

HIS ESCAPE COMPLETE**NO HOPE NOW ENTERTAINED OF BOTHA'S CAPTURE.****Large Number of Boers Gathered at Newcastle—Buller to Make Another Speech**

NEW YORK. Oct. 18.—War news is meager and uninteresting, but Unionist politicians and military men are satisfied that everything is going right, says the London correspondent of the Tribune.

Nothing now goes so far as to predict Botha's capture, since there is no evidence his retreat has been cut off by the British forces, which are widely scattered in a different country, but the inference is drawn that the movement on which he had concentrated the falling energies of Boer commandoes has ended disastrously and that a large portion of his transport outfit may be taken, even if the fighting men elude pursuit by dividing into small bands.

BOERS AT NEWCASTLE.

British Thought to Be Gradually Increasing the Enemy.

NEW YORK. Oct. 18.—From Newcastle, Natal, a correspondent of the Times sends a dispatch which says a large number of Boers are near Pongolabosch and Slangkop, while a commando of 500 holds a position to the east of Piet Retief.

Commandant General Botha has dissolved his force, which numbered 2000, and has left his men to escape as best they can. He himself with a few troops has gone north to a small unguarded space near Piet Retief. The main interest of the moment, says the dispatch, centers in the operations around Pongolabosch, where the British are gradually inclosing the Boers.

LUNCHEON FOR BULLER.

His Friends Panic Stricken for Fear He Will Make Another Speech.

NEW YORK. Oct. 18.—Commenting upon the release from prison of Earl Russell, the London correspondent of the Tribune cables:

Earl Russell's release was without a sign of sympathy from the home office. Not a single hour was abated from his sentence. He had the good sense to leave Holloway jail quietly, after refusing to take newspaper reporters into his confidence.

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