TO-DAY'S NEWS IN BRIEF.

WASHINGTON.

The finance bill and Quay's case will come up in the Senate, both probably this week.

It is stated authoritatively at the Interior Department that leases on cattle land in the Indian Territory will not terminate to-day, but are renewable indefinitely.

The increasing surplus in the Treasury gives rise to the belief that this matter will be projected into the presidential campaign.

The diplomatic controversy between the United States, France and Great Britain over the extension of concessions near Shanghai, China, has been settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The President will receive Cabinet members, army and navy officers, Senators, Representatives and the public generally to-day, in accordance with the custom that prevails at the White House.

From reports received at the Treasury lately, it appears that the tendency is toward an increase in national banknote circulation.

The naval appropriation bill will be taken up by the House committee having it in charge, the probable absence of Mr. Bonelle, who is ill, not interfering with the work of the body.

The House has no special programme of business for this week, but a discussion of the Philippine question may be precipitated by the discussion of kindred matters of less importance.

The Treasury Bureau of Statistics has compiled information relative to the resources of the new American possessions.

LOCAL AND SUBURBAN.

In observance of the Pope's decree, midnight mass was conducted in Catholic churches to commemorate the opening of the closing year of the century.

The Missouri-Edison company did not carry out its ultimatum to shut off the city's electric lights at midnight on account of the Municipal Assembly's failure to make provision for contracts.

No light was thrown on the mystery of Stella Jocelyn's disappearance. She is supposed to be confined in an insane asylum and has gone to court to try to have her foster parents reveal her true name.

A movement is on foot for united action in the leading cities against boycott shows. The committee for directors of the Merchants' Exchange were pledged to co-operate.

Preparations for the opening of the Poultry Show to-day at the Coliseum were completed.

"Facing the Future" was the subject of the Reverend E. Dudgeon's sermon at St. James's Episcopal Church.

The Reverend T. C. Carlton preached at Lafayette Baptist Church on "My Best Possible Self."

"God's Danger Signals" was the theme of the Reverend C. H. Patton at First Congregational Church.

Doctor D. R. Dorman at Cabanne Christian Church preached on "What to Forget."

Doctor Winchester occupied the pulpit at Ascension Church and delivered a sermon on "What the Nineteenth Century Has Wrought."

The Ethical Society held memorial services to commemorate the opening of the last year of the century. General Noble and Charles Nagel spoke.

Police Sergeant Ed Fox, while intoxicated, shot at a bartender in the Laclede Hotel bar. He was arrested, and suspended pending an investigation.

The Reverend Doctor A. G. McManaway of Arkadelphia, Ark., died in St. Louis from Bright's disease, from which he had been suffering for six years.

GENERAL DOMESTIC.

Kentucky legislators are gathering at Frankfort. It is expected that Goebel will contest Taylor's seat. Blackburn will probably be elected Senator.

Two Texas farmers, who were assaulted by highwaymen, have succumbed to their injuries.

Henderson Pierson has been sentenced to be hanged on February 2.

It is reported that deposits of quicksilver have been discovered at Paiva, Tex.

Lead and zinc prices continue firm. The output in Missouri for the last year exceeded in value that of the preceding year.

Oklahoma Sheriffs will attend the Taylor Kirk hanging at El Reno in a body.

Nebraska insurance affairs have been adjusted.

I. T. Wilson has resigned the superintendency of the North Texas Insane Asylum.

RAILROADS.

Eastern trunk lines will pay no commissions from this time on.

There were nearly 124,000 cars built last year by contracting companies, a large increase over 1898.

George W. Heintz has been appointed general passenger agent of the Rio Grande Western.

Several large judgments were rendered in favor of the Pittsburg and Gulf.

E. A. Richter was appointed traveling passenger agent of the Illinois Central at Pittsburg.

Marine Intelligence.

New York, Dec. 31.—Arrived: La Normandie.

Southampton, Dec. 31.—Arrived: Steamer Southwark, New York, for Antwerp.

Queenstown, Dec. 31.—Sailed: Lucania, Liverpool, for New York.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dec. 31.—Arrived: Steamer Parisian from Liverpool and sailed for Portland, Me.

