

## FIFTEEN HUNDRED BOERS REPORTED KILLED AT MAFEKING.

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 19.—It is rumored here that news has reached De Aar Junction and been communicated to the troops there to the effect that when the Boers were repulsed at Mafeking, the defenders, seeing the enemy in retreat, followed up their advantage and pursued them for some distance. Then a feint was made and they

commenced to fall back upon the town, allowing themselves to be driven by the enemy. The Boers, eager to retrieve their position, again advanced to the attack and were drawn over the lyddite mines which had been laid for the defense of the town. The invaders suffered terribly. It is reported that 1500 of them were killed. The Mafeking armored train also has been doing great execution.

### VRYBURG SURRENDERED TO KRUGER'S INVADERS

*Police Retire and Boers Take Possession of the Town—Fighting Progresses at Several Places and the Usual "Repulses" Are Reported.*

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphing at 10 o'clock Thursday night says:

Vryburg surrendered Sunday. To-night's dispatches from Kuruman, ten miles east by south of Vryburg, state that the police have withdrawn from Vryburg. The town surrendered to the Boers, the inhabitants fleeing in all directions, mostly toward Kuruman. When the police withdrew the Cape Boers notified the fact to the enemy, thus inviting them to take possession. There was a fearful panic.

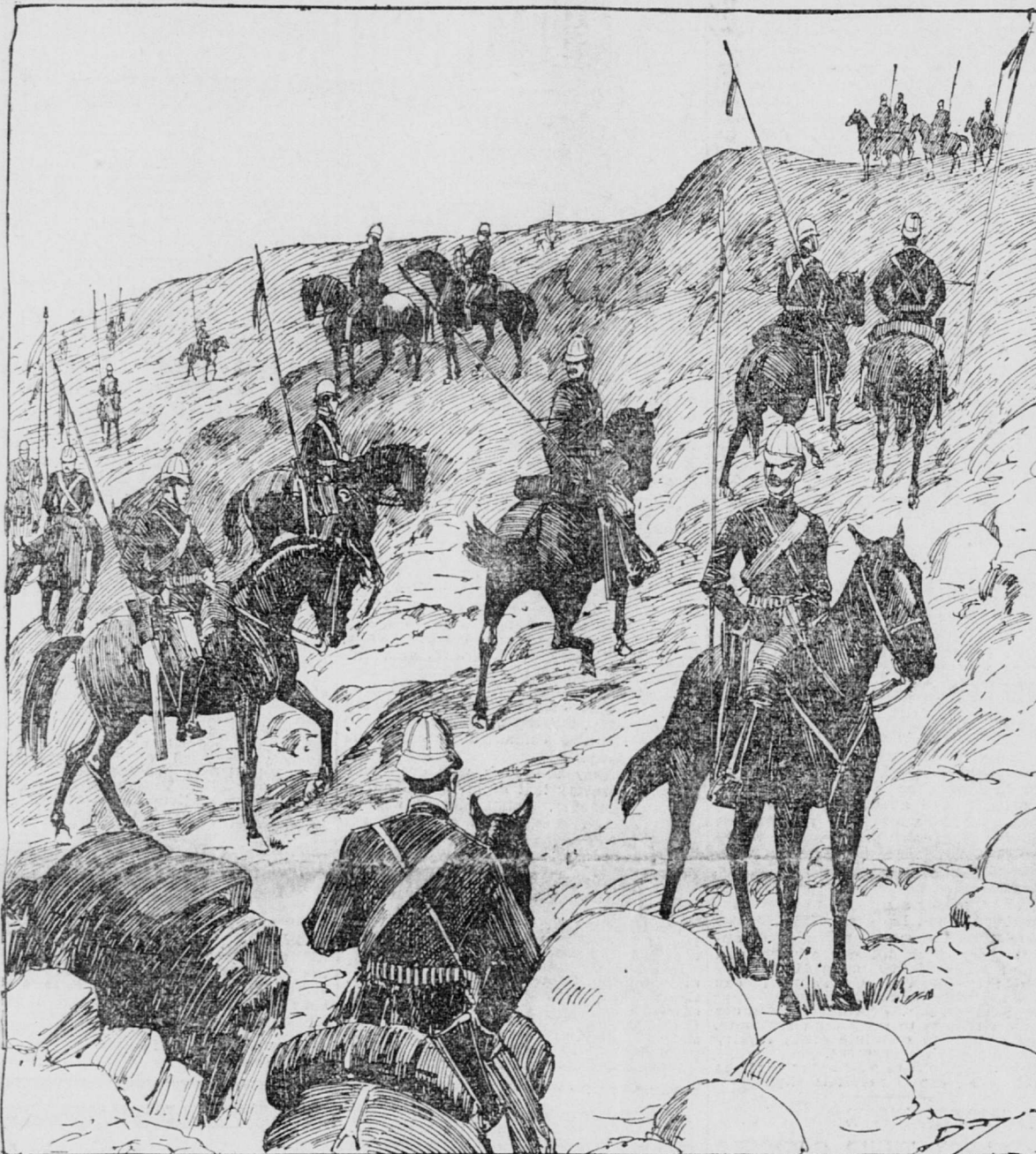
The Daily Mail's Cape Town correspondent says that a refugee who has reached Grahamstown from the Rand states that a train arrived at Johannesburg on Monday from Klerksdorp with 300 wounded burghers. Every available conveyance, the refugee says, was called into requisition to take the wounded men to the hospital. The Daily Mail suggests that these wounded men were from Mafeking.

The Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail in a dispatch dated Thursday says: The brunt of the fighting at Besters Station yesterday was sustained by the volunteer patrols. The fighting was brisk. The

Boers numbered 2000. The volunteers at one moment were in great peril, being nearly cut off, but the officers handled their men splendidly, and the Maxims effectively stopped the Boers' rushes. The Boer shooting was wretched. The volunteers lost their kit, and altogether the fight was a pretty trying one. The men were in the saddle three days and two nights with hardly a rest. The Basuto natives were fighting with the Boers. It is reported that sixteen Boers were killed. Lieutenant Gallemy, who is reported missing, is the eldest son of Sir M. H. Gallemy, Chief Justice of Natal. He is supposed to be in hiding and searching parties have been sent out to try to find him. The cavalry are still bivouacking out and slight skirmishes are frequent. I learn officially that Commandant General Joubert has moved his headquarters to Dannhauser.

It is reported from Delagoa Bay that the Swazi King Bunu is collecting his forces, with the object presumably of attacking the Boers. It is stated that the Portuguese forces at Delagoa will be raised to war strength.

It is announced from Pretoria that an eccentric person known as Baron Deginsberg has been court-martialed and shot as a spy.



Party of British Lancers Reconnoitering Toward Van Reenans Pass.

Plans of the local forts were found in his possession.

### GENERAL BATTLE HAS NOT YET OCCURRED

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The general action anticipated yesterday to the westward of Ladysmith has not yet occurred. Operations have been confined to outpost skirmishing, with apparently small loss of life. It seems both armies are acting with great caution. The Boers have captured several British officers traveling by train from Ladysmith to Dundee. The Daily Telegraph publishes the following from Ladysmith late Thursday afternoon: "The Boers have captured near Elandsbaai a train which left Ladysmith at 12:30. There were in it several officers and a few men, besides civilians, all going to Glencoe or Dundee. Fortunately the 10:30 up train, which contained one of your correspondents, got through. The enemy has cut the wires, severing telegraphic communication with Glencoe."

The Ladysmith correspondent of the Times, under date of yesterday evening, says: "The situation on the east border is developing a more serious aspect. The Vryheid and Utrecht commandos, after looting on the Zulu border, are reported to be in the Umsinga district, threatening communication between here and Dundee. The situation at the front is reported to be growing more acute."

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BOER MOVEMENTS

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Natal again claims a share of the attention which, during the last few days, has been focused upon the beleaguered garrison at Mafeking. The combined advance of the Boer forces on the positions held by the British general commanding Natal, Sir George Stewart White, has already occasioned a sharp affair of outposts, which possibly has since developed into a pitched battle. The Boers, according to the latest information at hand, do not appear to have

been driven back. Perhaps, however, their movements are only part of a general plan to isolate both Ladysmith and Glencoe from the south.

The simultaneous Boer movements from Acton Homes on the west and from Rorke's Drift and Helpmakers from the east, may indicate a projected attack upon the railway below Colenso. The movement from the east also suggests an attack on the railway at Waschbank, between Ladysmith and Glencoe.

Military experts are inclined to the opinion that the troops at Glencoe are only to form a rear guard left to attack the force under Commandant General Joubert, while General White's full strength is concentrated at Ladysmith with a view of attacking the Orange Free State force while General Joubert is still forty miles away.

Stories of British successes in the Mafeking district are so persistent that, in the absence of contradiction from Boer sources, they may be accepted as true in the main, although the alleged killing of 300 Boers is discredited.

General Cronje's troops are regarded as the flower of the Transvaal forces and decisive fighting must occur on the western border. It was intimated in last night's dispatches, which are approaching from Rhodesia, it will probably not be long delayed.

Apart from their desire to gain an initial advantage by capturing Mafeking and thereby attracting the Dutch colonists, the object of the Boers in massing in Bechuanaland is doubtless due to the fact that this splendid stock country is full of cattle, and as it is only sparsely settled, would give the Transvaal a route by which to import arms and munitions by way of Walvisch Bay, Damaraland, on the Western African coast.

