

CROSSES THE TUGELA.

Gen. Buller's Army Begins Its Advance to Ladysmith.

BIG FIGHT LIKELY TO-DAY.

British Move on Potgieter's Drift Surprises the Enemy.

Boer Guard in Bathing When the British Appear—Six Men of the South African Light Horse swim the Tugela and Capture the Ferryboat—Strong Position Taken on Thursday Without a Fight—Nearly the Whole British Force Moved Up From Colenso—Warren's Division Makes Left Flank Attack on the Enemy.

Special Cable Despatches to The Sun.

From The Sun's Correspondent with Gen. Buller's Forces.

SPEARMAN'S FARM, Natal, Jan. 17 (10:10 P.M.)—Lord Dundonald, with the mounted brigade, pushed suddenly forward on Thursday last and seized the Springfield bridge. Then, hurrying forward, he took a very strong position at Swartz Kop, commanding Potgieter's Drift, finding the Boers totally unprepared for the British advance.

A number of the enemy were bathing in the river when Lord Dundonald's force appeared. Gen. Lytton's brigade was sent to hold the position.

The whole British force, with the exception of a garrison to hold Colenso, advanced without delay. Gen. Hildyard's command is now at Springfield.

The South African Light Horse desired to bring the pont or ferryboat to the south side of the river, and six men of that command, under Lieut. Carlyle, therefore, swam the river and brought the boat over.

After a wait of four days, the British advance was resumed yesterday. Gen. Lytton's brigade crossed Potgieter's Drift in the evening, and is holding the kopjes on the British right. Gen. Warren's division made a left-flank attack on the enemy.

The remainder of the column is now crossing the river.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The first particulars of Gen. Buller's movement by way of Springfield reached London at 2 o'clock this morning from THE SUN correspondent who is accompanying the Ladysmith relief column. The despatch was too late for the first editions of the London newspapers. It was dated "Spearman's Farm," presumably Spearman's Farm, which, however, cannot be located. It is evidently not far from the Tugela River. The despatch makes it clear that practically the whole of Gen. Buller's column is now to the westward of the Boers' position at Colenso, and that some fighting occurred on the part of Gen. Warren's division.

There is still no official news of the movement since Gen. Buller's despatch of Jan. 11, with the exception of the brief and unsatisfactory despatch issued by the War Office yesterday stating that there had been one death from dysentery among the troops near Springfield and that one man had been wounded in a reconnaissance along the Tugela River on Jan. 15.

It is reasonably expected that not the slightest will be broken and that fuller accounts will be no longer delayed.

The second edition of the Morning Telegraph publishes a despatch from Spearman, or Spearman's Farm, which says that Gen. Lytton, after crossing the Tugela, seized with little opposition a line of low ridges, a mile from Potgieter's Drift. Howitzers were carried across the river during the night. The heavy guns and howitzers effectively shelled the Boer position from Mount Alice, near Swartz Kop. Gen. Warren crossed the river six miles further west, near Wagon Drift, in face of a hot and heavy fire from the Boer cannon and rifles. He has effected a most satisfactory lodgment two miles further toward Spring Kop.

A despatch to the Times, filed at the same hour as the Telegraph's despatch, says that Gen. Warren is now crossing the river without opposition, though the Boers are holding a position five miles from the river.

A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that the difficulties in crossing the swollen river are great. The wagons are quite covered.

It is noteworthy that none of the telegrams mentions Gen. Buller, Cleary, Barton or Hart. The inference will doubtless be that they are operating on the Boer front at Colenso, but their real whereabouts are unknown.

THE BIG BATTLE AT LADYSMITH.

Boers Fought With Stubborn Courage but Were Driven Back With Heavy Loss.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Standard's correspondent at Ladysmith, in a despatch which comes by way of Ficks, and which is dated Jan. 17, sends the first detailed account of the Boer assault on that place on Jan. 6. He

advancing troops, who supposed all the Boers had left. Another company of British troops approached from behind and shot the Boers, which, as I understand, was justifiable under rules of war. I have done my best to reach the source of the original statement, but regret to say that I have been unable to do so.