MADE A ROPE OF BED LINEN.

Mrs. Ida Craig Hanged Herself in the City Hospital.

At 6 o'clock yesterday evening, when the guards at the City Hospital were being changed, Mrs. Ida Craig, a widow, formerly living at No. 798 Locust street, hanged herself. She was placed in the observation ward earlier in the day by her son, who had taken her from the City Insane Asylum.

The woman took a sheet and pillow slip, which she twisted into a rope and threw over a rear bar in her cell. Just after the guard passed on his rounds, Mrs. Craig took the linen rope, and, placing the noose around her neck, fastened the other end to the bars and jumped off her cot. When she was discovered by Chief Guard Harry Whalen, fifteen minutes later, she was dead.

The physicians of the hospital were called. They applied electricity and artificial respiration without effect. Nothing is known of the motive which prompted the suicide. Mrs. Craig had been demented for a long time, but had never displayed any symptoms of suicidal mania. It was on her ardent appeal and that of her son, that Doctor Runge released her from the asylum.

BRIDEGROOM-ELECT ARRESTED

Charged With Murder on Eve of Wedding Day.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 31.—Frank Polauski of Weyerhauser, Wis., yesterday obtained a license to marry Annie Gambala of this city, and the wedding was set for next Wednesday. Later in the day Polauska was arrested on a charge of murder and was taken to Chippewa Falls by Sheriff Meiner.

He is charged with killing Martin Megas, 62 years old, on November 3 last. On that day Megas left home and has not been seen since, nor has his body been found. Polauski denies all knowledge of the crime.

To Cure La Grippe in Two Days.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

Stabbed in the Side.

Robert Brooks, a negro, was stabbed in the left side last night in a quarrel with Henry, alias "Kit" Mace. He was removed to the City Hospital, where his condition was pronounced serious. In the company of several negroes, Brooks and Mace were canning beer in the basement of a house at No. 224 Olive street, and the cutting, the police say, was the result of a drunken row. Mace was arrested. He said he stabbed Brooks in self-defense.

During the Past Fifty Years
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used by MILLIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS THE GUMS, ALLAYS the PAIN, CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHŒA. Ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

SULZER'S ELOQUENT APPEAL FOR BOERS.

He Compares Kruger's Ultimatum With the Declaration of Independence.

A SIMPLE, CHRISTIAN PEOPLE.

New York Congressman Says That He Will Urge His Resolution in the House—Pro-Boer Movements.

New York, Dec. 31.—The United Irish societies of New York and vicinity filled the Academy of Music to-night at a mass meeting called to express sympathy with the Boers and opposition to England in consequence of the South African war. Senator Mason of Illinois, Congressman Sulzer, Congressman Cummings of New York and others addressed the meeting. Justice Fitzgerald of the Supreme Court presided.

The entire house was filled. The proscenium, the boxes and the balconies were all decorated with a profusion of American flags, Irish emblems, and occasionally the flags of the two South African republics. Justice Fitzgerald after calling the meeting to order said:

"The great heart of the American people goes out to the people of the Transvaal. They are fighting for the same principles they are against the same sovereign and are the same soldiers that fought for the liberty of this country."

Congressman Sulzer was the principal speaker of the evening. His eloquence carried the crowd with him throughout the delivery of his speech which frequently was interrupted by hearty applause.

Mr. Sulzer spoke, in part, as follows:

"I am not ashamed to have it known that my sympathy is with the heroic Boers in their resolute endeavor and determined effort to maintain their homes and their independence against the piracy and the tyranny of the British Crown. I want to see them win in this contest because they are right and deserve to win. In my judgment nine-tenths of the American people are against England in this matter and are in sympathy with the Boers.

"The courage of the Boers in the face of tremendous odds has challenged the admiration of mankind, and their heroism against almost insurmountable obstacles has won the respect of the civilized world.

"The South African patriots are white men. They are a good deal like the patriots of our own revolution. They love their homes, their freedom and their liberty. They come from good old ancestors from the north of Europe. They are flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone. They love free institutions the same as we do, for the sake of personal liberty.

