

Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 23, 1900.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.

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ELECTIONS RETURNS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTY.

Continued from Page 1.

Howard Boro.—Judge of election, John A. Thompson; inspectors, H. S. Fletcher, John H. Dehl; school directors, J. L. DeHass; overseer poor, W. P. Hall; auditor, R. Bower; tax collector, John J. Loder; town council, Fred Schenck, A. Weber; tax collector, J. L. Holter.

Milford Boro.—Judge of election, A. P. Rager; inspectors, Grant Dyke, George Noll; school directors, P. H. Haupt, A. S. Smith; overseers poor, John Confer; tax collector, W. R. Campbell; auditor, James Gregg; burgess, Ed. Baird; town council, James McCullough, A. S. Smith.

Milford Boro.—Judge of election, A. P. Maltz; inspectors, Geo. W. Cummings, R. E. Harter; school directors, E. H. Auman, E. B. MacMillan; overseer poor, W. S. Maize; tax collector, W. E. Keen; auditor, F. O. Hosterman; burgess, Samuel Weiser; town council, J. C. Smith, J. W. Stover; high constable, J. J. Musser.

Phillipsburg Boro.—School directors, C. T. Fryberger, John Gowland; overseers poor, David Coplin; tax collector, J. W. Schmoerer; auditor, George Herman; burgess, Jesse Lukens; church trustees, Mrs. S. W. Holt, Mrs. J. G. Platt, Mrs. G. S. Lingle.

Phillipsburg 1st W.—Judge of election, Charles Hudson; inspectors, Archie Lichtenbald, R. E. Munson; town council, Henry Southard, John Hirst.

Phillipsburg 2nd W.—Judge of election, Thomas Deakon; inspectors, W. M. Russ, H. M. Paul; town council, J. H. Eskridge.

Phillipsburg 3rd W.—Judge of election, Benjamin Crain; inspectors, Harry Ayres, Blake Keyler; town council, George H. Richards.

South Phillipsburg Boro.—Judge of election, Frank Stover; inspectors, Wm. Guiseville, Chas. Wilcox; school directors, Thomas Byron; overseer poor, David Dutcher; tax collector, Michael Stover; auditor, Thomas Radcliff; burgess, Henry Wilcox; town council, David Moore, Ira Stover; Joe Gates; high constable, Charles Vieard.

Unionville Boro.—Judge of election, A. T. Rowan; inspectors, H. I. Steere, J. F. Hazell; school directors, H. E. Holtzworth, 3 yrs.; Elwood Fisher, 2 yrs.; Daniel Buck, 3 yrs.; tax collector, Harris Calhoun; auditor, Eugene Hall; burgess, John P. Bruggier; town council, D. Buck, Wm. B. Sensor, L. B. Bathurst; high constable, Wm. Keatley.

Benner.—School directors, P. B. Hartman, J. L. Marshall; justice of the peace, George Markle; overseers poor, John Herman; tax collector, H. E. Zimmerman; supervisors, J. P. Seibert, Samuel Waite; auditor, John Ishler, 3 yrs., A. C. Kelley, 1 yr.; clerk, H. E. Huey.

Benner S. P.—Judge of election, Andrew Kuhn; inspectors, John F. Sheffer, Henry Noll; Reg. assessor, John Kuhn and Samuel Markle, a tie.

Benner N. P.—Judge of election, G. G. Hastings; inspectors, William Lutz, G. Gray Hastings; Reg. assessor, H. Woomer.

Boggs Twp.—School directors, D. P. Wense, Alfred Johnston; overseer poor, John Longwell; tax collector, J. M. Lucas; supervisors, Constance Barger, Thomas Watson; auditor, David Baldridge; clerk, J. E. Rieckard.

Boggs N. P.—Judge of election, James Coakley; inspectors, William Yarnell, W. A. Confer; Reg. assessor, Orvis Fetter.

