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EVENTS OF THE DAY

Epitome of the Telegraphic News of the World.

TERSE TICKETS FROM THE WIRES

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

British are within 40 miles of Johannesburg.

Much lumber is going to Cape Nome from Puget sound points.

Rioting in St. Louis grows worse. Three men and a girl wounded.

Ashland, Or., has quarantined against San Francisco Chinamen.

Republicans of Alaska denounce Governor Brady, and ask for his retirement.

Republican leaders do not favor Senator Washburn, of Minnesota, for vice-president.

Boer delegates will not be admitted to the floor of the senate. Their mission is a failure.

The Iron Dike mine, in Union county, Or., has been sold to Pennsylvania parties for \$85,000.

William R. Hearst, of the San Francisco Examiner, predicts the inauguration of Bryan next spring.

Mexican government is still fighting the Yaquis, additional troops being sent to reinforce General Torres.

The war department refuses to accept the resignations of volunteer officers now serving in the Philippines.

No municipal governments will be organized in the hemp provinces of Luzon until the rebels are driven out.

Fire today destroyed Reeves Bros., Boiler Works, at Alliance, Ohio. The loss will reach \$144,000, with \$40,500 insurance.

Taylor and Beckham will both be candidates for re-election to the Kentucky governorship this fall, and a hot election is expected.

Colonel Bethune, while marching in the direction of Newcastle, was ambushed by a party of Boers and very few of his force escaped.

Nathaniel P. Hill, former United States senator from Colorado, one of the wealthiest men in the state, is dead at Denver, aged 68.

The village of Point Claire, 16 miles from Montreal, Canada, has been almost entirely wiped out by fire. Two hundred people are homeless. No fatalities.

People in the neighborhood of Falls City, Or., are terrified by the report that a wild man is in the neighborhood. The man is believed to be A. R. Handy, who went hunting over a year ago, and has not been heard from since.

Frederic A. Bell, who made a vast fortune in the bituminous coal business in Philadelphia, and who was subsequently president of the Buffalo Elevating Company, is dead, at his home in Madison, N. J., aged 55. He leaves an estate valued at \$25,000,000.

Fritz Meyer, a murderer, was put to death in the electric chair at Sing Sing.

An Ohio statesman shot and killed his wife accidentally by taking her for a rat.

Chicago is afraid of the plague. Coffee from an infected vessel found its way into the city.

The United States supreme court decided the Kentucky governorship case in favor of Governor Beckham.

A bill to prevent interstate commerce in convict made goods was passed in the senate without division.

Chinatown of Portland is to be cleaned up to prevent the possible propagation of bubonic plague.

Two workmen were killed and 54 injured at a strikers' riot in Berlin. One hundred and three arrests were made.

Mataafa, one of the Samoan chiefs, thinks he has been treated shabbily by Germany, and a revolt may occur at any time.

Filipinos lost 52 men killed in an engagement at Agusan, in Cagayan province. American loss, two killed and three wounded.

Two cars of kerosene were blown up, a car of bicycles smashed by a collision on the Northern Pacific which occurred about nine miles east of Spokane.

The postmaster-general has suspended Director-General of Post Rathsbons and appointed Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bryston as acting director-general of post in Cuba.

The Lodge amendment to the post-office appropriation bill continuing the pneumatic service in cities where contracts have been made and appropriating \$225,000 for the same was adopted by the senate, 38 to 20.

The Russian embassy has considerably perturbed governmental and diplomatic circles at Constantinople by inviting the immediate attention of the porte to the deplorable situation of many districts of Armenia, resulting from brutal methods of collecting taxes and from persecutions.

Berlin, with the approval of the kaiser, sent over 500,000 marks for the famine sufferers in India.

Six thousand passengers for Cape Nome are booked for May sailings and all berths are preengaged.

Miss Morgan, a San Francisco girl, is the only woman among 600 art students at the Beaux Arts in Paris.

In New York city retail druggists have formed an association to compete with department stores.

LATER NEWS.

All the British armies are converging on Johannesburg, and a big battle is imminent.

Dick Croker says he believes Bryan will beat McKinley. He does not consider Dewey "in it."

The steamers Geo. W. Elder and Nome City sailed from Portland for Cape Nome with 750 passengers and large quantities of freight.

The secretary of war has awarded the contract for the construction of a breakwater at San Pedro, Cal., to the California Construction Company, at its bid of \$2,375,000.

