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SAPOLIO

BOERS ON THE RAID

A Party Trying to Cut Bloemfontein Railway Line.

OLIVIER'S COLUMN HAS ESCAPED

His Long Wagon Train Gave Rob erts the Slip, and Entered the Mountain Country.

LONDON, March 28, 4 A. M.—The Boers are having a little good luck and are showing some boldness again, as a raiding party, estimated at 400, is believed by the British forces at Warrenton to have cross die Kimberley-Boemfontein wagon road Monday and to have headed for Jacobsdal, with the intention of cutting

Jacobsoni, with the intention of cutting the ralliway 16 maes west. Commandant Oll ter appears to have got-ten his 500 men and 25 miles of wagons into rugged country, where he can make an easy rear guard defense. Charles Willinne, the military expert, says:
"If this column gets through substan-tially Commandant Olivier will have carried out the great feat of the war, sec-ing that he ran every chance of being ground between the upper millstone of Lord Roberts' army and the nether mill-stone of the broken Basuto frontier. He

will have done it within 50 miles or so of Lord Roberts' main strength. Certainly it looked for a week as though Lord Roberts b. Olivier in the hollow of his hand. If Olivier gets through to Kroonstad with even 3000 men it will be an important addition to the Boer force gathering there. His escape is attributable in part to the worn-out condition of the

British cavalry horses,
"Lord Roberts" transport appears to have been badly dislocated by the loss at Reit River, before Cronje's surrender, of the wagon train, and in addition to this the army with which he purposes to advance toward Pretoria is nearly double that of the earlier rapid movements."

Ten thousand transport, cavalry and gun animals are due to arrive at Cape ports during this and next week. It is given out at Cape Town that Lord Roberts' ad-vance may be delayed for months. Al-though such statements should be received with reserve it seems positive that he in-tends to go to Cape Town to meet Lady Roberts, who is due to arrive there in 10

The War Office has issued another table of British losses, showing an aggregate of 16,658, which does not include 4094 who have been invalided home.

ROBERTS' INACTIVITY.

May Not Begin His Advance for Another Month.

LONDON, March 28.-The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News, tele-graphing Tuesday, March 27, says: "It is improbable that the advance from Bloemfontein will be made for another month. General Clements is advancing to Bloemfontein in four columns. When Lord Roberts begins the march northward, General Gatacre will be left - charge of Bloemfonteln. The Cotonial Government has ordered the Cape volunteers to with-draw south of the Orange River for fear of accentuating racial feeling." A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Kimberley, dated Monday, says: "Four hundred Free-Staters have taken

"Four hundred Free-Staters have taken possession of the road between Kimberley and Paardeberg. They have selved a farm near Randamsfontein, where a number of army horses had been sent to rest and graze. It is rumored that their object is to raid the railway by way of Jacobsdal." A special to the Daily Telegraph from Ladysmith, dated Monday, says:

"There are about 20,000 Boers guarding the nine passes over the Drakenberg

the nine passes over the Drakenberg Range. They are led by Commandant de Beer, of marrismith, and consist of Free-Staters. It is reported that the Boers have moved their big guns from Biggarsberg, as it is not intended to make a stand

The correspondent of the Daily News at Lourenco Marques, telegraphing Sunday, "The Transvani War Office announces

that the southern commandoes from Coles-berg and Stormberg will join the main body within 48 hours. Some apprehension exists that Commandant Olivier and Com-mandant Grobler may be cut off."

The Daily Mail publishes the following from Fauresmith, dated Tuesday, March

"General Clement's column occupied Jagersfontein and Fauresmith this morn-ing amid great rejoicing and enthusiam, and without opposition. The Lritish troops were warmly cheered, and Union Jacks are now flying everywhere."

SHELLING OF MAFEKING

Boers Again Drive the Besieged Into

Their Caves.

