

## FRENCH MARCHES INTO KIMBERLEY.

### Roberts Executes One of the Most Wonderful Military Movements in History.

## ALL ENGLAND REJOICING.

### Cronje Compelled to Retreat, and the Military Experts Believe He is in a Trap—Glad News for Britain Comes Like Ray of Sunshine from Dark Clouds.

By Telegram to The News.

JACOBSDAL, Feb. 15.—French with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry reached Kimberley this evening (Thursday).

## JACOBSDAL ALSO CAPTURED.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The news that Roberts had succeeded in driving the French's force forward to Kimberley reached here at 4:20 o'clock today.

## PROGRESS OF FRENCH.

RIET RIVER, Wednesday.—(Delayed in transmission) French's command of cavalry, a strong force of horse and foot, left Modder River Sunday morning for Riet River, twelve miles distant, where the whole division concentrated. The next day he marched to the Riet River, a party of Boers contested the heights of the Bekiel Waterfall during some hours' shelling. French then drove the Boers away and crossed the Modder River, where a battle of great magnitude ensued. French shot the Boers precipitately retreating, five ladders in the hands of the Boers, with many cattle, and sheep. The British guides were slight.

## CRONJE.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The information has been received here that the fighting was, in any case, and Roberts did it, which is a strength and object of the Boers has retreated. The possibility that Cronje is being flanked by French and that the movement of his force is now being prepared at Kimberley, with Roberts' army at Jacobsdal and no chance of escape west.

Roberts' movement is a military wonder of the world, only started on the road to Saturday last.

## ENGLAND REJOICING.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The news that French are not forgotten is believed that the former's army forces, and French, the news of Kimberley comes like a ray of sunshine before a dark cloud.

Public rejoicing is widespread and unrestrained.

## IN THE SOCIAL.

### Mrs. Scott's Dining Club.

The "Just for Fun" Club was entertained by Mrs. C. Guthrie yesterday afternoon and with such an atmosphere of festivity it goes without saying that the meeting was thoroughly enjoyed. The contest for the evening was a mental treat for the club members. Miss Laura Little, Nellie Helvin, Misses Christy and Nan Dowd tied for the prize—an exquisite steel engraved card.

The club is growing in enthusiasm and more than a dozen new members have been added.

### Mrs. J. M. Scott gives

tomorrow evening in honor of William A. Graham and Mrs. Scott, of Graham.

### The Saturday Morning

will meet with Mrs. J. D. Chumley on Monday morning at 11 o'clock. This is a very important meeting.

## "ESCAPE FOR YOUR LIFE."

### Mr. Garrison and Family, of Mallard Creek, Asleep Amidst Flames.

Mr. J. C. Garrison, of Mallard Creek, was burned out of house and home last night. He lost his house and all of its contents, not saving a spoon, a dish or a piece of furniture. The fire occurred about midnight, how, Mr. Garrison does not know. He was aroused by a feeling of suffocation and found the house in flames over and about him. He and his family barely escaped with their lives. They rushed out in their night-clothes, not having a moment to get their clothing, and fled to the house of a neighbor. Mr. Garrison carried \$500 insurance on the property, with C. N. G. Butt & Co. He also had a small amount in the Farmers' Insurance Company. He was here today.

## MR. BRUCE WHITLEY DEAD.

### Passed Away Yesterday at 5:30—Buried To-Day.

Mr. Bruce Whitley, of Long Creek, whose illness was noted in yesterday's News, died yesterday evening about 5:30 at his home. He was taken ill with pneumonia ten days ago today, and his decline was rapid. His death is a great shock to his family. He was a son of Mr. Robert D. Whitley, who died Tuesday, and his death following so closely upon that of his father is peculiarly sad. Deceased was about 27 years old. He married Miss Caldonia Hunter, a sister of Misses J. P., J. C. and T. M. and R. W. Hunter. They had several children. Mr. Whitley was a man of fine character—honest, upright, conscientious and loyal to principle. He was a member of the Episcopal church—St. Mark's at Bristol. The funeral services took place today at 2 o'clock. Mr. Whitley was laid to rest by the side of his aged father. His sister, Miss Fannie Whitley, is also quite sick.

