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ALL AROUND CRONJE. The Boer General Hopelessly Surrounded. BRITISH TRYING TO TRAP HIM. Buller Captures a Range of Hills South of the Tugela, Driving the Boers Across the River.

LONDON, Feb. 19. 3:45 A. M.—A member of the cabinet told H. W. Lucy tonight that the war office had received a telegram announcing that General Cronje was hopelessly surrounded. Mr. Wyndham was heard with anxious members of the house, but would only reply that the government's news was extremely satisfactory.

Messrs. Commandant Delaney, with the Boers from Colchester is hanging on to the right flank of the British pursuing columns, seeking to delay their movement and so to assist the Boer wagon trains to escape. Students of topography think the Boers will hardly risk a fight until they get into the rough country.

DISPATCH FROM BULLER. Boers Driven Back by a Sharp Attack, Across the Tugela. LONDON, Feb. 19.—The war office has received the following dispatch from General Buller: "Chevelley camp, Feb. 19.—I yesterday moved across the enemy's flank. The Queens, who had bivouacked on the northern slope of Cingolo, crossed the nek, and supported by the rest of the division, assaulted the Boer position and took the southern end of Monte Cristo.

Two Hundred Boers Captured. DUREAN, Feb. 19.—The bombardment of the Boer position on Hangwana hill was continuous yesterday, and fighting is still proceeding at 5 o'clock this evening. It is held the British have captured 199 prisoners.

patch, dated Monday, from Pietermaritzburg: It is reported that Sir Redvers Buller has captured Hangwana hill. Large numbers of Free-Staters have left to meet Lord Roberts' force. It is believed that a number of the Boers' big guns have been taken across the river.

CRONJE'S ARTILLERY. Much Speculation as to What Has Become of It. LONDON, Feb. 19.—Practically nothing is known of the progress of Lord Roberts' column during the last day or two, and speculation as to the ultimate gain from the recent movements is necessarily unsatisfactory.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 19.—A dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, dated Feb. 19, says that the Free State is making despatch efforts to collect an army to face the British at Kofffontein. An official proclamation orders all male inhabitants between the ages of 15 and 60, and enthusiastic to collect every one up to the age of 60, around Tyndal's farm.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Wyndham Announced that Colonial Opinion Would Be Invited. LONDON, Feb. 19.—Replying to a question in the house of commons today, Mr. Wyndham, parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, declared the government proposed to invite an expression of opinion from the colonial governments regarding the reorganization of the forces of the empire and the Indian divisions.

THE LATEST SAILORS. LONDON, Feb. 19.—No details have yet been received by the British government in reference to the capture of the British steamer Sabine, from New York January 14, with a miscellaneous cargo, which, as reported from Fort Elizabeth yesterday, was captured by the British gunboat Thrush and brought to Delagoa bay on suspicion of having contraband of war on board.

SPLIT OVER FUSION. Row in the Populist National Committee Meeting. MIDDLE-ROADERS WALKED OUT. The Result Will Be Two Separate Conventions and Two Tickets in the Field.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 19.—A split and a walk-out followed a turbulent meeting of the populist national committee today. The anti-fusionists, after having a number of their followers turned down by the credentials committee, organized a bolt and formed a new committee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The secretary of war has sent to the chairman of the senate and house military committees a draft of a bill, which the department claims greatly strengthens the military system and remedies defects developed during the Spanish-American war.

Captain Longborough's Report of the Affairs. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—General McKibbin, commanding the 1st Infantry of Texas, has forwarded to the adjutant general a copy of the following telegram from Captain Longborough, commanding the troops at Fort Bliss, Texas, in regard to the trouble with the local authorities at El Paso, Texas, on the 17th.

REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN ISSUES. Fight Will Be Made on the Line of the President's Policy. NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The Herald quotes Senator Platt, of New York, as saying in an interview: "While the republican platform upon which we will make our next campaign has not been definitely decided upon, it is pretty well understood that we will make our fight on the line of policy of the present administration.

financial bill which was offered by Senator Aldrich at the instance of the committee on finance was simply a declaration of a reaffirmation of the basic principles on that subject, as laid down in the last national platform of the republican party.

ARMY RE-ORGANIZATION. New Bill Prepared by the War Department Introduced in the House. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The secretary of war has sent to the chairman of the senate and house military committees a draft of a bill, which the department claims greatly strengthens the military system and remedies defects developed during the Spanish-American war.

THE EL PASO RIOT. Captain Longborough's Report of the Affairs. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—General McKibbin, commanding the 1st Infantry of Texas, has forwarded to the adjutant general a copy of the following telegram from Captain Longborough, commanding the troops at Fort Bliss, Texas, in regard to the trouble with the local authorities at El Paso, Texas, on the 17th.

EDWIN MAYO DEAD. Suddenly Expired at Quebec Yesterday Afternoon. QUEBEC, Feb. 19.—Edwin Mayo, of the "Pudd'nhead Wilson" company, dropped dead in the Chateau Frontenac today, Mr. Mayo and his wife were staying at the Frontenac. He was chatting with Edwin Varney, manager of the Academy, until about 2 o'clock.

No New Revolution in Venezuela. CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 19, via Haytian cable.—The government and press protest against reports published in the United States asserting that a new revolution had broken out in Venezuela. An indignation meeting was held here yesterday.

MINT AT PORTLAND. Simon Introduces a Bill Appropriating \$250,000. WILL COMPROMISE ON ASSAY OFFICE. Measure Introduced for the Influence It Will Have on the Bill of Moody and McBride.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Senator Simon today introduced a bill appropriating \$250,000 for the construction of a United States mint at Portland. The bill provides for the rental of a suitable building, until a special building for the mint can be constructed, and also carries the customary provision for the regular mint officials and regulations.

Opposition to Puerto Rican Bill. The republican leaders of the house are having a very difficult time in whipping the men of their party, who oppose the tariff on Puerto Rican goods, into line for their bill. Besides those whose names have already been mentioned as against the bill, there has sprung up considerable opposition on the Pacific coast.

Philippines Behind It. Behind the whole question is the Philippines and its sugar. One republican is already anonymously quoted as saying if the supreme court should decide Puerto Rico a part of the United States and subject to equal rights and tariff laws, the republicans will drop the Philippines in some way, and the retention of the islands depends upon the constitutionality of the Puerto Rican bill.

Daily Treasury Statement. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance.....\$26,643,333 Gold reserve.....22,912,118 Aimed at the Sugar Trust. WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Representative Richardson, of Tennessee, introduced today two house resolutions aiming at the sugar trust.