MAFEKING, Wednesday, March 14.—
The Boers recommenced the bombardment of this place March 12, a six-lineh gun, which has been comparatively silent for a week, firing the shrapnel used against the troops in the open. The projectiles were ineffectual against cover, but were dan-gerous to pedestrians. One shell burst in the courthouse, killing several natives and wounding four persons. Several women were also slightly wounded. The steel plate of the shell passed through the hotel office and spent itself beneath a table, where it was scrambled for by the employes. Another shrapnel shell burst above the bombproof occupied by the Reu-ter Telegram Company's correspondent, and sprinkled the wall with bullets.

. There has been little development since the dispatch of March 10. A detachment of colonial natives, commanded by Mackenzie, advanced to Jackal Tree fort, the position originally occupied by the siege gun, on the southwestern heights, but the Boers discovered the plans and evacuated it. Previously a detachment of Barralong natives had been dispatched against a new fort threatening our western position, and succeeded in craeving up to within a few yards of the sleeping Boers outside and in the rear of the fort. They fired three volleys and then retreated, in accordance with their instructions.

Sunday, March 11, was observed as a truce. The British troops sat on the parapets conversing with the Boers, and amicable relations were maintained until dark. gun, on the southwestern heights, but the

British Force Enters Ladybrand. MASERU, Basutoland, Monday, March 26.—A small British force, commanded by Colonel Pitcher, entered Ladybrand this morning, after driving in the Boer outposts. A considerable body of Boers then
attacked the British, who retired after
capturing the Landrost. The British had
three men wounded and the Boers eight
men wounded. It is understood the Boers
are true to check the British while their are trying to check the British while their convoy of wagons pushes on to Senekal.

that the rebels are still gathering at Rofberg, waiting for the British troops to go further north, so that they may raid Car-narvon. Colonel Hirschner, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, is proceeding to Cape Town on sick leave.

Boers Busy at Warrenton.

WARRENTON, Monday, March 26.—
The movement of the Boers Saturday indicated that they were trying to find the range in order to shell the British camp, which moved during the night. The Boers keep up a steady smashing. The railway is clear, and an armored train arrived here today. rived here today.

Dissolution This Year Not Probable. LONDON, March 37.—The Secretary of State for Home Affairs, Sir Matthew White Bidley, replying to a delegation today, intimated that a dissolution of Parlia-ment was impropable during the present year. He said that if the Government faced another session, which was not probable, it would remedy some defects in the mining laws.

Boers Massing in Upper Natal. LADYSMITH, March 27.—It is reported that the Boers are massing in their inpositions at Biggarsberg, and, it is added, their transport trains are packed at Newcastle, in readiness to facilitate retreat in case necessity requires such a step.

Australia's Advice to Chamberiain. SYDNEY, N. S. W., March 27.—The Australian Premiers have joined in a caelegram to Mr. Chamberlain declaring that it is undesirable to conclude peace in South Africa except on terms guaranteeing the absolute supremacy of British

Rendy for One Fight. VAN WYKSVLEI, Tuesday, March 27.— The Boer Commander Steinkamp is at Uningion with 800 men and ammunition for one good fight. A British advance on Upington has been ordered. The rain has

DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Philippines to Be Divided Into Four Military Departments.

WASHINGTON, March 27. - Secretary Root took a step long contemplated in the administration of the Philippines by directing the creation of an entirely new directing the creation of an entirely new military division to be known as "the Di-vision of the Pacific," embracing all of the Philippine Archipelago. The division in turn is to be divided into four military departments, as follows: The Department of Northern Luzon, commanded by General MacArthur; the Department of South-ern Luzon, commanded by General Bates; the Department of the Visayas, command-ed by General Hughes, and the Depart-ment of Mindanao and Jolo, commanded by General Kobbe. Major-General Otis will retain the supreme command over these departments as Division Command-er, occupying toward them a position corresponding closely to that occupied by General Miles to the departments in the United States. It is said at the War Department that the purpose of the new or-der of things is to free General Otis of many minor details incident to the admin istration of the islands, leaving him at lib-erty to devote more time to 'arge ques-liber of postly and rivil administration.

