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WHITE'S HEROIC DEFENSE.

London says the Relief of Ladysmith is an Impeccable Duty.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London, says: The story of the heroic defense of beleaguered and fever-stricken Ladysmith cannot fail to have a strong tonic effect upon the British army and the English people.

General White's blundering tactics at Nicholson's Nek have already been minimized by the defeats sustained by other generals and he is destined for the peerage in consequence of this splendid exploit, following as it does many gallant sorties and the prudent conduct of the defense of Ladysmith.

Sir Redvers Buller's explanation on Sunday in response to the outpouring news from Ladysmith he had sent all his available troops for a demonstration against Colenso on Saturday afternoon has directed attention to the details of the reconnaissance which has been received.

Nothing was accomplished since there was no reply from the enemy's guns to the shrapnel of the field artillery or the lyddite shells of the naval brigade and the troops returned to camp after a futile demonstration which was of no apparent service to the defenders of Ladysmith.

The list of the brigade battalions and batteries mentioned tends however to prove that a large portion of General Buller's army was not available at the front and consequently was massed for operations in some other quarter, either on the enemy's right or left flank.

Military men were confident last night that General Buller's

advance would have been ordered in the course of the day if it had been previously in progress in a direction toward Springfield or Weeman and the lower Tugela.

The censorship until a late hour prevented the slightest glimpse behind the scenes at Frere camp, but General White's gallant defense has rendered Ladysmith's relief an imperative duty which must be performed without flinching.

The nation did not forgive those responsible for the failure to rescue Gordon; it will be equally stern in resentment if General White's garrison is not relieved speedily.

The campaign is dragging in other directions. Lord Methuen's force is holding guard on the Modder river until Lord Roberts can arrive and decide what to do with the sixth division. French is still maneuvering around Colenso.

The details of the Surtolles reverse furnished by correspondents do not alter the essential character of the episode. The attack was planned by Colonel Watson and General French allowed him to carry it out.

The enemy opened fire as Watson was ordering the final advance at daybreak. The confusion caused by his wounds and the mysterious signal for retirement may account for the reverse.

The Post prints a dispatch dated January 7 from its correspondent in Ladysmith which says that the Boers intend to give one battle and then retreat to Majuba hill. This suggests that Saturday's attack may have been a desperate move.

BULLER'S PREDICAMENT.

Hard to Guess How He Will be Able to Do That Which He Must do.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—The Herald discussing General Buller's predicament says: "A formidable obstacle is the Tugela river, the two fords across which are under the guns of the enemy whose earthworks fully command them and which are further defended by barbed wire entanglements."

"Then there are entrenchments extending from Springfield almost due west to Mount Inhlawe, about due east of Colenso, which have been described as offering a front of 16 miles nearly as strong as the works which defended Plevna. Under European officers these defenses are said to have been brought to immense strength with railway lines for the rapid movement of cannon from point to point."

"Beside those Buller is still handicapped by the great difficulties of transportation and the lack of mounted men which make his column heavy and unwieldy in comparison to the extreme mobility of his opponents. Latest estimates place the numerical strength of the British and Boer forces at 22,000 infantry, and 3,000 mounted men, 2,000 artillery and 70 guns under Buller, and 18,500 mounted men, 1,500 artillery and 60 guns in General Joubert's command."

"While the conformation of the country, the river and the difficulties of ordinary transportation, to say

nothing of a rapid turning movement, may answer the question of the American attaches and many others as to whether there was not a way round, they apparently failed to account fully for Buller's failure to destroy the enemy's works on the south of the river.

Reports have shown that there are strong Boer positions on the south of the Tugela, both at Springfield and on Mount Inhlawe. It was from the latter point that the forss under Lord Dundonald suffered most severely in the battle of Colenso on December 15. Gen. Buller has been severely criticised for failing then to concentrate an attack on that stronghold in an attempt to cut off its force from the main Boer body. There has been no information since to account for that failure or the absence of a similar effort since that time.

It was from Mount Inhlawe that the British were outflanked and the effectiveness of their batteries destroyed, leading to the loss of their guns.

With his present force it would appear that only lack of mobility is holding Buller in check and how that condition is to be changed for the better is not apparent."

A HUMILIATING PICTURE.

An English Brigade in Full Flight From the Enemy.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—A dispatch to the World from London, says: The most appalling battle picture from the British point of view yet painted by a correspondent in the field comes by mail from J. B. Whigham with Lord Methuen's column. It shows the collapse of the Highland brigade at Magersfontein.

Describing the effect of the unexpected Boer fire when the brigade was just about deploying from quarter column, Mr. Whigham writes: "Some one shouted 'retire' and the day was lost. The Highlanders broke and ran—there is no other word for it."

"In a few minutes the brigade had been decimated and the issue decided. They did not run far, only a few hundred yards, but when they rallied they were shaken and confused for hours. They lay flat on the ground between the British guns and the Boer trenches."

"At about 2 o'clock the Boer rifle fire greatly increased, simultaneously the brigade was seen in full retreat. Back they came in a wave no officer could stop. It was perhaps the most unpleasant sight the British soldier has ever beheld; certainly a sight never to be forgotten."