Boggs W. P.—Judge of election, Samuel Campbell; inspectors, Harv. Anstin, Ed. Johnson; Reg. assessor, A. C. Idings.

Boggs E. P.—Judge of election, Austin Curtin; inspectors, L. G. Bathurst, I. M. Harvey; Reg. assessor, D. E. Shultz.

Burnside Twp.—Judge of election, Arthur Graham; inspectors, Bert Beigholt, Ed. Craft; school directors, Roland Barger, H. H. Fye; justice of the peace, William Wagoner; overseer poor, D. G. Stewart; Nicholas Valmont; tax collector, Wm. Zimmerman; supervisors, John Fye, Benner Walker; auditor, A. V. Daugherty.

College Twp.—Judge of election, Ed. Sellers; inspectors, Ed. Armstrong, G. W. Roan; school directors, Joseph Edmiston, Jacob Herman; overseers poor, Peter Shultz, J. Wm. Keller; tax collector, Andrew Lyle; supervisors, Daniel Ralston, Jacob Klingler; auditor, Elmer Boes; clerk, Wm. Thompson; treasurer, Cornelius Dale, Curtin Twp.—Judge of election, J. R. Brickley; inspectors, Charles C. Daley, J. W. Mann; school directors, Wm. C. Miller, J. W. Fye; justice of the peace, J. R. Brickley; overseer poor, J. D. Brickley; supervisors, Jas. R. Fye, George Weaver; auditor, W. I. Quay; clerk, Wm. Robb.

Ferguson.—School directors, John T. McCormick, J. B. Pifer; overseers poor, Thomas D. Gray, D. Johnson; tax collector, D. C. Krebs; supervisors, N. E. Hess, Luther Sunday; auditor, G. W. Homan; clerk, A. J. Tate.

Ferguson.—Judge of election, William Van Trise; inspectors, R. G. Gohsen, J. D. Nearhood; Reg. assessor, Harry McCracken.

Ferguson E. P.—Judge of election, J. R. Smith; inspectors, M. E. Heberling, J. W. Fry; Reg. assessor, J. W. Miller.

Gregg Twp.—School directors, J. P. Heckman, George Bish; justice of the peace, M. B. Herzig; overseer poor, C. J. Finkley; tax collector, H. D. Rossmann; supervisors, J. F. Breon, James Foust; auditor, Wm. Goodhart; clerk, H. M. Smith.

Gregg W. P.—Judge of election, D. H. Ruhl; inspectors, W. H. Smith, James M. Letts; Reg. assessor, C. C. Barter.

Gregg N. P.—Judge of election, George E. Wise; inspectors, Geo. W. Long, C. A. Weaver; Reg. assessor, George F. Waugh.

Gregg E. P.—Judge of election, J. C. Condo; inspectors, A. W. Neese, Wm. Madara; Reg. assessor, Adam Ertle.

Haines Twp.—School directors, Jacob H. Wyles, I. M. Orndorf; overseers poor, Emanuel Cronemiller; tax collector, S. H. Winklebeck; supervisors, Thomas E. Smith, Allen M. Bower; auditor, James H. Winklebeck; clerk, George M. Homan.

Haines E. P.—Judge of election, E. M. Boone; inspectors, Samuel Kremer, John Haines; Reg. assessor, Harris Storer.

Haston Twp.—Judge of election, W. S. Williams; inspectors, Robert Robinson, John Murphy; school directors, Daniel Yathers, W. U. Irving; justice of the peace, E. R. Williams; overseers poor, Charles Wilson; tax collector, F. B. Way; supervisors, R. D. Ardrey, Phillip Straw; auditor, J. R. Williams, clerk, E. H. Williams.

Liberty Twp.—Judge of election, Albert Kunes; inspectors, Cyrus Bowman, Jerome Confer; school directors, A. C. Boves, J. A. Quigley; justice of the peace, S. H. Glossner; overseer poor, J. B. Shaw; tax collector, T. S. Lingle; supervisors, David Robb, Nathan James; auditor, Albert Shuck; clerk, W. B. Foter.

