

# NUMBERS OF RENEWED FIGHTING.

### Reported in the Commons and Elsewhere That Buller Has Crossed the Tugela at Three Places and That a Hot Engagement Blunders in Progress Amaze and Indignation.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—Plenty of rumors were circulating in London yesterday, but of actual news from the seat of war there was little. In the House of Commons and elsewhere it was reported that General Buller had crossed the Tugela River at three places and that a hot engagement was proceeding.

An afternoon paper, which so far has not distinguished itself by its enterprise in collecting war news, was the first to announce the report. It spread rapidly, but neither the War Office nor the newspapers with special correspondents at the front had received anything confirmatory up to 4 o'clock this morning.

Some color was given to the possibility of the rumor possessing some truth by a confirmation from several trustworthy sources of the report that General Buller did say to his troops on Sunday last that he hoped to reach Ladysmith within a week. The War Office, as will be remembered, denied having any knowledge of General Buller making any such statement.

The latest intelligence from Spearmans Camp, which is dated Tuesday, stated that Trenchard's Drift was being watched by a force of cavalry with guns and that a strong reconnaissance had been made in the direction of Hangers Spruit. The latter place is west of the spot where General Warren recently crossed the river. The fact that it is thought, worth while to send a body of mounted men there may indicate an attempt to make a turning movement with a wider detour than that which was recently frustrated.

Such a detour by way of Acton Homes might lead the British forces safely to Tabanyama, although it is a dangerous operation with the Boers so strong on their right flank.

If Buller really intends risking, or has risked, another attack on the Boer right flank it is considered by the best authorities here that he is convinced that it cannot break through there he can break through nowhere.

During last week of fighting around Spion Kop the weak part of the Boer position may have been discovered, and Sir Buller, having concentrated his troops to the southward, may believe that an attack from that direction, delivered in force, will succeed where an assault from two sides on Spion Kop failed.

From other seats of war little important news comes. General Kelly-Kenny in Cape Colony, is preparing for an advance by repairing the railway bridge at Thebus. The Boers at Stormberg are busy building a redoubt commanding the line from Stormberg, along which General Kelly-Kenny will probably advance. General Buller and General Gatacre make simultaneous moves.

Reports of Mafeking being relieved are growing in number. There seems to be a belief in some quarters that Colonel Baden-Powell and Colonel Plumer have joined hands and that reports which came some time ago through Pretoria are true.

As to the work of Parliament, it is but reflecting the general sentiment of the people of the kingdom to say that its course has caused great dissatisfaction. It is an undoubted fact that its futile debates have made a worse impression in financial circles than any Boer victories combined. Men are asking in amazement why Parliament was called together if the Government was not to propose a policy worthy of the occasion and to obtain with the least possible delay authority and means to carry it out.

A few days more of such talk as is now going on at Westminster is likely to raise a revolt among the Government's own supporters. Already the idea has been suggested of asking the Lord Mayor to call a meeting of citizens in connection with it.

At a late hour this morning the War Office, which had earlier stated that it possessed no information on the subject of the alleged movement of Buller, declared that it had received no news for publication. Whether this is an equivocal statement and indicates that important news, but not for publication, has been received, the future alone can tell.

### BULLER STILL NEEDS HEAVY REINFORCEMENTS

LONDON, Feb. 2.—Spencer Wilkinson, in the Morning Post to-day, discusses a long dispatch from Winston Churchill dated at Pietermaritzburg, and describing the situation in Natal. He says:

This dispatch deserves to be closely read. It is an appeal to the public at home, and as it is a meeting of citizens, may be taken to represent the feelings of General Buller's army. Mr. Churchill represents the difficulties of General Buller's task in concise terms. The enemy will act with common sense. They will place outposts on the hills and keep back their main body until they see the direction of General Buller's movement. Then they will quickly strike up a main body and exterminate the defensive works. In addition to such they have profusely prepared in anticipation of various possible advances.

That is what every one would expect them to do, and that their main body can ride faster than General Buller's main body can walk was also pretty generally understood. The consequence is that the Boer army cannot be turned. Whenever it is attacked it can present an entrenched front.