Arthur Rehan, brother of Miss Ada Rehan and Mrs. Oliver Doud Byron, died in Brooklyn, aged 38 years. He had managed many of Augustin Daly's theatrical road companies.

Timothy D. Blackstone, formerly president of the Chicago & Alton railroad, and one of the oldest and most prominent railroad officers in Chicago, died suddenly at his residence in that city.

Captain Page McCarthy, one of the principals in the famous McCarthy-Mordecid duel, is dead, the result of a long illness. The duel, which took place at Richmond, Va., in the spring of 1873, was one of the most celebrated since the civil war.

General Wade, who was directed to proceed to the Northern Cheyenne Indian agency, at Tongue river, Mont., and investigate the reports that the Indians had the "Messiah" craze, and intended to rise against the whites, has telegraphed the adjutant-general that he could find no reason to anticipate trouble. He says the Indians are in bad condition, but peaceable and well disposed.

Commissioner Hermann, of the general land office, has issued an order instructing superintendents of forest reserves throughout the West to plant suitable saplings and trees where portions of the forests have been destroyed by fire. He is also making arrangements for the establishment of a telephone system, which is to connect all the forest stations in certain districts so that in the future in case of a fire help may be summoned immediately.

Collector of Internal Revenue Lynch is making preparations to establish an office in Honolulu, the Hawaiian islands having been added to the District of California. The internal revenue laws go into effect in Hawaii on June 14. All deputies at the Honolulu office will be selected from citizens of Hawaii. The stocks of beer, wine, liquors, opium, cigars and tobacco now in the islands will be inspected and inventoried. After June 14 goods from the United States must be stamped before being sent to the islands.

Eight hundred Boers surrendered at Vryburg, north of Kimberley.

Plague in Honolulu has been effectually stamped out, not recording a single case in 46 days.

Recent injunction decisions have stirred up the labor unions, and they urge concerted action.

The auditor of the war department finds it a big task to straighten out the Cuban and Puerto Rican finances.

Twenty-two miners, 10 whites and 12 Negroes, lost their lives in an explosion in a coal mine near Raleigh N. C.

At Pueblo, Col., a negro fender who had ravished and murdered two girls in an orphan home, was lynched by a mob.

Grand Chief Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was re-elected at the convention at Milwaukee, Wis.

General Warren occupied Douglas after heavy fighting and without sustaining any loss. The Boers have retreated to the north.

The will of the late Benjamin H. Howell, the sugar merchant, of New York, disposes of an estate valued at \$1,500,000, and gives \$15,000 to Brooklyn charities.

The Methodist general conference at Chicago, after considerable discussion, voted to abolish the time limit on pastors. The result of the vote was received with great applause.

Another note regarding the American indemnity claim has been handed to the sultan's envoy, Terofik Pasha. It is couched in more precise terms, insisting on prompt settlement.

Considerable California capital has been invested in an extensive mining enterprise in Siberia and Manchuria. Concessions for large tracts of land have been obtained from the Russian and Chinese governments, and the work of development will soon begin.

At the Kansas Democratic convention, at Wichita, to elect delegates to the national convention, in his opening prayer, Rev. Dubber set the delegates wild by the praying of the nomination and triumphant election of Bryan. The applause lasted several minutes.

The water of a large lake near the town of Zapotlan, Mexico, disappeared in a great fissure in the earth, produced by an earthquake. The bed of the former lake is now dry, and the fissure can be plainly seen. It is over three miles long and from one to three feet wide. A tidal wave which swept in from the ocean after the shock did little damage.

Nearly 3,000 Spanish prisoners still are held by the Filipinos.

The postoffice department has appointed over 70 postmasters for Puerto Rico.

In the Klondike eggs are now selling at \$120 a case and beef at \$1.50 a pound.

William D. Hall, a St. Louis street car conductor, is in active service, although he has just passed his 80th birthday.

STOP AT RHEENOSTER

Roberts' Infantry Delayed by Unfordable River.

HIS CAVALRY IS FAR IN ADVANCE

Buller's Forces Are Facing Laings Nek—Boer Referendum on the Question of Continuing the War Louger.

London May 26.—Lord Roberts' infantry advance is delayed at the Rheenoster river for a day or two by the depth of the stream, which is not fordable. The banks which are precipitous, are 40 feet high. A pontoon and temporary bridge are under construction.

The railway had not been damaged to any great extent between Kroonstad and Rheenoster. The Transvaalers offered the Free Staters by destroying their splendid bridges while retreating to Kroonstad. They refrained from doing this on the retreat to Rheenoster, but now they are destroying the railway and bridges almost completely north of the Rheenoster.