Liberty Twp.—Judge of election, Calvin Harter; inspectors, Ira Aley, Daniel Delaney; school directors, S. H. Bennisson, Henry Whiteleather; overseers poor, W. H. Johnstonbaugh, G. W. Harter; tax collector, S. W. Butler; supervisors, Wm. Bridge, B. F. Vonada; auditor, W. W. Orndorf; clerk, J. S. Condo.

Miles.—School director, U. S. Shaffer, 2 yrs.; Cor. Stover and N. O. Weber, a tie, 3 yrs.; justice of the peace, Henry Meyer; overseer of poor, Andrew Guiser; tax collector, C. H. Small; supervisors, Adam Wolfe, James Miller; auditor, T. A. Auman, J. B. Hazel, 1 yr.; clerk, W. W. Heckman.

Miles, M. P.—Judge of election, James P. Frank; inspectors, Luther A. Miller, W. M. Bierly; Reg. assessor, Luther B. Frank.

Miles, E. P.—Judge of election, Ira Brumgard; inspectors, J. Y. Stover, C. C. Auman; Reg. assessor, Wm. Siger.

Miles, W. P.—Judge of election, C. H. Crebo; inspectors, W. E. Yearick, G. R. Miller; Reg. assessor, Charles Grimes.

Patton Twp.—Judge of election, R. E. Cronemiller; inspectors, W. E. Hartsock, W. J. Sowers; school directors, Reuben Crust, J. G. Carson; justice of the peace, J. G. Matters; overseers poor, B. P. Blair, G. F. Stevenson; tax collector, W. G. Furst; supervisors, J. W. Hartsock, William Glenn; auditor, J. W. Baisor, clerk, J. W. Blair.

Penn Twp.—Judge of election, T. F. Meyer; inspectors, T. B. Mota, W. C. Krader; school directors, Henry Snavely, Alf. Krea mer; overseer poor, Daniel Brantch; tax collector, A. L. Auman; supervisors, John Martin, W. H. Grove; auditor, E. E. Smith; clerk, Daniel Auman.

Potter Twp.—School directors, B. B. Jordan, Charles Slack; justice of the peace, W. M. Grove; overseer poor, D. L. Barges; tax collector, Alfred Hosterman; supervisors, John C. Kuhn, Adam Krumrine; auditor, H. F. Musser; clerk, J. A. Heckman.

Potter, S. P.—Judge of election, C. W. Swartz; inspectors, J. D. Decker, D. G. Fortney; Reg. assessor, W. W. Royer.

Potter, N. P.—Judge of election, Daniel Keller; inspectors, C. G. Spicher, George W. Condo; Reg. assessor, Victor A. Auman.

Rush Twp.—School directors, James Garland, John Kennedy; justice of the peace, George Honck; overseers poor, Robert Lewis; tax collector, John Barker; supervisors, Wm. E. Frank, P. R. German; auditor, Elmer Laird; clerk, Frank Irwin.

Rush N. P.—Judge of election, John Todd Jr.; inspectors, E. P. Seifried, T. R. Dubs; Reg. assessor, David James.

Rush S. P.—Judge of election, John L. Spittler; inspectors, George Phontz, J. W. Heath; Reg. assessor, R. C. Duncan.

Spring Twp.—School directors, Reuben Kaup, Wm. Grenoble; overseer poor, Snyder Tate; tax collector, Henry Kline; supervisors, Albert Smoler, Samuel McMurtrie; auditor, Frank Hunter.

Spring N. P.—Judge of election, John Tate; inspectors, Chas. Miller, Austin Bartley; Reg. assessor, E. G. Osmer.

Spring W. P.—Judge of election, Wm. Ginte r; inspectors, Sam'l Gordon Clayton; Reg. assessor, Edgar McMurtrie.

