

TORN TOWNS

POPULISTS WILL HOLD TWO CONVENTIONS FOR NOMINATION OF NATIONAL TICKET

NO CHANCE OF A COMPROMISE

MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROADERS TO CONVENE IN CINCINNATI ON MAY 9 NEXT

OTHERS AT SIOUX FALLS

Same Date Has Been Named by the Committee Members Who Remained with Chairman Butler—Senator Allen, of Nebraska, Says the Populist Ticket Will Be Bryan and Caldwell.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 20.—The next national convention of Populists will be held in Sioux Falls, S. D., on May 9. Representation is based on the vote for Gen. J. B. Weaver for president in 1892, or if any candidate for state office has since polled a larger vote that vote shall be the basis. Two delegates at large are given each state.

This was the decision reached in a somewhat extended but harmonious meeting of the fusion wing of the national committee, which concluded shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon.

The feature of the meeting was the unanimity with which the members accepted and indorsed the declaration of Senator Allen, of Nebraska, that William J. Bryan would be the candidate of both the Populist and Democratic parties, and the coupling with his name that of Judge Henry Caldwell, of Arkansas, as the logical and most promising vice presidential possibility. Senator Allen went so far as to say that he had positive knowledge that if Judge Caldwell were nominated by the Populists, as Mr. Bryan's running mate, he would be acceptable to the Democrats, and the fusion national ticket would be Bryan and Caldwell.

HOW IT WAS DONE.

The Populist national committee, presided over by Senator Butler, today took up the question of time and place for the national convention. A proposition from the Texas delegation, that May 9 be fixed upon as the date, was amended to permit a committee to decide on both time and place. The amendment was opposed vigorously by the Texas delegation, as "cowardly and truckling to the Democrats."

Senator Allen, of Nebraska, spoke at length in favor of harmony, and for the naming of the date by the whole committee. "Bryan will be the nominee of both Democrats and Populists," said Senator Allen, "and the question of date makes little difference, anyhow."

The amendment to refer to a committee was voted down, and Wednesday, May 9, the same date as that of the middle-of-the-road convention at Cincinnati, was decided upon.

Three cities, Kansas City, Sioux Falls, S. D., and Indianapolis, presented claims for the convention, and each was granted unlimited time to set forth its respective advantages.

SIOUX FALLS SELECTED.

A motion to adjourn was defeated and balloting began for convention city, resulting: Sioux Falls, 38; Kansas City, 22; Milwaukee, 10, and Indianapolis, 8.

Before the final vote was announced changes were made in rapid succession. Sioux Falls, S. D., and the choice for that city was made unanimous.

After deciding on the apportionment of delegates to the national convention the committee, at 1:30, adjourned, subject to the call of the chairman.

Chairman Butler, in a statement to the Associated Press, said that he had no regrets for his decision of yesterday, which led the ball of the middle of the road men.

"It was a bolt here or at the convention," said Senator Butler, "and I preferred that the disturbers show their hands early in the fight."

PLEA OF JUSTIFICATION.

Texas Delegation of Populists Issue an Address.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—The Texas delegation to the national committee tonight gave out the following as their justification for remaining with the regular or fusion wing of the committee:

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 16, 1900.—In consequence of a certain signed publication emanating from this city during and since the meeting of the People's party national committee, the following statement is made:

When the national committee was called to order by its chairman, he stated that he and the secretary, as was their duty, had prepared a preliminary list of members and their names. Some members of the committee had moved into other states, some had died, and several others had been elected to other states. He deemed it his duty to appoint a committee of three on credentials to assist in revising the list and passing on said credentials, that the national committee should be transacted no business until after this list had been prepared and adopted, and that after that the committee would stand adjourned until 3 p. m., and that he and the secretary would attend to the matters which would be brought up at the meetings were being held, and that those who had proxies, contests or complaints would appear before that committee so that these matters could be investigated and fairly adjusted.

As soon as the preliminary roll had been read and the committee adjourned, a crowd, mostly unknown to the committee and not previously organized for that specific purpose, and led by J. O. Parker, of Kentucky, who had previously distributed proxies, proceeded to persons who had to sign an agreement to act with the bolters before proxies were given to them, proceeded to effect their contemplated bolt by electing D. Clem Deaver chairman and A. L. Reed secretary, and adjourned their meeting to the Grand hotel, where their bolt was effected by calling a national nominating convention to convene in Cincinnati, O., May 9, 1900.

