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KIMBERLEY TAKEN.

At Last The Boers are Said to be in Retreat.

THE FORTUNES OF WAR TURNED.

General French, With a Force of Artillery, Calvary and Mounted Infantry, Enters Kimberley and Dines at the Club.

London, By Cable.—The War Office announces that General French reached Kimberley Thursday evening. Following is Lord Roberts' message to the War Office:

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 16, 2 a. m.—French, with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley this evening, Thursday."

General Cronje, with a start of a day or two, is seriously in full retreat from Lord Roberts, moving northward. Gen. French, with the cavalry, simply stayed over night in Kimberley, and then pushed on to get in touch with the retiring enemy. A long Boer wagon train is moving toward Bloemfontein, followed presumably by a large force of British infantry. In their hasty departure the Boers lost quantities of supplies and ammunition. Military opinion here is that Lord Roberts will not push far after the Boers immediately, because of transport problems, and the need of rest for the troops. He has to feed 70,000 persons in his army, and the whole Kimberley population. He must rebuild the railroad from Modder River down to Kimberley and revictual the latter. General French lost a few men only in action, but the forced marches and heat have probably made many ill. Numbers of remounts must be provided. Lord Roberts has wrought a genuine preliminary success and the impression is that he has done enough for the present. He will need to prepare for another strike.

All over England there have been evidences of public joy. In every theatre and public meeting, around railroad stations and in the streets, there have been expressions of gladness and jubilation over the news. The newspapers are editorially rejoicing.

Those who read the news closely see only one disturbing factor in the Cape situation, and that is, the pressure of the Boers toward Lord Roberts' line of supply through DeAar, which was never more important than now. The Boers under Commandants Delarey and Grob penetrate to the railroad. They have pushed General Clements back to Arundel, and have outflanked him. All are within 60 miles, or two day's hard march, of the central railroad. Doubtless Lord Roberts has left considerable forces along the line and can send back more if necessary.

The following dispatch from General Roberts fills the gaps in the earlier dispatches.

"Modder River, Feb. 16.—The Sixth Division left Waterfall drift, early yesterday morning, and marched here, going on the same evening to Rondeval drift to hold the crossing of the Modder river, and leave General French free to act. Shortly after arriving here the mounted infantry visited Jacobsodal and found it full of women and children with some wounded men, doing well. On the way back, the mounted infantry were attacked and nine men were wounded. Colonel Henry and Major Hatchel and ten men were missing. Both officers were subsequently found at Jacobsdal, slightly wounded. The cavalry division is moving in a northerly direction and has apparently already reduced the pressure on Kimberley, as Sekewich signals the enemy has abandoned Alexandersfontein and that he has occupied it. French has advanced as far as Abonsdam with a slight loss and is pushing on the posts, his rear being held by mounted infantry. Clements, having been pressed by the Boers, has retired to Arundel to cover Naauwpoort."

The War Office points out that the word "there" in the above dispatch means some point on the Modder river other than the Modder river station.

Lumber Interests Pooled.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—It is said that the entire pine lumber interests of Virginia and North Carolina have been pooled. Dr. J. O. White, of Camden, N. J., is reported to have been promoter and to have consummated the deal at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, N. Y., Thursday.

Truce in Kentucky.

Frankfort, Ky., Special.—The agreement to postpone the Taylor-Beckham suit operates as a truce in the legal battle over the State offices and it is not probable that there will be any decisive changes in the situation till then unless the return of the Democratic legislature here next week, adds some unexpected feature. A party of the attorneys on both sides held a meeting Friday evening and made several plans for consolidating the various injunction cases in order to avoid a clash between the different State courts in which they are pending.

Wants to Make Lynching Treason.

New York, Special.— Representative White, of North Carolina, in a speech before 400 people, under the auspices of the Afro-American Council of New York, said he had a bill for introduction in Congress making lynching treason against the State. At no time, he said, has the race prejudice been so strong, and it was time for the nation to ... that every individual life was safe until the law takes its course.

Senator Shot.

Jackson, Miss., Special.—State Senator R. L. Bradley was slightly wounded at Raymond, by Mrs. Ida Bolls, who alleges that Bradley had failed to keep faith in a promise to marry her. Senator Bradley was seated at dinner in the hotel, when the woman entered the dining hall and fired at his head, the bullet entering the back of the neck and inflicting a painful wound, though not fatal. Mrs. Bolls then attempted to commit suicide by stabbing herself, but was prevented.

