

STORY OF BOER WAR.

ACCOUNT BEGINS WITH RAID BY DR. JAMESON.

Fail of Two Republics Made Certain Years Later—Boers Force Conflict by Invading Natal—Capture of Orange—Beginning of the End.

The origin of the Anglo-Boer war may be said to date from the Jameson raid of 1895. The details of that assault on the Dutch republic in South Africa are yet fresh in the public recollection. Dr. Jameson was a Scotchman residing in Cape Colony and largely interested with Cecil Rhodes and other British subjects in gold and diamond mining. The object of the raid was to overthrow the authority of the Transvaal and Orange Free State governments to levy tribute upon the product of the mines. This tribute was regarded as excessive and is still viewed in that light, but as the workers of the mines were deriving immense fortunes from their little hardship was inflicted.

The defeat of Dr. Jameson's project and his capture restored the status quo for a time. The raid was sent to England for trial. He was received there more as a hero than as one guilty of an offense against the rights of nations. After a farcical trial he was acquitted and set at liberty. This enraged the Boers and led them to the belief that the raid had been prearranged in London and had the sanction of those in authority. It was likewise taken as a forecast of the British poli-

The first encounter was at Dundee Oct. 20, when the British carried the Boer position by a frontal attack, having their commander, General Symons, killed and losing 426 men, including 296 taken prisoners. Next day at Elandsfontein they had less equivocal success, but lost 223 killed and wounded. On Oct. 24 there was a fight at Bloemfontein, with a loss of 111, while the force at Dundee was withdrawn by a circuitous route. Soon after, Oct. 30, at Farguhar's farm and Nicholson's neck there was a British defeat. While losing 1,226 men, of whom 925 were taken prisoners. The whole British army of Natal was soon after shut up in Ladysmith and so remained till Feb. 28, 1900.

Thus it appears that less than two weeks after President Kruger's ultimatum was sent to London an armed force of Boers under General Joubert was invading Natal. The British forces were not prepared to meet them and fell back on Ladysmith, where they were immediately besieged. Simultaneously a Boer commando invaded Kimberley, Colenso and other towns in which British garrisons were located.

The casualties were at first insignificant, the fighting unimportant, but for several months the British were the heaviest losers, especially in officers. It seemed to be the Boer tactics to pick off the commanders.

Butler Meets First Defeat.

Oct. 15 General Sir Redvers Buller was dispatched from England to the seat of war. It was nearly a month before he arrived there. Taking command immediately he began a forward movement from the northern part of Cape Colony, sending a dispatch to England as he took up his line of march toward the north stating that he intended eating his Christmas dinner in Pretoria. But at the Modder River he encountered unexpected obstacles. The



CECIL RHODES.

GEN. CHROMIE. Lord Roberts and other British subjects in gold and diamond mining. The object of the raid was to overthrow the authority of the Transvaal and Orange Free State governments to levy tribute upon the product of the mines. This tribute was regarded as excessive and is still viewed in that light, but as the workers of the mines were deriving immense fortunes from their little hardship was inflicted.



GENERAL WHITE AND STAFF IN LADYSMITH.

cy of the future and a menace to the independence of the republics.

Kruger Precipitates the War.

The war may be said to date from Oct. 1, 1899, when Paul Kruger, President of the South African Republic, sent his ultimatum to Great Britain. This was a flat refusal of the British demand that subjects of the crown be allowed equal political privileges with natives of the two republics—the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Previous to this Mr. Kruger had reached an understanding with President Steyn of the Orange Free State by which they became allies to resist the British encroachments to the extremity of war.

It soon developed that a conflict with Great Britain had long been foreseen by the Boer governments. In an incredibly short time they had placed armies in the field composed of trained sharpshooters armed with the best of modern rifles, while their artillery was of the most effective and handled with a skill that left no room to doubt that the men behind the guns thoroughly understood their business.

The Boer plan of campaign originally was to advance rapidly with a large force of mounted troops into Cape Colony and Natal and sweep the British into the sea. In the light of subsequent events it is clear that during the first three months of the war this plan was practicable, since there were then few British in Cape Colony and the majority of the colonists were ready to rise. But the possibility of capturing Rhodes in Kimberley, Baden-Pow-



COL. BADEN-POWELL.

The defender of Mafeking, as he appeared at the head of his scouts, leading a sortie from Mafeking.

Pen British in Ladysmith. The British plan at the outset was mainly defensive. General White, in Natal, deemed it important to defend Ladysmith and the stores accumulated there, though it was not a good position. General Symons was sent a few miles north of that place, to Dundee, to oppose the Boer forces from the north. So long as Ladysmith could be held the invasion of Natal was obstructed.

rainy season had begun and the Boers had destroyed all the bridges across the stream. Several ineffectual attempts were made to ford it, but each was cut by a galling fire from the Boers on the northern banks, who had taken advantage of the natural formation of the country and had besides thrown up strong earthworks within easy rifle range of all the possible fords.

On Oct. 14 the British garrison at Mafeking was attacked and a siege lasting 213 days was begun. In all



BLAUGHTERED BOERS.

At Elandsfontein one of the Boers stood by the British camp, which was within twenty yards. He then jumped up, fired and shot through with his lance. The Boer who could not withdraw his lance, was shortly afterwards killed.

Directions the Boers swarmed in small parties, attacking detached squads of the British wherever found and inflicting serious loss in killed, wounded and captured.

Garrison Suffer for Food. Meantime the garrisons at the besieged towns were suffering extreme hardships. The supply of provisions was small, as no one had anticipated the contingencies—at and arisen. Both citizens and soldiers were placed on short rations. In Ladysmith particularly the privations were great. Horses, dogs, cats and even rats were utilized as food.