Chairman Butler, the secretary and contest committee met as directed, sent for many of the bolters, and after hearing all the evidence perfected the roll by recommending the seating of every member elected at St. Louis in 1896, or who had since been elected by a regular state convention; except those who participated in the Cincinnati convention of 1898, which nominated Barker for President and Donnelly for vice president, and those who are now on the national committee of that party or openly supporting that ticket.

Among those seated were J. O. Parker (who appeared before the contest committee and stated emphatically that he had bolted the Cincinnati convention and was not supporting its nominees), D. Clem Deaver and all the others, whose credentials were regular. Parker, Deaver and others, who had been seated after-

IN FRIENDLY PRAY

MILWAUKEE AND KANSAS CITY DEMOCRATS ARE ABOUT TO ENGAGE AT WASHINGTON

EACH IS SEEKING CONVENTION

MILWAUKEE CLAIMS TO BE IN THE LEAD, AND SEEMS TO HAVE STRONG SUPPORT

KANSAS CITY IS DETERMINED

Will Not Admit That There Is Any Advantage Shown or Possessed by Wisconsin Rival for the Honor—Names of the Rival Orators Who Will Present the Claims of Their Respective Cities.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Delegations from Milwaukee and Kansas City, and so far the rivalry seems to be confined to these two places, put in a busy day advancing the claims of their respective cities as the place for holding the next Democratic national convention. Both cities have ample headquarters at the Raleigh hotel, where the national committee is to meet.

Probably not more than twenty-five of the national committeemen have reached here, and they are widely scattered around the various hotels and in private residences.

National Committeeman Wall expressed the opinion tonight that a majority of the committeemen now in the city are favorable to the Wisconsin city, while Congressman Dockery was equally positive that the Missouri city will secure the convention.

The delegates from each place promise that the convention will be very taken care of, and that each has every facility necessary for the comfort and well being of the delegates of the national body, and for the transaction of the business.

The delegates from Kansas City lay much stress on the political effect of a gathering of such a large body of representative men, and say for this reason, if for no other, the convention should go to the Missouri city.

RIVAL ORATORS.

The arguments before the national committee in behalf of Milwaukee probably will be made by Mayor Rose, Hon. J. D. Donnelly and ex-Gov. Peck. Messrs. James A. Reed, of Kansas City; Congressman Cowherd and David O'Bermayer will speak for Kansas City.

Friday the executive committee of the National Association of Democratic Clubs meets here, and the cities of Indianapolis and Cincinnati, it is said, will compete for the honor of entertaining the association at its annual meeting. A contingent of prominent citizens of the former city arrived here today, and will formally extend an invitation to the committee. It is composed of Hon. A. G. Smith, J. E. McCullough, W. W. Robins, Parks Martin, Hon. E. E. Morse and Allen W. Clark.

LEANDER MCCORMICK DEAD.

Was Famous as a Manufacturer of Farm Machinery.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Leander J. McCormick, member of the famous harvester machinery trust, died at the Leander McCormick observatory of the University of Virginia, died of pneumonia at the Virginia hotel today. Mr. McCormick was born at Walnut Grove, Va., Feb. 8, 1819, and was a son of Robert McCormick, a Virginia planter, who first strove to perfect the reaping machine. Cyrus H. McCormick, whose genius finally made the reaper a success, was Leander's older brother. Leander J. McCormick, removing to Cincinnati in 1847, went into the business of manufacturing farm machinery with Cyrus, and a year later, came with his brother to Chicago, where the McCormick reapers and mowers were thence afterward systematically manufactured by the thousands. Leander, having taken charge of the manufacturing department, made many inventions and improvements of his own, showing an ingenuity as great as that of his father and brother.

LABOR UNION SUSTAINED.

Judge Stover Declines Peaceful Boycott Is Legal.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 20.—Judge Stover, in the circuit court, today declared that labor unions had the legal right to put in force a peaceful boycott against employers of non-union labor, and had a legal right to try by peaceful and fair persuasive means to induce customers of a boycotted person or firm to quit that person or firm and patronize employers of union workers.

