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that can't be matched in town, as to price and material. And they are selling very cheap.

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vou will find at reduced Roberts stepped forward to shake did fighting qualities they have exhibprices, viz.: 66 inch, regular said: "You made a gallant defence, price 80 and 98c yard, special Cronje said it was impossible to hold lowing despatch from Buller: 75c the yard. One piece only 84 inches, worth \$1.50, this sale \$1.15 the yard.

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FIRED AT CASTRO.

Caracas, Feb. 28.-During the carnival procession yesterday, a Venezuelan fired two shots at President Castro without effect.

BRUSSEL'S WORLD'S FAIR.

Brussels, Feb. 28.-And now Brussels will have a world's fair. It has been officially decided that an international exposition shall be held in this city in 1905 in commemoration of the seventyfifth anniversary of Belgian independ-

The best way to fill your cup of joy is by making others happy.

GALLANT

Credit in Capture of Cronje.

Some Particulars of the Leader and His Surrender,

a Week's Fighting.

Nor is Relief of Ladysmith Assured despatch dated Paardeberg, February 28 How the Poll Tax Requirement Would by This Victory.

BEYOND PIETER'S STATION BUT FIND BOERS OCCUPYING COMMANDING POSITION AND ARE COMPELLED TO RETIRE.

London, March 1 .- Correspondents of the Morning Post who are accompanyng Lord Roberts' army say the gal-Cronje's force is the universal theme pregnable to assault. of conversation in the camp. They sealed the fate of the Boer army and by Clements." they were only restrained from carry-We are offering some of ing the Boer laager at the point of the bayonet by imperative orders to the contrary. The capture includes 5,000 arms. The correspondents add that the tremendous British shell fire had heavy losses sustained by my brave scarcely any appreciable effect.

> Other correspondents say when Lord sir." In subsequent conversation out longer against the position the British had gained, and he was obliged to Langwach spruit commanded by strong recognize the inevitable. He added he entrenchments. One was found below had a very uncomfortable time, and that his force lost terribly. He showed no emotion, but accepted the situa-

smiling grimly. The capture of Pieter's hill, which Buller announced yesterday, cost a week's hard fighting, in character similar to that attending the earlier operations in the terrible Natal fastnesses. ract. It is difficult to estimate the true value of the occupation of Pieter's hill, but it is clearly not a victory that necessarily ensures the relief of Ladyand though General Buller claims to have scattered the enemy in its. all directions, the Boers' lines of investments around General White's force have not been abandoned nor are

The correspondents at Colenso say they see no signs of the siege being raised. One declares that the Boers are fighting with greater vigor and courage than hitherto. He estimates their and the Fourth brigade and the Elevstrength at fully ten thousand men and says they have at least six or seven concealed guns.

they apparently likely to be.

MORE ABOUT THE SURRENDER New York, Feb. 28.-From the New York Sun's Correspondent with Rob-Paardeberg, Feb. 27 .- This morning a white flag was hoisted over the Boer laager and Cronje sent a message to the British headquarters offering to surrender. Lord Roberts sent General Prettyman to the Boer laager to bring Cronje in. He returned shortly with Cronje, with an escort of lancers. Cronje, through interpreters, tendered his surrender.

It was a bright, sunny morning. Lord Roberts was in a khaki uniform and wore his sword. He seated Cronje on his right and the interview was brief. Cronje requested that his wife, grandson and private secretary be allowed to accompany him. Lord Robeerts granted this request and shortly afterward-withdrew. Cronje remained and breakfasted with Lord Roberts' staff. Afterwards one of the officers gave him a cigar which he smoked in a quiet, preoccupied manner, saying

**** **** **** ****

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little. Cronje's private Secretary acted as the interpreter.

He wore a white, soft gray hat with a

cord of orange leather and band of green. His overcoat was of duck cloth and he wore black trousers and dark brown boots. He carried a heavy cane, and looks like a substantial farmer with a weather-beaten, oval face and short grizzly beard. About "the only To Them is Ascribed Main thing he said was that there were about three thousand men in the laager. The surrender came suddenly. The British guns had greatly increased the wreckage in Boer laager, while the machine guns searched the river bank from noon yesterday until night. The night was quiet until about 2 a. m. when the silence was broken by a sharp Mauser Despite a Day of Most Infire from the north side of the Boer laager. The Boers had located the Canadians and Gordons, who were intrenched within a hundred or two hundred yards of the Boer trenches. There was fighting for about half an hour when the Canadians mastered the Boers' defence and at daybreak Cronje surrendered.

