of Wolfe's great victory has grown a united nation which can now pay a tribute of such striking loyalty to the empire."

The Times declares that the whole British nation will find in this measure consolation for the reverse at Ladysmith.

Radical Tory papers today warmly applaud Gen. Buller's courage for the action he has taken in disavowing the action of the Irish nationalists and radicals who openly express their sympathy in favor of the Queen's enemies.

LAURIER AND TARTER WORK. OTTAWA, Oct. 31.—It is announced that the government failed to effect insurance upon the Canadian contingent, and all the blowing of the press is therefore so much wind.

It appears that the premium which the Standard Life company asked was \$100,000 for insurance, to take effect from the moment the Sardinian cast off her moorings at Quebec. This amount staggered the government, and after full consideration it was decided not to accept the offer. Instead, an alternative proposal was made to the company, which in turn rejected it. All negotiations are now off, and the government has decided to carry the risk itself by providing pensions and gratuities to such of the men as may be maimed or injured. The only insurance carried, therefore, is that arranged through Sir Charles Tupper or by committees.

The government is being warmly denounced for its blundering in the matter. TO CONVOY THE SARDINIAN. MONTREAL, Nov. 1.—A despatch from Ottawa states that H. S. Prescott will convoy the Sardinian.

LATEST. From This Morning's London Papers.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—A special despatch from Pietermaritzburg, Natal, dated Tuesday morning, says: "Stragglers from the Gloucestershire regiment are arriving at Ladysmith. A number of mules with a portion of the mountain battery are also coming in."

LONDON, Nov. 2.—The morning papers comment with the greatest satisfaction upon Canada's suggestion regarding the sending of a second contingent to South Africa.

BULLER OF TO LADYSMITH. LONDON, Nov. 2.—The breakdown of the Delagoa cable route, combined with the monopolization of the available cable by the Transvaal, has forced the regulations to send volunteers abroad or to enlist them for a shorter period than three years.

He adds, however, an assurance that, in the event of a crisis requiring a large increase of the home garrison, of which there is at present no sign, volunteers will be used and enlistment will be permitted for a short term.

CAUSES OF THE WAR. Lord Lansdowne's Speech at the Cullers Feast at Sheffield.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—The Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, was the chief speaker at the Cullers feast in Sheffield this evening. Replying to the toast to Her Majesty's Ministers, he went over the usual ground in explaining the causes of the war, and defended the government against the charge that the military preparations were not abreast of the negotiations. He said:

"The diplomatic messages went by wire; the reinforcements by ship. Moreover, in order to keep abreast, the army and navy would have had to commit most provocative and threatening acts. The Boer ultimatum followed British mobilization, and if Great Britain had mobilized earlier the ultimatum would have been earlier."

Lord Lansdowne explained the promptness of the mobilization which had enabled five cavalry regiments, ten batteries and thirty battalions to get far away on the sea. During the earlier operations the enemy, he said, had great superiority of numbers and the advantage of a choice of ground. This phase of the situation, he hoped, was approaching its end, for in less than a week the first instalment of Sir Redvers Buller's force would arrive.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

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