TAYLOR FILES PETITION.

He Wants to Restrain Beckham and Castleman.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—Suit was filed in the Circuit Court Wednesday by counsel for Governor Taylor, seeking to restrain J. C. W. Beckham from acting as Governor, and General John B. Castleman from attempting to discharge the duties of Adjutant General. Summons were served on the defendants this afternoon. The suit will be allotted to one of the Circuit Court judges by a drawing. This drawing may not be held for several days. When it is held, an application for a restraining order will be made. The suit is brought by Governor Taylor for himself individually, and as Governor of Kentucky. The petition asserts that Governor Tayor was elected to that office on November 10, 1899, and afterward received a certificate of election and qualified as Governor. The petition continues: "Since the time of his said qualification to the present time, the plaintiff has continuously been and is now performing the functions of the office, and is recognized as Governor by the other State officers. But the plaintiff says that the defendant, J. C. W. Beckham, is now and for some time has been claiming and pretending to be the Governor of Kentucky, and to have the right to perform the functions of said office, claiming that on the aforesaid November 7, 1899, one Wm. Goebel was elected Governor of the said State, and that he, the said Beckham, was then elected Lieutenant Governor, and that by reason of the subsequent death of said Goebel, he, the said Beckham, has become invested with the powers of Governor of said State. And he is now and for some time has been pretending to exercise the powers and performing the functions of the office of Governor aforesaid. He has been pretending to send messages as such Governor to the General Assembly of Kentucky, and has pretended to appoint the defendant, John B. Castleman, as Adjutant General of Kentucky, and to invest him with power and control over the military of said State, and the said defendant Castleman is now claiming and pretending to be such Adjutant General of the State.

Anti-Trust Conference.

Chicago, Special.—The committee on resolutions of the National Anti-Trust Conference, after a stormy meeting, finally agreed upon a report which will be submitted to the conference for adoption. The discussion was caused by a difference of opinion among the members as to the details of how the government should obtain control of the railroad, telegraph and telephone lines. A faction led by Tom L. Johnson, Louis Post and other single tax advocates, insisted that the value of franchise in assuming control should be ignored. They thought the government should take the property without paying compensation to the owners.

John P. Altgeld, George F. Williams, Governor Lee and ex-Attorney General Monett, of Ohio, were for government ownership of these utilities, but thought the cause would be injured by advocating practical confiscation at this time. Finally Mr. Altgeld suggested a compromise, which brought the warring factions together and prevented a fight later on the floor of the convention. The provision denying the value of the franchise right was stricken out, and an amendment substituted, declaring that the owners should receive just compensation for all property taken, irrespective of watered stock or other fictitious securities.

Injunction Refused.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Special.—Holding the the Federal courts had no jurisdiction of the situation in Kentucky Judge Taft Wednesday afternoon refused to grant the application for injunction against the Kentucky State board of elections and the Democratic contestants for State offices, other than governor and lieutenant governor The case can go ultimately to the United States supreme court.

Telegraphic Briefs.

Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, 2343-2347 Indiana avenue, Chicago, one the oldest Methodist church buildings in that city was almost totally destroyed by fire Wednesday night. Only the walls of the structure were left standing, and it is estimated that the loss will exceed $100,000.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Darien & Western Railroad, at Darien, Ga., officers were elected, and the directors were authorized to take steps for the extending of the road from its present junction with the Florida Central and Peninsular to the Savannah, Florida and Western, probably at Walthourville, Ga.

Guilty of Murder.

New York, Special.—After deliberating seven and a half hours, the jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree against Roland B. Molineux, charged with the murder of Mrs. Katherine J. Adams, by poisoning, on December 28, 1898. Barlow S. Weeks, counsel for the defense, made the usual motion, and Recorder Goff adjourned court until February 16, when he said he would hear the motion and sentence the defendant.

Trusts in South Carolina.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—There was a hot fight in the House of Representatives Saturday over Mr. W. J. Johnson's bill to prohibit the operation of trusts in this State. There is hearty sympathy for the bill, but some fear it will be suicidal to enact a law until some legislation can be effected. The bill was a copy of the Texas law. In view of the fact that the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company has purchased nearly all the phosphate plants in the State, the bill is of peculiar significance.