London, Feb. 28.-Lord Roberts in a to the war office says Cronje and his family and other prisoners left there yesterday under an escort and that all the women and children are being sent BRITISH TROOPS ATTACK HILL to their homes. He adds: "I understand that grave dissatisfaction is felt by the Boers at Cronje's refusal to accept my offer of safe conduct to the women and children and care for the wounded, a hundred and seventy of whom are now in the hospital. Many of them are in terrible plight from want of care in the earlier stages of their wounds. I inspected the Boer laager yesterday and was much struck with the ingenuity and energy with which lantry of the Canadians in attacking the position had been made almost im-

"Rensburg was reoccupied yesterday

London, Feb. 28.—The queen has telegraphed Buller as follows: "1 have heard with the deepest concern of the Irish soldiers, and I desire to express sympathy and admiration for the splen-Cronje's hands after the surrender, he ited throughout these trying opera-

The war office has received the fol-

"Hlangwaya-Find the passage of the cataract February 25. We commenced making an approach thereto, and on February 26, finding I could tion with fortitude, even occasionally make the passage practicable, I crossed, sending guns and baggage back to the south side of the Tugela. I took up the pontoon bridge on Monday night and relaid it at the new site, just below the present marked cata-

"During all the time the troops had been scattered, crouching under hastily constructed small stone shelters and exposed to galling shell and rifle fire. They maintained most excellent spir-

"Tuesday General Barton, with two battalions of the Sixth brigade and the Dublir fusiliers crept about a mile and a half down the banks of the river and ascended an almost perpendicular cliff about 500 feet, assaulted and carried the top of Pieter's hill. This hill, to a certain extent, turned the enemy's left enth under General Warren assailed the enemy's position, which was magnificently carried by the South Lanca-

shire regiment about sunset. "We took about sixty prisoners and scattered the enemy in all directions. There seems to be a considerable body of them left on and under Bulwana mountain. Our losses, I hope, are not large. They are certainly much less than they would have been were it not for the admirable manner in which the artillery served.

MUCH ANXIETY.

Buller's account of the tremendous resistance he is encountering in his efforts to reach Ladysmith has brought public interest up with a sharp turn from complacent contemplation of Lord Roberts' victory to a realization of the serious conditions still existing in Natal. Though Buller's lengthy despatch is construed as a victory bravely won, the commanders of the forces in Natal have so often reported similar victories without achieving the main object that the public has learned to contain itself until Ladysmith is really relieved, while the long list of casualties invariably following any apparent gain by Buller is always mentioned with a dread and anxiety which temporarily rob his partial success of its

However, it is the generally accepted belief that Buller is determined to reach General White this time, and though the stages are Wisappointingly

Buller's report shows that there is urgent need of Roberts exerting every effort to still further draw off the Boers from Natal to the Free State. That he will do so, and that he is already marching on Bloemfontein is regarded as almost certain by military critics here.

With the additional 600 Boers reported prisoners at Kimberley it seems the number of men captured by Lord Roberts nearly reaches 5,000. A despatch from Arundel says the

British troops have again occupied Rensberg. PRISONERS AT MODDER RIVER Cape Town, Feb. 28.-There are now 600 prisoners at Modder river, most of whom surrendered Friday and Satur-

day. They are kept under guard between wire fences. COMPELLED TO RETIRE. New York, Feb. 28.-From Laffan

Correspondent with Buller. Colenso, (Continued on fifth page.)

The White Men Gathered in Hosts to Hear Him Yesterday

clement Weather,

Catawba County Hears Facts About present, as he wished to know what the Amendment.

Strike Down Many Voters.

THE REASON AND THE VALUE OF THE PROMISED NEW SECTION OF THE AMENDMENT-A BRIL-LIANT SHORT ADDRESS BY E. SPENCER BLACKBURN.

