The Most Beautiful Half-Tone Newspaper ever offered to St. Louis readers. Next Sunday's Republic.

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

The Most Beautiful Half-Tone Newspaper ever offered to St. Louis readers Next Sunday's Republic.

NINETY-SECOND YEAR. ST. LOUIS, MO., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1900. PRICE {In St. Louis, One Cent. Outside St. Louis, Two Cents. On Trains, Three Cents.}

BARTHOLDT STIRS A STORM.

St. Louis Member Attacks Missouri's Election Law and Slurs the Irish.

Mr. Benton Retorts Vigorously, Upholding Legislation, and Fitzgerald Administers a Stinging Rebuke for Racial Criticism.

[illegible]

Rebuke From Fitzgerald.

Representative Benton entered the House as the St. Louis member launched into his remarkable tirade. Benton was dressed in a [illegible] suit, evidently unexpecting to address the House, and stood for some time in open-mouthed surprise at the performance of the St. Louis Representative. When the latter had finished, Benton arose hesitatingly and asked for time to reply. Fitzgerald of Boston arose [illegible] to interpose a [illegible] point of order against the Irish-Americans of this country, [illegible] Bartholdt had seen fit to [illegible] in. [illegible] Devotion of hundreds of the most [illegible] and gallant Irish-Americans [illegible] every war in which the United States have been engaged.

"I think it is with poor grace," said the Boston member, "that the gentleman has gone out of his way to make an attack upon the Irish as being always against the Government. If the history of this country is scanned closely it will appear that in all hours of trial they have been the foremost defenders of the citizens of the United States.

"The history of the earlier days of the Republic will prove that the first men that led in the American navy, the first whose names shine among its heroes, are O'Brien and Barry. It was thus all through the War of the Revolution, and George Washington thought so much of the Irish people that when St. Patrick's Day came he made the army rest and celebrate the day. In the war of 1812 the records of history show the same story, and the Mexican War was filled with Irishmen whose deeds have shed lustre upon the American arms. There was no bolder warrior on the battlefield than General Shields, who served his country with glory, not only in battle, but three times in the United States Senate.

Distinguished Irishmen.

"In the last war what name more signalized gallantry than that of General Phil Sheridan, and in the war in which we now are engaged I will remind the gentleman from St. Louis that the Irishmen always have been found in the lead. The Irishmen always are ready to stand up and fight for the flag. Their names can be found in the list published daily of the dead in the Philippines, and on behalf of those men I resent the imputation of the member from St. Louis that the Irish always are against their government."

Fitzgerald's rebuke to the St. Louis member called forth an outburst of applause in which many Republicans joined heartily.

Mr. Benton then was recognized. He spoke without notes. His time was extended twice by unanimous consent until he had addressed the House an hour and a half. He viewed the election laws of the State analytically, and laid bare the real grievance which is actuating the St. Louis Republicans. His deliverance was very vigorous and rapid, and at times he was applauded with great enthusiasm. He said in part:

"Mr. Chairman: The people of Missouri of all political parties have been so long at peace among themselves that the idea of any representative from that sovereignty feeling the necessity of attacking the laws of his State and blaming the necessity to another member of this House to defend them, is something that has not occurred in the halls of Congress since the Democratic party took possession of the State government of Missouri in 1875.

"Out in the great State of Missouri no body had ever complained of our election laws in a serious way, and when they did and made their complaint heard and showed that these complaints had foundation, the Legislature was promptly responsive to the request. After these thirty years of peace within the borders of Missouri, comes a gentleman's voice on this floor attacking the laws of that State. I have lived longer in Missouri than the gentleman, and I think my memory of the various laws of the State dates further back and is clearer than his.

Benton's Arraignment.

"In the beginning of what I am about to say, I want to recur to the gentleman's use of the term German-American. Out on the prairies of that State, along the running streams and on the mountain sides, we do not hear any such terms as German-American, Irish-American, Norse-English or French-American. When a German comes to Missouri and gets his citizenship papers he becomes not a German-American, but an American and a Missourian. That may be a familiar term to gentlemen in the city of St. Louis, but we in the State, regardless of politics, are of opinion that when a man comes to the United States and petitions our Government to become a citizen and renounces his allegiance to every foreign Emperor, King or potentate, he ought then to drop the one, and ought never to be a German, Irish, Norse, English or French American, for when he becomes an American citizen he cannot have a grander title, and he ought not to have a prefix to it. (Applause.)