STATE SQUIBS.

The cadet battalion of the A. & M. College will parade on the afternoon of the 22nd, Washington's birthday, and will have dress parade in front of the governor's mansion in Raleigh.

Tuesday, the 20th, the E. L. synod of North Carolina met in Salisbury to consider any and all propositions placed in the committees hands for the removal of the North Carolina College.

The concentrating mill at the Union copper mine has been set in motion and the first ore was put through the mill last Saturday and it worked admirably. It is expected that the mill will be regularly in operation in a short time.—Shelby Star.

The corn and grist mill at Double Shoals was washed away las Monday night by the swollen streams. The mills belonged to the Double Shoals cotton mills and the loss is probably about $800. The river was higher than it has been for some time.—Shelby Star.

For the first time the throttle of the new engine at the oil mill was turned Tuesday afternoon and the machinery started upon its work. No seed were put into the mill that afternoon, but it is now busy at its work. They have an abundance of seed piled back waiting for the mill.—Concord Standard.

On Tuesday night the safe in the store of Max & Brown, at Davidson, was blown open, and the money amounting to about $400 was stolen. The news first came here to Policeman Harris. From the looks of the explosion it is thought to have been the work of experts. There is no clue whatever at this time as to who the parties are.

The Durham correspondent of the Charlotte Observer says the victims of the explosion are all doing well and physicians hope for the recovery of all of them. He adds by way of peculiar incidence that while the heavy machinery was twisted, mashed and ruined the power house clock was blown across the house and left without injury. Mr. Dickson's watch, too, was gathered out of the debris, ticking ahead and none the worse for what had happened.

The disappearance of Solomon Pool the old negro who lived near Wake Forest remains a mystery. There has been another hearing in the case of his wife and son, who are charged with murder. The evidence is entirely circumstantial, and is that he was killed in the house by blows on the head; that efforts were made to get the blood stains from the floor; that the body was sunk in the river, and that a letter was forged purporting to come from the old man, and dated at Richmond, Va., saying he was there and well. The son is still in jail, without privilege of bail.

A. L. Thorn, of Point Pleasant, W. Va., a member of the Mason county court, and a man of wealth and usually astute business qualities, was beaten out of $1,000 by a novel scheme a few days ago. Tuesday evening last a stranger, in clerical garb, stopped at his house and asked to stay all night, explaining that he was a Baptist circuit rider who had lost his way. At 9:30 a young looking couple drove up and asked to be directed to a minister's as they wanted to be married. Thorn's romantic turn cropped out, and he invited the couple indoors to be married by the itinerant minister. The knot was tied and Thorn signed the certificate as witness, treating to coffee, cake, pie and apples in honor of the event. The next day Thorn went to the bank and was astonished to find that his check for $1,000 had been cashed. He had signed it, payable to bearer, through a slit in the marriage certificate.—Monroe Enterprise.

Lenoir is to have a grain elevator. Moore & Lutz have purchased of Mr. Widby the lot upon which his mattress factory, which was recently destroyed by fire, stood, and will build an elevator upon it in which the farmers can deposit their grain, receiving certificates for the same. Upon these certificates they can borrow money and will thus be able to hold their crops so as to market them to the best advantage. It will be a great benefit to many and we trust these enterprising gentlemen will find it profitable.

The Chronicle says that nearly every lumber dealer in Wilkes county has been indicted for failure to pay State tax imposed on lumber dealers. Some two or three weeks ago we printed a letter from State Treasurer Worth on this subject, and also a suit which had been brought where the decision of the treasurer was overruled in the classification of dealers. It might pay those interested to look it up.

Lieutenant W. B. Lemly, our former business manager, is at Manila, 10,000 miles away. He writes his father that he thinks the war is about over; that the rainy season is passed and the weather is fine.—Winston Republican.

There were burglars in Hickory Monday night. The store of Mr. W.M. Keever, on Morganton street was entered and something over a dollar in small change, some flour and other articles taken. The stores of W. C. Shell and Shuford Hardware company were also entered and the doors were found open Tuesday morning, but nothing was missed from either. We notice from the papers of neighboring towns that burglars are continually getting in their work and it behooves every one to be on the lookout.