## THE HENDERSON-PHARR ATTENDANCE.

The marriage of Mr. D. Baxter Henderson and Miss Elva Pharr, next Tuesday evening in the Second Presbyterian church will be a social event of interest. The ceremony will take place at 7:30. Rev. Dr. J. W. Slagg officiating. Miss Mary Irwin will be maid of honor, and Prof. Jerome Dowd, of Trinity College, best man. The ushers will be: Dr. C. A. Bland, Dr. H. C. Henderson, and Messrs. Julian Little, Thomas Ehrhardt, John W. Alexander, and W. J. Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson will leave immediately after the ceremony for a bridal trip North. They will spend several days in Washington and then then go to New York. On their return they will keep house on North College street. Mr. Henderson having a home already for his bride.

## THE FIRST PRESBYTERY.

The First Presbytery of the A. R. P. church met yesterday morning at 11 o'clock at the A. R. P. church. The most important business was the passing on calls from the Huntersville church for the Rev. J. W. Baird, of the Memphis Presbytery; and from Hickory Grove and Smyrna churches in York county, S. C., for Rev. J. L. Oates, of Lancaster.

It is expected that Rev. Mr. Baird will accept and enter upon his work in a few weeks. He is a fine preacher and pastor and the church is to be congratulated upon securing him.

Rev. Dr. J. C. Galloway presided at the meeting.

## MISS WOLFE.

Miss Sarah Lily Wolfe's admirers and friends—who are many—will be glad to learn that she is making progress with her vocal studies in New York. As known, she is a pupil of Mrs. Emil Gram, at the Scharwenka Conservatory of Music, and of which Richard Burmeister is musical director. Last Saturday evening Miss Wolfe appeared in concert at the conservatory, singing with fine effect the brae, "Ah! Love Me," by Herbert; and, "My Lover Will Come Today," by De Koven.

## DR. GRAHAM SICK.

Dr. Joseph Graham's many friends are glad to see him able to do even a small part of a day's work for the past few days. He has been very sick with grippe, which was very nearly pneumonia. He was somewhat better today and his friends hope he will be able to go on with his full work in a day or so. Dr. Graham's illness is a matter of concern always to a large number of people.

## DATES MOVED UP.

The executive committee of the Y. M. C. A. met yesterday afternoon in the parlors of the Y. M. C. A. The only business of importance transacted was the hanging of the date for the meeting of the State convention from March the 8th to 11th, to April 5th to 8th. The convention will meet in Greensboro the 5th of April and will continue in session for three days.

## MOLINEUX SENTENCE

### Will Die in the Electric Chair During Week Beginning March 26th.

## HE DENOUNCES MR. OSBORNE

### Calls His Attack on Mrs. Molineux, "The Action of a Coward"—Mr. Osborne Says Molineux Was Given Every Opportunity to Prove Himself Innocent.

By Telegraph to The News.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Recorder Goff this morning sentenced Roland Molineux to death in the electric chair during the week beginning March 26th.

Before the sentence was pronounced Molineux spoke out and declared his innocence. He denounced Attorney Osborne's attack upon his wife. He said he was not guilty of the crime of which he was convicted or "that other crime."

"I never had a murderous motive," he said, "and these hands never penned the address on a poison package or wrote any of the other disputed writings. But my situation is not what affects me most. I denounce and condemn the action of the District Attorney in his cowardly attack on the pure and lovely woman who bears my name. It was the action of a coward. A terrible mistake was made about my handwriting. I never possessed a silver bottle holder."

Molineux was taken to Sing Sing on the 2:05 train this afternoon.

## MR. OSBORNE INTERVIEWED.

A News reporter visited Mr. Osborne this afternoon at the home of his mother on West Trade street. He was shown the despatch in which Molineux uttered his terrific denunciations. Mr. Osborne read it over and then read it to his mother who listened intently at each word contained in the despatch.

After making a short explanation to her he turned to the reporter and said: "Molineux made a proclamation from the Tombs in which he announced his innocence and declared that this only object in the world was to be allowed to make out his case. He declared in the first instance that the District Attorney had treated him with great injustice in that an indictment was obtained against him without an examination in the police court where he would be able to produce his witnesses and show his innocence."

"When I heard this complaint of the prisoner I accused him in the police court of an assault on Cornish in that he sent to Cornish poison of which Cornish partook."

"When an opportunity was given Molineux he waived examination and nothing was heard from the prisoner in extension."

"Again I accused Molineux in the magistrate's court of the murder of Mrs. Adams and again the prisoner and his counsel remained silent and waived examination."