According to Mr. Churchill there are 700 Boers watching Ladysmith, the same number held ready to resist General Buller and 6000 in reserve to reinforce either body as need. Thus General Buller has to attack 12,000 entrenched on favorable ground. For that purpose Mr. Churchill thinks he ought to have 25,000 men, instead of 25,000. In other words,

### A. DE LUZE & FILS, BORDEAUX, FRANCE.

### FINEST CLARETS

—AND—  
**SAUTERNES.**

CHARLES MEINCKE & CO., AGENTS, 214 Sacramento St., S. F., Cal.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—A further list of casualties published by the War Office brings the total from the crossing of the Tugela to the abandonment of Spion Kop to 1855 officers and men.

The War Office this evening completes the list of British casualties at Spion Kop by announcing the names of 215 missing men of various regiments, including 137 members of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

It seems difficult in view of the strategy accepted at the War Office, as well as at Cape Town, to believe that General Buller is to be allowed once more to attack a position with less than the numerical superiority of three to one, which tacticians commonly think necessary for such a task. It hardly is conceivable that he should attack again without being reinforced.

Apparently, however, a third attempt will be made without loss of time. Indeed, it seems probable that the movement is now in progress. We must hope that the splendid bravery of our men will be rewarded by success. When Mr. Churchill says that the "public must nerve themselves," he probably means to prepare our countrymen at home for heavy losses in the coming battle.

Winston Churchill's dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, in addition to details regarding the position on the Tugela, gives a most interesting survey of the general position. He says:

"These most serious attacks upon the War Office appear unusual. The great army in Africa is of the finest quality, beautifully organized and equipped in all details and has excellent artillery. The Boer guns are few, but splendid and are cleverly handled. The Boers can find the least possible delay authority and means to carry it out."

"In an interesting comparison of British and Boer methods of warfare as illustrated during the battle of Spion Kop, showing how the British troops were cramped, mixed and disorganized, and how the 'machinery of control was shattered,' he says:

"This would not have affected the Boers, each without pursuing the other, and each to hold or to evacuate a position, would have acted individually and quite independently of one another, showing the advantages of discipline. A similar loss would have disheartened the Boers and have caused a general retreat. The Boers have none. The War, therefore, is broader in scope and more satisfactory in operations."

Mr. Churchill, who anticipates that the consequences of the war will not be altogether evil, as there will be a great increase of respect between the combatants, and contempt, the former wedges and the latter will be gone forever," recalls the American civil war and says that "union is never born without travail, and after the refining flames have cooled we shall find the pure gold of a more harmonious system. Let Great Britain persevere."

### LEYS TRYING TO INDUCE INTERVENTION

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—It is strongly rumored in parliamentary circles that the chief political object of Dr. Leyds in visiting Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg is to induce France, Germany and Russia to induce the United States to attempt to seize Delagoa Bay.

The correspondent of the Associated Press learns that Count von Bulow, the Foreign Secretary, has thus far refused to give a definite promise. There have been daily conferences between the Emperor and Count von Bulow on the subject. German official circles and the Government itself regard the war as distinctly unfavorable to Germany's interests in Africa. No matter how it may end Germany will acquire uncomfortable neighbors—either "fanatical Boers" or "presumptuous British."

More than this the feeling is that in Germany the Boer movement is bound to be awakened. Germany, therefore, would like to see the Boers under the control of more intelligent hands.

General von Schilling in the Lokal Anzeiger says: "The Boers will not continue the fight until the military bankruptcy of the English is accomplished."

### PERSONAL SAFETY WAS MACRUM'S FIRST CARE

LONDON, Feb. 1.—Canon Farmer, who was forced to leave Pretoria with other British clergymen, has arrived in London. With reference to Charles E. Macrum, the former United States Consul at Pretoria, Canon Farmer said to a representative of the Associated Press:

"Mr. Macrum was one of the last men I saw before leaving. I told him I was taking the wrong side and did not understand American feeling. His chief care seemed to be for his personal safety. He thought it was chiefly on that account that he left in the midst of the crisis. He is not a strong man and President Roosevelt may have taken advantage of this. But when I last saw Mr. Macrum he was a patriotic and loyal American. In regard to the Boer's so-called volunteers they are like Mr. Blake—mostly burghers, who would have been obliged to fight anyway. Mr. Macrum told me there were 5000 Americans in the Trans-

### BRITISH OCCUPY PRIESKA

CAPE TOWN, Wednesday, Jan. 31.—A British force with artillery is reported to have occupied Prieska and is now encamped there. Prieska is on the Orange River 100 miles below Orange River station and west of Kimberley.