An important suit has just been decided in Greensboro. Miss Correll sued the water company for lack of sufficient water pressure a fire which destroyed her property some time ago. The case is without a precedent and by the decision is an eye-opener to all water companies generally. The jury brought in a verdict of $5,000. An appeal was taken.

The report that Mme. Nellie Melba, the Australian prima donna, is to marry Dr. Joseph Joachim, of Berlin, is declared to be absolutely baseless.

Mr. Billie Maynard, of X Roads Church, Yadkin county, was riding a mule when the animal fell on him and broke his leg. The mule in trying to get up fell back on him and broke his leg in another place. He also sustained internal injuries. His recovery is doubtful.

The trustees of Lenoir College held a meeting in Newton Tuesday. Steps were taken to put an agent in the field to raise money to build a handsome addition to Catawba College. Mr. A. A. Shuford, who is always among the foremost in all public enterprises started the list with a subscription of $1,000.

SENATOR EDMUND'S OPINION

He Declares the Fifth Section of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of North Carolina to be Unconstitutional; and Says Further That The Court Would Strike Out Section 5 and Leave the Remainder of the Amendment to Stand.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 10, 1900.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 15th ult. was duly received. I have carefully considered the two questions you submit for my opinion.

Your first question is whether Section 5 of the amendment proposed to Constitution of North Carolina by the Legislature of that State by the Act approved February 21st, 1899, will, if adopted, be valid in view of the Constitution of the United States.

This Section makes, in the plainest possible terms, a perfectly arbitrary distinction between male citizens in respect of the most sacred political rights of men. It gives to those persons who were entitled on or before January 1st, 1867, to vote in any state and to their lineal descendants the right to take part in elections in North Carolina, without the qualifications required of every other male citizen of being "able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language." The discrimination is not founded on any reason whatever that can have any relation to a "republican form of government," which the Constitution of the United States has required the nation to guarantee to every State, but is absolutely in opposition to, and destructive of republican government. It is a well known and historical truth that before and on the 1st day of January, 1867, there were great numbers of male citizens of the United States in, and citizens of States in which they resided, who were not entitled to vote although twenty-one years or more of age, and great numbers who were under twenty-one years of age and therefore not entitled to vote and who were not lineal descendants of the voters of that date, and there were great numbers of African descent and many aliens in process of naturalization. All these ever naturally increasing classes of citizens are required to possess a particular literary qualification, while no such test is applied to the residue of citizens of the State. A form of government of this character cannot, I think be held to be republican, either in a legal, or moral, or political sense.

I think that the discrimination is flatly in contravention of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, among other provisions for securing equal rights and privileges to all, commands that no State shall "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." It may, I think, be safely affirmed that it is now settled that the Fourteenth Amendment confers an affirmative and positive right upon every class and condition of people to a broad equality of treatment, and permits no distinction or discrimination not founded upon reasonable and just grounds of classification. It is impossible for me to imagine that a discrimination resting on its face solely upon a date could have any other basis than a purpose to disfranchise the people of a particular race and color whose condition on January 1, 1867, of then recent slavery, had made a great mass of them incapable of reading and writing any section of the Constitution of North Carolina, although doubtless large numbers of them were entirely capable of intelligently choosing their rulers.

I am also of opinion, if I am right in supposing the motive and purpose of the Section is to disfranchise a mass of colored citizens of North Carolina, who, under the present equal and Republican constitution of that State, are now entitled to suffrage, that it violates the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The matter of motive and purpose is one fact, and if such motive and purpose exist, then the right of this class of citizens is "denied or abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude;" and this Section of the proposed amendment cannot be saved by any device of date or phrase. See Williams vs. Mississippi, 170 U. S. and cases there cited, where the principles applicable to cases under the Fourteenth Amendment are stated. I am for these reasons of opinion that the Fifth Section referred to will be held void when brought to judicial decision.

Your second question is whether 4 and 5 of the Constitution are so dependent on each other that the 4th section must be held inoperative if the 5th Section is void.