"For the German or Irish, English or French, and the Dago of them that live in Missouri, I resent the prefixing of anything to the title of American citizen. The man is either a German or an American citizen. If a German comes here and does not take out naturalization papers, he is still a German; and if he does take out his papers and becomes a citizen of the United States, he is not a German-American, but an American citizen, and most of them I have ever seen are loyal and true to our Government, from whatever Government they come.

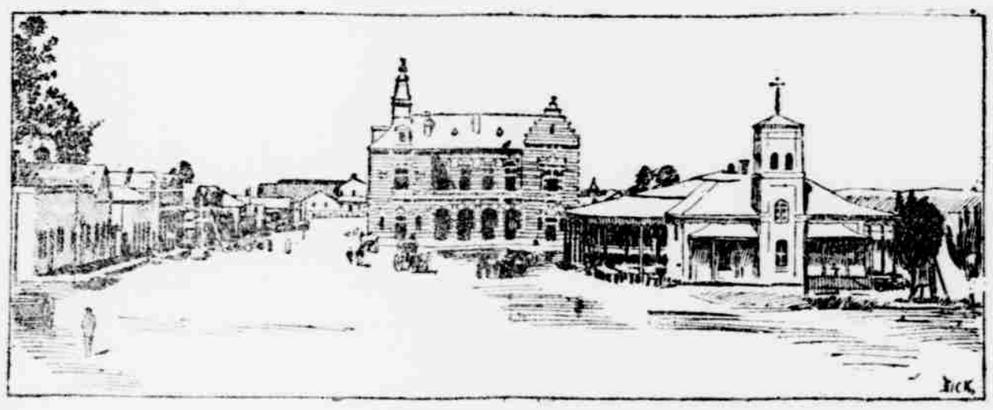
"The gentleman from St. Louis has seen fit to attack the election laws of our State. My colleague from Missouri (Mr. Clark) the other day made a bold announcement without the record before him that the record bears out—that there is not in the American Union a single State whose election laws are fairer or more honest than the election laws of Missouri.

Republican Laws.

"That was not always so. I have no disposition to drag away the ashes from the embers of an almost forgotten period; but

Continued on Page Three.

THE OBJECTIVE POINT OF GENERAL ROBERTS'S CAMPAIGN.



Bloemfontein, Orange Free State. View in the Market Square.

MACRUM MAKES A STATEMENT.

British Held Up His Dispatches and Opened His Official Mail—Departed to Save His Self-Respect.

Here are the charges made by Macrum:

1. Official mail bearing the seal of the United States and addressed to Consul Macrum was held up and opened by the British censor at Durban.

2. Consul Macrum's official dispatch to the State Department, sent on November 14, was not released by the censor until December 2.

3. Americans in Pretoria, in utter despair at the attitude of McKinley's Government, took the oath of allegiance to the South African Republic.

4. Secretary of State Hay granted to Macrum permission to return, and then, without warning, discharged him from the Government's Consular service.

5. Macrum charges that there is a secret alliance between Great Britain and the United States and that he was really a British, not an American, Consul.

Washington, Feb. 14.—The following signed statement was given out tonight by Charles E. Macrum, former United States Consul to Pretoria:

"The situation in Pretoria grew so critical, as an official, I could not remain there while my Government at home was apparently in the dark as to the exceptional difficulties in South Africa, so much so, as they put a citizen of the United States, I could not remain in Pretoria, sacrificing my own self-respect and that of the people of Pretoria, while the Government at home continued to leave me in the position of a British Consul and not an American Consul.

"I want to say right here that there was not one single request made of me throughout the Department of State, looking to the care of British interests in Pretoria which I did not fulfill and report upon, according to my orders, for the other hand American interests in South Africa were in that condition which demanded that the State Department should be cognizant of them.