"At last, the day so ardently sought for by the prisoner arrived. He had his opportunity to take the stand. He had his opportunity to call witnesses. He had his opportunity to put his wife on the stand to prove the falsity of the District Attorney's contention. He had his opportunity to call witnesses and show that the statements that could have been made by his wife were true. He had his opportunity to prove false the accusations made by 96 witnesses called by the people. He had nothing to say."

"Where was his defense? Where are these witnesses to prove that his wife is what he claims her to be? They do not exist."

"Molineux's statement today is exactly the kind of statement that might have been expected from him. The proper place for his statement was the witness stand where he would have been subjected to a cross examination. Neither he nor his wife dared to go on the witness stand. Neither did Cornish. Therefore, no credence can be placed in a statement of this character when not made under oath and not subject to cross examination."

"The imagination of no man can conceive of a single witness who could have been called who would have helped the defendant or his counsel."

"In conclusion I desire to say that the prisoner had more than one year under the advice of able and learned counsel to prepare his defense and to expose the weakness of the prosecution."

"Why was it not done?"

Mr. J. C. Bowers, the popular traveling salesman, is in the city. He has many friends in Charlotte.

## MR. HISS THE MAN.

### Consents to Become Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

The executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce will meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The meeting is in reference to the secretaryship of the Chamber—a problem that has proved vexatious and troublesome. President Wittkowsky, in issuing his call for the meeting this afternoon, says: "I am happy to say that the solution of the problem of a secretary is about at hand." The News stated a week or so ago that the committee had its eye on a man who would be the right man in the right place, but the thing was to get his hands upon him. The man was Mr. George B. Hiss, the able and efficient secretary of the Cotton Spinners' Association, and whose faithful work and progressive spirit have done so much for the association. Mr. Hiss, with a spirit that is nothing short of patriotic, has consented to assume the duties of the secretaryship, and will do all he can—and that is a great deal—toward making the thing go. Mr. Hiss will not receive any remuneration.

"All I ask," said he, "is that the people of the city put their shoulder to the wheel, and let's all pull together, for Charlotte and her interests." It would be nothing short of ingratitude if a business public did not respond with business head and grateful heart to this request. The News pledges Mr. Hiss its support in the arduous work which he is, for the good of Charlotte, willing to undertake.

## PETITION TO BELLAMY.

### The Charlotte Bar and Lawyers From Other Places the Authors.

The Charlotte bar this morning forwarded to Mr. Bellamy a petition to Congress to pass the bill creating the office of resident clerk for the Federal Court at this place.

The petition is signed by the following named members of the Charlotte bar: J. D. McCall, Brevard Nixon, Herbert Clarkson, C. H. Duls, J. A. Bell, Wm. Coleman, J. N. Kenney, H. W. Harris, T. W. Hawkins, D. K. Pope, E. R. McNeill, Judge A. Burwell, P. D. Walker, Lotte W. Humphreys, J. W. Keenan, T. C. Guthrie, F. M. Shannon, and Chas. Brenizer. This petition is accompanied by a petition from the lawyers of Gaston county and also a copy of the resolution of the Chamber of Commerce. Other petitions for a resident clerk here will be forwarded to Mr. Bellamy from the lawyers of the other counties who practice in the Federal Court here.

This effort for a resident clerk is not made, it is understood, on account of any opposition to Mr. Cowles, who is the present incumbent of the office and who resides at Statesville. The lawyers are all very much attached to him personally, and say he makes a model officer. Some of the attorneys here, while admitting the convenience and benefit of a resident clerk, refuse to sign the petition on this ground, because they fear that his fees would be cut down. A good solution of the matter would be for Col. Cowles to move to Charlotte and let Statesville be his branch office. Charlotte would gladly welcome him as one of her citizens.

## WEDDING AT MATTHEWS.

The echo of wedding bells reached Charlotte this morning from Matthews. The wedding occurred last night. Mr. Stephen Morgan was the groom; Miss Minnie Sinclair the bride. Rev. Mr. Bonner was the preacher. The ceremony was simple, but all-effective. The knot was tied with a Gordian-knot twist, and is not to be cut asunder.

## LARGEST TAX-PAYING COUNTY.

By the latest returns, Mecklenburg is the banner county financially as well as industrially, of the State. Wake county, up to the last returns, was the largest tax-paying county, but Mecklenburg now takes the lead by something over \$200,000.