"The story of the struggle and the hardships of these brave men in South Africa, is one of the saddest pages in history; an imperishable heritage to history. No one can impartially read without feeling a deep sympathy for them in their struggle to maintain their freedom and independence against English greed for gold, English tyranny and criminal British aggression for land.

"They carved out unaided and alone their own destiny in the wilds of the Dark Continent, amid unspeakable hardships and privations, and gave to the world a civilization as good as our own.

"They are a simple, Christian people, as honest as they are brave. They redeemed the wilderness, made the jungle blossom like a rose, and dotted the hills with villages and towns. Notwithstanding what they had to contend with, they grew, they prospered and they were happy, until perfidious Albion came.

"These brave Boers are fighting for republicanism against monarchy, for democracy against plutocracy, for home rule against the bayonet, for the sovereignty of the individual against the sanctity of the crown, for the ballot against the throne, for the love of home against the love of gold; for Saxon freedom against British tyranny; for the integrity of their country against a ruthless invader; for the schoolhouse and church against the army barracks and the military fort; for religious freedom against foreign domination; for the firside of civilization against the blazing torch of devastation; for free institutions against imperialism, and above all and beyond all they are fighting a battle for the rights of man.

"I glory in the spunk of grand old Paul Kruger. He is one of the world's great heroes. He knew only too well how dangerous was delay, and everything that has occurred since he issued his defiant ultimatum to the British Crown has demonstrated his wisdom and his foresight. He is a grand old man, one of the world's immortals, and will always stand out on the pages of history as a friend of man, a lover of liberty and a champion of freedom. The ultimatum he issued to England rang around the globe and will live in the world's history.

"Have we forgotten that Thomas Jefferson issued a similar ultimatum on the Fourth of July, 1776—the Declaration of Independence?

"It is too bad the declaration of the South African Republic is not popular. It seems to be in disfavor in Washington. That pro-English Secretary of State has locked it up in a safe, and the Anglo-American Ambassador to the gilded court of St. James makes after dinner speeches to Lords and Dukes about the beauties of imperialism and the iron-clad friendship of England and America. There is no doubt a secret understanding exists today between the White House and Downing street. I am opposed to an Anglo-American alliance, expressed or implied, especially when its object is the advancement of imperialism, the march of armies, the downfall of republics, the destruction of free institutions, the enslavement of man and the perpetuity of the power of Kings.

"The President should have offered the friendly offices of this country to prevent this war. But the friends of free institutions should not lose hope. If the President will not act, Congress can—and Congress should. I have offered in the House of Representatives a joint resolution against the war, granting the Boers belligerent rights, and instructing the President to bring about a cessation of hostilities and an honorable peace. This ought to be done and done at once.

"If democracy and free institutions find no answer here, then indeed are republics a thing of the past and the message of the future an imperialistic cry of destruction, of oppression and of tyranny."

Congressman Amos J. Cummings told of the history of British aggression in South Africa, beginning with the taking of the Cape Colony in trust when Napoleon took Holland and the refusal to give it back to the Dutch after Napoleon's defeat.

"She hated Napoleon," said he, "but was willing to pick up the scraps that he left."

He referred to Chamberlain's recent change of front, and added:

"Chamberlain is a liar, and that is not putting it a bit too strong, for three years ago he said the same things that I have told you to-night."

Ringing resolutions of sympathy for the Boers and urging Congress to act in the matter were adopted.

Boy Walked in His Sleep.

Officer McCormack of the Eighth district yesterday found George Boyd, 12 years old, of No. 2709 Geyer avenue, walking along the street in front of No. 2107 South Jefferson avenue, dressed only in his underclothing. The boy was taken to the home of his father, John Boyd, a traveling salesman. Mr. Boyd said that his son of late has frequently been found in a somnambulistic condition.

City Hospital Association.

The Medical Society of the City Hospital Association will give a banquet at the St. Nicholas Hotel on the evening of January 4. Covers will be laid for about sixty persons, and some of the most prominent physicians in the city will be present. The arrangements are in charge of Doctoer Sharp.

Injured While Skating.

Arthur Bruckmeyer, 18 years old, of No. 512 Cabanne avenue, yesterday fell on the ice while skating in Forest Park and injured his collar bone.

Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney
DRY GOODS CO.

Our Annual Sale

OF

Muslin, Nainsook, Lawn and China Silk Underwear

For Women and Children,

Will Begin Tuesday, January 2d, 1900,

With Better, Stronger and More Interesting Values Than Ever Before.

The manufacturers who were selected to make up the goods for this sale have supplied Original Designs and Exclusive Effects. Every Garment is Generously Proportioned, Well Made and Perfect Fitting.

Months ago preparations for this sale began, and the greatest care has been exercised to secure such styles, quality and finish as are adapted to fully satisfy most discriminating purchasers. Notwithstanding the enormous advance in the price of cottons (along with all other raw materials), we have made our prices this year somewhat less than usual, having determined to give our customers extraordinary advantages during this sale.

It may be years before such values are again to be secured in Muslin Underwear.

Corset Covers. At 73c—Nainsook; French style, round neck, trimmed in heavy lace and inserting, with ribbon.

At 73c—Nainsook; French style, trimmed in lace inserting of two rows across bust, edge.

At 73c—Nainsook; French style, round neck, tucked back, trimmed in Honiton lace.

At 85c—Nainsook; French style, square neck, tucked back, trimmed in Honiton lace edge and inserting, ribbon through lace.

At 85c—Nainsook; loose front, trimmed in Torchon lace.

At 85c—Nainsook; French style, trimmed in Valenciennes lace.

At 85c—Nainsook; French style, round neck, trimmed in Valenciennes lace edge and inserting.

At 85c—Cambric; low neck, square, tight-fitting, edge and inserting of embroidery.

At 98c—Nainsook; square neck, front trimmed in Valenciennes lace edge and inserting.

At 98c—Nainsook; French style, round neck, trimmed with fine embroidery edge.

At 98c—Nainsook; French style, square neck, trimmed in Valenciennes lace edge and inserting.

At 98c—Nainsook; short effect, round neck, trimmed in Torchon lace, fastened with ribbon.

At 93c—Nainsook; round neck, tucked back, French style, trimmed lace edge and inserting and ribbon.

At $1.12—Nainsook; short effect, three rows of Duchess lace inserting across front and edge.

At $1.12—Nainsook; French style, square neck, trimmed in dotted Brussels lace.

At $1.38—Nainsook; French style, round neck, trimmed in Honiton lace edge and inserting.

At $1.38—Nainsook; short effect, round neck, trimmed in Torchon lace, fastened with ribbon.

At $1.38—Nainsook; French style, with Valenciennes lace inserting up and down the whole front.

At $1.38—Nainsook; short effect, two rows of Valenciennes lace across front, Valenciennes edge.

At $1.57—Nainsook; Bolero style, inserting of Valenciennes lace and embroidery, tied on shoulder with bows of ribbon.

At $2.50—Nainsook; short effect, the whole cover formed of lace inserting.

Long Skirts. At 50c—Cotton; plain tucked ruffle.

At 83c—Cambric; umbrella shape, deep flounce, four fine tucks and hemstitching.

At 98c—Cambric; deep flounce, formed of tucks and herringbone stitching.

At 98c—Cambric; wide flounce, edged with embroidery.

At $1.13—Cambric; wide flounce of lawn, tucked elaborately.

At $1.38—Cambric; umbrella flounce, with two insertings of heavy lace and edge.

At $1.38—Cambric; heavy lace edge and inserting.

At $1.38—Cambric; made with a very deep flounce, wide inserting of embroidery in flounce.

At $1.38—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed with blind embroidery on flounce.

At $1.57—Cambric; deep flounce, with two rows of Honiton lace inserting and edge.

At $1.68—Cambric; trimmed with open edge of embroidery, herringbone and tucks.

At $2.18—Cambric; trimmed in Valenciennes lace, two insertings with edge, wide flounce.

At $2.18—Cambric; trimmed with two insertings of embroidery and edge in deep flounce, umbrella shape.

At $2.18—Cambric; deep flounce, with edge and inserting of open embroidery.