AMBITION OF THE FILIPINOS. an Early Plot to Overthrow Ameri-

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The President today sent to the Senate additional documents concerning the Philippine insurgents, consisting of papers captured by American troops; Information concerning the Philippine committee to Hong Kong; relating to the treatment of the prisoners, etc. The documents concern-ing the meeting of the Philippine commiting the meeting of the Philippine commit-tee in Hong Kong are a transcript of the minutes of the proceedings of the com-mittee held February 24 and April 5, 1838. The record for April 5 contains the Fili-pino version of Aguinaldo's conversations with Admiral Dewey relative to the for-mer accompanying the Admiral to Ma-nila. One of the entries is to the follow-ing effect:

ing effect:
"The President (Aguinaldo) described
the negotiations which took place during his absence in Singapore with the Ameri-can Consul of that English colony, Both agreed that the President should confer

ippines "without a previous written agree-ment with the Admiral, since it may hap-pen that if he places himself at his orders he may make him sign a document con-taining proposals highly prejudicial to the interests of the Fatherland." Continu-

taining proposals nighly prejudicial to the interests of the Fatherland." Continuing, he said that if he accepted such proposals, the act would be unparticite, while, if he should refuse, "a break between the two was evident."

To avoid this dilemms, he proposed that a committee should be sent to the Admiral to intervene with the insurgents, if necessary, and to ascertain the intentions of the United States. To this it was replied by members of the committee that "it is thoroughly agreed upon with the Admiral that he is to give the President all the arms which he needs, since the former is convinced that the fleet can do nothing in the Philippines if not used in connection with the insurgents in carrying out their plan of war against the Spanish Government." They express the opinion that, owing to Admiral Dewey's "degree of culture," he would not require the signing of any documents, but declare that if he should so insist, Aguinaldo could decline.

In this connection the following extract is significant. There will be no better opportunity than the present for the expeditionary forces to land on those Islands and to arm themselves at the expense of the Americans and assure the attainment of our legitimate aspirations against those very people. The Filipino people, unpro-vided with arms, will be the victims of the demands and exactions of the United States, but, provided with arms, will be able to oppose themselves to them and struggle for their independence." Agoncillo urged that Aguinaldo, once in the Philippines, could arouse the masses to action against the Americans. He thought, however, that it was probable that the United States would grant independence to the Filipinos. The question as to whether Aguinaldo should do so was put to a vote, and the proposition was carried

relates to letters which were sent to the relates to interest which were sent to the Philippines, and were regarded as encour-aging to the insurgents. One of these is from J. V. Martin, of St. Louis, who asks for an article on the Filipino situation which will strengthen the cause of antiexpansion in the elections in the United In Northern Cape Colony.

CARNARVON, Tuesday, March 27.—It is reported that a British column has been unable to advance from Van Wyksviel, owing to the floods, which have been without precedent for decades. The roads are quite impassable. It is also reported to the war upon the insurgents. Mr. Danwinger also expresses his strong opposition to such a war.

Briefs on Both Sides Are Made Public.

PROTESTANTS ALLEGE CORRUPTION

The Defense Declare That Daly's Sole Motive Was Bitter Personal and Political Hostility.

WASHINGTON, March 27. - The arguant in the case of Senator Clark, Montana, which was to have been heard by the Senate committee on privileges and elections tomorrow, and poned until Tuesday of next week, on ac-count of the enforced absence of some of the members of the committee. The and elections tomorrow, has been postdistributed among members of the committee. The brief of the memorialists covers 142 pages, and is signed by ex-Senator Edmunds, Arthur A. Birney and ex-Congressman Hartman.

