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BOERS ASSEMBLING AN ARMY TO FIGHT ROBERTS' FORCE

Cronje Has Now Held Out for Ten Days to Give His People a Chance to Get Their Men Together.

Nothing Last Night to Indicate Cronje's Collapse—General Buller Has Faced the Last and Strongest Position on His Way to Ladysmith, and He Has Suffered Heavy Losses—White's Guns Are Working—Scraps of War News.

London, Feb. 27.—(4.20 a.m.)—The Boers are assembling an army near Bloemfontein, with which to dispute the invasion of Lord Roberts. This intelligence comes from Pretoria by way of Lorenzo Marquez.

Boers May Raise 30,000. No estimate is made of their numbers, but the withdrawal of the Boers from most of the places where they have been in contact with the British, except the district near Ladysmith, may raise the resisting force to 30,000 men.

Why Cronje Holds Out. The gathering of this army across the path of Lord Roberts, gives significance to Gen. Cronje's steadfast defence. He has engaged the corps of Lord Roberts for ten days now, and whether he is relieved or not, he has given time for the dispersed Boer factions to get together and to prepare positions to receive the British advance which Cronje is overcome and Lord Roberts moves forward.

May Hold Out for Days. The War Office had nothing after midnight to indicate his collapse, and he may hold out for a few days. The Boers seem to have no exact information respecting his resources. Some say he has plenty of food, but is short of ammunition; others assert that he abandoned his food supplies, but kept abundant supplies of cartridges.

Buller Faced the Last Position. Gen. Buller on Saturday faced the last and strongest positions of the Boers who had been his. The strenuous fighting indicates a night between armies rather than rear-guard actions protecting a retreat.

White's Guns Working. General White's guns worked on Saturday upon the Boer positions, and a telegram from Ladysmith reported that the Boers were retreating and that large numbers were being issued in view of the fact that relief seemed at hand.

Nothing from Mafeking. Nothing has been heard from Mafeking since Feb. 25. The movement on the rail from the railway is becoming increasingly difficult for large bodies of men and material.

Boers Concentrating. Lord Roberts has recently received 7 additional pieces of artillery. Whether all have been sent to Paardeberg is not known.

Boers are concentrating their forces 30 miles outside of Bloemfontein, and the Free State Government is moving to Winburg.



GENERAL CRONJE.

THE DUBLIN FUSILIERS AGAIN DISTINGUISH THEMSELVES

Story Told in Lord Roberts' Bulletin in Brief on Sunday is Now Given in Detail—Their Futile Efforts.

Paardeberg, Saturday, Feb. 24.—There was a most interesting series of fights along the British front yesterday. One thousand Boers, commanded by Gen. De Wet, were known to be operating in the immediate front at early dawn yesterday, determined to attempt to break through the British lines and then Cronje. A body of 500 Boers moved toward the British left and centered in the direction of a kopje with the object of occupying it.

They Volunteered to Take Grabler's Kloof and They Have Done it With Heavy Losses—Boers, Strongest Position.

London, Feb. 27.—The Times has the following from Pietermaritzburg, dated Friday, 26th: "The Dublin Fusiliers have again distinguished themselves by volunteering to take Grabler's Kloof, which they did, this gallant battalion, which began the campaign eight hundred and fifty strong, can today be said to muster on parade between 100 and 200 of its original members."

Buller Burrows Forward. The ordinary campaigning season is over and the sickly season for both men and animals has set in.

Boers Massing at Bloemfontein. Cape Town, Feb. 25, Sunday.—The Boers are concentrating to defend Bloemfontein. Lord Roberts, who has obtained a commission in the 2nd Royal Fusiliers, has gone to join Sir Theobald's Horse.

Criticising Buller's Tactics. Spenser Wilkinson Complains That Winston Churchill's Details Are Too Meagre.

ENTRENCHED BY CRIME AND DISHONOR.

What has Premier Ross to say for the Clerk of the Assembly of Ontario? Does he know that the honor of that high official has been smirched by the disappearance of the Elgin ballot papers?

Nevertheless, Col. Clarke must take full responsibility for what has occurred and he must resign. On this, above all other things, the Opposition must be united. No such compromising of the honor of a high official can go unnoticed.

Has Mr. Ross any conception of the enormity of the crimes that have been committed in his interest, and of the reputations that have been destroyed to keep in office a party that has become utterly corrupt and incompetent by reason of an over-lengthened term of power?

SERIES OF BOER ATTACKS ON THE BRITISH FRONT

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Cure a Cold in a Few Hours. Dr. Evans' Laxative Grip Cures do not grip. Money refunded. 25 cents. Bingham's Pharmacy, 100 Yonge-street.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES UP IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. Goschen Pointed Out That the Nation Expected the Navy to be Ready for Everything.

Mobilization of the Fleet Not Deemed Necessary at Present—Matter of Organizing a Naval Reserve From the Colonies Being Considered—Will Keep Pace With France and Russia.

London, Feb. 26.—In introducing the naval estimates in the House of Commons today, Mr. George J. Goschen, the First Lord of the Admiralty, said there was nothing spasmodic or sensational therein.

Mr. Goschen said that Great Britain was not menaced by any naval power, Europe knew her strength, and the number of ships she possessed.

Colonial Naval Reserve. The Admiralty was considering how it could organize a naval reserve in conjunction with the colonies.

Grandma Keeps Children "SOO" Train Had a Smash. Ran Into a Snow Plow Near Grenville and Several Men Were Badly Injured.

None of the Passengers Hurt. Both Engines Were So Badly Damaged That They Had to Be Laid Up.

Winnipeg Notes. A dwelling owned by H. Bolton and F. J. Sharp was burned today.

Quick Lunch. 511 Yonge, next World Hotel, has a lunch menu for \$1.00.

Lover Lakes and Georgian Bay—Moderate winds, mostly east and south; sea weather, rising temperature.

Steamship Arrivals. Feb. 25. At. From. Sirius... Liverpool... New York...

Highly nutritive beverage prepared in one minute with Lewis' Powdered English Malt.