"It is difficult to say what happened next until Major Swart rode up with an order from General Methuen, which was almost an entreaty to the effect that all he asked of the brigade was to hold the position until dark."

"So riddled and shattered was the brigade that Ewart had actually no other officer to help him give the order to the shattered men. It was no small thing to ask of the Highlanders that they should again face the galling fire for five mortal hours."

"Still a very fair rally was effected and the brigade at last got back to a spot where it had a certain amount of cover."

"There the men lay until the Boer guns, till then absolutely silent, suddenly came into play. It wanted but this last straw to break the nerve of the rallying Highlanders. When the first shrapnel burst what remained of the brigade with one accord came right back beaten for the day. They were not fit even to guard the baggage. They had lost 57 officers killed or wounded. Could human nature stand more?"

EXPORT OF CANNED FRUITS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 9.—Commissioner Kasson, the negotiator of reciprocity treaties between the United States and foreign countries will soon receive a petition in which the fruit canners of the state and dealers in California canned goods unite in asking him, in negotiating treaties with foreign countries, to give due consideration to the necessity for increasing the exports of California canned fruit which the petition declares can only be done by material reductions in the tariff placed on said goods by foreign countries.

Many signatures to the petition were obtained today in this city.

If some people were to speak their minds, it wouldn't take them very long.

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Cuticura THE SET, \$1.25
All About the Skin, Scalp, and Hair, free.

A NEW YEAR'S GUIDE.

There is one book everyone should make an effort to get, for the new year. It contains simple and valuable hints concerning health, many amusing anecdotes, and much general information. We refer to Hostetter's Almanac, published by The Hostetter Co., Pittsburgh, Pa. It will prove valuable to any household. Sixty employees are kept at work on this valuable book. The issue for 1900 will be over eight millions, printed in the English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish languages. It contains proof of the efficacy of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the great remedy prepared by the publishers, and is worthy of careful preservation. The almanac may be obtained free of cost, at any druggist or general dealer in the country.

If a woman was the architect of her own fortune, it would be full of closets.

In this O'Rourke showed good judgment. Both he and Dixon have often said that the latter would never be knocked out.

THIS COAST'S CONTRIBUTION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 9.—Major General Shafter has sent to Adjutant General Corbin a draft for \$9,494, the contributions to the Lawton fund from the people of this coast. There is a sufficient sum reported now on its way to General Shafter to make the final total \$19,121.

WOMAN HANGED.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—Louise Marcet, a French governess who was convicted of the murder of her illegitimate three year old son, was hanged at Newgate this morning. It is said the existence of the child was an obstacle to a marriage she had in view.

Sacrificed to Blood Poison.

These who have never had Blood Poison can not know what a desperate condition it can produce. This terrible disease which the doctors are totally unable to cure, is communicated from one generation to another, inflicting its talnt upon countless innocent ones.

Some years ago I was inoculated with poison by a nurse who infected my babe with blood. The little one was usual to the street, and its life was yielded up to the fearful poison.



For six long years I suffered untold misery. I was covered with sores and ulcers from head to foot, and no language can express my feelings of despair. I had the best medical treatment. Several physicians successively treated me, but all to no purpose. The misery and poison seemed to add fuel to the fire. I was advised by friends who had seen wonderful cures made by it, to try S. S. S. We got two bottles and I felt hope again revive in my breast—hope for health and happiness again. I improved from the start, and a complete and perfect cure was the result. S. S. S. is the only blood remedy which reaches desperate cases.

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The Amel of marriage is always a baby. Without it, wedlock is a summer field that never blooms. A flower that never buds, a night without stars, a sermon without a benediction, a prayer without an Amen.

There never was a husband worthy of the name, who did not aspire to be the father and grandfather of healthy, capable children to hand down the name and the fortune accumulated by the sweat of his brow, from generation to generation.

There never was a wife fit to bear that noble title, who did not wish to wear womanhood's most glorious crown, the scepter of motherhood. Thousands of wedded couples, otherwise happy, fall short of wedlock's greatest happiness because they are childless. In the majority of cases, this is because the wife, through ignorance or neglect, suffers from weakness and disease of the organs distinctly feminine.

For women who suffer in this way there is one great medicine that does not fail to accomplish its purpose. It is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It acts directly on the delicate organs concerned and makes them strong, healthy, vigorous, virile and elastic. It allays inflammation, heals ulceration, soothes pain and tones the shattered nerves. It fits for wifehood and motherhood. It quickens and vitalizes the distinctly feminine organism. It banishes the maladies of the expectant months and makes baby's introduction to the world easy and almost painless. It insures the little new-comer's health and nourishment in plenty. It is the best supportive tonic for nursing mothers.

Mrs. Jennie Parks of Marshall, Spokane Co., Wash., writes: "I am glad to tell of the good results of your great medicine. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was benefited by your medicine in consummation. It gives me strength. I have no tired feeling, and my baby is the picture of health. I feel better than I have in ten years."

In cases of constipation Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets should be used as an adjunct to the "Favorite Prescription," they are extremely simple, perfectly natural and insure prompt and permanent relief.