## BENEFIT CONCERT.

A concert for the benefit of St. Peter's Hospital will be given at the Y. M. C. A. Monday, the 26th, by local talent. The St. Celia, and Mr. David Radham will furnish several numbers, besides other artists of the city.

## REALTY DEAL.

Capt. S. B. Alexander this morning sold the old ice house factory, near the coal chute, to Messrs. Joel A. Yarboro and George H. Bellinger, for \$2,500. They will use it for "hair and hide."

## MINT HILL SAYING "HELLO!"

Dr. J. A. Austin, who lives six miles from Mint Hill, telephoned the News today of connections being made with his home via Mint Hill. The line was opened yesterday. It is one of the many the Queen City Telephone Company has put in operation within the past few weeks.

## BANK NOTE.

The comptroller of the currency today called for a statement of the condition of the National Banks, at close of business February 13th.

## PEARSON MEETING.

### "Christ Receiving Sinners" Was the Subject of Last Night's Very Able Sermon.

## THREE SPECIAL THOUGHTS.

### The Preacher Says Who Christ Will Not Receive; Who He Will Receive; and How He Will Receive Them—A Beautiful Cimax to a Strong Sermon.

Apropos to the subject of the night, Mr. Pearson asked for the hymn: "Sinners, Jesus Will Receive," as an introduction to his sermon on "Christ Receiving Sinners."

"I call your attention tonight to Luke 15:2: 'This man receiveth sinners.' 'This man' was Jesus Christ the Son of God; the Judge of the quick and dead, the Redeemer of mankind. 'This man' receives, and pardons sinners, but what sort of sinners? Miserable, wicked, guilty, hell-going and hell-deserving sinners. This made the angels in heaven shout 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will toward men.' Glorious, blessed Gospel! and how amazing that notwithstanding this men—intelligent nature, thoughtful men will go on living in sin, rejecting the Saviour and being indifferent to this Gospel. I don't know which is the more amazing to the angels: the mercy of Jesus, the love of Jesus, the death of Jesus for a lost world or the indifference and unconcern of sinners to that love and mercy. There are three thoughts that I wish to call your attention to tonight:

"First, The class of sinners Christ does not receive.

"Second, The class that Christ does receive.

"Third, The way in which Christ receives sinners.

"First, The class He does not receive: I hear some one say, 'Why, Mr. Pearson, I thought you had been preaching that Christ loved all sinners and died for all, and now are you going to make one of the divisions of your sermon a class of men that Christ is not going to receive?' This Book makes it clear that there are certain kinds of sinners that Christ never proposed to save, and I say it with reverence, can't save. You say you would like to know who. I'll tell you, because I believe there are some of that class here tonight. I am going to show you, so you can get out of that class; and I am going to let the Bible do its own preaching: John 5:40. From this I make the point: that Christ does not accept or receive unwilling sinners. Look at it closely. As governor of the moral universe, the will of God is supreme, but in this realm of agency the will of the individual is absolutely free to receive or reject the Son of God. The Psalmist says: 'Thy people shall be a willing people in the day of Thy power.' Again Christ said: 'You will not come to me and be saved.' Again, 'And let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely.' So you see God consults your will, and while He died for you and wants to save you—weeps over you as He did over Jerusalem, when He said of the city: 'I would have gathered you as a brood under my wing and you would not.' The will of an individual is free. The Scripture makes it clear that the human will is the pivot on which this matter of the acceptance of Christ turns. Christ will never take you by the hair of your head and drag you into the kingdom. He says, 'Choose you this day whom ye will serve,' so while the gate of heaven is standing ever ajar, so is the gate of hell. On one is written, 'Whosoever will, let him come,' on the other: 'I have called, but ye refused.' Christ never saves a sinner against his will. You are free to face with a condition: 'Not a theory.' You are to decide this question, are you willing or not to accept this salvation on God's terms? Now every unsaved person answer this question honestly: 'Am I willing here tonight, in this First Presbyterian church, to surrender my will to God? to renounce my sins and take up my cross and follow Jesus Christ? Am I willing to regulate my life by the ten commandments and the Sermon on the Mount? If you say you are not willing to be saved on the Gospel terms of salvation tonight, then, sinner, my heart aches for you, but I say to you, 'stand aside, I am not preaching to you.' There is not a promise in that Book for you, from Genesis to Revelation. If there is a sinner of that class here tonight I beg you to get out of that class tonight.

