

NINETY-SECOND YEAR.

ST. LOUIS, MO., THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1900.

PRICE (In St. Louis, One Cent. Outside St. Louis, Two Cents. On Trains, Three Cents.)

BULLER TAKES PIETER'S HILL.

Two Weeks' Continuous
Fighting Wins the
Position.

HUNDREDS SLAIN.

British General Reports
Hard Work Still
Before Him.

DRIVES THE BOERS.

They Retreat to New
and Strong Lines
of Defense.

BY RICHARD HARDING DAVIS
SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Pieter's Station, Sunday, Feb. 25.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—The attack of the Inlanders on Pieter's Hill, which was the most gallant and stubborn effort yet made toward the relief of Ladysmith.

For twelve days the battle has been continuous, by night as well as by day, and this was one of its supreme moments.

The Inlanders joined this column with twenty-four officers. They have five remaining. That tells the story.

No man, no pen, no account, can give a correct idea of the difficulties of these hills and ridges, which succeed each other like waves in a heavy sea. One given way only to another. Each can be captured, and until one is taken it is impossible, even with the keenest scouting, to know what fortunes lie beyond it.

The military problem changes as the column advances, each kopje refusing to give up its secret until the troops have touched its crest.

To add to the difficulty, the tropical, rainy season set in to-day. For twelve hours the uniforms of the men clung to them like wet sea-weed. Mud caught them under rock; mist closed down and shut out the position of the enemy.

This discomfort was borne by all alike. Buller and his staff are actually living the life of a private. There has not been even a tent to cover the commanding general.

They eat from their knees, with their shoulders against a rock. They sleep where they can, and their field work is carried on under a transport wagon.

It is reported that 4,000 Boers have left their positions surrounding Ladysmith and gone to Dundee.

A Boer commando is hovering in the vicinity of Ennersdale, its object presumably being to smash the railway bridge.

The enemy admit having sustained heavy losses.

"At 1 o'clock on Friday, a general attack against the enemy's whole position was ordered. Our men gained some ground by degrees. By sections the troops rushed across the open space with the bullets of the Boers whizzing among them, while their comrades, secure behind rocks, fired well-directed volleys to cover their advance."

"A score of men would dash forward and seek cover. Then the whole would rise and volleys and allow their comrades to join them. Such were the tactics adopted until the men nearly got up to the Boer trenches."

"At 6 o'clock the leading company of the Inlanders reached a platform about 200 yards distant from the Boer trenches."

"The Boers stood up and faced our fire with courage born of desperation. Heedless of the deadly and shrapnel shells falling over and about them, which made the summit of the hill look like an inferno, they shot down our advancing line with unerring accuracy."

"I saw the first company waver and then break before a sheet of well-directed leaden hail. Within a minute not a man was left standing. I thought that the whole company of Fusiliers was annihilated, but shortly afterwards I could see some of them move, then rise, walk quietly to the rear and take cover. The supporting company was also cut up, and the Inlanders, perceiving the uselessness of this attack, began to build walls to protect themselves from the Boer fire."

"There they lay over night, almost within speaking distance of the enemy, the Boers posted on high, unassailable kopjes. It would take ten times the defenders' number to successfully carry them."

BULLER'S DISPATCH.
London, Feb. 28.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from General Buller:

"Headwaters, Blandfontein, Feb. 25, a. m.—Finding that the passage of Langewach's River was commanded by strong intrenchments, I reconnoitered for another passage of the Tugela. One was found for me below the Cataract by Colonel Sandbach, Royal Engineers, on February 25. We commenced making an approach thereto, and on February 26, finding that I could make the passage practicable, I crossed the river and baggage train to the south side of the Tugela, took up the pontoon bridge on Monday night, and relaid it at the new site, which is just below the present Cataract."

"During all this time the troops had been scattered, crouching under hastily constructed, small stone shelters, and exposed to a galling shell and rifle fire, and throughout they maintained the most excellent spirits."

GENERAL WAR NEWS.

Buller reports that after two weeks of severe fighting his troops have carried Pieter's Hill, which, he says, "in a measure turns the enemy's position."