The decision was made in the suit of J. B. Black, a veterinarian, who asked \$20,000 damages against members of the Master Horsehoes' Protective Association of Kansas and the Journeymen Horsehoes' Union No. 18 for boycotting his non-union horsehoeship shop. The jury, under instructions from the court, returned a verdict for the defendants.

LOST HIS MONEY.

Misfortune of a Nebraskan Who Sold His Store.

MEAD, Neb., Feb. 20.—L. E. Johnson sold his hardware store yesterday and received the cash in payment, amounting to a little over \$7,000. He put the money in his trousers' pocket and left it there when he went to bed. When he awoke in the morning his clothes were gone, but were found later in a small outbuilding on a neighboring property. The money was all gone, but his personal papers, which were also taken from the house, were left by the robber. Bloodhounds have been sent for and will be placed on the trail of the robber.

AWAITING MR. CARNEGIE.

Temporary Lull in the Sensational Steel Suit.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 20.—All persons interested in the Frick-Carnegie suit are now awaiting anxiously the arrival in the city of the principal defendant, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who is now on his way north from Florida. Just when he will arrive in Pittsburgh could not be ascertained, although if the trip was made by the shortest railroad route he could be here this evening. He is not expected, however, until Thursday, as it is said before court will be held in New York, and immediate action on the defense side is expected. With the already considerable amount of work put on the answer to be made by the Carnegie Steel company, limited, to the bill filed by Mr. Frick, it is calculated that a very few days will suffice for Mr. Carnegie to get the papers of rebuttal in readiness for recording.

BET IT ON RACES.

How William C. Lyons 'Invested' His Patrons' Money.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—William C. Lyons, said to be the president of the Guarantee company, of 123 Fulton street, was arrested today, and in the police dock was held in \$1000 bail on the charge of larceny and false pretenses.

Investors in Lyons' concern, it was alleged, were promised a return of 10 per cent on their money.

The complaint against Lyons is C. Horton Pierce, who invested a small sum with him. By putting in \$25 for a week the investor is promised a weekly return of \$250.

Mrs. Lyons said that she and her husband live in Brooklyn, and have a cash capital for the business of \$30,000, besides property worth \$5,000. She said that she had made the investment in Lyons' concern, and that she had been carrying on the business principally that of betting on horse races. By playing favorites always, she said, it was impossible to lose money.

DULUTH'S BLIND GENIUS.

Sustained Injuries in a Fall That Brightens His Ambition.

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 20.—An ambition for a new world's honor was shattered today when Alexander Cameron, the blind philosopher of Duluth, was obliged to leave college. Last week he fell into an open cellar and received cuts on his head and face which will partially cripple him for life. He would have won the degree of doctor of philosophy in June, the first time a blind man ever mounted such intellectual heights in the history of the world.

Cameron was broken-hearted when he learned that he must give up his cherished hope, but the professors of the Yale divinity school, where he has been studying, consoling him with a promise to allow him to pursue his studies at his home in Duluth, Minn., and submit his thesis in June for his doctor's degree.

KILLED HIS BROTHER.

Then Newton Knight Went to Paris, Ky., and Surrendered.

PARIS, Ky., Feb. 20.—Hutchinson Knight, living 12 miles west of here, was killed by his brother, Newton Knight, last night. The brothers are unmarried and live with their mother. Yesterday they attended the Republican convention at honor at a dinner given this evening at the hotel in the town. The brother went to Paris, and after employing counsel, surrendered to the sheriff. He refused to talk.

MRS. CRAVEN'S CASE.

Milwaukee Man Says He Could Throw Light Upon It.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 20.—Thomas A. Brady, a veteran horse trainer, who is at present an inmate of the national soldiers' home, in this city, claims that ten years ago he was a constant attendant on the late James G. Fair, of California, and was acquainted with Mrs. Craven, who it is reported, is about to renew her suit for a share of Mr. Fair's estate, on the ground that she was his wife. This man possesses information that may be of great value to Mrs. Craven, and he would be ready to appear as a witness in her behalf if occasion demands. He holds letters of recommendation from Mr. Fair, and Mrs. Craven were very intimate friends in 1882, and he regarded them as man and wife.

SOUTH DAKOTA CONVENTION.

Republicans Decide to Hold It at Sioux Falls May 23.