Brief of the Memorialists After reviewing the testimony in detail, oursel present the following as established facts in the case by the evidence

First-At least 15 members of the Legislature were paid by Mr. Clark and his agents for their votes. Second—That at least nine others were

offered money for their votes, and that the total amount of offers proved aggregate \$175,000. Third—That \$100,000 was offered b Treacey, a friend and agent of Mr. Clark, to bribe the Attorney-General to dismiss the proceedings in the Wellcome case. Fourth-That the same agent of Mr. Clark offered Justice Hunt, of the Supreme Court, \$100,000 to dismiss the Wellcome

Fifth-That Mr. Clark and his friends engaged in wholesale bribery and attempt-ed bribery of members of the Leg slature to secure the election of Mr. Clark.

Much is made of the testimony dileging Much is made of the testimony alleging efforts to bribe Justice Hunt and Attorney-General Nolan in the Wellcome disbarment case. "It is evident," they my. "that Mr. Clark and his friends fully realized the importance of the decision of that court in its bearing upon Mr. Clark's contest, otherwise they would not have taken a special train to bring his agents to Helena to negotiate and arrange for the purchase of that court. The fact that Mr. Clark's agent, Mr. Jesse B. Root, the law partner of Mr. John B. Wellcome, paid Mr. Z. T. Cason \$1500 to leave the State of Montana and not testify before this committee, is another circumstance going to bear out the charge of unlawful expenditure and corrupt use of money by Mr. Clark and his agents to carry out their purposes. The offer of \$100,000 to bribe the Attorney-General to move the chapter of the long story of bribery and attempted bribery that marks the entire history of Mr. Clark's campaign for the history of Mr. Clark's campaign for the Senatorship from the time, in August, 1898, when he agreed with Governor Hauser and others to put up \$25,000 for the primaries and from \$40,000 to \$20,000 more for the general election, and as much afterward as was necessary, up to and including the \$1500 payment to Cason."

Of the \$6 members of the Legislature, including Mr. Whiteside, 25 were sworn before this committee. Of these, the memorialists say nine have taken oath that they were offered money to vote for Sen-

they were effered money to vote for Sen-ator Clark, viz. Senators Whiteside, Clark, Meyers and McKay, and Representatives that money for purposes of bribery. He Stiff, Sullivan, Cooney, Normoyle and Murray. Two-Mesers, Day and Fine-they claim have admitted the receipt of the men who gave the bribes, and expend-money, 1990, each offer votice for Clark. money, \$2000 each, after voting for Clark, but tried to excuse it. Either by direct testimony or otherwise, they claim that the acceptance of bribes is fixed upon 15

"From the proof adduced it is reasonably determinable," they say, "that in addition to the \$228,000 actually paid to members of the Legislature by Mr. Clark and his agents, offers were made to other members, aggregating about \$175,000." Referring to the case of Mr. Day, the

agreed that the President should confer with the Admiral commanding the American squadron in Mirs Bay, and if he should accept his propositions as beneficial to the Filipines, he should go in one of the cruisers, which formed the fleet, to take part in the subsequent events."

The account says that Aguinaldo asked for the advice of the committee as to whether he should accompany the Admiral. The advice was generally favorable to his going, but Aguinaldo insisted that it was dangerous to go to the Philippines "without a previous written agreement with the Admiral, since it may hapment with the Admiral, since it may hapbrief says:

say, or leader of his forces upon the floor of the House. I attended to keeping a quorum present and seeing that friends of his were sent for that were not present at roll call, and made motions and attended to the ordinary parliamentary-as you would call it-procedure of his friends in that body.

"Mr. Clark testified as follows:

"It was in consideration of my friendship for Mr. Day and the work he performed in trying to organize the Legisia.

ship for Mr. Day and the work he per-formed in trying to organize the Legisia-ture to be elected Speaker, and in ordet to control our forces, in which, however, we failed. I recognized that he was worthy of this consideration.