Applying the test established by the Supreme Court of the United States in regard to such questions, it would seem that Section 4 may stand perfectly well without the 5th Section. It is complete in itself as a distinct Section and a distinct and complete proposition. It does not even refer to Section 5 or to anything contained in it. The first four sections of the proposed amendment contain a complete and equal rule (whether a wise one or not) for the suffrage qualifications of all citizens, sex, age, residence, innocence of crime, and capacity to read and write any section of the Constitution. In the nature of the thing no reason can, I think, be stated for holding that it is dependent for its validity on the 5th section in any respect whatever. It may be presumed that the legislature was actuated by a high sense of the importance of intelligence in the voters in a government of the people and supposed, (erroneously I think), that a capacity to read and write a section of the Constitution was the essential and sole evidence of such intelligence. Having made this complete and equal system, the legislature appears to have felt that the class of citizens who were so fortunate as to have been legal voters before January 1, 1867, and those who were so fortunate as to have their lineal descendants, could not be expected to possess and ought not to be required to possess the constitutional learning required of other classes, and so, as an act of gracious benevolence or as a recognition of the fact that the persons so situated and so descended should be entitled to vote, a separate provision was made for them. The legislature may very justly have felt that the legal and equal provisions contained in the fourth section were so important to a Republican government it would have the main provision even if the grace, etc., provided by section 5, could not lawfully be bestowed and stand as the fundamental law of the State. It cannot be supposed that the legislature could desire to make a broad, equal and universal provision in the Constitution of the State depend on the validity of an act of grace and favor to a particular class of persons. Without enlarging on the subject, I think that the 4th section can stand although the 5th section is held invalid.

Very truly yours,

GEO. F. EDMUNDS.

To Hon. J. C. Pritchard, United States Senate

Bouncers in New York Hotels.

Many people have not understood why all the great hotels in New York city employ special detectives who are constantly in the main corridor. Some have had an idea that these detectives are employed as "bouncers." No such thing. According to one of the most intelligent of these detectives the other night, the work of a detective in a hotel is arduous. "You have no idea," he said, "how many spies and sneaks and 'rubbernecks' infest the corridors of the New York hotels. These spies are employed to watch public men and if possible to listen to their utterances when talking to their friends in the corridors. These spies and sneaks are also employed to report on all sorts of matters. It is a remarkable fact that so many men acquainted with public affairs are so guileless as not to be aware of the presence of these 'rubbernecks.' The detectives in the hotels quickly spot these fellows, but so long as they conduct themselves decently there is no ground for ejecting them. Nevertheless, it is my opinion that well-known men who desire to discuss the secret things of politics and of finance and of religion, and who also desire to have business matters kept private, should be very careful to ascertain who is sitting beside them in the corridors of our hotels, or they should discuss their matters elsewhere."—New York Sun.

The difference between a wit and a humorist is that a wit says things and a humorist writes them.

His Great Work

A Chicago man, who has written a book, was telling about it the other day to a friend who had once done him a service.

"By the way,' said the author, "I would be delighted to give you a copy of my work, if you care for it."

"I should be more than pleased to have it," was the reply, "especially if you will write your name in it."

"All right. There's a book store just around the corner. If you will accompany me we will go there and get it. I don't happen to have a copy in my office just now."

After they had stopped to glance at some of the new things in the book store the author hailed a clerk, and, pushing his chest out very far, asked for the novel that he had written.

"Yes, sir," the clerk said. "We have it around here somewhere. I believe, but you are the first one who has ever asked for a copy, and it may take me some time to find it. Wouldn't something else do just as well? We have a great many better books at the same price."—Chicago Times-Herald.

A remarkable series of coincidences has come to light in Lynchburg, Va., and Augusta, Ga. In each city there is a Walter Clark whose father was named Samuel and whose mother's maiden name was Walker. Both Walter Clarks have brothers named Samuel and William, uncles named Charles and John and an aunt named Elizabeth. Yet the men cannot trace any relationship between the two families.

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

The South.

Representative Livingston, of Georgia, saw the President Monday in behalf of the appointment of Charles A. Collier as a commissioner to the Paris Exposition. On leaving the White House Mr. Livingston stated that the nomination was made. Collier was president of the Atlanta Exposition, held a few years ago.

G. B. Patterson, postmaster at Key West, Fla., has been nominated by the Republicans of the First district for Congress.

The Republican Congressional Convention of the Fourth Georgia district nominated A. H. Freeman, of Greenville, for Congress, and instructed national delegates for McKinley.

In a dispute over land, Attorney William J. Jenkins was fatally shot by John Wampoer, at Norton, Va.

The Old Dominion Steamship Company's tug Duryea suddenly filled with water and sank at Norfolk, Va.

