

WAR OFFICE SILENT.

Reports of Appalling Loss of Life in the Battle Fought Along the Tugela.

FRENCH REPULSES BOERS.

Sir Alfred Miler Proclaims Martial Law in Two More Districts of Cape Colony—Portugal Will Neither Sell, Cede Nor Lease Her Colonies.

By Telegraph to the News.
LONDON, Jan. 17.—The War Office has received news which it has not made public concerning the battle now raging for twenty-five miles along the Tugela river.

There is every indication that the news is favorable to the British cause, but all the unofficial reports from the front show that the victory, of such it proves to be, is being bought at a terrible cost of English blood.

The Boers are resisting desperately along the length of the battle's front, and heavy firing heard at Freere and Chiselwy camp make certain that the loss of dead and wounded will be appalling.

FRENCH REPULSE BOER ATTACK

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The War Office has received from Lord Roberts a dispatch dated Cape Town the 16th, evening: "On the 15th the Boers made a determined attack on French's advanced post held by the New Zealand Mounted Rifles and a detachment of the First Yorkshires. The Boers were repulsed, having twenty killed. Their wounded is estimated at not less than fifty. The attack was preceded by long range fire from one gun. Otherwise the situation is unchanged."

MARTIAL LAW PROCLAIMED.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 17.—Sir Alfred Miler, governor of Cape Colony, has proclaimed martial law in the districts of Hope Town and Philippen. A SIGNIFICANT FOR WHAT IT DOESN'T SAY.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—The War Office has issued the following bulletin from Buller dated the 16th: "One death from dysentery, one wounded in the reconnoitering along the Tugela on the 15th. On that day it was reported from both Freer and Pietermaritzburg."

STOPPED BY THE CENSOR.

DURBAN, Jan. 17.—Buller has sent a number of long dispatches to Roberts but the censor refuses to permit anything unofficial to be sent except the bare statement that Buller occupied strong positions yesterday. Buller's report is taken to mean that he has met the Boers, that they have fallen back and that the British are now well on the way to the relief of Ladysmith. RUMOR THAT LADYSMITH HAS BEEN RELIEVED.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Prices advanced on the stock exchange today on the rumor that Ladysmith had been relieved, but there is nothing elsewhere to corroborate the report.

HOAR'S RESOLUTION PASSED.

Wants Detailed Report of Philippine War—Vote on Currency Bill February 15th.

By Telegraph to the News.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Senator Hoar's resolution asking for a detailed report of the conduct of the war in the Philippines passed the Senate without division.

The Senate is discussing Hale's resolution regarding the seizure of American flour. Senator Davis says negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily.

Senator Aldrich today made a public statement to take a vote on the currency bill the 15th of February. He wished to make the date the 8th but Allen objected.

PORTUGAL WILL NEITHER SELL, CEDE OR LEASE.

By Telegraph to the News.
LISBON, Jan. 17.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs declares that Portugal will not sell, cede or lease any of her colonial possessions.

MENELIK RETURNS HOME.

By Telegraph to the News.
ROME, Jan. 17.—The Italian representative in Abyssinia telegraphs that King Menelik, who recently started for the border with a large force, has returned home and dismissed his army.

GONE TO TENNESSEE.

The goods and effects of Mr. W. A. Basom, who lived on the corner of Fourth and McDowell streets, were today packed and moved by Branner, ready for shipment to Tennessee, Mr. Basom moving there.

EUCRE WORSE THAN CRAPS

Grand Jury in Its Report Scores Society Card Players.

Following is the report of the grand jury for the present term of the Criminal court.

To His Honor, Dossey Battle, Judge Eastern District Criminal Court:
Your grand jury for the January term, A. D. 1900, would respectfully submit the following report:

Action has been taken by us on 80 bills of indictments, not a single bill at this term of court not being acted on. We have visited, by committee, all the charitable and penal institutions of the county. We found them all in good condition, with the exception that the bed-clothing at the camp on Salisbury road possibly needed cleansing.

We find the jail in good condition and well kept. But for the convenience of the jailor's family we recommend that the two front cells above and below be removed to the third story, and that an outlet be provided for the water used in scouring the second floor of the jail and such other repairs as may be needed about the steps and plastering.