States Senator J. C. Pritchard opened the anti-amendment campaign in Catawba county by an address delivered negro had the advantages of graded nouncement was greeted with cheers at the court house here today. In point of weather there could hardly white boy will be on a level with the have been a worse day for a public ignorant negro in the application of gathering. Before sunrise a chilling this disfranchising act in eight short rain that soon turned into sleet be- years. gan falling and continued almost without interruption through the day. The smoothly-frozen surface of the roads and sidewalks rendered them almost impassable. Despite these disadvantages of the day, which undoubtedly his impulsive, dashing rhetoric, as well kept large numbers of people at home as his fine analysis of the measures he who otherwise would have listened to criticised-the amendment and the elec-Senator Pritchard, an immense audience greeted the distinguished speaker. A more intelligent or more interested audience has never gathered in this state at a meeting for the discussion of a political issue. Catawpa ington on the evening train. county, the great wheat growing county of the state, boasts a fine class of farm population, men who have acquired a competence by intelligence, honesty and application. These men were largely represented among the audience despite the inclemency of the weather. With them were the business men of the town and of o .er towns. The large court room was crowded-seats, aisies and window benches. Such an audience on such a day was a high compliment both to the speaker and to the cause of human liberty and political freedom which he represented. The colored voter was not lacking but he was in a small minority in the great gathering of white men. Had the day been at all fair no hall in Western North Carolina could have contained the assemblage that would have gathered. The delegations that came from Lincolnton, Statesville Hickory and Marion were but a small contingent of those who had planned to ittend the meeting from other places. Senator Pritchard spoke extempo-

raneously for about an hour, and th close attention and evidence of extreme interest in his listeners doubtless had much to do with inspiring the attractive eloquence of his speech. Those who are acquainted with Senator Pritchard's mode of public address are aware that he rarely expends force and time on flights of oratory or figurative language or anecdote illustration. A forcible alignment of facts and argument delivered with incisive accuracy are his forte. He appeals to his listeners by the clearness and accuracy of his speech and its evident sole purpose to convey to them his own positive conviction. Never was this more apparent than in Senator Pritchard's speech today. His argument ut like a sharp knife through the barrier of doubt and around the proposed suffrage amenument to conceal its meaning and the results that would follow if by any possibility it should become a part of our

state constitution. Mr. Pritchard stated briefly the fact, now familiar to all who have studied the question, that the proposed amendment in its fifth section, is in direct violation 鱼 of the fifteenth amendment of the federal constitution. He cited ex-Senator George R. Edmunds' opinion to this effect. He quoted Chief Justice Fuller of the United States Supreme court, to prove that only the fifth section would slow, the nation confidently awaits be declared unconstitutional, if the news of the relief of the 8,000 besieged amendment were ratified, and showed that the constitutional portion of the amendment applied with the same disfranchising force to white men as to negroes. Senator Pritchard alluded to

> legislature is going to add to the amendment in substance as follows: Judge Brown, of the Superior court, now on the bench, has handed down a decision in advance regarding the amendment. He knows it is a bungling job and told Mr. Simmons that it is doomed unless he can fix it up.

the new section Mr. Simmons says the

Simmons-God knows I don't know how I can fix it up. I've told them so many things they won't believe anything more I say. Can't you help me

Judge Brown—Oh, yes. You just get the legislature to instruct the Supreme court that section 5 is unconstitutional and section 4 is constitutional, and that when it declares section 5 unconstitutional it must also declare section 4 unconstitutional.

This is sending the amendment to the court with a "key" to work it out with. "If I had a boy 10 years old," said Mr. Pritchard, "and he should suggest such

of him." This was one of the few times in his speech that M. Pritchard provoked a laugh at the expense of the amendment makers. If the legislature passes an uncontitutional law, he added, the Supreme court will say so and no legislature can prevent it. They cannot say to the Supreme court of the nation you decide it ... is way or do not decide it at all. Why have they proposed this new thing? Because we have caught up with them. We have exposed their Six Republicans Vote Against trick. They want to fool the people once more.

address was devoted to a very direct and instructive analysis of the poll tax payment requirement of the proposed amendment. The measure requires that the tax be paid before March 1. If the amendment were in force now no citizen could vote next August or next November if they choose to put the election forward to the man who has not now paid his tax. Senator Pritchard asked if the sheriff of the county was percentage of the citizens of Catawoa county had not yet paid their taxes. Later it was learned from the county records that 20 per cent. had not yet paid-in the township of Newton it was nearer 30 per cent. Twenty-three per cent. of the white men of the state can neither read nor write and the educational requirements and the poll tax scheme showed how sincerely the promoters of the amendment were protecting the "poor and ignorant white man." Senator Pritchard quoted Senator Vance's words: "As long as any white man votes in the United States the colored man shall vote," and said that Simmons has the whip hand today and Vance men had better look out. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. In a Newton, N. C., Feb. 28.—United through long years we cannot undo. careless moment we can do that which Senator Pritchard alluded to the difficulties of the poor boy on the farm obtaining an education, while the town schools, but under the amendment, as its by the republicans.