The correspondent says: "In the early hours of the morning, under the cover of darkness, the Heidelberg Commando succeeded in evading our pickets, making their way through the thicket, and reaching the foot of the slope. At half past 2 o'clock an alarm was raised by our sentries, but before the full extent of the danger could be realized the outlying sentries had been rushed and their defenders slain.

"Two companies of the Gordon Highlanders went to the help of the Manchesterers. The Boers had then already secured a footing on the plateau, but their advance was checked by infantry volleys and an automatic gun. It was soon evident that the camp was being assailed on the left flank and in front. By daylight reinforcements from the Gordons and the Rifle Brigade had been hurried to the firing line. Lieut.-Col. Dick-Carynham, while leading the Gordons out of the camp, was mortally wounded by a stray bullet while still close to the town. The Fifty-third Infantry crossed the Kloof River and shelled the ridge and the reverse slope of the front position, where the enemy were lying in the bushes. Shrapnel was used and it did terrible execution. The fire effectually checked the Boers and rendered it impossible for them to receive reinforcements through the ravine.

"The enemy throughout the engagement displayed the most stubborn courage. They were evidently determined to succeed or die. Meanwhile their guns were very busy. They threw more than a hundred shells at the Fifty-third Battery and the troops aiding it. The British, however, were equally gallant and resolute. They pressed the enemy back step by step, until the remnant broke and fled in disorder.

"A terrific storm of rain and hail had meanwhile swollen the streams into torrents and numbers of the fleeing Boers in trying to cross them were swept away.

"The struggle at this point had now ended, but there was a more exciting contest going on in the direction of Wagon Hill. At 2 o'clock a storming party from the Harwich commando crept slowly and cautiously along the donga in the valley which divides the British posts from their camp. A few rifle shots killed the British pickets.

"Then taking advantage of the cover the enemy gradually reached the crest of the hill, where the South African Light Horse were posted. The latter were forced to retire, not having breastworks. The Boers continued to advance until they reached the emplacement, where they surprised some working parties. Lieut. Jones, with a handful of men, made a gallant effort to hold the position, but the British were outnumbered and driven back. The Boers then took possession of the summit of the hill. The Free States, however, were unable to venture far, having to face a heavy fire from a snager.

"The Twenty-first Battery and some cavalry arrived and prevented the stormers from being reinforced, but the British position was critical. They had retired for cover behind the slope. While the enemy were making their way into the intervening pass Major Bowen led a charge with a few rifles against them, but fell shot. Lieut. Tod took his place and met the same fate. Then Major Wallcut, calling the scattered Gordons together, charged and drove the Boers back and joined Lieut. Jones.

"A pause then took place in the fighting, but soon after, taking advantage of the storm, the enemy attempted to rush the position. Three of their leaders reached the parapet, but Jones and Wallcut shot them down. Major Wallcut immediately afterward fell. This renewed check discouraged the assailants. Nevertheless, small parties of the braver ones maintained a murderous fire from behind the rocks. The final blow was a charge made by three companies of the Devonshires across the open under a terrible fire. They fairly hurled the enemy down the hill at the point of the bayonet. In the charge Capt. Lafons and Lieut. Field were killed and Lieut. Mastersson and ten men wounded.

"The correspondent adds: "Our position was now secure. Attacks on the north and east had also been repulsed and the assault had failed all along the line. The Boers lost heavily. They admit that the engagement was the most severe blow their arms have sustained since the opening of the campaign."

"They were confident of their ability to capture the town. They had called for reinforcements from Colenso to assist them. The Ladysmith garrison can now await the coming of relief with renewed confidence. The Earl of Ava, Lieut.-Col. Dick-Carynham, was mortally wounded while going forward."

DEATH OF A BOY'S STORY FALSE.

Reported Murder of Eighty Boers at Modder River Now Denied.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 18.—What the British designate as a "disastrous" defeat was proclaimed to the editor of the Cape News, recounting the story of the death of a young boy who was killed by Gen. Methuen's detail and asking his authority for the original story.