HURON, S. D., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—The Republican state central committee at its meeting tonight decided to hold one convention, and named Sioux Falls as the place to meet in the time. An effort was made to have two conventions, one to name eight delegates to the national convention and one for nominating the candidates for representatives in congress and state officers. Several stirring speeches were made, but the one convention proposition prevailed. This representation is one delegate for each forty votes cast for Phillips for governor and two delegates at large from each county, making a total of about 1,100.

Indiana Gets It.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 20.—A special to the Sentinel tonight says that at a conference tonight in Washington it was decided to hold the convention of National Democratic clubs in this city. Secretary Mackean, of the executive committee, after a long conference between the committee and the members of the Indiana delegation made the public announcement that Indianapolis had captured the convention.

RELIEF OF LADYSMITH NEAR

SIR REDVERS BULLER THINKS THE BOERS ARE ABOUT TO RAISE THE SIEGE

BESIEGING FORCE IS REDUCED

TEN THOUSAND BOERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT THE COLESBERG DISTRICT

BLOEMFONTEIN IS IN DANGER

Fall of the Capital of the Free State May Be the Next Important News From South African War—Chase of Gen. Cronje by the British an Exciting Event—Magnificent Spectacle Was the Boer Army at Bay.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Buller thinks they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith, and this is the large news of the day.

Gen. Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are reported to have left the Colesberg district alone. The Boers are also retreating their steps from Zululand. Thus they are relaxing their hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on steadily towards Bloemfontein. This is shown by his inconsequential telegram from Paardeberg, fifty or sixty miles away. Doubtless he is miles behind the column that is pursuing the Boers, and the next important news may be that of the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard of the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last news of the war office tonight was that there was no news for publication, there

BULLETIN OF IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Weather Forecast for St. Paul: Probably Snow.

1—Populists Are Divided. Boers Falling Back. Democratic Convention Contest.

2—To Press Park Plans. Wheat Grades Defended. Pay for Librarians.

3—Minneapolis Matters. Northwest News.

4—Editorial. City Political Gossip. Paper Before Civic League.

5—Sporting News. Case Against Clark.

6—News of the Railroads. Markets of the World. Bar Silver, 59 7/8c. Chicago May Wheat, 68c. Stocks Irregular; Dull.

7—Women at the Club. Mr. McKinley Commended. Commission Will Go Ahead.

OCEAN LINERS.

NEW YORK—Arrived: Spaarndam, Rotterdam. Sailed: Lahn, Bremen, via Southampton.

MELBOURNE—Arrived: Indraghri, New York.

SYDNEY, N. S. W.—Arrived: Moana, San Francisco.

YOKOHAMA—Arrived: Monmouthshire, Portland, Or., for Hong Kong. Sailed: Tacoma, from Hong Kong for Tacoma.

GIBALTAR—Sailed: Kaiser Wilhelm II, from Genoa and Naples for New York.

TODAY IN ST. PAUL.

METROPOLITAN—"The Sign of the Cross," 2:30 and 8:15 p. m.

GRAND—McFadden's Row of Flats," 2:30 and 8:15 p. m.

Address on "Women's Wage and Men's Work," Rev. W. D. P. Bliss, state capt., 7 p. m.

"The Taming of the Shrew," by senior class of Central high school, Assembly hall, 8 p. m.

Arllington Hills Mothers' club meets, John Ericsson school, 3:45.

Lower Town Mothers' club meets, Hawthorne school, Nash and Mississippi streets, 3:45.

RELIEF OF LADYSMITH NEAR

SIR REDVERS BULLER THINKS THE BOERS ARE ABOUT TO RAISE THE SIEGE

BESIEGING FORCE IS REDUCED

TEN THOUSAND BOERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT THE COLESBERG DISTRICT

BLOEMFONTEIN IS IN DANGER

Fall of the Capital of the Free State May Be the Next Important News From South African War—Chase of Gen. Cronje by the British an Exciting Event—Magnificent Spectacle Was the Boer Army at Bay.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Buller thinks they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith, and this is the large news of the day.

Gen. Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are reported to have left the Colesberg district alone. The Boers are also retreating their steps from Zululand. Thus they are relaxing their hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on steadily towards Bloemfontein. This is shown by his inconsequential telegram from Paardeberg, fifty or sixty miles away. Doubtless he is miles behind the column that is pursuing the Boers, and the next important news may be that of the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard of the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last news of the war office tonight was that there was no news for publication, there

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The queen, prior to leaving Osborne House this morning, on her return to Windsor, inspected the Fourth battalion of the Lincolnshire militia. Her majesty announced, with a gratified smile, that good news had been received this morning from the seat of war.