"I based the statement received from the State Department that Americans must be made neutral. In the City of Pretoria Americans were continually going to the front and taking up arms in the cause of the Boers. I could not help but know that many of these were citizens of the United States. I also knew that many of them, in utter despair at the apparent attitude of our own Government, were taking the oath of allegiance to the Transvaal Republic.

"When affairs had reached that state that my Vice Consul, Mr. Van Amerinen, closed up his business, took the oath of allegiance to the Republic and went to the front as a fighter, I thought the time had come when I should make a report of these conditions.

His Official Mail Opened.

"It was over four weeks from the time the war opened before I received a single mail dispatch from my Government or a personal letter. The mail for the Transvaal had all been shipped to Cape Town by order of the High Commissioner. When this mail was finally forwarded to me, after Colonel Stone, the Consul General at Cape Town, had secured its release, I had the humiliation, as the representative of the American Government, of seeing it, in my office in Pretoria, and looking upon envelopes bearing the official seal of the American Government, opened and officially sealed with a sticker, notifying me that the contents had been read by the censor at Durban. I looked up international law, but failed to find anywhere that one military power can use its own discretion as to forwarding the official dispatches of a neutral Government to its representative in a besieged country.

"The mail service from Delagoa Bay to Europe was continually interrupted by the action of the British transport-ship at that port.

"The service was over two weeks longer than by the West coast, and there were continual rumors that that port would be closed and communicating with the outside world entirely cut off. The cable service for the Transvaal was absolutely cut off. I was privately informed by the Belgian and German Consuls at Pretoria that their official cables in code to their Governments had been refused by the censor.

"I filed one cable in the interest of an American in Pretoria, which was refused absolutely by the censor in Durban. This cable I sent to the fiancee of a Mr. Nelson, an American business man in Pretoria. She was on her way to South Africa from Buffalo, N. Y., when the war broke out. According to a letter which Mr. Nelson received just before the war commenced, she was leaving her trousseau in Europe. The cable requested her to come by the east coast. When I informed Mr. Nelson that the cable had not been sent, his brother took the oath of allegiance to the Republic and went to the front.

British Misrepresentations.

"But these are simply minor details. The misrepresentations which had been going on before the war and after it opened were of such a serious nature, and would require such detailed explanation, that on the 6th of November, I filed a cable to the department in code, stating that I wished leave of absence in order to visit the States. I set forth in this cable that my Vice Consul had enlisted in the Boer army; that a Mr. Atterbury, an American, whom I had known very favorably for more than a [illegible] take charge of the office until my return. In reply to this dispatch, which was forwarded without any delay, I received from the department a reply, advising me that my presence at Pretoria was important to public interests.

"On the 9th I telegraphed again acknowledging the receipt of the cable, and advising the department that the situation was not critical, that Mr. Atterbury was competent, and that my presence in America was important. No reply was received, and I wired again on the 14th, stating that my request had been received and again urged a favorable reply. No reply was received to this on the 15th of November. I again wired the department, stating that I could not leave without permission; that I would [illegible] the department did not prove satisfactory. This cable was delayed by the censor until the 21st of December, when I then advised that it had just been forwarded on the 15th of November. I again filed a cable stating that my cable had been unanswered, and stating that a cable-flute would answer as Consul during my absence, and requested a reply.

Granted Leave of Absence.

"To this I received a reply immediately, which was a repetition of the reply to my first cable. Upon receipt of this reply, which was on the 26th of November, I immediately wrote to the department, acquainting the refusal to grant my leave and stating in this letter that I would abide by the decision of the department, and attempt to serve as intelligent idea, for the department's guidance, of the conditions there in my dispatches. On the 4th of December, I received a reply from the department to my cablegram of the 14th, which I had been informed two days previously had just been forwarded. It read as follows:

"'You may come home. Put Atterbury temporarily in charge. Department will send mail from here.'

"This was signed 'Hay.' Thereupon, I cabled the department as follows:

"'Sail 9th by Nubian.'