### VON BRUSEWITZ'S RECORD.

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—Lieutenant Von Brusewitz, who was killed at Spion Kop, is the same officer who some three years ago ran a civilian through with his sword in a cafe in Carlsruhe. The affair caused a storm of indignation through Germany. Von Brusewitz was dismissed from the army and sentenced to three and a half years' imprisonment.

### HAY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

LORENZO MARQUEZ, Feb. 1.—Adelbert S. Hay, the United States Consul at Pretoria, arrived here to-day on his way to the Transvaal.

### BERESFORD DEPARTS.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—Rear Admiral Charles Beresford started for the Continent this morning on his way to Malta to take charge of the second British Mediterranean fleet.

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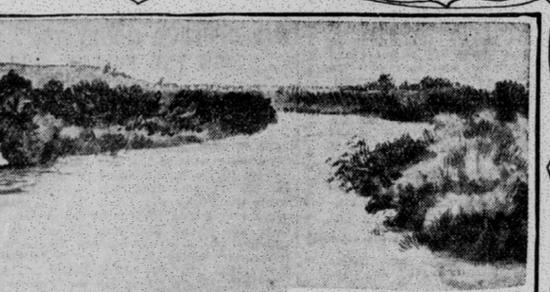
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Colonel Wynne has taken command of General Woodgate's brigade. Colonel Miles has been appointed chief of General Buller's staff. The Boers are still constructing defensive works opposite Pietergiers Drift. A strong cavalry reconnaissance proceeded to the westward in the vicinity of Hangers Spruit.



BULLER PROOF SHIELDS



THE KLIP RIVER, BELOW LADYSMITH, WITH THE SANA TARIUM ON THE HILL ABOVE.



SIR WM. MAC CORMACK VISITING THE MILITARY HOSPITALS AT PIETERMARITZBURG

vaal, most of whom the United States was glad to get rid of." Pretoria, Canon Farmer added, was provisioned for two years.

### STRENGTH OF THE BOERS.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—A letter appears to-day from a Hanoverian officer formerly of the Twentieth-second German Infantry but now among the military advisers of the Boers, which says that nearly 10,000 trained European soldiers, including quite 200 officers, are among the Boers. Referring to the military situation at Ladysmith the officer says:

"Owing to the strength of our position on a circle of heights, like Sedan, we cannot be brushed aside except by a relief column outnumbering us two to one."

### SAY JOUBERT MET DEATH.

SPEARMANS CAMP, Natal, Jan. 30.—There is an optimistic feeling in all ranks. The troops are confident of ultimate success. Great enthusiasm was aroused by the Queen's message and General Buller's speech expressing admiration for General Warren's and General Clery's divisions and hoping they would reach Ladysmith in a week.

The natives persisted in asserting that General Joubert was killed by a shell outside of Ladysmith.

### MANY DEATHS OCCUR DAILY.

HOOP LAAGER, LADYSMITH, Tuesday, Jan. 30.—All is quiet here. The "Long Toms" occasionally fire on Ladysmith. The deaths in Ladysmith from fever and other causes must be enormous, as we can clearly see them burying corpses daily.

General Joubert went to the Upper Tugela yesterday.

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### A LAWYER AND JUSTICE!

A short time ago there applied at my office for treatment a man well known in his vicinity. He had for some time suffered severely, and finally decided to use my Dr. McLaughlin Electric Belt.

Here Is His Report: Still More Evidence. GLENWOOD, Santa Cruz Co., Cal., Jan. 15, 1900. DR. M. A. McLAUGHLIN—Dear Sir: I thank you for your prompt attention. Your Belt treatment has not only cured my rheumatism and weakness, but in my battle for health has given me the strength of a giant. I am better in mind and body. There is nothing equal to the curative power of your Belt. It is an astounding invention and will cure any sick man or woman. I am so surprised and delighted at my recovery that I feel proud to recommend your treatment. Yours truly, L. D. VAN WINKLE.