Another account says the queen specified that the good news was from Ladysmith.

splendidly, but the enemy held his ground under the bombardment.

"Later on the Boer commander ventured on a bold move. Leaving 2,000 of his men under cover, he withdrew the rest from his main position, and headed for Klip Kraal Drift, six miles to the east. "This movement was soon discovered. Our mounted infantry came back across the drift, and marched along the south bank to endeavor to head off the enemy. When they reached the neighborhood of Klip Kraal Drift night had fallen, and half the Boers were already across to the south side. Our mounted infantry harassed them.

FOUGHT SPLENDIDLY.

"Meanwhile the Boer rear guard, having covered the crossing of the main body, retired slowly and successfully across the drift. The rear guard fought splendidly, and, as it fell back to the river, it was harassed on the flank and rear by the British.

"Having thus passed the Modder river, under cover of darkness, the Boers trekked throughout the night in the direction of Bloemfontein. Gen. Kelly-Kenny, with the Sixth division, pursued them at daylight. Gen. MacDonald, with the Highlanders, following him. Gen. Kelly-Kenny moving from Klip Kraal Drift was determined to outflank the enemy, and to cut them off from Bloemfontein, so as to drive them back into Gen. MacDonald's hands. When I left the front Gen. Kelly-Kenny had nearly come up with the enemy."

CASUALTIES AT KIMBERLEY.

The war office announces the following casualties among officers during the relief of Kimberley:

Killed—Lieut. A. E. Heaketh, Sixteenth Lancashire; Lieut. the Hon. W. McClinck-Bunbury, Second Dragoons.

Wounded—Capt. E. R. Gordon and Lieut. D. F. Brasse, Ninth Lancashire; Capt. G. B. Tuson, Sixteenth Lancashire; Lieut. R. L. Forde and W. Long, Second Dragoons; Lieut. H. M. Durand, Ninth Lancashire.

The list of casualties again demonstrates the fact that a number of boys are serving in South Africa. Lieut. the Hon. W. McClinck-Bunbury was the eldest son and heir of Lord Rathdonnell. He was born Sept. 15, 1878. Lieut. H. M. Durand was born in 1876. He is the heir of Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, British minister at Toberan, Persia. Lieut. W. Long was born in 1875. He is the heir of Rt. Hon. Walter Long, president of the House of Agriculture.

NEWS FROM ROBERTS.

The war office has issued a dispatch from Lord Roberts, the main importance of which is the fact that it is dated Paardeberg, 7:15 p. m. Monday. Paardeberg is thirty miles east of Johannesburg. The dispatch announces that the railroad to Kimberley is open and that Gen. Methuen will proceed there with reinforcements for forward, and that large supplies made their way to the town.

The casualties among Gen. Buller's forces in the fighting at Husar Hill, Monte Christo Hill and other places, from Feb. 18 to Feb. 18, were: Killed—Capt. K. H. Burney and thirteen men; wounded, 6 officers and 154 men.

LIFE IN MAPEKING.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Mafeking, dated Friday, Feb. 9, says: "All business here is being conducted underground. The resident commander has ordered all apartments in a subterranean bombproof. The Cape police have a large hall with a piano. The Mafeking hotel dining room seats forty. All these have been dug out, and are impervious to shells."

KIMBERLEY FULLY RELIEVED.

KIMBERLEY, Feb. 19.—(By helicopter.)—Modder River, Feb. 19.—The country is all free from Kimberley. The Boers have evacuated Dronfield, Saltpan, Spierfontein and Scholtz Nek. One of their twelve-pounders, with ammunition, was captured, as was also a large quantity of powder. Rails are being laid to Modder River. Several herds of cattle have been captured. Cecil Rhodes is in excellent spirits.

MUCH SNIPING.

DURBAN, Feb. 19.—While Gen. Buller is continuing his movements on the extreme right, and has made every disposition for the defense of his position to the left and south of the Tugela, by moving there a force adequate for that purpose, isolated parties of Boers sometimes cross the river. There is much sniping.

NO "STOP THE WAR" MEETINGS.