"Mr. Day admits that no part of this \$5000 went to the other members of the law firm of which he is a partner. The contention on the part of Mr. Day and Mr. Clark that this was a gift will de-ceive no one. It was received in direct violation of the oath of Mr. Day that he would not knowingly receive directly or indirectly, any money or other valu-

or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing for the performance of nonperformance of any act or duty pertaining to my office, etc. And by a strange co-incidence, it was recorded on the same day that Representative Bywnier's myther backbergers. ical brother, who lives 'all over the Coast,' reached Helena and, according to By-water, paid him 49000 for some mining stock, which \$9000, together with \$5000 Bywater had kept in his trunk all winter, Bywater had kept in his trunk all winter, was deposited in the Montana National Bank. This \$500, which, according to the testimony of Mr. Clark was delivered to Mr. Day by Mr. Davidson, was entirely overlooked by Mr. Davidson when he gave his testimony. He remembered having paid Mr. Day \$200 or \$300, and that he had paid him money but once. But he had entirely forgotten the payment of \$5000 to Mr. Day.

"Mr. Fine informed the committee the Mr. Fine informed the committee that he had been employed by Mr. Clark since the adjournment of the Legislature in working up a case looking towards the disharment of W. A. Clark, of Madison County; that he had not been in his employ before, and that he had arranged this proportion of the committee of the commi mployment with Mr. Clark himself. He ad copied two papers in the court records of Madison County, which consumed from a half to three-quarters of an hour of time, and had seen seven or eight witnesses regarding their testimony before the Supreme Court. This was all the ser-vice he had performel, but he had received the sum of \$5480, and was still in Mr. Clark's employ. He also voted for Clark."

Corruption Alleged. On the general question of fact, the following deductions are made:

acticed by Mr. Clark's a "Second-That such cor were known and authorized by him.

"Third-That he not only authorized such practices by his agents, but personally engaged in them and made efforts to secure votes by bribery. "Fourth-That through contaction by

means of bribery of members of the Leg-islature, his election was secured. "Fifth-That while the laws of his statprohibit the use of more than \$1000 by a candidate for the Senate to secure his election, Mr. Clark employed for this purpose, by his own confession, at least \$120. 600; and that the committee appointed by him to expend this money violated the laws of the state by falling to make a report thereof, as required by the stat-

"The following five propositions of law re submitted as properly distrolling in

this cause: "First-That proof of general and extensive corrupt practices in connection with the election and operating upon the mem-bers of the Legislature is sufficient to war-rant and require a judgment of the Sen-

ate that the election was void.
"Second—That if, as the undisputed evidence proves. Mr. Clark appointed a com-mittee or a body of agents, by whatever name they may be called, to whom he confised the general charge of the opera-tions looking to his election as Senator and supplied them with money to carry on his cause, and they entered upon such agency and in the course of it were guilty of corrupt practices to secure votes for him, Mr. Clark is just as much affected thereby as if he had himself done the same thing; al-though he may not have known that such conduct was to be or was practiced and did not intend that it should be.
"Third—That if the undisputed evidence

of the struggle, and in constant communiwith his agents, he was bound to tion. know what means of accomplishing his election were being resorted to, and must portage road will not lessen freight rates be charged with knowledge of these acts. "Fourth-That if it appears to the satis-faction of the committee that voters were corruptly influenced and procured to vote the election was void without regard as to whether the votes were secured by himself, agents or by strangers

"Fifth—If Mr. Clark employed the means and used the money which the statutes of Montana command he shall not employ and use to procure his election, the election is absolutely void, as much so as if direct believy had been practiced." Summary of the Case.

After analyzing the testimony in the

brief of 142 pages, the memorialists close with the following summary: "First-Our first proposition of fact is that general corruption was practiced by Mr. Clark's agents. We submit that the evidence reviewed gives abundant support to this contention: It is conceded that \$139,000 or more was spent to secure his election; that after the general election his agents traveled about the state to secure votes for him; that during the 28 days of the session of the Legislature before his elec-tion he maintained in Helena from 250 to 460 men called in from all parts of the state to influence members, and that he paid at least their expenses, these amount-ing to not less than \$43,000, as admitted; and that it was common knowledge in Helena that votes were bought in his in-