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## GOVERNMENT PARRES QUESTIONS ON WAR

### Another Day of Hot Debate and Exciting Speeches in the House.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—In the House of Commons to-day the Government parried most of the questions in regard to the war in South Africa. Mr. Wyndham, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for War, maintained that the information furnished by the intelligence department was generally accurate and that information in regard to the forces remaining in the United Kingdom would be included in the statement which the Government would make shortly. Relative to the speech made by General Wolsley the commander in chief, explaining the British reverses in South Africa, Mr. Wyndham said Lord Wolsley merely intended to convey the impression that the military qualities shown by the Boers were of a higher order than had been anticipated.

At this remark the Irish members cheered. Asked if he had any way now to communicate to the House Mr. Balfour, the Government leader and First Lord of the Treasury, replied in the negative.

Mr. Balfour, in answer to another question, said that while the military operations were proceeding he could not answer any inquiry as to the slaughter of Highlanders at Magerfontein.

Regarding the dispatches of Major General Sir William Francis Buller, who was in command of British troops in South Africa until August, 1899, when he was relieved by Lieutenant General Sir Frederick William Forestier-Walker, it being intimated that General Buller's sympathies were in favor of the Boers, Mr. Balfour said there was no reason to present them to the House.

General Buller's opinion on South African affairs, he added, was well known. The general had never suggested to the War Office, either publicly or privately, that the number of troops required would be anything like the number actually sent.

In regard to the suggestion that Indian troops should have been used in South Africa the House, Mr. Balfour said would understand the impossibility of this.

Replying to questions relating to the letters of B. F. Hawksley, counsel for the British South Africa Company, and other letters published by the Correspondence Committee of the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain, admitted that those of which he had had personal knowledge were published substantially correctly. The letters, he added, were stolen from Mr. Hawksley's office by a clerk, who was summarily dismissed in 1898. Mr. Chamberlain further declared that he was only aware of the existence of the letters a few days before they were published.

Mr. Balfour, replying to another question by John Gordon Swift McNeill, Nationalist member for South Donegal, said that the letters published by the intelligence department to act for this Government and its citizens. We now had a Minister who was a Minister and a Minister would give dignity and authority. Mr. Smith maintained that this could be done without interference in treaty obligations.

One committee member suggested that the appointment of a United States Minister to the Transvaal during the present war would be equivalent to a recognition of the republic, and would be so construed.

As there appeared to be a disposition to regard the proposition as likely to cause trouble, Mr. Smith said he would not press it to a vote, as he had desired unanimity if anything was to be done. The committee, he said, was of the opinion that Mr. Smith was free to offer the proposition as an amendment to the diplomatic and consular bill when it is considered on the floor of the House.

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dependence Belge and what the Government proposes to do when the Cabinet Ministers were "deliberately charged with spreading dishonest and false news," said that according to his view of the case such accusations ought to be treated with contempt.

Mr. Charles Dilke, advanced Radical member for the Forest of Dean division of Gloucestershire, resumed the debate on Lord Fitzmaurice's amendment to the address to the speech from the throne. He said he thought no one could deny that the net result had been to kill the belief of the world in Great Britain's ability to conduct a war. The country's military reputation, he added, was never so low as even now the Government failed to grasp the seriousness of the war.

Mr. Wyndham, Parliamentary Secretary for the War Office, who followed, admitted the War Office had not been impeccable, but he argued that the Government had done its best, considering the limitations of the military system and welcomed criticism as the country would be thus enabled to learn the lessons of the war. If the Government had done wrong, he continued, it had done it with right motives. The two cardinal points of the campaign were, firstly, a desire to give diplomacy a chance; secondly, the decision of General Buller to reserve his strength. It must be supposed that he criticized General Buller's decision. General Buller was on the whole, he said, a very able and energetic commander. It was easy to conserve other disasters which might have occurred along his best, considering the limitations of the military system and welcomed criticism as the country would be thus enabled to learn the lessons of the war. 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