LEICESTER, Eng., Feb. 20.—An attempt to hold a "stop the war" meeting here tonight was a fiasco. Mr. Cronkwhite-Schreiner, husband of Olive Schreiner, was on the list of speakers. The proceedings broke up in disorder.

CAPTURE OF BRITISH CONVOY.

CRADOCK, Cape Colony, Feb. 20.—Details have arrived here with respect to the capture of the British convoy at Riet River. It appears that the wagons were hangered near the drift, and that the convoy was attacked by 1,600 Boers, with four guns. The shelling continued all day. One hundred and eighty wagons were captured, containing provisions and stores. Half the drivers and leaders were killed or are missing.

BRITONS FORCED TO RETIRE.

BULUWAYO, Monday, Feb. 12.—Col. Plumer sent Maj. Bird, with 200 colonials, to attempt the capture of a Boer twelve-pounder on a kopje near Crocodile Pool. His Bird met with such a terrific rifle and shell fire that he considered the position too strong and ordered a retreat. Col. the Hon. H. White was severely wounded, fifteen privates were wounded, and Capt. Sampson France and nine men are missing.

PEACEFUL PEACE MEETING.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—A peace meeting Continued on Third Page.



MAJ. GEN. FITZROY HART, Whose Troops Are Reported to Have Occupied Colenso Yesterday.

DINED BY MERCHANTS.

Secretary of the Treasury Gage Entertained in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Secretary of the Treasury Lyman J. Gage was the guest of the National Democratic clubs in this city at the Auditorium by the National Association of Merchants and Travelers. More than 200 members of the organization were present.

There was no formal programme of toasts, and the address of Secretary Gage on "The Outlook" was the only formal speech of the evening.

Lafayette McWilliams, of Chicago, general chairman of the organization, however, called upon a few members for short talks.

Young Carnegie to Wed.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 20.—Andrew Carnegie Jr., with a number of friends, arrived at St. Nicholas, from Pittsburgh, this evening. Mr. Carnegie is to be married to Miss Annie Sherlock, daughter of Thomas Sherlock and sister of Mrs. Henry Probasco. The wedding will take place at the paternal home in Clinton tomorrow. All arrangements have been made to make it a notable occasion. Mr. Carnegie is a Pittsburgh banker, and a nephew of the noted millionaire, Andrew Carnegie Sr. The elder Carnegie is not here.

INDIANAPOLIS GETS IT.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 20.—A special to the Sentinel tonight says that at a conference tonight in Washington it was decided to hold the convention of National Democratic clubs in this city. Secretary Mackean, of the executive committee, after a long conference between the committee and the members of the Indiana delegation made the public announcement that Indianapolis had captured the convention.

RELIEF OF LADYSMITH NEAR

SIR REDVERS BULLER THINKS THE BOERS ARE ABOUT TO RAISE THE SIEGE

BESIEGING FORCE IS REDUCED

TEN THOUSAND BOERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT THE COLESBERG DISTRICT

BLOEMFONTEIN IS IN DANGER

Fall of the Capital of the Free State May Be the Next Important News From South African War—Chase of Gen. Cronje by the British an Exciting Event—Magnificent Spectacle Was the Boer Army at Bay.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Buller thinks they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith, and this is the large news of the day.

Gen. Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are reported to have left the Colesberg district alone. The Boers are also retreating their steps from Zululand. Thus they are relaxing their hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on steadily towards Bloemfontein. This is shown by his inconsequential telegram from Paardeberg, fifty or sixty miles away. Doubtless he is miles behind the column that is pursuing the Boers, and the next important news may be that of the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard of the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last news of the war office tonight was that there was no news for publication, there

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The queen, prior to leaving Osborne House this morning, on her return to Windsor, inspected the Fourth battalion of the Lincolnshire militia. Her majesty announced, with a gratified smile, that good news had been received this morning from the seat of war.

Another account says the queen specified that the good news was from Ladysmith.

splendidly, but the enemy held his ground under the bombardment.

"Later on the Boer commander ventured on a bold move. Leaving 2,000 of his men under cover, he withdrew the rest from his main position, and headed for Klip Kraal Drift, six miles to the east. "This movement was soon discovered. Our mounted infantry came back across the drift, and marched along the south bank to endeavor to head off the enemy. When they reached the neighborhood of Klip Kraal Drift night had fallen, and half the Boers were already across to the south side. Our mounted infantry harassed them.