The editor of the News replied that his informant was the head of an important financial enterprise in Cape Town and he could not give his name. He also said that the informant received his information from an engineer who had witnessed the murder. When subsequently asked to disclose the name of the engineer-driver the editor refused to do so.

To-day the editor makes this statement: "My informant states to-day that he has heard from his original informant that what really happened was this: A party of Boers assaulted on that place on Jan. 6. He

BOER DIPLOMATIST HERE.

HE IS MONTAGU WHITE, LATELY COMMISSIONER IN LONDON.

Won't Be Interviewed About the War—Is Known to Believe, Though, That Any Powerful Nation Could Stop the Fighting—Going on to Washington.

Mr. Montagu White, who was until recently Commissioner-General of the South African Republic in London, is now in New York and is staying in one of the hotels on Murray Hill. Mr. White arrived on the Lucania nearly a week ago, but so desirous was he to keep his presence here from being being made public for a time that he remained incognito until yesterday. He will remain in the city until Saturday or Monday, when he will go to Washington to attend to business.

After that has not been decided, he will remain in the United States for some time, but whether he will stay in Washington, return to New York or go South will depend on the result of his Washington visit.

Mr. White, although born of English parents, has lived most of his life in South Africa. Both his father and mother were Cape colonists. While they were on a visit to England, he was born in London in 1857. He was taken back to the Cape when he was six months old and was reared and educated there, being graduated from the Diocesan College at Cape Town. About 1889, he became secretary of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and the ability he displayed in managing his own affairs drew to him the notice of President Kruger. Mr. White was thoroughly to the satisfaction of Kruger and so thoroughly to the satisfaction of Kruger that he was made Minister of Finance.

After a time Mr. White wanted a man of ability to take his place and he could find one he thought suitable to represent the South African Republic in London. He didn't like him to be a stranger in London, so he took from a short time after the Jameson raid until the present time, he resided in London as the Transvaal's representative. After the war he was the English papers made it impossible for him to be in London for a while, was taken in and was sent back to London to be nursed back to health. While he was in London he was very busy and nearly all the windows in his house were broken. Mr. White became convinced after that experience that he would never be able to remain in London after his health would permit him to leave. There were some who thought he would go to Holland, to the Transvaal or to the United States. President Kruger at first thought it would be better to have Mr. White in London, but later concluded that it would be better to have him in the Transvaal. Mr. White immediately thereafter returned to the Cape and he was appointed to the position of Commissioner-General of the South African Republic in London.

It was learned yesterday that Mr. White is not at all desirous of being interviewed about the war, and that he is known to believe, though, that any powerful nation could stop the fighting—going on to Washington.

FRENCH PRAISES HIS TROOPS.

Lost Six Killed and Six Wounded in Rebutting the Boer Attack.

Special Cable Despatches to The Sun.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The British loss in the fight near Johannesburg, where the Boers attempted to capture a hill, was six killed and six wounded. After the light troops paraded before Gen. French, who complimented them on their work. He praised the New Zealanders particularly.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 18.—A despatch to the Cape Argus from Durban says: "On Monday during the attack on a kopje three miles from the Silingerefontein camp the Boers adopted entirely new tactics. Leaving an adjacent kopje, under the protection of undulating ground, they attempted to storm a strong position held by the Yorkshires and New Zealanders. The Boers crept to within twenty yards of the British trenches without being perceived. Meanwhile their supports kept up a continuous fire from the adjoining hill. At about 11 A. M. the Boers boldly attempted to rush the British trenches. The British troops recognized the movement at once and assuming the offensive made a gallant bayonet charge. The Yorkshires and New Zealanders were under command of Capt. Maddox and they completely frustrated the design of the Boers. The burghers were driven back and dispersed.

"The Boers abetted the British artillery with a Long Tom on Monday afternoon, but the fire had no effect. Lieut. Neave of the New Zealanders was very prominent during the hill fight."