Spring S. P.—Judge of election, A. R. Price; inspectors, H. P. Hartsock, Thomas Noll; Reg. assessor, Jeremiah W. Gill.

Stone Shoe Twp.—School directors, Elmer Shaugr, H. P. Kelley; overseers poor, George Fravel; tax collector, E. A. Humpton; supervisors, D. B. Thomas, George Quick; auditor, Thomas Kelley.

Stone Shoe E. P.—Judge of election, R. C. Gilliland; inspectors, Andrew Chambers, Martin McLaughlin; Reg. assessor, John Ertle.

Stone Shoe W. P.—Judge of election, John Gussallus; inspectors, Charles Fleming, Daniel Elshagen; Reg. assessor, Simeon Hazard.

Tipton Twp.—Judge of election, A. R. Price; inspectors, C. M. Shaver, W. F. Fink; school directors, Sanford White, John Henderson; John Nearhoff, John Shively; justice of the peace, John T. Fowler; overseers poor, P. S. Richards, M. J. Henderson; tax collector, P. S. Richards; supervisors, Sanford White, V. Fink; auditor, J. T. Fowler; clerk, C. M. Shaver.

Union Twp.—Judge of election, J. H. Stover; inspectors, Charles Ekenroth, A. B. Hall; school directors, J. G. Ingram, Howard Scholl; justice of the peace, J. G. Kunes; overseers poor, E. M. Lucas; tax collector, E. E. Erhart, supervisors, Warren Launsberry, J. B. Alexander; auditor, Joseph Davidson; clerk, S. Lundy Lucas.

Walker Twp.—School directors, J. D. Dunkle, L. E. Shaffer; justice of the peace, I. M. Gerbrick; overseer poor, David Harshberger; tax collector, Lyman Emerick; supervisors, W. M. Miller, A. L. Shaffer; auditor, Ed. Peck; clerk, C. S. Hoy.

Walker W. P.—Judge of election, H. A. Brunger; inspectors, J. C. Showers, George Hoy; Reg. assessor, Wm. A. Royer.

Walker E. P.—Judge of election, M. L. Beck; inspectors, L. E. Rodgers, I. H. Winkleman; Reg. assessor, A. B. Beck.

Walker M. P.—Judge of election, William Fulton; inspectors, Chas. McClain, Edwin Evers; Reg. assessor, Harry Stover.

Worth Twp.—Judge of election, P. B. Spotts; inspectors, G. R. Price, Wm. Young; school directors, H. C. Woodring, G. G. Ammerman, H. H. Oeman; justice of the peace, A. S. Williams; overseers poor, Jacob Woodring; tax collector, S. U. Harshberger; supervisors, Henry Benette, C. Reese; auditor, A. B. Williams.

Republicans Getting Nervous. Over Fate of the Porto Ricans Tariff Bill—Phillipine Discussion in Senate.

A Fund to Reimburse a Faithful County Official.

A CALL TO THE PEOPLE OF CENTRE COUNTY.

Let us All be Sharers in the Burden that Has been Placed Upon a Former Sheriff for Having Done What Sober Men Believe to Have Been His Duty. Unless We Come to His Aid Former Sheriff John P. Condo Will Have to Pay \$1,400 for Endeavoring to Apprehend an Out Law.

The decision which Judge Beeber, of the Superior court of Pennsylvania, has just handed down in the case of H. M. Goodman, Adm'r of etc., of Emma C. Goodman, Dec'd., vs John P. Condo, H. H. Montgomery, William Garis, John L. Dunlap, James Cornely and Joseph Righthour, confirms the decree of the common pleas court of Centre county and fastens upon our former sheriff a burden that he has no reasonable cause to bear. It is the sequel of the great Ettinger tragedy that occurred at Woodward on March 6th, 1896.