The Virginia Senate voted down a motion to adjourn in honor of Colonel William J. Bryan's visit to Richmond.

Five hundred miners at the Bryson Coal and Coke Company's mines, near Tazwell, Tenn., struck Monday for an increase of 10 per cent. in wages.

At Cherry Station, Tenn., Jim Gordon, a negro, cut the throat of Mrs. George Collins with a butcher knife, and was killed by the woman's husband.

The jury trying Magistrate Oscar I. Flemming, of Queen Anne County, Va., for the murder of young Clarence J. Snyder, failed to agree and the case goes over until May.

The North.

A New York dispatch says that three tugs and one lighter are at work unloading the stranded steamer Gate City. Nothing is being done to get her off.

An explosion partially wrecked the Columbia Firecracker Works at Columbus, O., and six men were injured. Dell Everhart fatally.

August Harriman, the millionaire president of the Rubsam & Harriman Brewing Company, of Stapleton, L. I., killed himself at New York by cutting his throat.

The Probate Court at Chicago, Ill., has decided that Mrs. Ralalie D. Douglass was legally the wife of the late W. H. Douglass, who left $30,000 and no will.

Twenty-five subpoenas have been issued for witnesses in the Idaho mining riots investigation.

The body of Elijah Cone, an old newspaper man, was found frozen in the river at Fond Du Lac, Wis.

At Springfield, Mass, William Metcalf, a well known local printer and publisher, killed himself by shooting.

Judge William H. Taft, of Cincinnati, O., appointed president of the Philippine Commission, is deluged with applications for official places.

Robbers tried to hold up an Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe train near Perry, O. T., but the engineer put on steam and left them along the track.

During a fire which damaged the Stross Hotel, at Cincinnati, O., to the extent of $3,000, Miss Dolly Le Claire, a trapeze artist, descended from a high window on a rope made of bedclothes.

Mayor Rose, of Milwaukee, Wis., has secured $99,200 of the $100,000 guaranty fund, which is expected to be an important factor in securing for that city the Democratic National Convention.

Foreign.

The coal strike has gradually extended to Germany. The Halle Leipsig districts are also affected. Daily comes the news that large factories have closed because of lack of coal.

Cotton is attracting unusual attention from speculators on the Bourse at Berlin.

Snowfalls have impeded railway and telegraph communication throughout Germany.

Baron Edmund Rothschild and three guests killed 1683 pheasants in seven hours' gunning, near Paris.

Bombs have been discovered at the Paris Exposition, verifying the suspicion that Anarchists sought to blow it up.

Police had to be called into the Chamber of Deputies at Madrid to quell an outburst over a tie vote on an increase of octroi duties.

Persistent drinkers who come under Poor Guardians' control at Helston, England, are to be punished by cold water scrubbings.

The London University Division elected to Parliament Sir Michael Foster, independent Unionist, to succeed Sir John Lubbock, Liberal Unionist, elevated to the peerage.

General Ludlow, Military Governor of Havana, sailed from that city Saturday for New York, on a leave of absence of ten days.

Mrs. Oliver Belmont, the Duchess of Marlborough and others of their set were vaccinated during a smallpox scare at Nice.

Miscellaneous.

Richard Croker, whose leg was recently broken, can now walk with a cane, and will go from London to the Riviera.

Sergeant Hugh Welsch, M., Second Artillery, committed suicide with a revolver at Havana.

Robert P. Porter is expected back from Havana on the steamer which has sailed for New York, having finished his tariff classifications.

It is said that John Barrett, ex-Minister to Siam, will be made the head of a commission to investigate the commercial possibilities of the far East.

Ex-Empress Eugenie is recovering from a dangerous illness in Paris.

American purchases have increased the price of sugar throughout Germany.

Money is easy in Berlin but bankers exact exceptional collateral for large loans.

The recent voyage of the transport Manuense from San Francisco, Cal., to Manila, is to be officially probed.

CRONJE RETREATS.

The Boer Commander Moves Towards Bloemfontein.

London, by Cable.—The War Office has received the following from General Roberts:

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 17. 5:50 a. m.—Kelley-Kenney captured Friday seventy-eight wagons with stores, two wagons with Mausers, eight boxes of shells, ten barrels of explosives and many stores belonging to Cronje's laager, which our artillery was still shelling when General Kitchener dispatched the messenger."