Senator Pritchard was warmly ap-

plauded. Hon. E. Spencer Blackburn, assistant United States district attorney, followed shall be subjected to 15 per cent of the Senator Pritchard in a brief but brilliant speech. Mr. Blackburn's wit and tion law-were cordially received by the audience, with whom the handsome young lawyer is evidently a favorite. Mr. C. P. Moore, editor of the Hickory Press, presided at the meeting. Senator Pritchard returned to Wash-

LINNEY TO SPEAK

Newton, N. C., Feb. 28.-Congressman Linney speaks at Maiden, this county, tomorrow at the organization of an anti-amendment club.

publications in Asheville nine are printed in the office of the Asheville Printing company.

Baldwin's Headache Cure 25c. Tour money back if it fails. At Grant's.

Grant's No. 24 cures Cold and La Grippe, 25c. Your money back if it fails. At Grant's.

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D wning's Chlorides cure Asthmo, Bronchitis, Catarrh and all diseases of the respiratory organs by simple inhalation. No apparatus. Agency at Grant's. Wood's Garden and Flower . Seeds

Fresh seeds only. At Grant's. Leave orders for Kumyes at Grant's.

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Year by year the sales of Camphorine increase. Could this be true of a fake. 25c. All druggists.

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PORTO RICAN BILL PASSES

It and Four Democrats A large part of Senator Pritchard's For It.

> Shall Not Continue in Force After March 1, 1902.

States and the Island. Vote on the Hiwaiian Bill in the Sen-

Conditions on Goods Between United

ALDRICH SPOKE ON THE FINAN-

ate Today.

CIAL BILL, CLAIMING THAT AL-LEN HAD COME FROM A CON-FERENCE WITH BRYAN, WHICH ALLEN DENIED.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The Porto Rican tariff bill passed the house today by a vote of 172 to 161. The an-

Six republicans voted against the bill and four democrats for it, among the latter being Sibley. The bill as finally passed provides, among other things, that Porto Rican merchandise entering the United States and United States merchandise entering Porto Rico duties imposed on similar articles of foreign countries, and that in addition thereto merchandise of Porto Rican manufacture entering the United States for sale or consumption shall be subjected to the United States internal revenue tax, and the American merchandise entering Porto Rico for similar purposes shall be subjected to the internal revenue tax of Porto Rico. It is provided that the provisions of the bill shall not continue in force after March 1, 1902.

IN THE SENATE. Washington, Feb. 28.-Today's ses-. sion of the senate was almost entirely devoted to an explanation by Aldrich of the conference report on the financial It is interesting to note that of the 18 bill and the delivery of a prepared speech by McLaurin in favor of expansion and the consideration of the bill extending territorial form of govern-

ment to Hawaii. While explaining the various conference amendments none of which, Aldrich asserted, vitally altered the purpose of the original bill, he ran afoul of Allen, who indulged in some remarks adverse to the amendment relating to national bank notes. Aldrich alluded to Allen as coming fresh from a conference with Bryan, and intimated hat Allen was acting with the demo-

Allen hotly denied he had conferred with Bryan or that he was co-operating with the democrats. He reminded Aldrich that there were three parties in he country, and entered into an explanation of the differences between the democrats and the populists.

The conference report was laid over without action, and after McLaurin's peech on expansion the Hawailan bill was taken up. A number of amendments were discussed. It was agreed to take a final vote on th bill tomorrow and the senate adjourned.

LARGE PLANTING INTERESTS.

Havana, Feb. 28.-The Boston Fruit ompany has purchased 198,000 acres of land from the old French syndicate, located in the Bay of Nipe. This is the largest land deal that has taken place in Cuba in many years and involves the laying out of three quarters of a million dollars. The land will be developed for the growing of oranges and sugar cane. This purchase indicates the confidence of American capital in the Cuban future and will serve to draw other investments which is the only thing needed to make Cuba thrive.

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