NEW SOUTH WALES ENTHUSIASTIC.

Great Send-Off for the Volunteers Who Left Sydney Yesterday.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Jan. 17.—An intensely enthusiastic crowd, which is estimated to have numbered 30,000 persons, bade good-bye to the New South Wales section of the second Australian contingent, which embarked to-day for South Africa. The section comprised 44 officers, 544 men, 14 nurses and 756 horses. The troops marched through the streets escorted by 3,000 volunteers. The cheering was incessant. A banner suspended from the American Consulate bore the inscription: "America wishes Australia's patriots good-speed."

Prime Minister Lyne addressed the troops at the wharf, expressing the country's pride in them and its confidence that they would bring honor to the Empire. In the course of his speech he said: "Great Britain is finding that her colonies form a valuable nursery ground. We, on our part, are prepared to supply Great Britain with a force which is rapidly becoming a powerful adjunct to the British arms. You will show the world that the Empire is united, and that we are prepared to defend her and our homes by the necessities of war."

The troops embarked on the transport Moravian. The harbor was crowded with shipping, and the hills overlooking the bay were packed with spectators. The other sections will sail in a day or two.

BUENOS AIRES CARGO DISCHARGED.

Great Britain Notified Germany That It Contained No Contraband.

Special Cable Despatches to The Sun.

HAMBURG, Jan. 17.—The British authorities have allowed the entire cargo of the steamship Bundesrath to be discharged. The cargo agrees with the ship's manifest.

BERLIN, Jan. 17.—Great Britain has notified the government that no contraband was found in the cargo of the German steamer Bundesrath, which was released by a British cruiser off the east coast of Africa on the 10th of December. The vessel has been released. It is understood that Great Britain undertakes to pay an indemnity for the seizure. In her note she assures Germany of her good will and expresses the desire to avoid in the future similar causes of friction. The matter is now regarded as satisfactorily settled.

WANT THEIR OWN OFFICERS.

Cape Colony Irregulars Say They Understand the Boer Tactics.

COOL AFTER KILLING HIS MAN.

Signal Tower Operator Shows Signs of an Enemy and Calmly Returns to Work.

ALTOONA, Pa., Jan. 17.—The first murder in three months occurred to-day at Spruce Creek, a sort of legal no-man's-land, when Charles Robinson, the Pennsylvania telegraph tower operator, shot to death John O'Neil, whom he suspected of intimacy with his wife. O'Neil had formerly been a foreman employed by Contractor Sims on the Spruce Creek tunnel work and boarded at the Robinson home. A few days ago Robinson secured possession of some letters from O'Neil, which aroused his suspicion that his intentions were not honorable toward Mrs. Robinson. He heard that O'Neil was coming from Greensburg to Spruce Creek to-day.

About 10 o'clock this morning Robinson left the tower where he was employed and went home, borrowing a revolver on the way. He entered the house and found O'Neil as the latter came out to get a newspaper. O'Neil, without a word, drew the revolver and fired five shots. One struck O'Neil in the neck, one the forehead and one the neck. O'Neil fell forward dead at the fourth shot.

Throwing the revolver away Robinson walked out of the house and started to return to work. Outside the gates he stopped and returned to the house. He dragged O'Neil's body out the front door and threw it on the snow. Then he returned to his deserted post at the telegraph tower and resumed work. For four hours after his crime Robinson worked steadily at the telegraph key, an officer standing guard over him. When a relief operator arrived he was asked to call O'Neil as the wrecker of his home. The coroner's jury found him guilty of murder at its sitting to-day.

SCHOOLTEACHER MISSING.