A dispatch to the Chronicle from Jacobsdal under Friday's date says:

"After the sixth division evacuated Jacobsdal on Thursday in order to march north, the enemy re-occupied the place. The fifteenth brigade, including the London Imperial Volunteers, attacked and shelled the Boers. The men advanced steadily and in splendid order and drove the enemy over the ridges to the northward. The Volunteers, who had scouted to the right and left, showed veteran-like pluck and steadiness. The Staffordshires made a bayonet charge, but the enemy did not wait. The town was recaptured in three hours and mounted infantry is pursuing the Boers."

Negro Soldiers Riotous.

El Paso, Tex., Special.—Negro troops stationed at Fort Bliss Saturday made an assault on the county jail with the intention of rescuing two comrades who had been locked up there. Twenty or thirty shots were exchanged and a soldier and constable killed. The sheriff called out a posse to prevent the trouble from spreading, and several of the posse are looking for the soldiers who escaped. The city is in a state of great excitement over the affair. The soldiers are armed with Krag-Jorgenson rifles. Early Friday night officers Christy and Scott had to arrest a negro soldier for being drunk and disorderly. The soldier was placed in jail, and nothing more was thought of the arrest by the police until the attack, which occurred in the early hours Saturday morning.

Refuse to Rejoice.

London, by Cable.—The news from Western campaign in the Orange Free State continues to improve, yet England refuses to rejoice. The truth is the relief of Kimberley came in the nick of time to avert a scare which might have become a panic. Thursday night's debate in Parliament might well have disheartened the country. Men of both parties expressed views on the situation and outlook which were fairly appalling in their warnings of national peril.

The Plague at Manila.

Manila, by Cable.—Out of a total of 51 cases of suspected bubonic plague reported, 42 proved genuine and 32 deaths resulted, half of them being Chinaman. There were 12 cases during the week, mostly within the walled city, and a hundred inspectors, under the superintendence of a health officer, Major Edie, are enforcing the sanitary regulations. Thirty of the inspectors are Chinamen who were furnished by the Chinese merchants. The Health Department census shows the regulation of Manila is about 190,000 including 31,000 Chinese.

Killing at a Frolic.

Greenville, N. C., Special.—A murder was committed in Green county about twenty miles from here Friday night. A man named Harrell gave a party, and many people from the neighborhood were in attendance. Among the guests was a man named John Faulkner. He became involved in a dispute with another man whose name could not be learned, and as a result Faulkner was shot and killed. The murderer escaped. All the parties are white.

Joyful at News.

Cape Town, by Cable.—When the news of the relief of Kimberley reached here an immense crowd rushed to the government house, where they sang patriotic English songs and cheered enthusiastically. An attempt was made to get Governor Milner to make a speech, but he declined.

Molineux. in Sing Sing.

New York, Special.—Roland B. Molineux was sentenced to die in Sing Sing prison, durning the week beginning March 26th, for the murder of Mrs. Katherine J. Adams, and was placed in the Sing Sing penitentiary Friday afternoon. He made a statement before sentence that he had not been fairly convicted and that "yellow journalism had put a price upon his head, inviting every blackmailer, perjurer and rogue." He entered a specific denial of the charges.

Telegraphic Briefs.

The transport Burnside arrived at New York quarantine from San Juan and Santiago.

Though several times wounded by them, Express Messenger Milton succeeded in driving a gang of robbers from his car at Fairbanks, Ariz.

Edward Galer, deck cadet on the liner St. Louis, charged with stealing $4,861 in transit from Berlin to New York, was discharged by the Court at Southampton because the robbery was committed on an American ship.

Frank Johnson, a saloon keeper, was found dead from a pistol ball through his head at New York Saturday, and his wife was arrested on suspicion.

Miss Amanda A. Seymour, the tenth victim of the Ford River switch wreck, died at Escanaba, Mich.

During its recent survey for the Trans-Pacific cable and steamer Nero made a sounding near Guam Island to the depth of 5,269 fathoms, or nearly six miles.

The Island of Lanai, Hawaii, which has a population of 600, is sadly in need of provisions.

TAR HEEL NOTES.

Ross Hummel Shot.