The British losses were severe, and after driving back the Boers and gaining the crest of the ridge, the victors discovered that the Boers still occupied strong positions on Umbulwana Hill.

Buller several days ago was compelled to cross the Tugela to the south side, but he immediately recovered again at another point. During the entire operation, he says, his troops were under a galling fire, but bore up with wonderful fortitude.

The Inlanders were nineteen out of twenty-four officers in one charge. Buller and his entire staff lead the life of the private. All are without tents, and eat and sleep when opportunity offers.

Experts declare that the roughness of the country and the ease with which it can be defended render it necessary that the aggressors must outnumber the defenders twelve to one.

CRONJE SENT TO CAPE TOWN.
Cronje has started for Cape Town. The Boer women were grief-stricken at being separated from their husbands, whom they feared they never would see again. The women were sent back to their homes.

Cronje accepted the situation gracefully. He declared that his losses were terrible, but gave no outward evidences of what his inner emotions were.

The British have recaptured Rensburg.

tailons of the Sixth Brigade and the Dublin Fusiliers, crept about a mile and a half down the banks of the river, and ascended an almost perpendicular cliff of about 500 feet, assaulted and carried the top of Pieter's Hill.

"This hill, to a certain extent, turned the enemy's left, and the Fourth Brigade, under Colonel Norcott, and the Eleventh Brigade, Colonel Kitchener commanding, the whole under command of General Warren, assailed the enemy's position, which, magnificently carried by the South Lancashire Regiment about sunset."

"We took about sixty prisoners and scattered the enemy in all directions. There seems to be still a considerable body of them left on and under Bulwana Mountain. Our losses, I hope, are not large. They certainly are more than they would have been were it not for the admirable manner in which the artillery was served, especially the guns manned by the Royal Naval force and the Natal Naval Volunteers."

ARMISTICE BROKEN.
Colenso, Monday, Feb. 26.—Yesterday an armistice was agreed upon and both sides removed their wounded and buried their dead. The Boers lost heavily in attacking and were repulsed, among the heaviest.

Severe musketry fire was resumed last evening. It was started by the accidental discharge of a rifle.

It is reported that there are 400 Boers near Ennersdale.

TASK BEFORE BULLER.
BY MILTON V. SYLVE.
London, March 1.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—General Buller has at last succeeded, after two weeks' continuous hammering, in breaking the steel band which the Boers have placed around Ladysmith, by his successful attack on Tuesday.

He now holds the backbone of the rugged country between Colenso and Ladysmith. Before him lie some minor hills called the Boers Farm position. Then comes an open valley and then Caesar's Camp, Ladysmith and low hills and open valleys commanded by the great Bulwana Mountain, still occupied by the Boers. Until the guns that eminence are silenced no stores can be sent to Ladysmith.

Buller, if he brings up his big guns to his present position—which would take some days—should be able, according to the Ladysmith garrison, to pour a cross fire on the Boers by the hills.

If the relief of Ladysmith is to be effected, it must be accomplished quickly.

Despite the optimistic reports heliographed from the beleaguered city. It is known to the War Office that the garrison is almost at its last gasp.

This is not much on account of lack of provisions or ammunition, which are not yet exhausted, although the report that a conveyance had been thrown into the city is now authoritatively stated to be untrue, as because of the poisonous water from the Klip River and the unhealthy effects of the mud and the restricted area in which the garrison has no choice of residence.

All the few spots sheltered from bombardment were specially polluted and even those who escaped fever, dysentery or diarrhea, have now reached a state of low vitality.

The garrison can still man the trenches and could probably hold its own against a last desperate assault by the Boers, but it is unable to make a strong offensive move.

The water of the Klip River—and none else is available for drinking—is thick with decaying animal matter, and is horribly contaminated by the Boer camp.

The Boers are well aware of the desperate condition of the besieged, and appear confident that they cannot only maintain the siege, but also block Buller.

There is sure to be heavy fighting before the two Victoria-Cross Generals shake hands. Apparently the elaborate Golders Kloof and Onderbroek works still remain in the Boer hands.