The Mafeking garrison under Colonel Baden-Powell refused to surrender. A party of 870 soldiers had been captured by the Boers on the second day of the siege, thus reducing the defenders of the town to a mere handful.

Mafeking was in a sorry plight. The Boers shelled the town Nov. 6 and inflicted severe damage. Then the British attempted to cross the Modder River. They were driven back with heavy loss.

At Stormberg on Dec. 10 General Gatacre lost 1,000 men in battle. On the following day General Wainwright fell in an engagement at Spionkop. On the 15th General Buller endeavored to cross the Tugela River, but was driven back with a loss of 1,000 men and eleven guns.

Roberts Ruses Kimberley Siege. Several other disasters to the British arms occurred in various places, and the government, finding the officers in command unequal to the emergencies confronting them, ordered General Roberts to the front. He arrived at the scene of action on Dec. 31, 1899, and immediately took command. His force being estimated at 230,000 men. General Lord Kitchener accompanied him as his chief of staff. The matter deemed of the first im-

PAUL KRUGER.



THE GREAT SOUTH AFRICAN STRUGGLE AND SOME OF ITS TRAGIC FEATURES.

Some of the Chief Actors.
Lord Salisbury, prime minister of Great Britain and Ireland.
Lord Milner, high commissioner in South Africa.
General Buller and Lord Kitchener, commanders in chief.
General Roberts, Sir Hamilton, Bruce Hamilton, Tucker and Kekewich.
President Kruger of South African Republic.
President Steyn of Orange Free State.
General Buller, acting president of Transvaal.
General Joubert, and Louis Botha, commanders in chief.
Commandants De Wet, Delarey, Cronje, Volsyn and Kritzinger.

Memorable Incidents.
British "black week" disasters at Stormberg, Magersfontein and Uitenhage, Dec. 15, 1899.
Sir Buller's defeat superseded by Lord Roberts as commander in chief, with Lord Kitchener as chief of staff, Dec. 18, 1899.
Sipon Kop, Jan. 23-24, 1900.
Transvaal surrenders to Roberts at Paardeberg, with 4,000 men, Feb. 27, 1900.
Bloemfontein occupied March 13. Pretoria June 6, 1900.
General Joubert dies March 27, 1900.
Association of Orange Free State proclaimed May 28, 1900.
Annexation of the Transvaal Oct. 23, 1900.
Retreat of Pretoria, with 5,000 Boers, July 30, 1900.
President Kruger dies from the Transvaal, Sept. 11, 1900.
Lord Roberts sets for home Dec. 11, 1900.
De Wet's raid on Cape Colony, Feb. 1900, and January, 1901.
Unsuccessful negotiations for peace, February, 1901.
Botha's unsuccessful raid on Zululand, September, 1901.
Death of Cecil Rhodes, March 26, 1902.
Delarey's capture of Mafeking, spring, 1902.
Peace negotiations began March 25, 1902.
Death of Cecil Rhodes, March 26, 1902.
Terms of surrender signed May 31, 1902.

Cost in Life and Treasure
British off. ser. 1904, men, 21,142; total, 22,200.
Boer off. ser. 1904, men, 4,600; total, 78,962.
Losses reported of all kinds up to 1902, 78,320.
Losses of all kinds in 1902, 1903 and 1904.
Probable actual number of Boers engaged, 70,000.
Boers reduced at end of war to 8,000.
Prisoners at Orange, St. Helena, Bermuda and Cape, 40,000.
Cost in money to Great Britain, estimated, \$1,250,000,000.

portance was the relief of Kimberley. General French, the dashing cavalry commander, was detailed to the task, and with a strong force marched for the beleaguered town. On his approach the Boers abandoned their positions, not even offering battle, and the town was relieved Feb. 15, 1900.

This was the first piece of good fortune for the British army. It was followed by a battle with General Cronje, who, with 4,000 men and a number of guns, was forced to surrender on Feb. 27. The entire lot of Boer prisoners was deported to the island of St. Helena.

On Feb. 28, 1900, General Buller, after overcoming a stubborn resistance, succeeded in relieving Ladysmith. Then followed the surrender of Bloemfontein. On March 27 the Boers suffered an irreparable loss in the death of their commander-in-chief, General Joubert. They were driven from point to point and finally, on June 5, Pretoria surrendered, followed some seven weeks later by the surrender of General Prinsloo with 3,350 men.

President Kruger had meanwhile become a fugitive. He left the capital by stealth and made his way to Durban, where he secured passage on a French vessel for Marseilles.

Sept. 1 the Transvaal was declared by proclamation annexed to the British empire and Lord Roberts, deeming his work accomplished, started back to England, setting sail Dec. 12, leaving General Kitchener in supreme command.

The year 1901 was not marked by any especially noteworthy events. The Boers kept up a desultory guerrilla warfare, attacking small parties of British soldiers wherever found. General Botha was nominally in chief command, but most of the fighting was done by General Christian De Wet and General Delarey, both of whom kept the British forces in hot water most of the time. Time after time De Wet was reported to be securely entrapped, but he always managed to escape capture.

The most notable events of recent date were the capture by the British of General Schoepers, who was badly wounded. He was tried by a military court on the charge of violating the



A BOER COMMANDO CAPTURED BY BRITISH CAVALRY.

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Standard	500	\$12.50	25¢	\$12.75
Manila	500	\$12.50	25¢	\$12.75
Standard	400	\$10.00	25¢	\$10.25
Manila	400	\$10.00	25¢	\$10.25
Standard	300	\$7.50	25¢	\$7.75
Manila	300	\$7.50	25¢	\$7.75
Standard	200	\$5.00	25¢	\$5.25
Manila	200	\$5.00	25¢	\$5.25
Standard	100	\$2.50	25¢	\$2.75
Manila	100	\$2.50	25¢	\$2.75



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