terest. "Second — Our second proposition that such corrupt practices were known to and authorized by him is established by the proofs which show that, after having placed with this committee the great sums which he admits, he made no inquiry as to how they spent them, asking no ac-counting and no explanation or statement from them, even when in the most solemn ed the money, and referred persons to them to get money; and in conversation with Mr. Whiteside and again with Mr. Hewett, showed beyond contradiction his

nowledge of what was being done. "Third-Our third proposition that Mr. Clark personally engaged in corrupt prac-tices and made efforts to secure votes by bribery is established by the testimony of the Ector letters, and his communications the Ector letters, and his communications with Bickford concerning the Woods transactions as testified to by both Mr. Clark and Mr. Bickford; by the testimony of Rev. Mr. Warren, that Mr. Clark accepted the suggestion that he should pay Representative Bonner \$10,000 for his vote; by the testimony of Mr. Cason, supported by the testimony of Mr. Cason, supported by the tester he produced that Mr. Clark by the letter be produced, that Mr. Clark by the fact that he paid Representative Day \$5600 for no other service than that parformed in the General Assembly and for his vote; by the fact that he paid Representative Fine \$5000 for his vote; and that he told the witness. Jackson, at Salt Lake City, that he had used money to secure his own election. It is recoved he

cure his own election. It is proved be-nd a question that he paid: rond a question that he paid:
To the committee of three....
To sundry persons
To Representative Day
To Representative Fine...
To William McDermott
To John B. Wellcome.
To Senator D. G. Warner
To Senator McLaughlin.
To Senator Whiteside.
To Senator Myere
To Senator Clark, of Madison.

"And direct and circumstantial testimony establishes, the further payment of \$105,500, as follows:

Representative H. H. Garr....\$ 5,000
Representative Tierney 15,000
Representative Bywater 15,000
Representative Jacqueth 10,000
Representative Woods 8,000
Representative Harker 2,000
Representative Harker 2,000
Representative Beasley 6,000 Representative Beasley Representative Eversol Senator Hobson Senator Gleger "Fourth - Our fourth proposition, that through bribery of the members of the

Legislature Mr. Clark's election was secured, is established by the evidence that money was paid in return for the votes of Senators and members (whose names are given) as well as by the lack of proof of any reason why other Representatives. elected upon a ticket which bound them to vote for Mr. Conrad, for United States enator, should have defeated the will of their constituents by voting for Mr. Clark, and the further lack of any satisfactory explanation of a sudden change of votes of the 11 Republicans, who, on the day of his election, cast their ballots for him. It th certain that but for these corrupt ballots he could not have been elected. "Fifth-Our fifth proposition, that Mr. Clark flagrantly violated the statutes of

Montana in securing his election, is es-tablished by the statutes and Senator Clark's admission, "In conclusion, we submit that the evi-dence taken us a whole establishes corruption in this election of a Senator unparalleled in recorded precedents, and con-duct which, if justified, would bring shame and disgrace upon the institutions of our

Brief of the Defense. The brief of the defense, signed by the Hon Charles J. Faulkner and Roger Fos-ter, covers 232 pages, and is divided into a discussion of the facts and the law

in the case from Senator Clark's stand-(Concluded on Third Fage.)

THE DALLES PORTAGE

an Unexpected Quarter.

OREGON CONGRESSMEN DISPLEASED

ushman and Jones, of Washington, and Wilson, of Idaho, Use Their Influence for Appropriation.

WASHINGTON, March II.—The Oregon delegation was very much surprised to learn that Cushman and Jones of Washington, and Wilson of Idaho had been before the river and harbor committee and urged an appropriation for a portage rail-road at The Dalles. This improvement at The Dailes, while it would be very benefi-cial to Washington and Oregon, has al-ways been considered largely an Oregon matter, because the Oregon men have al-ways interested themselves in it, while little attention has been paid to it by the Representatives of other states. Nothing was said by the three Representatives to either Tongue or Moody, although Tongue is a member of the river and harbor committee, and was not present at the day's session. The fact that there will be no river and harbor bill at this session makes such representations rather useless, and it only serves to agitate a proposition, "Third—That if the undisputed evidence proves Mr. Clark was present at the capitol during substantially the whole time Government ownership of railroads, some-