The frightful occurrences of that day and the one preceding it are still vivid in the minds of those who were in the usually peaceful little village of Woodward. William R. Ettinger, either because of imaginary persecutions or petty differences with his neighbors had made himself so obnoxious as to come under the mandates of the law. On the 5th of March a bench warrant was issued for him and while attempting to arrest him he shot constable John Barner, then ripped his throat from ear to ear. This murder was committed in the house occupied by Ettinger, which was the property of Emma C. Goodman's estate. The people of that vicinity were horror stricken when they learned of the crime from the constable's assistant, who fled from the house when his chief fell dead. Many of them ran to the scene with the intention of rescuing the fallen officer, but they were met by a shower of bullets from Ettinger, who had barricaded his house and defied arrest.

The sheriff of the county was called upon and with a posse of men from this place left for Woodward on a special train provided by the county commissioners. They arrived at the scene that night at 9 o'clock and were on duty all night to keep the murderer from escaping. When morning dawned the sheriff, with a party of deputies, advanced toward the house to make the arrest, but they had no sooner gotten within range than a load of buck-shot was sent into them; one of the missiles having passed through the hat of one of the officers. Every subsequent attempt to approach the place was met by the same shower leaden noises to keep off. How many lives might have been sacrificed no one can tell.

Finally, when all their ingenuity had failed to accomplish its purpose it was decided to burn him out. The building was fired and shortly afterwards Ettinger's little children were cast from it. Then his shackled wife escaped, but he remained; firing into the officers until he realized that he must either die like a rat in a trap or give himself up to the law. Just what his purpose really was no one will ever know, for with the flames eating their way closer and closer to him he jumped from his cellar way, immediately the sheriff and a few others rushed toward him, but before they reached his side he threw his left hand to his head and sent a pistol ball crashing into his brain. It was such an intensely dramatic scene that all stood appalled for a moment, then there was a rush to rescue the dead body of constable Barner from the burning building. And scarcely had the last of those who entered stepped from the door when a terrific explosion sent the whole end of the structure, wrecked in thousands of firebrands. It was the result of another of Ettinger's hellish designs. He had mined his house with dynamite to blow up any party that might have forced his way in.

This is a brief story of the tragedy. The entire county felt relieved and there was universal approval of sheriff Condo's course in having accomplished what he did without the loss of a life. No one, for a moment thought that he would have to pay for the building destroyed. He fired it upon the advice of hundreds of sober men, after mature deliberation and when no other plan seemed possible.

No one supposed that the Goodman heirs would be compelled to suffer the loss, either, but it was generally believed that the county would pay it without question. And this was the evident intention of the commissioners, but when the Goodmans presented their bill the value of the house was so over-estimated that the commissioners declined to settle on such a basis. This resulted in three suits being instituted. One, against John P. Condo and his deputies; the others, against Condo and his bondsmen and the county. They were entered for the August term, 1897, and reached trial at the November sessions, 1898. At that time the case against Condo and his deputies was taken up first and went to the jury; the court having first propounded four questions for it to answer. The members of the jury were under the impression that they were merely fixing the value of the building and returned with a verdict of \$865.00. That they had no idea that sheriff Condo was to be made pay it was clearly demonstrated by several of the jurors who called at this office to protest against the assertions made in an editorial published in the WATCHMAN of Dec. 16th, 1898, under the caption "Mulcting a Sheriff for Doing His Duty." Probably not one of the twelve men who passed upon it at that time thought that the sheriff ought to pay it. In fact, those who spoke to us declared, emphatically, that such would be an injustice. The court had reserved points of law, however, upon which it decreed that sheriff Condo and his deputies were responsible.

This decree was handed down on August 28th, 1899, and a trial refused. Immediately Messrs John G. Johnson, J. C. Meyer and Jno. M. Dale, attorneys for the sheriff, carried an appeal to the Superior court, with the result that Judge Beeber has just handed down.