Before his right, Buller has the biggest nut to crack that has yet presented itself. If the Boers stand on Bulwana Mountain, which they fortified and occupied a long time, and on which Buller reports they are seen on the top, as well as the lower slopes, it will take a supreme effort by Buller's entire force to dislodge them and will entail terrible slaughter.

It is said in well-informed circles that when the complete returns are received of Buller's losses in this last ten days' or two weeks' fighting they will amount to 3,000, while the same authority is of the opinion that Robert's casualties in his operations against Cronje will total close to 2,000. The War Office returns, which dribble out in small installments, fall far short of these figures at present.

Details of the surrender of Cronje and his entrenchment for Cape Town, escorted by City of London Volunteers, have been received, but there is no news as to Robert's future movements, and it is not



WIRES ALL DOWN.

understood that French has not started for Bloemfontein, as was reported.

The announcement that Clements re-entered Rensburg, and the report that darkly-East has offered to surrender, show the effects of the victory at Paardeberg and the other of Brabant's advance.

TWO SIDES OF BOER CHARACTER.
London, March 1.—A dispatch to the Times from Colenso says:

"Before Sunday's armistice many of the British wounded had been left out for thirty-six hours. The Boers gave them water." Winston Churchill in a dispatch from Colenso, dated Tuesday, says:

"The condition of the wounded who were untended on the hillside Sunday was so painful that General Buller sent a flag of truce to the Boers, asking them to send some of their men to the hillside to look after the wounded. The Boers refused to do so, but they did send some of their men to the hillside to look after the wounded. The Boers refused to do so, but they did send some of their men to the hillside to look after the wounded."

"The next night attack ought, one way or the other, to be decisive. Apparently, Lord Roberts cannot for some time influence the course of events in Natal, and General Buller's force has now been subjected to a very considerable and prolonged strain. The moment seems opportune to point the necessity of sending General Buller reinforcements."

**JULIAN RALPH DESCRIBES
CRONJE'S SURRENDER.**

Had Lost Terribly and Accepted the Inevitable Gracefully.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.
Paardeberg, Tuesday, Feb. 27.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—It was a picturesque scene when Cronje was brought to Roberts at his headquarters camp.

A heavy-shouldered, almost hump-backed man, heavily bearded, almost blind, clad in farmerlike garb, wearing a broad-brimmed hat, lumbered along on a little, gray Boer pony, followed by an escort of lanterns. Dismounting, he found himself before little, wiry, close-knit Roberts.

It was the greatest contrast possible, but Roberts, who was wearing his sword, received the Boer General with a dignity that made him look six feet high. Cronje bore himself with a dignified simplicity, accepting with a bow the chair which Roberts himself proffered him.

They talked together for some minutes. Cronje's secretary, Kelker, interpreting. Cronje said that it was impossible for him to hold out against the position which the British had gained, and he had to recognize the inevitable. The Boer leader showed no emotion at his situation, accepting it with fortitude, even occasionally smiling grimly.

He had had a very uncomfortable time. He said he had lost terribly.

Between 2,500 and 4,000 prisoners marched out of the laager, as well as Mrs. Cronje and her grandson, who accompanied the commandant.

The only disappointed man was MacDonald, who was nursing his wounded foot and talking of the anniversary of Majuba. He thought that the victory was cheaply bought.

It was a gruesome sight, when the river, which had been swollen by night rains, carried through the maelstrom thousands of dead horses and oxen, washed from the banks of the enemy's position, where they had been killed by shells. This proves the awful execution which our guns did and also the terrible conditions from which Cronje suffered. Some dead Boers were also seen floating in the river.

GRIEF-STRIKEN WOMEN.
SPECIAL BY CABLE.
London, Thursday, March 1.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—A Daily Telegraph special dated Modder River, February 28, says:

"The Boer Laager at Paardeberg presented an extraordinary scene after the surrender. Wagons and carts were heaped about everywhere, forming an outer line of defense, which has been smashed by our artillery. Three of the Boer guns had been wrecked."