The British troops are in the form of a crescent, with horns 30 miles apart, with General French's cavalry on the left, within 23 miles from the Vaal, and General Ian Hamilton's mounted infantry on the right within 30 miles of the Vaal. The center of the crescent is about 40 miles from the Vaal. Boer telegrams say that 3,000 British, with 10 guns, are near Vrededorf, which is close to the Vaal and close to Parys.

One correspondent refers to the advance as a "promenade." Another describes it as a "Boer hunt." The Free Staters are pictured as "bolting like hares" at the first sight of the British. The latter, according to the writer, do not even find women and children, as the fleeing farmers take their families with them, in consequence of the reports current among the Transvaalers that the British kidnap all children over 12 years of age. The Boer rear guard was composed of Russians, to whom was committed the task of destroying the bridges. They also looted freely.

What the Boers are doing is an absolute mystery. The embargo of news out of Pretoria for the last 24 hours has been complete. Such shreds of information as the correspondents at Lourenco Marques have picked up do not illuminate the Boer designs and dispositions further than that the movement toward Lydenburg continues and that a referendum on the question of continuing the war is going on among the Boer fighting men. It may be a fortnight before the results of this singular vote are fully before the Transvaal government. If the English view of Boer discouragement is only half right, the Boers will vote to quit.

GERMANY COMPLAINS

Against Restrictions on Her Exports of Manufactures.

New York, May 26.—A special to the Herald from Washington, says: In answer to the complaints made by the United States against the restrictions imposed upon American meats, Germany is complaining of vexatious regulations enforced with respect to her manufactures.

Under the rule of the treasury department, consular officers are required to report on the composition of manufactures imported from Germany into the United States. The manufacturers are averse to communicating to foreign consular officers the ingredients they employ and the German government has sustained them in their refusal to do so.

The Berlin authorities think that the regulations might be amended so as to remove the cause of complaint. Action will not be taken by this government, however, until it learns the final decision of the German legislature on the most inspection bill.

It is hoped of the state department that the humberstarr will amend the bill so as to remove the prohibition upon canned meats and sausage, which the reichstag bill imposes.

There is no expectation among officials that negotiations for a treaty of reciprocity with Germany will be resumed for some time.

Spectacle in St. Peter's.

Rome, May 26.—There was a magnificent spectacle in St. Peter's today on the occasion of the canonization of Jean Baptiste de Lazzelle, founder of the Order of Christian Brothers and Rita Di Casia, a nun of the Augustinian order. The interior of the vast Basilica was illuminated and adorned with magnificent hangings, and the building was filled with a great concourse of people, including all the pontifical dignitaries, diplomats and Roman nobility. Pope Leo, attired in his state robes, was borne at the head of an imposing procession. A roar of cheering rose from the multitude on the pope's approach, but the applause was quickly hushed by the guards.

Russian Warships Launched.

St. Petersburg, May 26.—The Russian battleship Polledia and the Russian cruiser Aurora were launched today in the presence of Emperor Nicholas. The czar also watched the keel laying of two other battleships.

Probably Agoncillo's Work.

Washington, May 26.—The Paris dispatch of an insurgent victory in Cebu is undoubtedly a Filipino account of the battle which occurred on May 20, and in which there were about 20 American casualties. It will be remembered that Agoncillo, the representative of Agoncillo, is in Paris, and that he from time to time gives out alleged dispatches regarding events in the Philippines, which have always proved to be exaggerated accounts of occurrences that have been fully published.

CUBA AND THE ORIENT.

Island Possessions the Subject of Debate in the Senate.

Washington, May 26.—The duty of the United States towards its "island possessions" was the subject of heated discussion in the senate again today. Soon after the senate convened, Bacon began an extended reply to the speech of Platt, delivered yesterday. His speech was largely supplemental to that which he delivered several days ago, demanding an investigation of Cuban affairs. His resolution, to which there is little or no opposition, under the rules went to the committee on contingent expenses.

The remainder of the afternoon was occupied by Spooner in concluding his speech on the Philippine question. The debate which he aroused took a turn decidedly political. He charged the so-called anti-imperialists with creating an issue which was not legitimate. Many of his statements were controverted by Allen and Pettigrew, and the controversy at times became almost personal.