At $2.75—Cambric; umbrella shape, deep embroidered flounce, headed by inserting.

At $3.00—Cambric; wide flounce, with two insertings of lace, lace edge.

At $3.50—Cambric; umbrella shape, with deep flounce, two insertings and tucks in flounce, with edge of embroidery.

At $4.50—Cambric; umbrella shape, with deep, Spanish flounce of tucks, inserting of lace and wide lace edge, with extra flounce, under with lace.

At $6.00—Cambric; umbrella shape, with wide, trimmed diagonally with inserting of embroidery and tucks; embroidered edge.

At $6.00—Cambric; deep lawn flounce, Valenciennes lace, Vandyked.

Drawers. At 25c—Cotton; good quality, plain hem, with four tucks.

At 25c—Cotton; good quality, bottom finished with lawn ruffle, hemstitched.

At 31c—Cambric; umbrella shape, with deep flounce of lawn.

At 39c—Fine Cotton; tucked cambric ruffles, headed with tucks.

At 48c—Cambric; made umbrella style, trimmed with lace inserting and edge.

At 48c—Cambric; umbrella style, heavy lace inserting in flounce.

At 50c—Cotton; good quality, trimmed with open embroidery edge.

At 50c—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed in heavy lace inserting and edge.

At 58c—Cambric; trimmed in close embroidery, with fine tucks.

At 68c—Cambric; umbrella shape, lawn hemstitched ruffle, with fine tucks.

At 73c—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed with lawn ruffle, Honiton lace edge and inserting.

At 83c—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed with wide open embroidery and tucks.

At 98c—Cambric; umbrella shape, with flounce of very wide embroidery.

At 98c—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed with lawn ruffle, edged with wide Valenciennes lace.

At $1.38—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed with handsome lace edge and inserting.

At $1.38—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed in Honiton lace edge and inserting.

At $1.68—Cambric; umbrella shape, trimmed in Valenciennes lace, two insertings and deep edge.

A Great Specialty of Children's Drawers, in sizes from 1 to 14 years, ranging in price from 10c up, according.

Gowns. At 48c—Good quality cotton; tucked yoke, with plain cambric ruffle.

At 68c—Cotton; yoke formed of tucks and inserting of embroidery; embroidery edge.

At 68c—Cotton; yoke of inserting and embroidery and tucks, cambric ruffle.

At 68c—Cotton; square neck, tucked and hemstitched ruffle.

Gowns. At 68c—Cambric; empire style, hemstitched ruffle.

At 98c—Cotton; tucked yoke, with inserting, square neck, embroidered ruffle.

At 98c—Cambric; pointed yoke, inserting of embroidery and herringbone, embroidery edge.

At 98c—Cambric; empire style, trimmed elaborately in heavy lace and embroidery.

At $1.00—Cambric; empire style, trimmed in fine embroidery.

At $1.25—Cambric; square neck, formed of inserting and edge of embroidery.

At $1.38—Cambric; V-shape neck, trimmed in lace and embroidery.

At $2.18—Cambric; yoke formed of fine solid embroidery.

At $2.28—Cambric; square neck, with double ruffle of embroidery.

At $2.28—Cambric; square neck, trimmed in Honiton lace inserting and edge.

At $2.75—Nainsook; yoke formed of lace and embroidery insertings, lace edge.

At $2.75—Nainsook; cut V-shape, with very short sleeve effect, trimmed in Valenciennes lace.

At $4.00—Nainsook; square neck, sleeveless effect, trimmed in fine embroidery.

At $4.25—Nainsook; Pompadour effect, low, square cut, trimmed in Valenciennes lace and embroidery.

At $5.00—Nainsook; square neck, with sleeveless effect, formed of flounces of embroidery and elaborately trimmed with handsome embroidery generally.

At $6.00—Nainsook; Josephine style, trimmed in fine embroidery.

Chemises. At 48c—Good quality cotton; corded band, neatly made.

At 48c—Cotton; cut square, neck trimmed with embroidery edge and inserting.

At 68c—Cambric; corded band, neatly made.

At 68c—Good quality cotton; round neck, inserting and edge of embroidery.