Sends Her Diamond Ring to a Friend and Draws Her Money From the Bank.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 17.—Search has been made to-day by the police of this city for Miss Jessie Maitly, a teacher in the Union School at Cazenovia, who has not been seen by her friends since yesterday afternoon. She was last seen yesterday morning. Mrs. Maitly, the girl's mother, fears that she has committed suicide. A possible reason for her disappearance advanced in Cazenovia is her whipping of a girl pupil, whose father made complaint to the principal of the school. The girl, who is named Mally, said her mother had been unusually affectionate and good yesterday morning. Mrs. Maitly, who is a native of Cazenovia, is a widow and has a son, a student in the law at Cazenovia. She is a member of the Cazenovia Baptist Church and is a member of the Cazenovia Baptist Church. She is a member of the Cazenovia Baptist Church and is a member of the Cazenovia Baptist Church.

DEAD AT 107.

Anna White, Spinster, Passes Away in Brooklyn—Sister Was 101.

Miss Anna White, the oldest inmate of St. Martha's Seminary in Pacific street, Brooklyn, died yesterday, aged 107 years. Three years ago Miss White and her sister Mary were committed to the home by Judge Applewell in the County Court on the application of a friend, who said that they had considerable property, but were incompetent to take care of it. Mary died two years ago in the Home for the Aged, and the sisters were born in Ireland and had been residents of Brooklyn for upward of fifty years. They lived for many years in the Bowery, and when they were small of her death was the oldest living member of the Lutheran Protestant Episcopal Church. She was a member of the church for many years and was a very devout and pious woman. She was a member of the church for many years and was a very devout and pious woman.

NOT OPPOSED TO THE BOERS.

Minority Leader Barnes Tries to Explain His Attitude After Hearing From Mr. Hill.

ALBANY, Jan. 17.—Smarting under the rebuffs of David B. Hill, conveyed through one of the few emissaries he has left, Assemblyman J. Franklin Barnes took up the time of the Assembly to-day in an effort to explain the attitude he had intended to convey the impression given on Monday night to Assemblyman John H. Bradley of Erie that he was opposed to a resolution siding with the Boers in their war with England.

Mr. Barnes is the ostensible minority leader in the Assembly. He is one of the three Democratic Assemblymen who take their orders from Mr. Hill, a member of the majority. He was about when he allowed Mr. Hill to take the responsibility for naming the minority leader in the person of Mr. Barnes. Mr. Hill is beginning to realize this and wishes he had not suggested Dr. Barnes for minority leader. The Tammany members have been much kinder to Mr. Barnes, a member of the majority, than they have been to Mr. Hill, a member of the majority.

TRASCORA INDIAN LOCKED UP.

In a Jealous Rage He Stabbed His Cousin, His Father and a White Woman.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Jan. 17.—Tilton Pemberton, a Trascora Indian, is locked up in the Niagara county jail to-night. Pemberton has been proprietor of a general store, looking on the Indians call the four corners of the reserve. At this store it has been the custom for some time to have a large number of numbers, and last night the usual crowd was there. Among them was a white woman, who was the wife of a man who had been killed by the Indians. The woman was stabbed in the back and died. The man who had been killed by the Indians was also present. The woman was stabbed in the back and died. The man who had been killed by the Indians was also present.

ERRATA LAD OFF.

Flaw Found in Her Crank Shaft, and She Won't Sail for Two Weeks.

It was announced yesterday that the Canadian Erratia would not sail on Saturday as advertised. Immediately it was rumored that the Erratia had been taken by the English Government under the terms of the subsidy and would sail for Halifax, where she would take on board Canadian troops and carry them to South Africa.

WELL DEAD AT A REVIVAL MEETING.

Enander Was About to Give Testimony When Heart Disease Killed Him.

LAWRENCE, N. Y., Jan. 17.—A revival meeting was held last night in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Madison and Centre streets. A number of people had spoken at the meeting and their volleys were called for. Enander, much excited, rose to give testimony. As he left his seat he fell and fell to the floor. He was immediately picked up and taken to a hospital, but he died before he could be revived. He was a member of the church and was a very devout and pious man.

COLOMIES NOT FOR SALE.

Portugal Declares That She Will Part With None of Her Possessions.

LISBON, Jan. 17.—Minister of Foreign Affairs E. de Vilela Braganza declares that Portugal will not sell, cede nor lease any of her colonial possessions. He said that Portugal was not in a position to do so, and that she would not do so. He said that Portugal was not in a position to do so, and that she would not do so.