Washington, May 26.—The house practically devoted eight hours today to the consideration of the Alaska civil government bill, but progress was slow. Two amendments of importance were adopted. One of them authorized the secretary of war to issue permits to excavate or dredge for gold below low-water mark on the beach at Cape Nome. The secretary has heretofore issued permits, but the bill as it passed the senate cancelled them. The house also struck out the chapter relating to arrest and bail, which permitted arrests in certain civil actions. The conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was adopted.

RUSSIA PLOTTING IN COREA.

Fomenting a Rebellion in Order to Gain a Foothold There.

Victoria, B. C., May 26.—The Northern Pacific liner Glenogle reached here yesterday morning, having defeated the Victoria, of the same line, in a race across the Pacific. She brings news that Russia is continuing her aggression in Corea, and reports published in the Hong Kong press state that during the maneuvers a Russian warship fired a shot at a Japanese ship.

A serious rebellion has broken out in Corea, for which Russian agents are held responsible. It is believed in the Orient that Russia will offer troops to repel the rebels, and, once getting a foothold in the country, will remain there. Announcement is made that Russia and Corea have entered into a secret treaty. Russia has met with armed opposition in Liyong peninsula, near Mouken, having seven men wounded by natives.

Chinese rebels in South China are arming several vessels with arms and ammunition for them having been seized. The United States government steamer Antelope, wrecked on the northern end of Luzon, has been raised.

Ask for an Injunction.

San Francisco, May 26.—The only development in the plague situation today was an application made in the United States court by the Chinese for a temporary injunction to restrain the San Francisco board of health and Dr. Kenyon, the federal quarantine officer, from interfering with the commerce and comfort of the Chinese quarter by establishing a quarantine on the pretext that the bubonic plague exists in this city. Judge Morrow said that he did not like to issue a restraining order in so important a matter without giving the other side a hearing. For that reason he refused to grant a restraining order, but granted, instead, an order to show cause why an injunction should not be issued. The order to show cause is returnable at 11 A. M. tomorrow.

Chinese Protest.

Washington, May 26.—The Chinese minister has received numerous telegrams from Chinese residents of San Francisco, asking him to have revoked the order that they shall be inoculated with the anti-plague serum. The situation in San Francisco is very grave, as the Chinese have a great fear of this treatment, and serious trouble may ensue if it is continued. The minister commented upon the fact that the whites are not being treated, and expressed the opinion that this was not fair.

Is German Samoa.

Berlin, May 26.—The disquieting news from Samoa, through English channels, has been credited here. The Berliner Tagblatt, commenting upon it, says: "This is merely additional evidence that the English continue intriguing in Samoa." The Lokal Anzeiger prints correspondence from Samoa, describing the situation there as "satisfactory."

Riots in Prussia.

Berlin, May 26.—Riots have occurred repeatedly within the last few days at Stolb, in the province of Pomerania, Prussia. Cavalry was summoned and attacked the crowd, and a score of persons were injured.

Charged with Embezzlement.

Carbondale, Ill., May 26.—W. T. Wykes, of this city, was arrested late last night in St. Louis, charged with the embezzlement of \$5,000 from the firm of Whitney & Co., of San Francisco.

Boer Envoys Entertained.

Washington, May 26.—Representative William Alden Smith, of Michigan, gave a dinner tonight at the Hotel Gordon to the Boer commissioners. Several members of congress were present. Webster Davis, in a speech at the end of the dinner, expressed in a most emphatic way his views, declaring that the whole people of the United States believe in the cause of liberty which was represented by the envoys.

OIL IS EVERYWHERE

Even the Air in California Full of It.

DISTRICT IN SOUTHERN PART

Petroleum Was Discovered Six Years Ago—Since That Time 700 Wells Have Been Sunk.

The air in California, as well as the ground, is full of oil. It is on the street, in the bank, in the office—everywhere. Valuable space in the local papers is daily filled with lurid descriptions of the fortunes that await investors in shares of oil stock, and, indeed, remote must be the district and illiterate the domestic to whom the dazzling pictures of fortunes in oil investment are not as familiar as a twice-told tale. An oil exchange has been formed in Los Angeles, occupying a store room on the principal street, where for an hour a day the interested meet and advance or depress oil shares.

Hundreds of derricks are being established beyond the original oil limits, and day and night the pumps are unceasingly pumping oil. For rugged, precipitous hills, that a few months ago were worth only a few hundred dollars, certified checks for a hundred thousand are now refused and property is leased at fabulous prices.

This condition is not confined to Los Angeles; from San Diego come reports of increasing oil findings.