At 73c—Nainsook; cut round, neck trimmed in lace edge.

At 73c—Cambric; round neck, lace edge, ribbon run through inserting.

At $1.12—Nainsook; prettily trimmed in lace and ribbon, round neck.

At $1.12—Nainsook; trimmed in dotted lace across bosom.

At $1.38—Nainsook; round neck, trimmed in fine Torchon lace, tucked bottom.

Our Housekeeping Linen Advertisement is in the Globe-Democrat this morning.
It will appear in The Republic To-Morrow, Tuesday, January 2d.

BULLER'S PLANS GOING WRONG.

Continued From Page One.

for defense. The following casualty reported—one severely wounded."

SEDITION IN CAPE COLONY.

Cape Town, Thursday, Dec. 28.—The colonial authorities are using every precaution to prevent an insurrection on the part of disloyal Dutch in Cape Colony and to suppress a rising in favor of the Boers. Everywhere the British colonists are being organized into home guards, drilled, armed and made ready to act in their respective localities, should armed Dutch colonists gather.

The theory is that the British home-staying colonists should be fully prepared to cope with the Dutch colonials without the aid of regulars.

The alertness of the British makes united action impossible. Unable to act openly, they slip away singly or in small groups to join the enemy's forces. The authorities have been informed of many centers of agitation which it is considered undesirable to particularize, but there is nothing like concerted action apparent over wide districts.

The case of Michau, solicitor to the De Beers camp, who is charged with treason, acquires increased importance, as he has been transferred from the custody of the civil authorities to the military authorities. His high position causes the Dutch to watch his case keenly.

Parties of Boers have been operating some seventy miles south of Lord Methuen's position. Boers appeared on Christmas Day near the railway, twenty-nine miles south of DeAar. A force of the Duke of Edinburgh's Own Volunteers prepared to engage them, but the enemy retired.

Another party fired into a British patrol camp during the night of Wednesday, December 27. This was near Victoria Road. An attempt was made not far from that point to damage the railway. One man was caught in the act and shot.

Similar attempts were made between Multersole and Klapmuebeun and between Multersole and Klapmues, but the would-be wreckers escaped. Like attempts are reported from several other points. Evidently small parties of Boers or Dutch colonials have been trying to interrupt the railroads, but have failed thus far.

In one case a patrol of regulars fired on a patrol of colonials. The latter were wearing broad-brimmed hats and were taken by the British for Boers. No casualties occurred, but in consequence of the incident an order has been issued directing the wearing of helmets.

NATAL SITUATION.

BY BENNETT BURLEIGH.

Special Cable to The Republic, New York Herald and London Telegraph. Republication prohibited.

Frere Camp, Sunday, Dec. 31.—(Copyright, 1899, by James Gordon Bennett.)—Following is what I may term an end of the year review of the situation as it now stands:

Despite many drawbacks and various unsatisfactory matters which might and could be remedied, the military situation is better, more secure and more hopeful for us than since the outbreak of hostilities. This is the case elsewhere, but particularly so in Natal. The invasion of this colony is now slowly, perhaps many will say too slowly, but surely, being rolled back. There is no longer any danger to Pietermaritzburg to-day, the country is secure from the foe practically from Colenso south. A few raiders may for a short time venture along the hills as far as Estcourt, but I doubt if ever they will water their horses again in the Mooi River.

Ladysmith, although difficult to defend, continues easily to hold out and is repelling the Boer attacks, for the enemy have never relished coming to close quarters, nor have they shown any capacity for assaulting the British positions. Their one method is to catch our troops in the open from cover and overwhelm them with fire.

For not many days more will Ladysmith's gallant garrison be required to lie low behind their works. This relief column will surely free their hands from guarding the town and camps and enable them to cut in upon the retreating commando.

To-day Buller has within hail a force of all arms equal to that of the Boers, eagerly demanding to be led against Joubert's men and the Free Staters who are before Colenso and Ladysmith.

I take it that the enemy between Colenso and Ladysmith, all told, number between 20,000 and 30,000.

What with renegades and the Colonial Board recruiting, their total strength in the field must be near 60,000.