> Representative Moody says that to any degree, because the cost of trans-ferring will be so great and because a portage road will prevent the building of be made for The Dalles improvement, but is not inclined to favor the portage rail-road from principle. He thinks the action

today will accomplish nothing.
Representative Cushman thinks the port age road will materially out freight rates and allow all Eastern and Southern Wash-ington farmers to get their wheat to the open sea at moderate cost. He thinks if the portage road is not used, its very con-struction will accomplish this end, which all he desires. Mr. Jones concurs this opinion

Tongue's Praise for Second Oregon. Representative Tongue today took occasion, during the army debate, to pay a glowing tribute to the Second Oregon Vol-unteers. He called attention to the high order of intelligence of the men, showing them to be men of learning, as well as of ourage, steadiness and skill. He deplored into other addresses of a similar nature.

Closing, he said: "The men of the Second Oregon respond ed to every demand, discharged every duty, left hehind them a record for herole achievement never excelled by any soldiers, and honored the state and Nation who are proud of such men." McBride's Homestend Bill.

Senator McBride's bill, providing that all necessary affidavits required in homestead and other land entries may be made before any officer qualified to take proof in homestead cases, was today favorably

Cape Nome Mining Rights. James A. Grout, a returned miner, has sent a letter to the Secretary of the In-terior, saying that there is no gold at Cape Nome, and that the 30,000 men who have got mines staked out there will find their work useless. In view of the great care that has been taken about leasing tidelands for mining purposes, this state-ment is very interesting, but it will have

in the Alaska bill, which will provide for mining rights in and out of the water in Alaska.

no influence upon the proposed legislation

Prospects of the Tariff Bill. While the tariff Senators claim openly that they have enough votes to impose the 15 per cent duty on Puerto Rico, it is a fact that they do not know anything about t. They are not sure whether they can pass the bill or not, between now and when the vote is taken. They believe that the Administration will bring the recalcitrant Senators into line, as the members of the house were brought into line when they wanted to vote against the bill.

Railroads Fighting Morgan, Senator Morgan, of Alabama, is quoted n a flat-footed statement saying: transcontinental railroads are trying to prevent my return to the Senate. Huntington is also after the seat of Senator Chilton, of Texas." Morgan has for years been the most persistent man in the Senate in fighting the Pacific ratiroads and what was generally known as the Huntington interests. Huntington's declared opposition to the Nicaragua Canal lends

MORE WAR CLOUDS. Strained Relations Between Russia

color to the statement made by Morgan, who has been a most earnest advocate of

the interoceanic waterway.

LONDON, March 28, 5 A. M.—The Standard gives double-leaded prominence to the following dispatch from Odessa:

There can be no longer any doubt as to the object of the warlike preparations now being completed in South Russia. Nearly 250,000 troops have already been mobilized for active service. The Black Sea Squadron, with transports, is held in The tension in the relations be-Porte becomes every day more acute. The position is looked upon with the gravest apprehension. If the Ottoman Govern-ment, supported by Germany, should prove stubbornly intractible with regard to Russia's concessionary demands in Asia Minor, serious compilcations must inevitably ensue. The Russian garrisons in the Caucausus and along the Armenian frontier have been increased fourfold and equipped

Illinois Republican Convention SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 27.-The Republican convention of the 17th district met here today and decided to hold the state convention April 7 at Taylorville. Cullom has delegations from Macomb and Christian Counties, and thus controls the nvention, and the Cullom delegation from Sangamon will be seated, thus set-ting the precedent for similar contests in

the state convention. Philippine Commission Met.

WASHINGTON, March 27. - The new Philippine Commission held a preliminary meeting today, at the headquarters of the old commission, on Vermont avenue. Judge Taft, the president, called the body to order, and the plans for the movements of the commission were thoroughly can-