We deplore the seeming increase of crime in our county, and we believe this increase is due largely to the desire for gambling that seems to permeate all strata of society, from the highest to the lowest. And we are of opinion that the dainty hands that deftly deal the cards at the game of progressive euchre is far more culpable and should be dealt with as sternly, on account of their larger influence on the morals of the young and ignorant, than the ignorant negro who, in the seclusion of the creek-bank thicket, "shoots craps" at a nickle a shot.

L. M. McALISTER,
Foreman of Grand Jury.

SMALL POX CASE.

Negro from Cheraw, S. C., Reports to Dr. Hawley Today.

This morning a negro by the name of Green Roseboro, stopped Dr. Hawley, city physician, and asked him to look at his face, that he was broken out with an eruption, and felt very sick. The doctor looked at him, and said: "Why, you have a well-defined case of small-pox, and must go to the pest house at once." In a very short time Roseboro was "unhappy" on the way.

Like all the other small-pox patients who have been at the pest house, Green drifted here. He had been working on the new railroad near Cheraw, S. C., and there contracted the disease. Getting from one place to another is easy with railroad hands, so he had no trouble in reaching Charlotte. He got in early this morning, and hunted Dr. Hawley up at once.

Roseboro's home is eight miles from Chester, S. C. He has a well-defined case of small-pox.

PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

Proposed by the Philippine Commission for Our New Possessions.

By Telegraph to the News.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Here is the plan of government proposed for the Philippines by the Philippine Commission, after peace is declared.

First, The American governor is to control the affairs of the entire Archipelago. He is to be appointed by the President.

Second, An advisory council to the governor composed of Americans and natives.

Third, A Legislative assembly, partly appointive, partly elective, who acts shall be subject to the qualified veto of Governor, and the absolute veto of the United States Congress.

Fourth, Governors are to be appointed for the provinces and subdivisions of the islands into small sections, over which Americans or educated natives will preside.

FOR THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

The St. Cecilia Society, which, previously noted, will give a concert in the Y. M. C. A. hall Tuesday night, 23rd inst., today got out its posters. The concert is to be given for the benefit of the Humane Society. Miss Emma Leinbach, will be the soprano soloist; Mr. Joseph H. Craighill, pianist; Miss Muriel Porter, accompanist; Mrs. W. B. Ryder, conductor. The admission will be 50 cents. Reserved seats on sale at Jordan's.

STEELE CREEK WEDDING.

Wedding bells are to ring in Steele Creek on the 24th inst. The bride is to be Miss Ruth Neeley, and the groom Mr. David Stinson. The ceremony will be performed at 2 p. m., by Rev. Mr. McAlpine.

HEMP PORTS TO BE OPENED.

By Telegraph to the News.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Otis cables that Kobbe leaves for the "Hemp ports" tonight. This will mean the opening of these ports.

KILLED HIS WIFE.

Mack Fesperman, a Negro Shoemaker, in a Jealous Rage Shot Woman to Death.

OFFICERS HURRIED TO SCENE.

But the Murderer Boarded a Passing Freight Train and Escaped—The Coroner's Jury in Session Today—What the Verdict Will Be.

Irene Fesperman, colored, was shot and instantly killed last night between 8 and 9 o'clock, by her husband, Mack Fesperman. Fesperman escaped and is still at large.

Fesperman and his wife had not lived together for several years, she residing with his sister in a house on Hill street. Last night Fesperman tanked up pretty freely, and went to the house where Irene lived and calling her out told her not to go to a house across the street where an entertainment was in progress. She started to go. When she reached the railroad crossing a freight train was pulling in, and the woman stopped to let the train pass. As she stopped Fesperman, who had followed her, drew his pistol, and fired at her four times, every shot taking effect. The first two balls entered her forehead, and the others her body. The woman fell and expired instantly. The sound of the pistol brought out the neighborhood, about 300 negroes being on the spot in the twinkling of an eye. Fesperman still had the pistol in his hand and the negroes made no effort to arrest him. He ran down the railroad, and it is supposed boarded the freight train and so made his escape.