"This cablegram was sent on the 8th, and in the meantime I prepared to go. A few days later I received a telegram from Mr. Hollis, Consul at Delagoa Bay, stating that he had been instructed to come to Pretoria to take charge of my office during my absence, and that a man should arrive from Washington. Mr. Hollis arrived on the 11th of December, and was thoroughly posted in the routine of the office, and I introduced him to the heads of all Government departments, and to my Consular colleagues.

"I left Pretoria the night of December 16. I went straight to Paris, notified the department of my presence there, while waiting for the American Line boat to sail for New York. I arrived in Washington on Monday, February 5, and reported to Assistant Secretary Hill of the State Department, who officially informed me that Secretary Hay's son had been appointed in my place, and that he was on his way to Pretoria.

Why He Was Silent.

"I appreciated the seriousness of the condition in South Africa to the extent that, on my way to Washington, believing that I was still the Consul in Pretoria, I refused to make any statement that would in any way involve the department or embarrass it. My one object was to lay the information before the department as to the true state of affairs in South Africa. If the department thought these facts were of a value sufficient to warrant the expense of the trip I had taken, I had expected to be remunerated and return to Pretoria, leaving the department to act as it saw fit upon the facts which I had before it.

"Instead of this, I find that Secretary Hay, whether acting upon the reports in the newspapers or upon advice from the British Government or some other motive, I do not know, saw fit to wait until I could present my reasons in person and not leave a silent or vanishing partner to the vanishing reports of my official acts. I come home to find an attempt has been made to tear down my personal reputation. I wish to state right here that when I accepted my position as Consul I knew nothing of any secret alliance between America and Great Britain, and that I had seen nothing in the regulations which made the Consul of the American Republic subject to the whims and caprices of an English military officer at Durban. I came to America with a motive of which I am not ashamed.

"There is not one soul who can point to a single official act of mine which departed from the strictest neutrality. My confidential dispatches to the department contained information which will show my sympathies for the Republic, but which time will prove to be unbiased as to actual facts.

"My act, as a public official are all recorded in the department. My acts now as a private man can in no way involve the public service, and I simply make this statement in my own defense as against those which have come from the department, secretly and officially.

"CHARLES E. MACRUM."

CONGRESS AROUSED.

State Department Will Be Asked to Explain.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Feb. 14.—The statement of ex-Consul Macrum, explaining fully why he insisted upon coming to the United States will prove a bombshell to the State Department.

Secretary Hay followed his rule of not receiving newspaper reporters at his house, so his view of Macrum's remarkable indictment of the State Department could not be secured.

Other State Department officials, when they heard of it, looked serious, declined to express any opinion, and suggested that the matter was one that had been handled entirely by Secretary Hay. It is now clear that Mr. Macrum desired to leave Pretoria for the express purpose of explaining that he could not protect American citizens in the Transvaal because of the acts of the British Government.

It is also obvious that the British Government, knowing Mr. Macrum's grievance, and realizing the report he intended to make by word of mouth to the State Department, deliberately set to work to discredit him with the State Department, and succeeded in doing so.

Resolutions undoubtedly will be introduced in both Senate and House requesting an explanation from the State Department as to why it failed to protect Mr. Macrum in the discharge of his duties at Pretoria and why official mail of this Government protected by the sacred seal of the United States should be opened, perused and probably copied by British censors.

ANDREE STORY CREDITED.

Eskimos Tell of Two White Balloonists Who Were Murdered.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Feb. 14.—(Copyright, 1900, by W. R. Hearst.)—A letter received in London from Bishop Newman of Moosonee, dated Fort Churchill, Hudson's Bay, October 1, says:

"Two Eskimos came here this summer, traveling from the Far North, to tell that two white men had come down from the sky in a balloon, the remains of which they had seen, and that the men had been murdered by some Eskimos there."

The story is considered to be authentic and probably solves the mystery surrounding the fate of Professor Andree and his party.

LEADING TOPICS —IN— TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

For Missouri—Snow flurries, followed by clearing, with much colder in southern and eastern portions Thursday; northerly winds; Friday fair and cold.