Six years ago an enterprising individual bored an oil well in Los Angeles; since that time 700 wells, each costing \$2,000, have been sunk. While some of these have become exhausted, a great many are still running, and new wells are being dug at the rapid rate of at least 100 a month. A procession of tanks is ever on the move from the oil districts to the various city manufacturing and railway shops carry this valuable fuel, 3 1/2 barrels of which is equal to one ton of soft coal. The base of California oil is asphaltum, its average gravity is about 15 degrees, it is a thick, black oil, and one of the best fuels yet discovered. Its by-products enter into the lubricating oil, the painters, printers and other trades, and the asphaltum, after the oil has been extracted, can be used for street paving; indeed, the ancient Mexican who inhabited these regions a hundred years ago used it for roofing.

There is no surety as to the cost of sinking an oil well; a safe average may be stated at \$2,000. Going through soft sandstone, the borer has a comparatively easy task, unless he drop a tool or break his tubing, when the cost may be much increased. At first the product sold for \$2 a barrel of 42 gallons, but went down to 35 cents, at which period the railroad companies altered their engines to burn oil, for oil at that figure resulted in vast economy to them. After the engines were changed to burn oil up went the price, so that coal after all proved in some cases the cheaper fuel. The price is not likely to go over \$1.25, and may, in consequence of the recent discoveries of new fields of almost unlimited extent, go down to a nominal figure again. Large storage tanks are built in Los Angeles, containing upwards of 500,000 barrels of oil. The average daily product in Los Angeles is about 5,000 barrels; nearly \$2,000,000 per annum, therefore, is flowing into Los Angeles county today from the sale of oil alone, and about an eighth of that is paid to the workers at the pumps and haulers of the portable tanks. A vast force is engaged in the manufacture of machinery for the oil wells, and, in quoting these statistics in reference to widespread benefits of the oil industry, some odd thousand street oil brokers and dealers in oil company shares must not be forgotten, for these people subsist, temporarily at least, on the inflow, or outflow, of one of the most interesting oil fields is that of Summerland, in Santa Barbara county, where wells have been dug out in the ocean below high tide, and wharves are run out from the shore upon which the pumping machinery is placed.

When we consider the fact that the export oil trade of the United States is decreasing; that the total shipments of 1898 were 30,000,000 barrels less than those of 1897, the discoveries of new oil fields and the attending excitement in California will be gratifying. It opens up a prospect for the Asiatic trade that this country will undoubtedly take advantage of; the Russian and Bornean oil will have a competitor in California; freights to the Orient from San Francisco will be considerably less than from Philadelphia.—Mining and Scientific Press.

Portland, May 27.—E. B. Cowan tells the Oregonian that people need have no fears about the Baker county mines, as the district has made better returns for the amount so far invested than any mining region in the United States. Mr. Cowan spoke of a 10-stamp plant that nets its owners \$20,000 a month. In addition to the mines that are being regularly worked, a vast amount of prospecting and developing is going on. In all respects the mining future of Eastern Oregon is much better than some, Mr. Cowan thinks.

On a farm in West Virginia there is an apple tree which is eight feet five inches around. In 1880, 85 bushels of apples were gathered from it, and sold at the apple house for \$60. The tree is 75 years old and still bearing.

A new show in North London, Ind., was sentenced to a week in jail for crying false news on the streets. What would become of the newsboys of Chicago and New York should such a rule prevail in those cities.

WARNING TO CHINA.

Uncle Sam Says the "Boxers" Must Be Suppressed.

Washington, May 28.—The United States government has taken a hand in the suppression of the "Boxers" in China. Minister Conger has been instructed by the state department to inform the Chinese government that the United States government expects it to stamp out promptly and thoroughly this society, and to provide proper guarantees for the maintenance of peace and order, and the protection of the life and property of Americans in China, all now threatened by the operations of the "Boxers." There is no indication in the instructions as to the course that will be pursued by the United States in case the Chinese government fails to observe the warning conveyed in this communication. Mr. Conger is acting on parallel lines with the representatives of every European power at the Chinese court, but has not joined in any concert of action.

STRIKE SYMPATHIZERS.

Caused Another Riot in St. Louis—Attempt to Blow Up a Car.