News of the killing was quickly circulated. Chief Orr and Officers Farling and Irvine left the police dining at the Buford for the scene of the murder. The blood hounds at the convict camp were sent for, and were put on the trail at 12 o'clock, but without results. Chief Orr and other officers scoured different parts of the city, and Constable Porter and Policeman Earnhardt went to Paw Creek, where Fesperman's father, Elias Fesperman, and mother, Mary Fesperman, live. Mack was not there, and his parents were greatly distressed to learn of his crime. His mother said, in speaking of the murdered woman: "She was an awful good woman, and I sure did love her, and my son is a bad boy, and I never will see another minute's peace and I never want to see his face no more."

Fesperman was a shoe-maker. He had a shop on West Trade street, near Mr. J. H. Emery's store. His grandfather belonged to "Squire D. G. Maxwell's" father, and his father, Elias, was "Squire Maxwell's" body servant during the war.

The coroner is to be in this afternoon. The verdict of the jury may be anticipated: "Irene Fesperman came to her death by pistol shot wounds from the hands of her husband, Mack Fesperman."

KNIGHT WINS LADY FAIR.

Handsome "Knight of the Old Dominion" to Marry on the 24th.

Mr. George Moseley, who is remembered in Charlotte not only as the brother of Mr. C. A. Moseley, but the handsome "Knight of the Old Dominion," that having been the nom de plume under which he crowned the queen of love and beauty at the largest tournament ever held in this city, is to "crown a queen of love and beauty" who will occupy the throne of love and life with him on the 24th inst.—Miss Thomas Netter, of Mississippi. The marriage will be solemnized at the home of the bride. Mr. and Mrs. Moseley will arrive in Charlotte shortly after their marriage, and will spend the greater part of their time here, this being a central point for him in his travels. He and his bride will be welcomed by warm hearts and hands.

NORTH STATE CLUB.

The North State Club will have a meeting tonight, which, as stated yesterday, will decide the fate of the club. The Chamber of Commerce has made a proposition to the club to take its rooms over the express office, with the exception of the pool and billiard room and a small room at the rear; or to use them jointly with different exceptions and provisions to be set forth tonight.

Criminal court will adjourn tomorrow. Solicitor Webb thinks the docket can be cleared by that time.

FAIR HANDS & FACES

"Soft, Deft Fingers" Deal the Cards at Miss Grace King's Pretty Home on N. Tryon.

GRAND JURY VS. SOCIETY.

What Will the Jurors do Before the Army of Pretty Offenders?—What Men Generally Do:—With All Their Faults Love Them Still.

It is Miss Grace King's deal, and she calls the game for this afternoon at 3:30, at her home, on North Tryon street. The cards which she issued several days ago for a euchre gave the card-playing element something agreeable and to look forward to.

Miss King has a charm of manner rendered all the more delightful when in her own home. She made a gracious hostess this afternoon and the game was one of the brightest and most interesting of the season. A daintily served lunch followed, which filled up the measure of happiness of the fair players. The score cards were unique. They were in the shape of hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades. The colors of the evening were red and black.

The invited guests were: Misses Fan Burwell, Lottie Tomlinson, Lena Heath, Mary Mayer, Fan, Ella and Midge McAden, Elizabeth, Sadie and Pearl Clarkson, Lucy McAden, Marion Clarkson, Ethel Holt, Mary Armand and Bettie Nash, Anita de Rossett, Grace Cochrane, Leona Ryder, Saide and Edna Hirshinger, Adele, Ann Parks and Selene Hutchison, Annie Wiley, Minnie Moore, Mary Oates, Adele Brenizer, Lettie Shober, Lucy Oates, Laura Wadsworth, Violet and Julia Alexander, Josephine Parker, Bessie and Julia Robertson, Eva Sumner, Frances and Helen Mallory, Misses Weller and Goodwin, Anna Locke Hutchison, Addie Belle and Winnie Barron, Faye Griffith, Norma Van Landingham, Saida and Alice Jones, Hope Spencer, Lizzie Lawrence, Johnnie Bason and Laura Hammond; Messrs. S. O. Brookes, A. H. Harris, J. Retwick Wilkes, Graham Weddington, E. P. Keerans, S. B. Alexander, A. S. Duffin and A. S. Thompson.