FOUGHT SPLENDIDLY.

"Meanwhile the Boer rear guard, having covered the crossing of the main body, retired slowly and successfully across the drift. The rear guard fought splendidly, and, as it fell back to the river, it was harassed on the flank and rear by the British.

"Having thus passed the Modder river, under cover of darkness, the Boers trekked throughout the night in the direction of Bloemfontein. Gen. Kelly-Kenny, with the Sixth division, pursued them at daylight. Gen. MacDonald, with the Highlanders, following him. Gen. Kelly-Kenny moving from Klip Kraal Drift was determined to outflank the enemy, and to cut them off from Bloemfontein, so as to drive them back into Gen. MacDonald's hands. When I left the front Gen. Kelly-Kenny had nearly come up with the enemy."

CASUALTIES AT KIMBERLEY.

The war office announces the following casualties among officers during the relief of Kimberley:

Killed—Lieut. A. E. Heaketh, Sixteenth Lancashire; Lieut. the Hon. W. McClinck-Bunbury, Second Dragoons.

Wounded—Capt. E. R. Gordon and Lieut. D. F. Brasse, Ninth Lancashire; Capt. G. B. Tuson, Sixteenth Lancashire; Lieut. R. L. Forde and W. Long, Second Dragoons; Lieut. H. M. Durand, Ninth Lancashire.

The list of casualties again demonstrates the fact that a number of boys are serving in South Africa. Lieut. the Hon. W. McClinck-Bunbury was the eldest son and heir of Lord Rathdonnell. He was born Sept. 15, 1878. Lieut. H. M. Durand was born in 1876. He is the heir of Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, British minister at Toberan, Persia. Lieut. W. Long was born in 1875. He is the heir of Rt. Hon. Walter Long, president of the House of Agriculture.

NEWS FROM ROBERTS.

The war office has issued a dispatch from Lord Roberts, the main importance of which is the fact that it is dated Paardeberg, 7:15 p. m. Monday. Paardeberg is thirty miles east of Johannesburg. The dispatch announces that the railroad to Kimberley is open and that Gen. Methuen will proceed there with reinforcements for forward, and that large supplies made their way to the town.

The casualties among Gen. Buller's forces in the fighting at Husar Hill, Monte Christo Hill and other places, from Feb. 18 to Feb. 18, were: Killed—Capt. K. H. Burney and thirteen men; wounded, 6 officers and 154 men.

LIFE IN MAPEKING.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Mafeking, dated Friday, Feb. 9, says: "All business here is being conducted underground. The resident commander has ordered all apartments in a subterranean bombproof. The Cape police have a large hall with a piano. The Mafeking hotel dining room seats forty. All these have been dug out, and are impervious to shells."

KIMBERLEY FULLY RELIEVED.

KIMBERLEY, Feb. 19.—(By helicopter.)—Modder River, Feb. 19.—The country is all free from Kimberley. The Boers have evacuated Dronfield, Saltpan, Spierfontein and Scholtz Nek. One of their twelve-pounders, with ammunition, was captured, as was also a large quantity of powder. Rails are being laid to Modder River. Several herds of cattle have been captured. Cecil Rhodes is in excellent spirits.

MUCH SNIPING.

DURBAN, Feb. 19.—While Gen. Buller is continuing his movements on the extreme right, and has made every disposition for the defense of his position to the left and south of the Tugela, by moving there a force adequate for that purpose, isolated parties of Boers sometimes cross the river. There is much sniping.

NO "STOP THE WAR" MEETINGS.

LEICESTER, Eng., Feb. 20.—An attempt to hold a "stop the war" meeting here tonight was a fiasco. Mr. Cronkwhite-Schreiner, husband of Olive Schreiner, was on the list of speakers. The proceedings broke up in disorder.

CAPTURE OF BRITISH CONVOY.

CRADOCK, Cape Colony, Feb. 20.—Details have arrived here with respect to the capture of the British convoy at Riet River. It appears that the wagons were hangered near the drift, and that the convoy was attacked by 1,600 Boers, with four guns. The shelling continued all day. One hundred and eighty wagons were captured, containing provisions and stores. Half the drivers and leaders were killed or are missing.

BRITONS FORCED TO RETIRE.

BULUWAYO, Monday, Feb. 12.—Col.