It is not with any intention of questioning the equity of the case or reflecting upon the courts that have passed upon it that this fund has been started. It is common sense, however, that will point out to most men that a great injustice is being done an official who was in faithful pursuit of his duty. Centre county never knew a better sheriff than was John P. Condo. He left Bellefonte in January, 1897, with the confidence and esteem of all who had business or social relations with him. On Saturday, Jan. 2nd, '97 former judge Furst arose, voluntarily, in the court room and spoke such words of praise as are seldom heard of any man. His honor, judge Love, followed judge Furst with acclamations of equal warmth and sheriff Condo retired from official life.

It is such a man who must pay the \$865.00 for the Goodman house, in addition to the costs that run the bill up to nearly \$1,400.00. And it is for this man that the WATCHMAN calls upon the public for re-impbursement. He makes no appeal, but Centre county cannot afford to have a faithful officer thus mulcted. He saved the lives of many—in all probability—and now must pay dearly for it. He restored order and quiet to a terror-stricken community and must suffer the consequences of a law defying desperado's murderous act for doing it, unless we rally to share the burden.

Confident that the people of Centre county will not be willing to permit such an outrage we make this call upon your generosity.

Subscribe whatever you feel you are able to give towards the fund, which is to be known as the People of Centre County's Re-impbursement to a Faithful Sheriff. Money or subscriptions can be forwarded to this office or to the Jackson, Hastings & Co. bank, which will be made the depository of all funds and the list of contributors will be published from week to week.

The work has started off enthusiastically already and we call upon every person in Centre county to take it up for the honor of the county. Any sum will be acceptable, because it will record the substantial sympathy of the donor.

Don't stand back is this laudable work. Those who had witness fees or other costs that have not been drawn, who care to contribute all or a part of them to the fund can do so. It will be the same as a cash contribution. Send along a relinquishment of the claim.

The mere announcement of the WATCHMAN's intention to start such a fund was enough to bring forth the following generous offers:

THE FUND IS GROWING.

The Condo Re-impbursement fund is growing nicely but we are waiting to hear from hundreds of people yet. Consider it, thoroughly and contribute what you can.

Table listing donors and amounts: A Friend \$50.00, Another Friend 50.00, The Democratic Watchman 25.00, M. Fauble & Son 10.00, Montgomery & Co. 10.00, Dr. S. C. Musser, Aaronburg, Geo. H. Small, 5.00, James Schofield, 5.00, W. C. Lingle, Patton, 5.00, Thos. Harter 5.00, Total \$175.00.

Cronje's Retreats.

No Truth in the Rumor That He Was Captured. Lord Roberts Moves Fast. His Subordinates Carry Out Plans With Great Rapidity. Burgers Are Getting Out of British Territory.

LONDON, February 19.—4.50 P. M. It is now fully confirmed that General Cronje escaped. Every detail received however, proves how admirably Lord Roberts's plan was conceived and was succeeding. But for the unexpected delay at Lekies Drift, which was almost impassable for wagons, the whole Boer force would have been surrounded. The delay of one day there gave them their chance for a hasty retreat.

All the other movements of Lord Roberts were executed exactly to time. Apparently General Cronje is retreating with the main army, and even if he escapes altogether he will probably lose all his baggage. There is still something doubtful about the capture of the British convoy. According to a Daily Mail correspondent with the convoy—which consisted of 200 wagons each loaded with six thousand pounds of rations and of forage and drawn by sixteen oxen—it was quite unexpectedly attacked by a commando supposed to come from Colesberg. The escort, consisting of eighty of the Gordon Highlanders, forty men of the army service corps and a few of Kitchener's horse maintained a defence until the arrival of reinforcements, sustaining insignificant casualties.

The Standard's correspondent at Jacobsdal, telegraphing Thursday, February 15, says:

"An attack was made yesterday upon the rear guard of our main body by a force of 400 Boers, who were up from Colesberg. They succeeded in capturing some of our wagons, but Lord Roberts did not delay his march to retake these. There were few casualties on our side.