St. Louis, May 28.—Sympathizers of the striking street car men were again the medium of a riotous demonstration today, and as a result another name was added to the long list of wounded. This afternoon, as a car on the Jefferson avenue line, running south, approached Sullivan avenue, it was attacked by a crowd of men and boys. Several shots were fired at the car. The policemen on the car returned the fire, and in all about 100 shots were exchanged. Peter Wells, a patrolman, who was riding on the front platform, was hit in the left arm pit, the bullet producing an ugly wound. It is not known who fired the shot, as the crowd scattered as soon as the men on the car drew their revolvers. It was rumored that two men in a crowd were shot, but they could not be found by the police.

The differences existing between the management of the St. Louis & Suburban Railway Company and the union men in its employ were satisfactorily adjusted this afternoon and all danger of another strike has been averted, at least for the present.

Twenty-two miles of the Transit Company were in operation today, but few cars were running.

At 6 A. M. an attempt was made by somebody unknown to blow up a car on the Spaulding avenue line of the Transit Company. The wheels of the first car struck something that exploded with a loud noise, and lifted the car two or three feet into the air.

ON AGUINALDO'S TRAIL.

Marsh Pursuing the Rebel Leader in Northern Luzon.

Manila, May 28.—Major Marsh, with a battalion of the Thirty-third infantry, and Colonel Hare, with another part of the regiment, while scouring the country northeast of Bangued, report they struck the trail of a party of Filipinos traveling in the mountains and believe they are escorting Aguinaldo. Major Marsh is continuing pursuit across an exceedingly difficult country, beyond telegraph lines.

Sergeant Barry and four privates of company B, Twenty-seventh regiment, have rescued the daughter of the president of San Mateo from some Ladrones, who had abducted her. Afterwards 12 Ladrones ambushed them, killing the sergeant. Three privates stood off the band until reinforced. Seven Ladrones were killed.

Looted the Charleston.

Seattle, May 28.—During the last voyage of the Churrucra from Aparri, according to the Manila Freedom, the steamer touched at the island where the Charleston was wrecked, for the purpose of taking on a number of barrels. Several American civilians were passengers on the ship and they seized an opportunity to go ashore. Ruins of a house larger and more durable than the cottages of the natives attracted their attention. While passing through the place they stumbled across the searchlight of the cruiser Charleston and numerous other articles, including a splendid case of surgical instruments, the property of the Charleston's medical officer. No arms were found among the loot, and the supposition is that if any of them fell into the hands of natives they were taken across the mainland where the rebels might use them.

Disorders in Isle of Jersey.

London, May 28.—Serious trouble is threatening between the British and French residents of St. Heliers, Island of Jersey, owing to the pro-Boer attitude of the latter. There have been several collisions, and this morning troops were forced to charge with fixed bayonets to prevent the demonstrators from invading the French quarter. Thirty arrests were made. The French consul has reported the situation to the British foreign office, with the result that the latter has wired to the governor, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Hopton, holding him personally responsible for the maintenance of order.

Germany will bring China to time, the press dwager having violated her promise never again to allow notorious Li Ping Hang, enemy of Europe, to hold an office.

Suicide of a Priest.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., May 28.—An unknown priest, supposedly from New York city, committed suicide tonight at Whirlpool rapids. He descended the elevator, and, after having his picture taken, walked out on a rock, threw his hat and cane back of him, and, waving his right hand dramatically, shouted "Good-bye," and leaped into the rushing waters. He ordered the pictures sent to M. J. O'Donnell, New York, who is said to be pastor of St. Andrew's church.

BOERS LOSE HEART

Kruger Admits That Situation Is Very Grave.

ASKS BURGHERS WHAT TO DO

It Is Feared That if the Dutch Have an Excuse They Will Destroy the Johannesburg Mines.

London, May 29.—When Lord Roberts wrote his first dispatch on Transvaal territory yesterday, shortly before 2 o'clock in the afternoon, he was 51 miles from Johannesburg and 77 miles from Pretoria. His immensely superior forces had passed the Vaal river, their last great natural obstacle, at three points.

The Vaal has a curve of 80 miles on the west to Zand Drift on the east. The concave of the current is toward the Free State. Thus Lord Roberts, advancing along the railway, was in a position to strike any part of the crescent by shorter lines than those by which the Boers could reinforce the threatened points. The Boers retreated almost without a show of defense. General French and General Hamilton apparently did not fire a shot.

Of Lord Roberts' immediate force 11 men, belonging to the Eighth mounted infantry, were the first to ford the river. They came upon a Boer patrol looting at Vieljoen's Drift, and a skirmish lasting 10 minutes followed. Three hundred Bo