

**LESSONS OF THE WAR:
BEING COMMENTS FROM
WEEK TO WEEK, TO THE
RELIEF OF LADYSMITH**

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Lessons of the War: Being Comments from Week to Week, to the Relief of Ladysmith by
Spenser Wilkinson

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Being

Comments from Week to Week

To the Relief of Ladysmith

BY

SPENSER WILKINSON

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PREFACE

THE history of a war cannot be properly written until long after its close, for such a work must be based upon a close study of the military correspondence of the generals and upon the best records to be had of the doings of both sides. Nor can the tactical lessons of a war be fully set forth until detailed and authoritative accounts of the battles are accessible

But for the nation the lessons of this war are not obscure, at any rate not to those whose occupations have led them to indulge in any close study of war.

Since the middle of December I have written a daily introduction to the telegrams for one of the morning papers. Before I contemplated that work I had undertaken for my friend Mr. Locker, the Editor of *The London Letter*, to write a weekly review of the war.

Many requests have been made to me by publishers for a volume on the history of the war, with which, for the reasons given above, it is impossible at present to comply; but to the proposal of my old friends, Messrs. Archibald Constable and Co., to reprint my weekly reviews from *The London Letter*, the same objections do not hold.

In revising the articles, I have found