

1860. Would not the platform of 1900 control? I think so, at least; especially in view of the fact that the annexation of the island would result in throwing it into the hands of the money barons of New York, who, owning the plantations, transportation facilities and finances of the country, would enthral the people thereof in as galling slavery as was ever witnessed south of Mason and Dixon's line. This the democratic party is not willing to permit. It has come back to the other side of the slavery question since 1860.

SPEED MOSBY.

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NEWS

The latest authentic information from the seat of war in South Africa which we were able to give last week was contained in reports from Lord Roberts bearing date the 30th and the 1st. This was vague, though the London correspondents inferred from it that heavy fighting was in progress somewhat to the north of Thaba N'Chu and that the Boers were putting the British on the defensive. Those reports from Roberts were followed by one from him dated the 2d, in which he said that the Boers had been driven by the right of his line at Thaba N'Chu from their position at Houtnek, which is north of Thaba N'Chu and that they were retreating in several directions, mainly to the north and east. Two days later Lord Roberts had evidently begun his advance to Pretoria. With 50,000 men he then had a front 40 miles long, extending eastward from the railroad, and was pushing slowly forward. On the 3d he had captured Brandfort, which lies to the north of Bloemfontein. It had been the right of the Boer line which recently extended southeastwardly to Wepener; but no serious efforts were made by the Boers to prevent its capture. Pushing on to the north from Brandfort, the British, after sharp fighting on the 6th, crossed the Vet river about 20 miles northeast of Brandfort, and took possession of Smaldeel, the junction station where the railroad from Winburg connects with the main line. They subsequently took Winburg without resistance, the Boers withdrawing to the Zand river, 25 miles north of Smaldeel, where they are expected to make another stand, and where an engagement has since been

fought, in which 8,000 British were driven back. On the 9th Lord Roberts was still at Smaldeel, with the greater part of the forces, engaged in repairing the line of railroad to Bloemfontein and the bridge across the Vet river. According to an Associated Press dispatch of the 6th from Smaldeel, his advance to that point was secured by maneuvers which placed the Boers at a disadvantage at all points of contact. "Lord Robert's admirable strategy," says this dispatch, "resulted in placing everywhere five British to one Boer.

The general movement of which the advance to Smaldeel and Winburg described above is part, extends from the eastern border of the Orange Free State near Thaba N'Chu to the southwestern corner of the Transvaal near Fourteen Streams. The far western division is under command of Gen. Hunter, Methuen having apparently been subordinated. Gen. Hunter, having crossed to the west bank of the Vaal river at Windsorton and proceeded toward Fourteen Streams, had on the 4th fought his way to Warrenton, and on the 8th taken possession of Fourteen Streams without opposition.

Gen. Buller's command in Natal, which has been for some weeks awaiting orders, was reported on the 9th as having been ordered to move on Biggarsberg with a view of cooperating with Lord Roberts.

American peace in the Philippines is as warlike as ever. In a fight on the island of Panay, reported from Iloilo on the 3d, 4 Americans were killed and 16 severely wounded. Reinforcements came in the nick of time to save their comrades from destruction. In another fight on the same island the Americans lost on the 2d 3 killed and 7 wounded. Two Americans were killed and five wounded in a fight in Luzon on the 13th, and more fighting has occurred near Catubig, in northern Samar. On the island of Leyte the dispatches report an engagement in which the Americans had two men wounded but killed 125 Filipinos. Two important captures of prisoners are reported from Manila—Gen. Pantelon Garcia, the highest Filipino military officer next to Aguinaldo, and Pedro Paterno, formerly president of Aguinaldo's cabinet. This report is accompanied by news of the reappearance

of Aguinaldo. He is said to be in the north of Luzon, where he has assembled a considerable force and is planning to resume fighting in the rainy season now at hand.

Gen. Otis has begun his voyage home from Manila, having at his own urgent request been relieved by Gen. MacArthur.

American casualties in the Philippines since August 6, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out at Washington to May 9, 1900, are as follows:

Killed	475
Died of wounds, disease and accidents	1,244
Total deaths	1,719
Wounded	2,103

Total loss	3,822
Total loss reported last week....	3,822
Total deaths reported last week..	1,719

The foregoing figures represent only those casualties that are reported in detail from time to time and given to the daily press. The list is as yet incomplete, owing to lack of detailed reports for the past three weeks.

Preparations for the presidential campaign are fast vitalizing American politics. At the populist national convention, held at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on the 9th, P. M. Ringdell, of Minnesota, was elected temporary chairman. The middle-of-the-road populists, who met at Cincinnati on the 9th, had ex-Congressman Howard, of Alabama, for temporary chairman. No further business had been done at the hour of this writing by either convention.

The democrats of Iowa, meeting on the 3d, named delegates at large to the national convention, with Cato Sells at the head and John S. Murphy of the Dubuque Telegraph next. They denounced imperialism, held the protective tariff responsible for trusts, expressed sympathy for the Boers, indorsed the Chicago platform, and demanded the nomination of Bryan. The republicans of West Virginia, meeting on the 8th, indorsed the gold standard, imperialism and the McKinley administration. On the 9th the convention of the republicans of Maryland was held, and elected delegates to the Philadelphia convention. It indorsed the McKinley administration. Connecticut republicans met on the same day and took