Specials from Ladysmith report an apparent movement on the part of the Boers toward the Free State, presumably with the object of assisting General Cronje. The Daily News publishes the following dispatch, dated Sunday morning, February 18, from Modder River.

"Our sudden appearance seems to have astounded the enemy and thrown them into a panic. All their positions were hurriedly evacuated, and the big guns at Magerfontein and Kimberley were left behind. The Daily News publishes the following dispatch, dated Sunday morning, February 18, from Modder River.

"General Cronje moved his transport, consisting of many hundred wagons, along a bank of kopjes north of the Modder, toward Kofffontein. It got past our mounted infantry but owing to weariness had to stop. Thereupon our artillery opened upon it. The main body of the Boer force kept up a running fight the whole day, vainly trying to escape. Each time their advance guards sought to move off our mounted infantry galloped round and checked them. We never attempted to stop their main movement, contenting ourselves with trying to check them.

Their position at Kofffontein is said to be very strong. They entertain a wholesome dread of 10,000 cavalry moving more quickly than they do themselves. We hope to be in Bloemfontein shortly."

Boer Line of Fortresses Broken.

CHIEFLY, Monday a. m., Feb. 19.—The Boers' line of fortresses is broken. The British have achieved a decided success in capturing the enemy's position on Monte Christo. The Boers, however, effectually executed a retreat, removing their guns and convoy wagons. The British had comparatively few casualties.

General Cronje is Surrounded.

The Boers Are Now Trekking Eastward Towards Bloemfontein. With Slow Moving Baggage Trains. Buller Gets a Success. In Capturing the Range of Hills South of the Tugela—it Makes Feasible Another Attempt to Relieve Ladysmith. The Queen Has Sent a Direct Message to Lord Roberts, Congratulating Him and His Troops.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—3.45 a. m.—A member of the cabinet told H. W. Lucey tonight that the war office had received a telegram announcing that General Cronje was hopelessly surrounded.

Mr. Wyndham was beset by anxious members of the house, but would only reply that the government's news was extremely satisfactory. The sole explanation of the government's withholding good news is that confirmation and more details are awaited.

The situation as disclosed by correspondents over the Free State border is tantalizing to the public expectation. The elementary facts are that the Boers are trekking eastward toward Bloemfontein, with slow moving baggage trains, and that they are pursued by Lord Kitchener with General Kelly-Kenny's division. General Mac Donald, with the Highlanders, made a forced march to Koodoos Rand ford, and on Sunday pushed twenty miles eastward. General French left Kimberley Saturday, going east along the Modder river. Lord Kitchener is trying to out march and out flank the Boers, thus checking their retreat if possible, and driving them back into the hands of MacDonald and French.

The war message communicated to Mr. Lucey seems to indicate that Lord Kitchener has either got ahead of the Boers or is about to realize his plan and that the war office awaits to announce a decisive result.

Meanwhile Commandant Delaney, with the Boers from Colesberg, is hanging on to the right flank of the British pursuing columns, seeking to delay their movement and so to assist the Boer wagon train to escape.

Students of topography think the Boers will hardly risk a fight until they get into the rough country north of Bloemfontein. A Daily Mail correspondent, who was with the British convoy attacked by the Boers at Riet river ford, wired:

"Immediately the British abandoned the convoy in order not to check the advance. Thus 200 wagons and 600 tons of stores fell into the hands of the Boers, though it is doubtful if they will be able to carry them away."

General Buller has achieved a real success, seemingly, in capturing the range of hills south of the Tugela. It makes more feasible another attempt to relieve Ladysmith.

The Queen has sent a direct message to Lord Roberts, congratulating him and his troops. General French and Colonel Kekewich have been acquainted with their promotions.