"I go a step further: John 8:24—'If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.' Christ does not receive and save an unbelieving sinner—I do not mean primarily an infidel, but that state of mind that keeps a sinner re-

jecting the Saviour. You don't know what unbelief is, do you? Well, it is the tall upas tree that over-tops every other tree in the dark forest of hell; it is the one damning sin of mankind. If you are guilty of unbelief, you will go to hell with the murderer, seducers, embezzlers, persons guilty of arson, etc. Unbelief is the biggest, blackest sin in the whole catalogue. Why is it that these other sins—murder, arson, perjury, etc.—make such an impression on you and not unbelief? because you see them and you don't see unbelief. Job says, 'There is hope of a tree if it be cut down it will sprout again.' What are those sprouts that you see? They are the up-rising, the out-cropping of the old tap-root down there in sand. You see the sprouts, but not the root. Murder, perjury, arson, embezzlement, seduction are the sprouts of the old tap-root of unbelief down in the human heart. Why didn't Christ say: 'He that commits murder, arson, shall be damned?' because, like the great teacher He is, He went to the bottom of the whole thing, and said, 'He that believeth not shall be damned.' You needn't size yourself up with a murderer and think you are better than he. You are just as guilty as he, and will go to the same hell.

"What is unbelief? Now I don't want any theological technicalities, but just a plain, simple definition. Here it is: A man stands here and looking up to heaven says: 'Almighty God—if there be a God—your Bible is a lie; your Son an impostor; your heaven a chimeric; your hell a fiction; your government a farce, and I repudiate it, them, and you.' What is that? He is giving God the lie. That man is calling God a liar, and don't you see how he can't be saved? It is an impossibility for God to save a man who is in that state of mind toward Him. Hence God's Word says: 'If ye believe not the record of His Word you make God a liar,' and God will not save a man who says He is a liar.

"I go a step further: Luke 12:3—'I tell you, nay, but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.' From that I make the point that Christ does not save any impenitent sinner. Do you know what impenitent is? It is a sinner saying: 'Almighty God, I have violated every commandment in the decalogue; I have resisted your Spirit; rejected your Son; profaned your name; and now, Almighty God, I don't care if I have.' Don't you see what that is? A sinner, with the audacity of hell, looking God in the face, and adding insult to injury by saying, 'I don't care.'

"Is there a man here who gets drunk, and says, 'I don't care if I do?' A man who is leading a double life; a seducer, an embezzler—all saying they 'don't care if they do.' My fellow-traveler to the bar of God, I say to you, if you don't repent you will perish in your sins. Jesus cannot receive, accept and save you if you trample His blood under your feet. It is a theological, psychological impossibility to save such a man. So much for the class that Jesus does not receive. Now to the

"Second class—those Christ does receive. Christ receives all who hunger and thirst after righteousness. What is the peculiarity about the man who is very thirsty? He is very specific as to getting the water, but not particular about the vessel. What would you think of a man who came to your door and asked you for a drink of water, saying he was very thirsty, if when you brought the water in a tumbler he would say: 'Why didn't you bring it in a silver dipper,' and then not drink it? You would think that he was not very thirsty. When I hear a sinner asking, 'How could Sampson catch the 300 foxes; where did Cain get his wife; who is Melchisedec? I know he is not very anxious about his soul's salvation, but when I hear a dying sinner say from the depth of an honest, earnest heart: 'Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom; God, be merciful unto me a sinner;' when he comes saying: 'I am a poor, guilty sinner, and I thirst for that righteousness that will save,' I don't care if his sin is as high as the Blue Ridge, as deep as the Atlantic and as black as midnight, Christ will receive him and save him. Go to Christ, and as the lawyers would say, cast yourself on the mercy of the court. Is there a sinner here tonight who is willing to open his heart to God and say, 'Lord God, here are these vile sins I've been committing; but, Lord, have mercy on me.' Thank God there is a wideness about God's mercy like the wideness of the sea, a depth as deep as hell and a height as high as heaven. Dear dying sinner, won't you cast yourself on His mercy? Christ also receives those who confess their sins, as the publican: 'Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.' Confess, and be forgiven.

"And again, Christ will receive all who are willing to forsake their sins. There's the tug of war with you. You men who get drunk—are you willing to quit it? You lewd men, and men leading double lives, are you willing to quit it? You men embezzling on the sly, are you willing to quit it? You've got to get the consent of your mind to forsake them. I hear some say, 'I am willing to quit all of them but one.' Here the preacher related the case of a man in Sherman, Texas, who was a