BANK ROBBERS GET \$5,000.

A Safe Blown Open at Phillips, W. Va.—Robbers Escaped on a Hand Car.

PHILLIPS, W. Va., Jan. 17.—The Tycart Valley Bank Building was entered early this morning by thieves. The safe was blown open by nitroglycerine and all the money, except a few stray cents and a few notes, which were blown to one side by the concussion, was taken. The amount was about \$5,000. Luckily the cash on hand was at the lowest point it had been for some time. The loss to the bank in the wrecking of the safe and the damage to the furniture, the notes and papers of the bank were all found, although some of them were slightly injured by the explosion.

No clues have been found. Some suspicious looking men were seen coming to town on the last train here last night. The hand car of the railroad company was stopped at the station at Grafton this morning. The explosive used was in so large a quantity that the heavy safe doors were thrown across the room. Some torn paper money was found on the floor, which would indicate that the money was badly damaged.

WAINWRIGHT LAIDS SAMPOSON.

Gloucester's Commander Says Santiago Honors Should Go to the Admiral.

BOSTON, Jan. 17.—Lieutenant Commander Wainwright of the Gloucester, who was the senior officer at the Merrimack battle, yesterday reiterated a mild protest that the battle of Santiago was Sampson's battle and that the honor of victory belonged to him. Referring to the position of the New York at Santiago, Mr. Wainwright said he couldn't say that she was within signal distance at the beginning of the fight, but as she ascended the bridge of the Gloucester he could see the smoke of the New York. It was Admiral Sampson who made the preparations for that fight, and to him belongs the glory. The Commander said he never saw any signals from the Brooklyn, although, he said, signals were made.

WOULDN'T READ THE BIBLE.

Fifty Catholic Public School Pupils Suspended on That Account.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 17.—About fifty pupils have been suspended from school attendance at McDonald, Washington county, because they refused to read the Bible in their regular classes at the school. The children of Catholic families, and while they made no objection to the reading of the Bible in the schools, they would take no part in the reading themselves. James F. Burke of Pittsburg, representing the parents of the suspended pupils, called at the Department of Public Instruction and submitted a petition. An investigation will be made by the department.

COULDN'T HEAL HIMSELF.

The Rev. H. H. Davis Tried the Faith Cure on Himself, but Failed.

ANSONIA, Conn., Jan. 17.—The Rev. Hoeklich H. Davis, pastor of the People's Church in New Britain, Conn., died there on Tuesday of organic trouble of the heart. For more than a month he had been a sufferer, and after calling in three physicians, who prescribed for him, he refused to take their medicines, relying upon his faith to cure. He had been opposed to medicine all his life, and according to the statements of his relatives, had the power of curing others by the touch, hundreds of cases being cited where he had performed almost miraculous cures, but of which nothing was known at his own request.

FIGHTENED BY MR. ROCKEFELLER.

Horse Ran Away When His Automobile Approached—Two Women Injured.

GREENWICH, Conn., Jan. 17.—William Rockefeller, a few days ago, rode over from North Tarrytown to his Greenwich farm in an automobile. He was accompanied by an engineer who was driving him. As the automobile approached the farm, the horse ran away. The carriage was overturned and Mrs. Smith and a young woman who was with her were thrown out and injured. Mr. Rockefeller immediately brought his vehicle to a full stop, and alighting, went to the assistance of Mrs. Smith and companion. Several small boys of the neighborhood gathered and in the excitement of the moment, Mr. Rockefeller drew from his pocket a silver half dollar and despatched one of the youngsters to Morris's stables in Greenwich for a carriage, to take the two women to their home.

KILLED THEIR KEEPER AND ESCAPED.

Posses in Pursuit of Seven Prisoners Who Murdered a Missouri Deputy Sheriff.