### VICTORIA ADDRESSES GORDON HIGHLANDERS

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Queen drove from Balmoral Castle to the ball at the barracks yesterday to bid farewell to the Gordon Highlanders, who are going to the Cape. After reviewing the troops the Queen addressed them as follows: "I am pleased to see you looking so well

and fit for duty. You are going on foreign service, and I wish you all a godspeed. I hope you will return safe and well."

The officers were then presented to her Majesty, the men cheering and the Queen bowing.

### STORY OF KILLING OF MANY BOERS REPEATED

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 19.—A dispatch from Kimberley dated October 17 says: "All is well here. Colonel Hore engaged the Boers at Mafeking on October 14 with great success. Mafeking was still safe on October 15."

A special dispatch to the Cape Argus reiterates the statement that in the fighting in Mafeking Colonel Hore repulsed the Boers, inflicting a loss of 300 men. The Cape Times publishes the following dispatch from Kimberley: "Reliable information from Mafeking says that an armored train, while reconnoitering north of the town last Saturday engaged 500 Boers, who suffered heavily. Colonel Fitzclarence's column felled the Boers, inflicting severe loss. The British casualties were two killed and fourteen wounded, two severely."

Complaints of Boer outrages upon the natives continue to arrive. These serve further to inflame the Basutos and Zulus. Yesterday 150 Basutos from Johannesburg arrived at Burghersdorp, Cape Colony, and alleged that the Boers had robbed them wholesale and flogged them with black-snakes.

The party, which includes a son of Lerethodi, was supplied with provisions, and the Basutos then started homeward, cheering the Queen and chanting war songs.

### BRIDGES BLOWN UP BY ADVANCING BOERS

CAPE TOWN, Oct. 19.—The Boers have blown up the bridges at Fourteen Streams and the Modder River, the former north and the latter south of Kimberley. GLENCOE CAMP, Oct. 18, 7:35 p. m. (delayed in transmission).—The British troops have been under fire. A strong Boer patrol was encountered eight miles from the camp, and was repulsed, the British suffering no casualties.

### TURBULENT SESSION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

*Secretary Chamberlain Frequently Interrupted While Explaining That Great Britain Must Be the Paramount Power in South Africa.*

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Floor and galleries were densely crowded to-day in the House of Commons in anticipation of a speech by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, on "The Government's Policy in South Africa." The First Lord of the Treasury and the Government leader, Arthur J. Balfour, promised to answer to-morrow a question whether the Government had decided upon a specific course of action with reference to the recommendation of the International Commission, respecting the future administration of Samoa.

The Secretary of State for India, Lord George Hamilton, replying to a question on the expenditure for the Indian troops in South Africa, said the entire charge would be defrayed out of the imperial exchequer.

Mr. Balfour, in reply to an interpellation as to whether the imperial Government was now redefining the action of the Cape Colony Premier, Mr. Schreiner, and other members of the Cape Government, and as to whether the Governor of Cape Colony, Sir Alfred Milner, would be allowed to dismiss the Schreiner Ministry, to dissolve the Cape Legislature, and temporarily to assume full authority, said: "This question is apparently founded upon newspaper reports, for which, so far as the imperial Government is aware, there is no foundation."

Mr. Balfour announced that the present sitting of Parliament would be regarded as a complete session, to be terminated by prorogation and not adjourned, until February.

Henry Sater-Karr, Conservative, in accordance with notice given yesterday, asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether the attention of the Government had been directed to certain speeches and letters by and emanating from the members for Kilkenny and East Clare, Messrs. Patrick O'Brien and William Redmond, Parnellites, advocating the cause of the Boers, attempting to seduce British soldiers and inciting them to actively assist the cause of the Boers, and what action, if any, the Government proposed to take in the matter.

Mr. Redmond rose quickly and said that before the First Lord of the Treasury replied he desired to ask him whether it was not a fact that the Queen, and what action, if any, the Government proposed to take in the matter.

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### CAPTAIN NESBITT AND MEN WERE NOT KILLED

*President Kruger Gives an Account of the Destruction of the Train at Kraai Pan.*

LONDON, Oct. 19.—According to private information received here from Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, President Kruger telegraphed an account to Pretoria of the destruction of the train at Kraai Pan, where the Boers derailed and bombarded the British armored train carrying Captain Nesbitt's party. President Kruger said that Nesbitt and seven men were seriously wounded, but no one was killed, and that all the prisoners were doing well. According to the same advice, a Dutch farmer living in one of the border towns has received a letter from a friend in the Transvaal referring to the Mafeking affair as "bad business."

