

GENERAL CRONJE CAUGHT AT LAST, THE DETAILS OF CRONJE'S SURRENDER FRIGHTFUL SCENES IN CAPTURED LAAGERS. With Between 7,000 and 8,000 Boers Yielded Unconditionally to Lord Roberts' Terms.

The Boers Short of Food and Suffered Fearful Losses.

CRONJE'S SURRENDER
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The War Office has received the following from Lord Roberts:
"PAARDEBERG, Feb. 27. — General Cronje has surrendered unconditionally. "Cronje is now a prisoner in our camp."

FULL PARTICULARS.
PAARDEBERG, Feb. 27, 4.05 a. m.—General Cronje, Commander of the Orange Free State Army, has surrendered unconditionally to the British forces under Lord Roberts. He is now a prisoner in this camp.
Cronje sent to an officer through the British lines at dawn this morning with a flag of truce.
The officer said that he had a message for the British General in command. He was taken to Lord Kitchener, to whom he said that General Cronje was willing to surrender his position, being untenable, and only death and capture in prospect if he continued the fight.
He wished to avoid useless shedding of

blood and to save his women and children, and he requested that they be given safe conduct.
Lord Kitchener at once granted the request as far as the women and children were concerned, but insisted that the surrender in all respects, be absolute and unconditional. To this Cronje agreed.
The Boer commander at once left his laager, and, escorted by half a dozen officers, entered the British lines.
He was met by Lord Kitchener, who immediately brought him to the headquarters of Lord Roberts.
The greetings between the rival generals was kindly and extremely sympathetic on the part of Lord Roberts, who has a great admiration for his captive, and brave and dignified on the part of Cronje.
The condition of affairs in the camp of the Boers was something frightful.
They had run out of food except the cattle and those were being eaten rapidly as they were killed by the British shells.
The ammunition had also given out and

the artillery was badly damaged by the British shells.
Most of their wagons were burned. The laager was strewn with the corpses of dead lying in the broad light unburied and festering in the sun.
The wounded were in an awful plight. The hospital corps was insufficient to attend to them and they lay about the laager in heaps, some crying piteously, others shrieking in agony, many silently bearing their agonies.
The British troops, immediately on taking possession of the laager, were ordered by Lord Roberts to devote all their attention to succoring the wounded and burying the dead, as well as to caring for the women and children who were panic-stricken, and in expectation of some awful punishment.
They could hardly be induced to accept the kindness of aid from their conquerors. The British commissariat was taxed to its utmost to give immediate relief to the sufferers. But everything possible is be-

ing done to alleviate the condition of the captives.
It is believed that the surrendered force will number between 7,000 and 8,000 combatants.
Besides there are over 1000 women and children Kaffir laborers and members of the Red Cross relief corps.
BOERS MASSING
LONDON, Feb. 27, 4.20 a. m.—The Boers are assembling an army near Bloemfontein with which to dispute the invasion of Lord Roberts.
The commandos are described as hastening from all quarters of the republic. No estimate is made of their numbers. But the withdrawal of the Boers from most of the places where they have been in contact with the British, except the district near Ladysmith, may raise the resisting force to 30,000 men.
The gathering of this army across the path of Lord Roberts gives significance to General Cronje's steadfast defence.
He has engaged the corps of Lord Roberts for ten days now, and whether he is relieved or not, he has given time for the dispersed Boer factions to get together and to prepare positions to receive the British advance when Cronje is overcome and Roberts moves forward.
The War Office has nothing after midnight to indicate his collapse, and he may hold out for a new day.
General Buller, on Saturday, faced the last and strongest position of the Boers who bar his way to Ladysmith.
The strenuous fighting indicates a battle between the armies rather than rear guard action protecting a retreat.
On Thursday and Friday General Buller lost 43 officers killed and wounded, representing probably a total of from 400 to 500.

Major Denison of the Royal Canadian regiment.
CRONJE IN THE TOILS.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—A despatch to the Chronicle from Paardeberg, dated Feb. 23, says: "General Cronje's attempt to mount his guns was frustrated by our artillery."
PAARDEBERG, Feb. 25. — General Cronje is still obstinately defiant; but it is now known that his men have given up hope and are anxious to surrender.
Prisoners are coming in daily.
It is stated that about four thousand men are beleaguered in the camp exclusive of the losses hitherto sustained.
The Boer positions are now, almost exclusively confined to the river bed. The Boers are entirely at the mercy of the British, and the end is inevitable.
But Lord Roberts is treating them with great consideration from motives of humanity.

BULLER'S CASUALTIES.
LONDON Feb 27.—General Buller's death list contains the names of three Lieutenant Colonels, viz., Thackeray, of the First Royal East Kent Fusiliers; Sitwell, of the Second Royal Dublin Fusiliers; and Thorold of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
YESTERDAY'S REPORT.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—Despatches containing the list of the casualties was the only official news received from General Roberts yesterday; and down to a late hour this morning the situation at Paardeberg with Cronje securely held as a prisoner is apparently unchanged.
The precise point reached by Buller in his fourth advance toward Ladysmith is not known. But he is believed to have made substantial progress during the last few days.

BOER REINFORCEMENTS.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Daily News has despatches from London Marques which states that 6000 Burgers have left Ladysmith for the Free State; that the Boers are concentrating thirty miles outside Bloemfontein; that the Free State Government is moving to Winberg; and that reinforcements from all parts are passing through Bloemfontein hourly.
INTERESTING DETAILS.
MEDDER RIVER, Feb. 27.—At the battle of Paardeberg, otherwise called Slinkfontein, on Sunday the 18th, two of the principal features were the fighting self sacrifice of the Highland Brigade and the impetuous charge of the enemy's trenches by the Cornwalls, Canadians and Gordons.
These troops, with two brigades of the 9th Division, bore the brunt of the fight and suffered the lion's share of losses. General McDonald was shot in the foot early in the action.
The battle commenced at dawn, when the Mounted Infantry, which formed a screen for the advance of the Ninth Division on the left bank of the river came in touch with the enemy occupying positions of advantage and engaged them.
It was in advancing over a barren plain that the most expensive fighting occurred. The Highland Brigade took an isolated hill called a Slink kop, charging the enemy, as a cluster of Seaforth's lying dead with bayonets fixed, showed next morning.
The guns coming into position as the

THE CANADIANS.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Prince of Wales, who, yesterday, Monday, paid a visit to the wounded who had arrived at Southampton on the hospital ship Princess of Wales, singled out the Canadians and told them how proud the Empire was of them and their brave compatriots who had come forward so loyally and spontaneously to make common cause with the mother country.
Lord Roberts has appointed to his staff,

LATEST.
CANADIANS CHEERED
IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT.
LONDON, Feb. 27.—In Lord Roberts' official account of the bombardment and surrender he says:
"A most dashing advance was made by the Canadian regiment supported by the Gordon Highlanders—a gallant deed worthy of our Colonial comrades and which I am glad to say was attended by comparatively slight loss."
When this announcement was read in Parliament today, it was received with immense and prolonged cheers.
General Cronje left today for Cape Town.

Mr. Fred Peters, Q. C. Favored.
[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]
VICTORIA, B. C. Feb. 2.—Hon. Fred Peters is spoken of as likely to be chosen by the Lieutenant-Governor as the Leader of the new government of British Columbia.
Do you want a piano.—Read Miller Board.
Come to the Y. M. S. concert in St. Paul's schoolroom this evening.
Big boot bargains for all at our clearance sale.—R. K. Jost

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