Remarkable intrenchments had been constructed by General Cronje to a great depth. These trenches formed veritable catacombs. Many wounded Boers, who had been unattended for several days, were lying on the river banks, together with

hundreds of dead horses, the stench from which poisoned the atmosphere.

"The prisoners conversed readily with our men, but the widest grief prevailed among the few women present when the Boer leaders were headed for the Modder River en route to Cape Town. The women imagined that this would be their last meeting with their husbands and relatives."

"General Cronje had hoped to hold out over Majuba Day, but considered surrender necessary to save his little army from an anticipated bayonet attack."

CRONJE SENT TO CAPE TOWN.
London, Feb. 28.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Paardeberg, Feb. 28.—Cronje, with his family, left here yesterday in charge of Major General Pretorius, and under the escort of the City Imperial Volunteers and Mounted Infantry."

"Later in the day the remaining prisoners went in charge of the Earl of Eroll and escorted by the Gloucesters and 100 Imperial Volunteers."

"The women and children are being sent to their homes. I understand a great satisfaction was felt by the Boers at Cronje's refusal to accept my offer of safe conduct to the women and children, and medical care for the wounded, 120 of whom are now in our hospital. Many of them are in a terrible plight for want of care at an earlier stage."

"I inspected the Boers' laager yesterday and was much struck by the low quality and energy with which the position was made almost impregnable to assault."

HOW CRONJE SURRENDERED.
Paardeberg, Tuesday, Feb. 27 (Majuba Day).—The British camp was awakened by the continued rattle of rifle fire at daybreak, and the news arrived that the Canadians, while in a trench, quite close to the Boers, were felled. The Canadians gallantly worked forward and occupied the edge of the river bank, entirely enfilading the Boers. This movement was followed by a cessation of the fire, except an occasional solitary report. Suddenly a regiment stationed on the crest of a hill perceived a white flag and burst into cheers, thus first announcing the surrender of General Cronje.

Shortly afterwards a note reached Lord Roberts bringing tidings of the Boers' unconditional surrender. General Pretorius was sent to accept the surrender.

At about 7 o'clock a small group of men appeared in the distance, crossing the plain toward headquarters. The latter being apprised of General Cronje's approach, Lord Roberts went to the front in the modest cart in which he sleeps and ordered a guard of Seaforth's to line up.

A group of horsemen then approached.

On General Pretorius's right rode an elderly man, clad in a rough, short overcoat, a wide-brimmed hat, ordinary tweed trousers and brown shoes. This was the redoubtable Cronje. His face was burned almost black and his curly beard was tinged with gray.

Cronje's face was absolutely impassive, exhibiting no sign of his inner feelings. Lord Roberts was surrounded by his staff when General Pretorius, addressing the Field Marshal, said:

"Commandant Cronje, sir."

The commandant touched his hat in salute and Lord Roberts saluted in return. The whole group then dismounted and Lord Roberts stepped forward and shook hands with the Boer commander.

"You made a gallant defense, sir," was the first salutation of Lord Roberts to the vanquished Boer leader.

He then motioned General Cronje to a seat in a chair which had been brought for his accommodation, and the two officers conversed for an hour.

General Cronje afterwards breakfasted with the British officers.

BEFORE THE SURRENDER.
Paardeberg, Monday, Feb. 26.—(Delayed in transmission.)—When the history of Lord Roberts's movement is written, it will be found that the marching power and magnificent endurance of the British soldier is as great as ever. The march itself, as seen on the map, would be nothing very marvelous, but it must be remembered that the whole original plan of march was changed.

When General Cronje made his magnificent trek on the 15th, the whole army swung to the left in hot pursuit. Some of the regiments marched twenty-seven miles in twenty-four hours, outstripping the transport supplies and living for days on almost quarter rations. Yet the fatigue and incessant hardship were borne with wonderful cheerfulness.

There has been a drenching rain for the last three days, the men lying fully exposed to the rain and the subsequent cold winds, all of which proved the admirable pluck and endurance of the men.