Charles Hummel, who shot his son, Ross, Wednesday, near Greensboro, was carried to Winston Friday afternoon and placed in jail. He tells a sad story, in which domestic troubles have a part. The family came to Greensboro from New York State four years ago and prospects for their future prosperity and happiness were bright. The eldest son, Ross, was an intelligent and industrious boy, of great assistance to his father in the management of their dairy farm. When the Spanish-American war broke out he became filled with the spirit of adventure and joined a regiment bound for Cuba, against the advice of his father and the entreaties of his mother. When he returned home, his father says, he had changed from the innocent, manly boy into a reckless, daredevil sort of a fellow, and was much given to drink. The father was faithful in his efforts to correct the wayward son, but, strange to say, the mother came between them and encouraged the boy to throw off all parental restraint. Things went from bad to worse until Wednesday of this week, when Hummel was forced to shoot his son to save his own life. At least this is the father's side of the story.

The mother gives an entirely different account of the affair, and the causes leading up to it. She says her husband has always been unkind and brutal in his treatment of their son and had threatened his life on several occasions, going into the boys room at one time to shoot him while he slept.

Young Hummel is still in a precarious condition, the physicians holding out no hope of his recovery.

State News Notes.

The State charters the Carolina and Virginia telephone company, capital, $10,000, headquarters at Henderson, N. C., N. P. Strause, F. C. Toepleman and J. B. Bridgers stockholders.

It is learned from some cotton growers that buyers are now offering to take their crops delivered next October at 7 3-4 cents. One grower says a buyer has made him this offer for 1,000 bales, but that he has never raised over 600 bales, and is dropping cotton as a crop because he has found it unprofitable.

Secretary T. K. Bruner, of the agricultural department, will go to Paris directly after the meeting of the board in March, and will remain there until its June meeting. He will distribute literature regarding North Carolina and look after the display of North Carolina exhibits in the exposition. All the exhibits are now on the way to Paris. Nothing more will be sent.

The corporation commission calls for a report of the State banks up to the close of business, February 13th. There are 85 banks.

Commissioner of Insurance Young says he will return into the State treasury for the fiscal year about $15,000 more than it has ever received in one year.

The Forsyth chair company is a new enterprise. The capital stock is $..,000, with privilege to increase to $100,000. Several of Winston-Salem's business men have taken stock. Mr. Charles Siewers is president and treasurer. The company has leased the factory of Reynolds Bros., south of Salem.

Wilmington is to have a model hospital building through the generosity of Mr. James Walker, one of its wealthiest and most estimable citizens. He made known his intentions Tuesday. The building will be four stories, of brick and stone, and will be erected on the present grounds of the city hospital. It will cost about $30,000. A meeting of leading physicians and citizens was held and a resolution unanimously adopted that means would be provided to carry on the hospital when erected.

Smallpox is becoming general throughout most of the counties of North Carolina. The cases, however, are all peculiarly mild in form, and the quarantine regulations such as to prevent any apprehension of the disease spreading to any serious extent.

The Salem Iron Works is manufacturing a machine for making railroad crossties. The machine is the "Champion crossties machine," and turns out a complete tie in a minute.

The Female Seminary at Reidsville has closed on account of smallpox. Three cases broke out in the school. Those subject to the disease are under quarantine.

The principal political event in the State during the past week was the trip of Hon. William J. Bryan through the middle section. He spoke in Raleigh and at the University to large and enthusiastic audiences. On Wednesday evening he made brief addresses at Greensboro and Salisbury, and on Wednesday night addressed a large crowd at the Southern passenger depot in Charlotte. His speeches were devoted mainly to national questions, and State issues were not touched upon at any point.

Evangelist Pearson has been holding a series if revival meetings in Charlotte for the past ten days or two weeks. The labors of this noted evangelist have been crowned with more than ordinary success.

Mecklenburg county shows by her tax returns that she is the wealthiest county in the State.

The State charters the Lindsay chair company, of High Point, capital, $15,000, J. A. Lindsay and others stockholders.

It is said that John Barrett, ex-Minister to Siam, will be made the head of a commission to investigate the commercial possibilities of the far East

Ex-Empress Eugenie is recovering from a dangerous illness in Paris.

American purchases have increased the price of sugar throughout Germany.

Money is easy in Berlin but bankers exact exceptional collateral for large loans.

The recent voyage of the transport Manuense from San Francisco, Cal., to Manila, is to be officially probed.