Joubert and Botha have made the most of their advantage of position by emplacing many cannon, some of large caliber, up to fifteen centimeters, and by constructing numberless trenches and works. Their positions, I assume, will be judiciously flanked.

I confidently anticipate that the coming battle will be, by far, the biggest and fiercest of the war.

War is even more uncertain than cricket, but our soldiers will not fail the country—that is certain. If they are given a fair chance to engage upon anything like equal terms I plump for a complete British victory. It is given to me further to forecast that if the punishment meted out to and the pressure brought to bear upon the discomfited Boers be vigorous and persistent many prisoners, guns and much spoil should fall into Buller's hands.

The invasion by the Boers and the Free Staters, once terminated, the end of the war would certainly be brought within a few months' distance.

VRYBURGERS JOIN BOERS.

London, Jan. 1.—The Daily Mail publishes the following from Cape Town:

"Ninety-five per cent of the farmers in the Vryburg district joined the Boers, helping them to loot the stores throughout the country north of Orange River. They also undertook to invest Mafeking while General Cronje's men went south to meet Lord Methuen. The Government of Bechuanaland is being administered as if the Dutch had been in possession for aeons."

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Kimberley, dated Friday, December 22, says:

"We have food enough for three months. Fresh fruit and vegetables are obtainable daily from Kenilworth, and water is plentiful and excellent."

TO MAKE A FINAL SORTIE.

London, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Lorenzo Marquez, dated December 22, says:

"It is reported from Ladysmith, by way of Pretoria, that the British are destroying their heavy cannon prior to final sortie."

NEW YEAR USHERED IN.

Customary Celebration Began Early and Lasted Long.

In St. Louis the old year was duly watched out, rung out, blown out, popped out, shot out and yelled out, and the new year was watched in, rung in, blown in, popped in, shot in and yelled in. Such another din has not been heard on the downtown streets for years.

Some of the celebrants were premature in their celebrations. They began early in the evening to parade the streets, blow busted pistols and yell. The din did not reach its climax until ten minutes before 12 o'clock, when somebody with a fast watch began a terrific racket. Others who had heard him, and the din kept up in all its fierceness, fire minutes after the hour, fire minutes away, but did not entirely subside during the night.

On the stroke of 12 the din was increased by the ringing of bells and the blowing of whistles all over town. Street car motormen joined in with the general ushered in. Hundred was the hours of the change of There were other features. At many of the churches there were special watch services, and private residences and at many clubs at which churches midnight mass was celebrated.

At the Y. M. H. A. Home, No. 2737 Locust street, a large number of young folks danced the old year out and the new year in and enjoyed a supper also.

One of the features of last night's celebration was the introduction of the bugle as a contributor to the concert of welcome. Long-lunged young men, in companies of two, marched all over the downtown section, sounding the revelle and other army bugle calls. Some of the bugler's were expert; others were not.

In all the suburbs towns the new year received about the same kind of a reception that it got here. The din that came from across the river was sufficient to startle St. Louis had it not been heard in St. Louis was sufficient to startle the dwellers across the water. At East St. Louis, Belleville, Alton, Granite City, Edwardsville and Madison, Ill., Protestant churches had watch meetings, and at some of the Catholic churches midnight mass was celebrated. The same was true of Clayton, Kirkwood, Webster Groves, Florissant and the other town to the west of the city.

At Glen Carbon, Ill., there was an unusually jubilant celebration. It was connected with a ball, which began at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon and was still in progress at 2 o'clock this morning.

Fire yesterday damaged the home of Mrs. Benjamin Harris, No. 1829 Fountain avenue to the amount of $100. The blaze was caused by the explosion of gas connected with the kitchen range.

In a three-cornered fight in a Broadway owl car early yesterday morning, William Walker, 22 years old, of No. 1418 Montgomery street, was bitten on the thumb, Robert Walker and John Warden of No. 217 St. Louis avenue, were arrested. An unknown man who was implicated in the fight escaped.

WALTHAM WATCHES
The best and most reliable timekeepers made in this country or in any other.
The "Riverside" (trade-mark) movement is jeweled throughout with rubies and sapphires.
For sale by all jewelers.

CASTORIA
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