Mrs. S. O. Brookes entertained the Chaffing Dish Club yesterday afternoon in dainty and beautiful style. After a round of guessing games the prize—a bunch of carnations—being worn by Miss Adele Wittkowsky, lunch was served. On dainty menu cards, ornamented by that gifted artist, Mr. J. H. Barney, was the following:

PROLOGUE.
"A riddle, friend, before you lies,
In every dish our cook supplies;
Now guess and give the answer true,
Before each course is served to you."

MENU.
"1. Our oldest enemy, and a favorite bivalve.
"2. Apples of love filled with nerve tonic, derved with the drummer's most useful commodity.
"3. Islands belonging to the United States, covered with small fry from Bay of Biscay; fruit nipped in the bud, and farmers' weather-vane.
"4. Our colors—A wintry suggestion.
"5. Bob White turned brown; his friend, Tom Thumb, with high collar; Commodore Nutt, well salted; General Green, of ancient Oriental family and other attendants.
"6. The "Queen of Cities"—The Doctor's Friend.
"7. A Dutch Island—A creamy beverage."

For fear that the reader will commit the Shakespearean "bursting-in-ignorance" act, the menu is thus explained: No. 1—Deviled oysters; No. 2—sardines, celery dressing; No. 3—sandwiches, sardines, eggs, chéese straws; No. 4—orange ice; No. 5—quail, green peas, patties, salted almonds, olives, potato chips; No. 6—Charlotte russe, fruit cake; No. 7—Java, whipped cream.

The stag dining given last evening by Mr. H. A. Murrill, at his pretty cottage home, on Morehead avenue, was an elegant affair, such as Mr. Murrill always gives. The dinner was handsomely appointed in every respect. The table was exquisitely adorned in pink carnations, pink ribbon and costly silver and glass. Eight courses, with ver pop-cork accompaniment, which is always "music to mine ears," were served, Mrs. Murrill, in a dainty and becoming gown of ping silk, and Miss Lizzie Lawrence, also in evening dress, graciously assisting Mr. Murrill in playing host. The guests were:

Messrs. Jo Farnan, P. M. Thompson, R. M. Oates, T. S. Franklin, T. C. Guthrie and W. H. Twitty.

The German band furnished sweet music at the Elk Temple last night, which inspired the following named young people to trip the light fantastic for an hour or so in the club's elegant ball room:

Miss Saida Jones and Mr. Lewis Burwell; Miss Alice Jones and Mr. Henry McAden; Miss Ficklin, of Washington, and Mr. Jas. Van Ness; Miss Fan McAden and Mr. Richard Harris; Miss Midge McAden and Mr. Earle Pegram; Miss Lucy McAden, and Dr. C. A. Bland; Miss Hope Spencer and Mr. D. H. McCullough; Miss Lena Heath and Mr. Frank Jones; Miss Sadie Hirshinger and Mr. Ralph Van Landingham; Miss Lawrence, of Danville, Ill., and Mr. Leak Spencer.

Mrs. J. M. Harry is never so happy as when "at home" to her friends. She proved this this afternoon in a pretty luncheon, which she served in her suite of rooms in the Lawrence house. Vases and bowls held flowers rich and rare, and prettily appointed tete-a-tete tables a delicious and dainty lunch. Mrs. Harry received her guests in a becoming combination of black and violet silk. The guests were: Mrs. T. C. Guthrie, Mrs. R. M. Brannon, Mrs. E. W. Thompson, Mrs. W. F. Dowd, Mrs. W. S. Alexander, Mrs. M. P. Pegram, Mesdames Walter, Kreible, Williams, Baskette, Lawton and Lawrence, and Misses Fannie tSagg and Lizzie Lawrence.

The "roast" given the young men by a society girl as to the dearth of social effort on the part of the men, has brought forth a german for Friday night, in the city hall. Music will be furnished by the German band at present in the city.

A Fat Lady's Croquet Club has been organized. The grounds are in the Liddell yard, on East avenue. Required weight, 175 pounds.

The "Just for Fun Club" had a funny and enjoyable meeting yesterday afternoon at the Misses Chrietberg's. The next meeting will be at the Misses Helvin's.

MRS. SEXTON DISAPPOINTED.

Can Not be Here Saturday—Children of Confederacy to Meet.