For Illinois—Much colder, with snow, followed by clearing Thursday; brisk northeast to north winds; Friday fair.

For Arkansas—Snow flurries, followed by clearing, with cold wave Thursday; high northerly winds; Friday fair and continued cold.

Page
1 Bartholdt Stirs Up a Storm.
Macrum Makes a Statement.
Klip Drift in British Hands.
2 Britain's Treaty with Nicaragua.
3 Frick-Carnegie Fight.
Puerto Ricans Growling Anyhow.
German Will Support Bryan.
Her Dying Request Prevented Arrest.
Odd-Fellows' Home Burned.
4 State Courts Must Decide Kentucky Contest.
Tax Vote on Gold Bill.
5 German Naval Bill Favored in Rome.
Molineux Will Be Sentenced To-Day.
New Husband Gone.
Cut Down Telephone Poles.
Boat Boys Found in New York.
Insurance Commissioners to Meet.
Girl's Cadetship Club.
6 Sporting News.
River Telegrams.
7 Testimony in Carterville Riot Trial.
Stormy Scenes at Anti-Trust Meeting.
8 Editorial.
Republicans Will Try to Carry St. Louis.
Bachelors' Ball and Other Society Events.
Society of Pedagogy.
9 Railroad News.
No Commissions on Missouri Pacific.
Cattlemen of the Southwest.
Was a Berry Convention.
Missouri Mineral Lands.
Weather Report.
11 Price Current Report.
12 Grain Markets.
Produce and Poultry.
13 Chicago Quotations.
Live Stock Sales.
Financial News.
14 Many Milliners Arrive in St. Louis.
Miller Has Vanished.
Exciting Poolroom Raid.
Federal Court of Appeals Regulations.
Gifts for Miss Anthony.
To Stamp Out Bucket Shops.
To Uphold Union Labor.
Fairness in Session.
Excitement High in Cotton Market.

NAVY COMPLIMENTED.

General Kobbe's Report on Successful Joint Operations.

Washington, Feb. 14.—The following cablegram has been received at the Navy Department from Admiral Watson at Cavite:

"General Kobbe gives great and well-earned credit to Rodgers and naval part of the combined expedition to Southern Luzon, Catanduanes, Samar and Leyte for its unqualified success. Rodgers commends Moore, commanding the Helena; Gilpin, commanding the Mariveles; Reynolds, Oliver, Moore, Catleman and Cadet Evans.

"Gilpin was wounded by fragments of a Colt gun mechanism, interior explosion, February 1, during capture of Tacloban. Nearly ready for duty."

KLIP DRIFT IN BRITISH HANDS.

French Leads Roberts's Advance Into the Free State.

QUICK MARCH MADE.

Three Laagers Taken, the Boers Evacuating.

BULLER KEPT BUSY.

Joubert's Men Occupy Both Sides of the Tugela.

London, Feb. 14.—The War Office has issued the following message from Lord Roberts, received this evening:

"Dekel's Drift, Feb. 14, 8.40 a. m.—General French left this point at 11.30 yesterday morning with three brigades of cavalry, horse artillery and mounted infantry, including several colonial contingents, in order to seize a crossing of the Modder, distant about twenty-five miles.

"He reports by dispatch dated 5.35 p. m. that he had forced a passage at Klip Drift and has occupied the hills north of the river, capturing three of the enemy's laagers, with their supplies, when General Gordon of the Fifteenth Hussars, with his brigade, who had made a feint at Rondeval Drift, four miles west, has seized it and a second drift between that and Klip Drift, together with two more laagers.

"General French's performance is brilliant, considering the excessive heat and a blinding dust-storm which raged during the latter part of the day.

"Owing to the rapidity of his movements, General French met with but slight opposition and his losses were small. Lieutenant Johnson of the Inniskilling Dragoons is the only officer reported severely wounded.

"The Sixth Division was last night on the north bank of the Riet at Waterval Drift, and is moving to support the cavalry. The Seventh Division is here, and will go on this afternoon.

"Four officers and fifty-three men had to be sent last evening in the returning wagons to the railway line, prostrated by heat and exhaustion."