There are now 900 prisoners here, most of whom surrendered Friday and Saturday. They are kept under guard between wire fences.

ROBERTS TO THE QUEEN.
London, Feb. 28.—In her dispatch to Lord Roberts, following the announcement of the surrender of General Cronje, her Majesty said:

"Accept for yourself and for all under your command my warmest congratulations on this splendid news."

Lord Roberts replied as follows:

"All under my command are deeply grateful for your Majesty's most gracious message. Congratulations from their Queen are an honor the soldiers deeply prize."

General Buller has wired his thanks to the Queen for her telegram of "gracious sympathy and encouragement."

ADDITIONAL CASUALTIES.
London, Feb. 28.—Lord Roberts has forwarded an additional list of the British casualties during the three days' fighting at Paardeberg, showing twelve killed, eighty-two wounded and four missing, and including seven officers and four Canadian privates wounded.

CRONJE WOUNDED ONLY EIGHTY.
SPECIAL BY CABLE.
London, Thursday, March 1.—A dispatch to the Morning Post from Paardeberg says:

"The Canadians were only prevented from carrying General Cronje's laager at the point of the bayonet by the imperative orders to the contrary. Their gallantry is the universal theme of camp conversation."

"We captured 5,000 small arms. Our shell fire had no appreciable effect on the Boer trenches, despite the evidences of wreckage everywhere seen. They wounded during the night only about eighty. The number of their dead we have not ascertained."

LITTLE FOOD IN KIMBERLEY.
Inhabitants Are Still Suffering From Hunger.

Kimberley, Feb. 27.—Colonel Peckham, with a mounted force and a Maxim, proceeded to Barkley West, where he was warmly welcomed. He left a strong guard, and then proceeded to Longlands and Klipdam. There were rumors of Boers in the neighborhood, but no demonstration occurred.

The Diamond Fields Advertiser draws pointed attention to the fact that although Kimberley was relieved about two weeks ago, there has been no amelioration in regard to the food supply.

It is still impossible, as it was during the

ICE IS KING IN ST. LOUIS.

Heavy Fall of Snow, Rain
and Sleet, With Freezing
Weather.

NO STREET LIGHTS.

Current Off in Residence
Districts Because
of Danger.

CAR LINES TIED UP.

Dr. Hyatt and Wash-
ington Disagree on To-
day's Temperature.

**PREDICTION AND
WARNING FOR TO-DAY.**
The storm is due to cross the river from west to east early this morning, leaving a cloudless sky; but the mercury, according to Doctor Hyatt, is expected to fall from 20 to 25 degrees, precluding the possibility of an immediate thaw. The Central Weather Bureau at Washington declares that it will be warmer in Missouri to-day. Wind with a velocity of thirty miles an hour, following the storm, and promises to do much damage to trees and wires. Pedestrians should be on the lookout for broken electric wires.

The blizzard which was central over St. Louis at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and is now howling across Indiana and Ohio toward shivering New England was the worst winter storm the city has known since records of the Kings of Ice King have been kept. There have been deeper snows, higher winds, lower temperature readings and sleets almost as heavy; but never had the four been combined to work such hardship.

The storm locked the Southwest in a coat of mail which days of sunshine will be required to unloose, and left scars which nothing but the gentle hand of mother nature can ever heal. Less serious, perhaps, but more disagreeable were the temporary effects. Street car travel was practically tied up for a whole night, exposing hundreds of citizens to the cold; wires were snapped off, breaking telegraphic, telephone and lighting circuits; valuable shade trees gave way under their loads of ice, and men and beast who were forced to face the storm suffered unduly.

That no human lives were lost in St. Louis was a surprise to those whom duty called out to make a round of the streets, where strewn with branches of trees, with here and there a stalling electric wire, and added to the danger of tripping and electrocution, the sidewalks were so slippery as to make walking anything but safe.

A dozen persons were treated at city institutions for casualties resulting from the storm. A child, eight months old, was killed by a stray wire.