Dr. Lays, of Brussels, says the Free State troops that were besieging Ladysmith have withdrawn in order to defend their homes. In this way he accounts for General Buller's success against the weakened forces. He will forego his projected trip to Rome, he says, because of "decisive events now taking place in the theatre of war."

Lord Roberts' generalship was conducted with such secrecy, says a telegram from Modder river, that even the senior officers, who took the Sixth division through the preliminaries of the operation, did not know what they would finally have to do.

Where is Gen. Cronje?

English War Office is Not Giving Any Fresh News. The Boer Commander a Puzzle. London Hopes He is in Tight Place, but is Not Sure of It—Burgers Are Getting Out of British Territory.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—4.15 a. m.—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.

General Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are estimated to have gone from the Colesberg district alone. The Boers are also retracing 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 toward Bloemfontein. This is shown by his unseasonable 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 the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard from the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last words of the war office tonight were that there was no news for publication, there is a strong disposition to believe that favorable information has been received, but is being withheld until the operations culminate in something more conclusive. There is also an equally strong disposition to think that General Cronje has disappeared.

Owing to the lack of transport, the British are not likely to invade Boer territory except where Lord Roberts is operating. General Buller will have to stop at the Drakensberg mountains. Probably a part of his 40,000 men will ultimately join the legions of Lord Roberts. He, as General Buller avers, the Boers are retreating from him, then the news on every side is favorable to the British. Nevertheless troops continue to go up. The war office thinks that the call to veterans to rejoin the colors together with the booty, will bring 45,000 men to the home defense. The urgency with which the home defense is pressed excites some wonder.

The casualties among General Buller's forces in the fighting at Hussen hill, Monte Christo and other places, from Feb. 15th to Feb. 18th, were: Killed, Captain T. H. Burney, and thirteen men, wounded six officers and 154 men. With the casualties just reported, the British losses in killed, wounded and captured now aggregate 11,102.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Mafeking, dated Friday, Feb. 9th, says: "All business here is being conducted under ground. The resident commissioner has sumptuous apartments in a subterranean bomb proof." 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.

A despatch to the Standard from Modder river dated Monday, Feb. 19th, and describing the relief of Kimberley, says that the maker of the gun christened "Long Cecil" at the De Beers workshop was an American named George Labran. He was afterward killed by a Boer shell, which fell in his room at the Grand hotel.

The correspondent confirms the report that the escort with the British convoy at the Riet river was re-informed and made an unsuccessful attempt to attack the Boers in the rear. He says that Lord Roberts then ordered the wagons to be abandoned.

BULWYAM, Monday, Feb. 12.—Colonel Plumer sent Major Bird, with 200 colonials, to attempt the capture of the Boer 12-pounder on a kopje near Creedville Pools. Major Bird met with such a terrific rifle and shell fire that he considered the position too strong and made a retirement.

Colonel How H. F. White was slightly wounded. Major Straker was severely wounded, nineteen privates were wounded and Captain Sanson French and nine men are missing.

Ladysmith and Cronje.

The City and the General Form Topics for Speculation. CAPE TOWN, Feb. 21.—A special correspondent of the Cape Argus, says: "General Cronje is surrounded at Paardeberg Drift, but is offering a stubborn resistance. The British are shelling the Boers vigorously and expect to capture the whole force."

RELIEF OF LADYSMITH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—At a meeting to-day of the Windsor town council it was announced that Queen Victoria had received news of the relief of Ladysmith.

The announcement is probably premature as the town councillors are scarcely in the royal confidence. At 3 o'clock the war office officials said there had been no further news from General Buller. Judges in the London courts interrupted proceedings and read the Windsor report. The jurors, lawyers, witnesses and spectators joined in the cheering that followed.

BULLER DOES NOT CONFIRM IT.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—Gen. Buller telegraphed the war office this afternoon regarding his operations at the Tugela. He reports progress, but makes no mention of having as yet relieved Ladysmith, though the prospects