REIT RIVER MOVEMENT.

London, Feb. 14.—The following dispatch has been received at the War Office from General Roberts:

"Reit River, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Colonel Hannay, in command of a brigade of mounted infantry, marching from Orange River to Ramah, had a slight engagement February 11 (Sunday) with the Boers holding the hills and threatening his right flank. With a detached part of his force, Colonel Hannay detained the enemy while he pushed his baggage and main body through to Ramah. The object of the march was successfully carried out. Four men were killed, twenty-two were wounded and thirteen are missing.

"Monday, Feb. 12.—The cavalry division under General French seized the crossing of the Reit River at Dekkel's Drift, on the east bank of which the Sixth and Seventh divisions are now encamped. The casualties were two troopers killed and Captain Majendie of the Rifle Brigade wounded—he has since died. One trooper was wounded.

"The General commanding at Rendsburg reports that on Monday, February 12, he was attacked in force by the Boers, Lieutenant Conyngham of the Worcester Regiment was wounded and has since died. There were other casualties."

BULLER'S REPORT.

General Buller sends a dispatch from Chieveley, dated Monday, February 12, which says:

"The commanding officer at Springfield reports this morning that a squadron of the First Dragoons moving to the outpost line covering the right flank of the camp, met a party of Boers near Fustenberg. The Boers, reaching the crest of a hill first, opened a heavy fire on the squadron, which retired. He sent out supports and the Boers retired."

The dispatch then gives the casualties as Captain Hamilton Russell, Lieutenant G. Churchill and ten men wounded and Lieutenant Pilkington and six men captured by the Boers.

Continuing, the Chieveley dispatch says:

"Dundonald, with 700 mounted men, a field battery and the First Royal Welsh Fusiliers, February 12, reconnoitered the high ground, which the enemy has been in the habit of visiting. The enemy evacuated it, with the loss of two men, after slight resistance. When the force retired, on the completion of the reconnaissance, the enemy returned in considerable numbers, and kept up a heavy rifle fire, wounding slightly Lieutenant G. Churchill of the South African Light Horse. Five men are missing."

It is not quite clear who wrote the dispatch, as Generals Lyttleton, Hildyard, Warren and other Generals are believed to be in the neighborhood of Springfield.

The Lieutenant Churchill reported to be slightly wounded is Winston Churchill's brother, John, who was recently given a commission in the South African Light Horse, and who joined General Buller's command.

Advices from Gaberones, dated February 4, say:

"The artillery duel between Colonel Plumer's force and 500 Boers continued until to-day, when the British dropped two shells into the Boer fort. The Boer guns have since been silent.

"Colonel Plumer's advance has been checked by floods."

THE SLINGERSFONTEIN REPULSE.

Rendsburg, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Before dawn yesterday the enemy opened an attack upon Slingersfontein, assaulting with musketry the hills on the northeast, held by three companies of the Worcesters under Captain Hovel.

The artillery attack began at sunrise. The Boers approached in great numbers, esti-

Continued on Page Two.

GENERAL WAR NEWS.

Roberts is pushing his army into the Free State.

French leads the advance and has seized Klip Drift, capturing three Boer laagers, whose occupants retired.

Klip Drift is in Free State territory, twenty-five miles east of Methuen's camp on the Modder River.

The cavalry having forced this passage, Roberts is moving up his infantry. A battle is expected Friday when French probably will fall on Cronje's left flank.

Methuen, it is believed, still holds the front facing Magersfontein.

Over fifty British succumbed to heat during French's march.

A British force has occupied Ramah, in the Free State.

The Boers have occupied both sides of the Tugela River at several points, and are harassing Buller's rear guard.

Buller is at Chieveley.

The Boers have constructed a trolley across the Tugela for passing food and ammunition, and have two bridges spanning it.

Total British losses in actual battle, not counting deaths by diseases in Kimberley, Ladysmith and elsewhere, are given as 10,535.

SITUATION SUMMARIZED.

Cronje Has a Hard Problem to Solve—French's Movement.