Mrs. J. L. Sexton is disappointed in not being able to return to Charlotte in time for the Lee-Jackson memorial services at the Presbyterian College Saturday. She is detained in Savannah by the illness of her mother, Mrs. Branch. As soon as the latter is able to travel she and Mrs. Sexton will go to Florida to spend some time.

Mrs. Sexton, through the News, requests the Children of the Confederacy to meet at her house Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock to practice the songs selected for the services Saturday. She writes: "I am so anxious for them to do well, for I am very proud of them." At Mrs. Sexton's request, the words of Dixie, which the children are to sing, are printed elsewhere in this issue. She asks the children to cut them out of the paper and preserve them.

\$50,000 IS WANTED.

Presbyterians Want to Raise That Amount for Educational and Church Work.

WILL REBUILD THE COLLEGE.

Forty Thousand Dollars to be Appropriated for That Purpose and \$10,000 for a New Church in the North-eastern Part of the City—Mass Meeting Sunday.

The circular letter published in yesterday's News, calling representative Presbyterians to a meeting in the First Presbyterian church parlor last night, resulted in many being present. The object of the meeting, as stated, was for a general discussion of Presbyterianism in Charlotte, an extension of the church and church educational matter.

The vital proposition, the News learns today, is: That the Presbyterians of this city raise \$50,000—\$40,000 of the amount to be used for modernizing the present Presbyterian College building, in this city; and \$10,000 for the building of a church in the north-eastern part of the city. These two questions, or matters, will be brought before the Presbyterians of the city, in a mass meeting to be held at the Second Presbyterian church Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock. There will be no service that morning in any of the other Presbyterian churches. If this matter is carried to a successful finish—and why should it not be?—the old college walls will be lost in the outlines of a new and modern structure, facing the avenue of magnificent oaks planted by the late W. W. Phifer, and which should be known as Phifer avenue.

The location of the church has not yet been decided, but it will be in the settlement toward East Side chapel.

CHURCH.

Dr. Chrietberg asks the News to state that there will be no prayer meeting at Tryon Street Church tonight; that his congregation will unite in the services at Tryon Street Baptist church.

The officers and teachers of Tryon Street Methodist Sunday school recently presented Mrs. C. P. Wheeler, organist, with a handsome chair. The presentation speech was made by Mr. J. A. Helvin and was a graceful tribute.

Mr. Joseph Leisch has been sent for to tune and overhaul the Second Presbyterian church's organ.

Paw Creek church is not to call a pastor until spring. Rev. Mr. Cook will serve the church until that time.

LONG CASE GOES TO JURY.

The Criminal court has been all day engaged in hearing argument in the Long forgery case. The trial of this case was begun two days ago and the case went to the jury this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The state was represented by Solicitor J. L. Webb and Messrs. J. D. McCall and Frank R. McNinch. The defense was represented by Mr. Redwine, of Monroe, and Mr. E. T. Cansler.

Mr. McNinch opened the case for the State. He was followed by Mr. Redwine, of Monroe, for the defense. Solicitor Webb followed and he was followed by Mr. Cansler for the defense. Mayor Mc Call closed the argument for the State. The case has attracted considerable attention.

U. D. C.

The Daughters of the Confederacy are reminded of the business meeting tomorrow afternoon at the Y. M. C. A. parlors. Every "Daughter" is asked to be present with her dues. This meeting is one of the most important of the year. Officers are to be elected. The present officers are: Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, Mrs. Rufus Barringer (for life); Mrs. Burwell, recording secretary; Miss Julia Alexander, treasurer; Mrs. J. E. Brown, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Latta Johnston, vice-president.

PARIS PARTY.

Miss Lottie Linton is in correspondence with Cook, in reference to getting up a Charlotte party for Paris, in June. She wants to secure about eight or ten to form a party. The trip can be made, she says, for \$1.75, including first-class passage, and a month's stay.

JIM, THE HUNCH-BACK, DEAD.

Jim Owens, the well known mulatto hunch-back, died suddenly yesterday at 9:30. Jim lived at Judge Burwell's for a number of years. He was an honest, faithful darkey and was trusted by whites and blacks.

DEATH AT SHEVA.

Miss Emma Brown, daughter of Mr. J. J. Brown, of Sheva, died recently, aged 28 years. She was a member of the Methodist church.