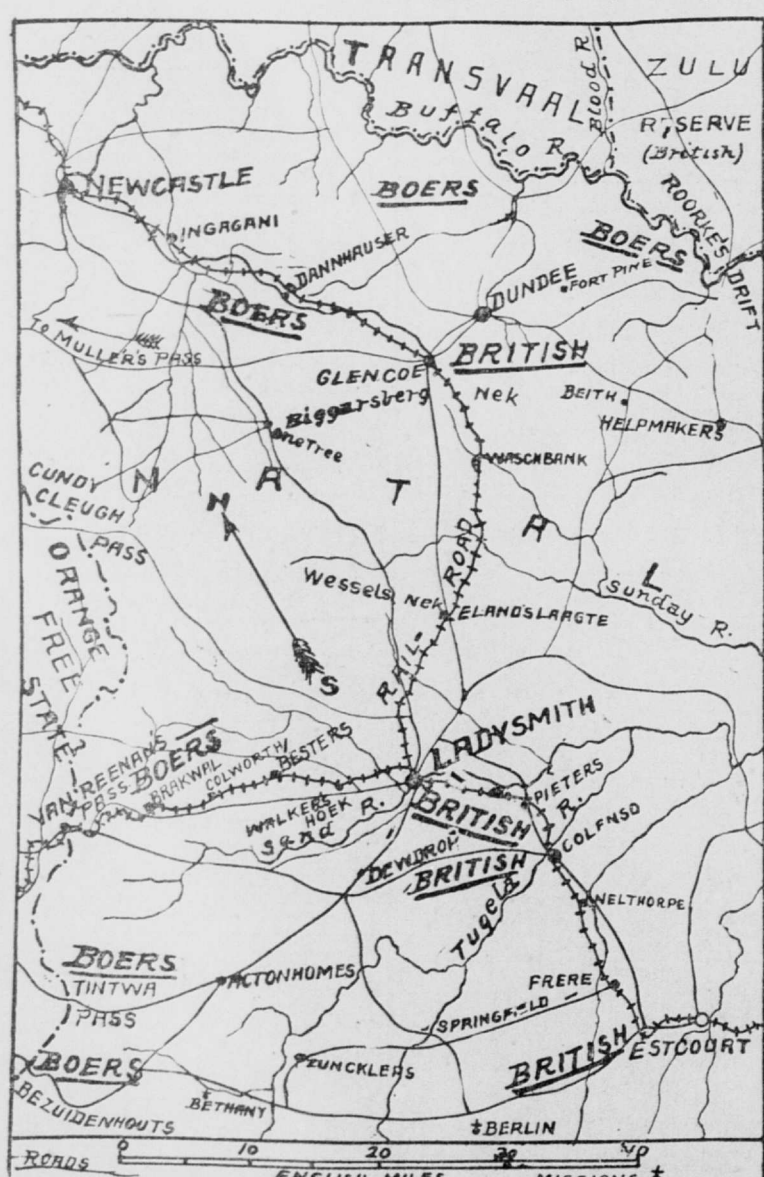
The transports which will convey the army corps about to start for South Africa will go neither to Durban nor Cape Town, both of which are already crowded with refugees, but to Port Elizabeth, Port Alfred and East London, from which points railroads converged directly upon the Free State border, where concentration will be affected somewhere in the neighborhood of Norvalspont. The advance will then begin toward Pretoria.

Almost everything is in readiness for the departure of the troops from Southampton to-morrow, when five transports, each carrying a thousand men with officers, will start for South Africa. The first will sail at 1:30 p. m., the others following at intervals of half an hour.

A dispatch from Pretoria asserts that the Transvaal Government has cabled to Joseph B. Robinson, the millionaire gold mine owner and chairman of the Robinson South African Banking Company, who is now in London, to return to Johannesburg on pain of confiscation of his property. Mr. Robinson characterizes the alleged threat as ridiculous. He says he is a British subject, that the Transvaal Government has no right to demand his return



CAPTAIN NESBITT.



MAP OF UPPER NATAL.

This covers the field of movement from Estcourt on the south to Newcastle on the north, and from Tintwa and Van Reenans passes on the southwest to Rorke's Drift on the northeast, with the positions of the opposing forces and the lines of communication.

### BRITISH VERSION OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The War Office this evening issued the following bulletin: "No news of importance has been received from Natal to-day. The cavalry attached to our forces at Ladysmith and Dundee are engaged in observing the enemy's movements. Steps have been taken to secure Pietermaritzburg and Durban against raids on the western frontier. There is no recent reliable intelligence from Kimberley or Mafeking, both places being cut off from railway and telegraphic communication. It is believed, however, that a skirmish took place on Sunday six miles south of Kimberley and that the Boers were beaten off with some loss by an armored train. There was some fighting at Mafeking on Saturday, and the Boers in considerable number are assembled at Allwal North and Bethalle, on the Orange River. Railway communication with the Orange Free State and the Transvaal has now ceased, the remaining refugees having been warned to leave by way of Delagoa Bay."