BY MILTON V. SNYDER.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

London, Thursday, Feb. 15.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—Lord Roberts has begun his operations against the Boer army between the Modder River and Kimberley by initiating a flanking movement, which, up to the present time, has proved successful.

The drifts referred to in Lord Roberts's official messages are all to the east of Methuen's camp on the Modder River and within Free State territory.

The first move was made on Monday by the mounted infantry brigade under Colonel Hannay, moving to Ramah.

On the same day General French with a large cavalry force took Dekkel's Drift on the Reit River, east of Modder River camp, thus opening the way for the Sixth and Seventh divisions under Kelly-Kenny and Tucker, respectively.

French pushed ahead swiftly on Tuesday, marching twenty-five miles, forcing a passage on Klip Drift and occupying the hills on the north bank and capturing the Boer laagers there. All this was done within the space of six hours. General Gordon, with a cavalry brigade, seized two other drifts, Rondeval and another between it and Klip Drift.

The two infantry divisions are now following up the cavalry advance. With this huge British force threatening his left wing on a position stretching from Spytfontein by Magersfontein by Jacobsdal, Cronje is forced to decide whether he will remain or retire. If he elects to go Kimberley will be relieved at once. If he chooses to stay he will have to intrench in his rear or his works will be carried. If his rear is intrenched he probably will be held in check in his present position while Kimberley is relieved.

Lord Methuen with his First Division has apparently been left to hold the intrenchments at Modder River, but Lord Roberts has outside of this three infantry divisions—the Sixth, Seventh and Ninth—some ten batteries, and a large number of cavalry, mounted infantry and irregular horse. All together his force must muster about 37,000 men.

Cronje's Problem.

Should Cronje decide to take up a new position against Roberts, it is doubtful if he is strong enough at the same time to hold Magersfontein against Methuen, who will then be able to proceed to the relief of Kimberley.

The news of Lord Roberts's move was not given out until 11 o'clock last night, but, even at that hour, the telegraph boards at the clubs and hotels were quickly surrounded by crowds of men, who discussed the new advance, which was felt to be marked by a concentration of purpose, energy and rapidity that augur well for the events that are to follow.

The last official telegram received up to an early hour this morning was dated 8.10 a. m. yesterday from Dekkel's Drift, and marks the middle of the operation then in progress. From the Reit drifts to those on the Modder is twenty-five miles, a long march for infantry. From the Modder drifts to the position from which the Boers, if they remain, can be attacked, must be a second march.

Possibly there may be no general action until Friday, and it may be Sunday or Monday before the result is known.

Lieutenant John Spencer Churchill, the second son of Lady Randolph Churchill, was shot through the right leg during a skirmish between the South African Light Horse and the Boers near Chieveley.

Lady Sarah Wilson was slightly wounded during a bombardment of Mafeking.

The Standard's military expert says:

"Klip Drift appears to be just above David's Graaf. By holding this point, Lord Roberts has penetrated the Boer position, which extends from Magersfontein to Jacobsdal. Any Boer forces that may be at Jacobsdal have been isolated from Cronje's main body."

The British commander can develop his flank attack against the Boers' left and has, as a further point in his favor, that the line of retreat of the Boers to Bloemfontein is interrupted.

"Through the gap which French holds with some 8000 men, the Sixth and Seventh divisions will advance and move against the Boer flank."

BOY FATALLY CUT.

Trouble at a Spelling School in Illinois.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Mount Vernon, Ill., Feb. 14.—In a fight between Charles and Henry Pitchford on one side and Andrew and Charles Allen on the other at a spelling school in Oakland District, a few miles south of this city, Charles Allen was fatally cut by the two Pitchfords.

The father of the Allen boys taught school in the district last winter and on one occasion is said to have chastised the Pitchford boys, who were his pupils. The trouble is thought to have grown out of this incident.

FATAL RIVER AFFRAY.

Charles O. Dixon Shoots and Kills William Peck.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Golconda, Ill., Feb. 14.—Charles O. Dixon, first clerk on the steamer City of Golconda, shot William Peck, second clerk, at noon to-day. Peck died at 3 p. m. Dixon is still at large. The cause of the quarrel is not known.