WEST PLAINS, Mo., Jan. 17.—Alf Henry, deputy sheriff of Howell county, was murdered in the jail here this morning while giving breakfast to the prisoners. When he opened the door looking into the corridor he was knocked over the head and killed by a "trusty," his keys taken from his body and the cell doors unlocked. The prisoners then fled, dragging the dead deputy into the cage and locking the door behind them.

SEIZED AT CARNEGIE'S GIFT.

Library Offer of \$125,000 for Louisville Sent to the "Committee on Cemeteries."

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 17.—The General Committee of the city of Louisville, Ky., has appointed a committee to report on the feasibility of accepting the offer and those who favor the acceptance will still make a hard fight for it.

ARMED CRACK GATHERED IN.

He Drove a Revolver on the Detectives Who Nabbed Him in Park Row.

Detectives Towns and Finley of the Eliza street station were walking down Park Row last night, when they saw a man who they noticed a man on the opposite side of the street who seemed anxious to avoid them. When Towns went toward him and the man ran, both detectives pursued him and when they caught him the fellow drew a revolver. Before he could use it he was overpowered. At the police station he described himself as Harry McCarthy of 453 Sixth avenue, Brooklyn. He was recognized as a crack whose picture is in the "Bogie's Gallery."

CHRISTIAN HEALERS INDUCED.

Iowa Grand Jury Takes Action on the Death of a Girl at Tabo.

A CLARK-QUAY ALLIANCE?

SURPRISE AND INDIGNATION OF BOTH SIDES THE CHAMBER.

One Senator Who Would Have Voted for Quay Will Now Vote Against Him—Comments That Clark Has Offered to Contribute to the Campaign Funds of Both Parties for Votes—Big Sums Mentioned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—The action of the Senate in fixing upon Feb. 15 as the date when votes shall be taken on the pending Currier bill, has caused a certain amount of surprise and indignation on both sides of the Chamber. The Currier case cannot be disposed of before that time. The Clark case, of course, will not be soon presented, as at least a testimony of witnesses already summoned. During the past day or two the fact has been demonstrated that the alliance entered into between the Clark men, who seek to keep the Montana Senator in his seat, and the Quay men, who seek to put Quay into an old seat, is a complete and binding one, and that henceforth the two contests will stand or fall together. This alliance has created some surprise and indignation on both sides of the Senate Chamber. Some of the Republican members hesitate to say that he has made a mistake and that his cause will be seriously injured by being involved with that of the Montana Senator.

A New England Republican Senator, who would vote for the admission of Mr. Quay on the constitutional question, if that question were presented, said to-day that, in common with other Senators, he was not fully satisfied with the alliance between Mr. Quay and Senator Clark, and that he felt, in view of that fact, that he could not bring himself to vote in favor of the admission of Mr. Quay, although he still held that the Governor had the right to appoint in such a case. He intimated that the war on the dilemma for him and others like him, if it should turn out that the voters would give Mr. Quay a majority, was to keep the Quay case waiting until Mr. Quay recognized the situation and withdrew.

Republican Senators assert that Senator Clark has offered to contribute a quarter of a million dollars, or an even larger sum, to the Democratic campaign fund, and that he has the general support of Democratic Senators who are generally disposed to vote against him. On the other hand, Democratic Senators assert that Senator Clark has offered to contribute to the Republican campaign fund or to the campaign fund of individual Republican Senators in return for support on the Republican side of the chamber. These are samples of the things which are freely said by the Senators in conversation and which have produced the case of Mr. Quay as well as of Mr. Clark.

It is reported at the Senate to-day that the advocates of Mr. Clark's cause are prepared to favor a plan of action, heretofore unconsidered, in case it is found that the voters will give Mr. Quay a majority. This plan contemplates a report, not declaring that Mr. Clark's seat is vacant, as would be the usual course, but recommending that he be expelled. The point of this is that to expel a Senator a two-thirds vote is required, while a majority is needed to declare a seat vacant. It is not likely that the plan will be put into operation, however, for if the committee should find Mr. Clark guilty they would probably adopt the shortest and easiest method of retiring him.

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