Last night all that section of the city west of Twenty-second street, south of Spruce street and north of Wash street was in total darkness, as far as the lighting of the streets and alleys was concerned. Superintendent of City Lighting O'Reilly yesterday morning telegraphed to the Secretary of the Missouri Edison Electric Company, and to General Manager of the La Crosse Company, which companies furnish the power for the lighting of the streets and alleys in this district, advising them, in view of the probable danger resulting from the storm, that the wires in this district be carried in conduits underground, there is little or no danger of pedestrians being injured by contact with broken wire.

Business in many lines was paralyzed, and the city was left almost without the necessities of life. The stores were practically deserted by shoppers, and the river boats almost completely under the shroud of white. The hum of business was not heard because every sound was muffled by the blanket of snow.

PREDICTIONS FOR TO-DAY.
If the predictions of the Weather Bureau are realized, this will be a dangerous day for the city. The clouds were broken at midnight at a rate which promised a fair sky by sunrise; the mercury was going steadily downward, and the stiff breeze which kept the snow off the ground throughout the day and night was whistling out of the southwest at a pace which indicated rapid snow before it reached its maximum velocity. The clearing sky promised the reflected glory of the sun from every twig on every tree and from the myriads of pendants on wires, eaves and awnings; the falling mercury promised that the sun's warmth should not mar the beauties its beams brought to remain indoors.

One of the most serious of their endurance by the weight of their icy shrouds, trees and wires will be wrecked if the wind reaches the velocity of thirty miles an hour, and the earth, being insulated by sleet, would not readily absorb the electric currents set free by falling wires, and a sudden death would lurk in the heart of the city.

Should March "come in like a lion," the damage in the city parks will be far more serious than most persons suppose. The trees and caretakers went to bed fearing that the result of years of patient work would be swept away before they sat down to breakfast.

Fruit growers in St. Louis and surrounding counties were even more alarmed than the parks, and the result of the storm would be a severe loss of fruit.

Young orchards were in danger of annihilation, the trees being so slender that they would snap; and more mature trees were in danger of the loss of all their fruit.

In the 100,000 work all plant repairs and all the work in their lines and putting up upon the poles which threaten the city lighting department.

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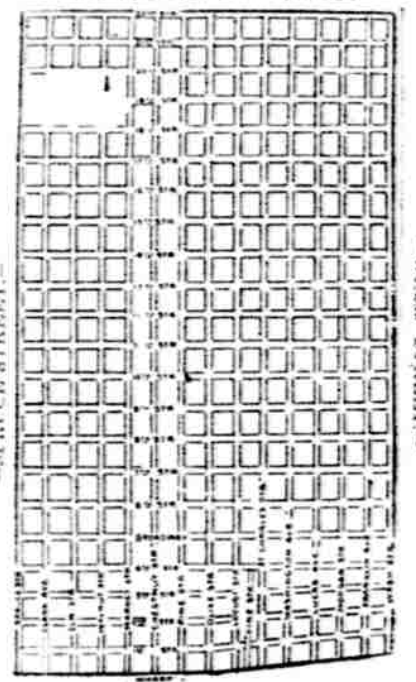
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—TWENTY-SECOND STREET.



—WHARF.

No public street and alley lighting was done last night outside of the district represented by this diagram. City Lighting Supervisor ordered the lights to be shut off in the residence sections of the city because of the danger to human life from fallen wires. In that part of the city shown above the electric light wires are underground.

LEADING TOPICS

TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

For Missouri—Fair and warmer Thursday; increasing cloudiness Friday; northerly, shifting to southerly, winds.

For Illinois—Fair in western, snow followed by ice in eastern portion Thursday; high northerly winds, diminishing in force and becoming variable. Friday fair and warmer.

For Arkansas—Fair Thursday, with warmer in western portions; Friday fair and warmer; northwesterly winds.

1. Buller Takes Pieter's Hill.
2. Ice Is King in St. Louis.
3. Roseberry Severs Party Moorings. Besieged Troops Suffer Terribly. Difficulties That Confront Roberts.

4. Puerto Rico Bill Passes the House. Heavy Demand for American Coal. Sentences for Soldiers. "The Rescue of Lieutenant Gil