

IN FULL RETREAT.

Cronje's Nine Thousand Running Away from Roberts' Big Army.

KELLEY-KENNY IN PURSUIT.

The Boers Abandon Their Provision and Ammunition Trains—Kimberley Received French's Troops Joyously—Cronje Hastening to Bloemfontein.

By Telegraph to the News.
LONDON, Feb. 17.—A dispatch from Jacobsdal, dated last night, says General Cronje, with nine thousand men, all the force surrounding Kimberley, is in full retreat, General Kelley-Kenny pursuing.

ABANDON AMMUNITION AND SUPPLIES.

Cronje's forces are traveling light and have been compelled to abandon their provision and ammunition trains, which are being picked up by the British cavalry. The forces of Kelley-Kenny are harassing the Boers in the rear, and many prisoners are falling into the hands of the British. Cronje is making all possible haste to Bloemfontein. The Boers are reported leaving Sypfontein, going in a northwesterly direction.

BRITISH LOSSES.

The Boers captured a large convoy as a result of Thursday's fighting at Riet River.

The British casualties are comparatively slight in view of the tremendous bombardment. The loss was thirty wounded and one killed.

CAPTURED FROM CRONJE.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—A dispatch from Roberts to the War Office says: "Kelley-Kenny yesterday captured seventy-eight wagons, stores and ammunitions of Cronje's force, two wagons of Mausers, eight boxes of shells, ten barrels of explosives and a large quantity of stores, all belonging to Cronje's Laager, which was still being shelled by our artillery, when Kitchener dispatched his messenger."

PARTICULARS OF ROBERTS' MOVEMENT.

The Chronicle's second edition says following the Water Vaal drift Friday, Roberts with the Sixth and Seventh divisions and the cavalry division, in marching to relieve Kimberley, rendezvoused at Enslin then marched toward the Free State. The Sixth crossed Riet River at Water Vaal drift and marched along the right bank. The Boers showed fight. We had several casualties. The division then marched to Jacobsdal. The cavalry captured Brown's Drift, on the left flank of the Boers' main position.

French's troops were enthusiastically received at Kimberley and the officers dined at the club last night.

MADE NO DETERMINED STAND.

"Both columns are now marching north and will probably effect a junction with his force. The enemy is retreating north."

BOERS ADVANCE AT MOLTENO.

STERKSTROM, Feb. 17.—The Boers this morning are advancing towards Molteno. They have several large guns. The Boers fired upon Gardner's pickets and some have advanced within rifle distance of the English troops.

CAPE TOWN WILD WITH JOY.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 17.—When the news of the relief of Kimberley reached here today an immense crowd rushed to the Government House, where they sang patriotic songs and cheered enthusiastically. An attempt was made to get Governor Milner to speak, but he declined.

BATTLE IS IMMINENT.

JACOBSDAL, Feb. 17.—Kelly-Kenny overtook Cronje's rear guard this morning and a battle is now imminent. Cronje had to stop to protect his transportation. Kitchener directs Kelley-Kenny's operations.

BOERS HEMMED IN.

CAPETOWN, Feb. 16.—The Boers at Magersfontein are now completely hemmed in by Methuen's forces at Modder River, Roberts' men at Klip Drift, and MacDonald's Highland brigade at Koodoosberg.

COMMUNICATION INTERRUPTED.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Anglo-American and direct United States cable company give notice that communication with Kimberley is interrupted.

THEATRICAL.

"Side Tracked," with Ed Connor, Tuesday night, is the next attraction at the opera house, and the Gordon Minstrels, which come on the 24th. The first and last time the Gordons were here they appeared at the Academy of Music. For the benefit of this generation, the News will state that the academy of Music is now incorporated in the Arlington Hotel building.

SNOWFLAKES.

Little Particles That Ran Into Newflakes as They Fell.

"The Girl From Chili?" Why, she's a snow-flake only.
—Mr. W. S. Dorr, of the Octagon Soap Company, will have a locomobile here in about a week.
—A snow storm today; "The Girl From Chili" tonight. Who doesn't believe in the eternal fitness of things?
—Gaston court convenes Monday. Messrs. Jones, Bason and Cansler—the Gaston trio—will go over as usual.
—In speaking last night of his pleasure at being at home again and of his affection for Charlotte, Mr. Osborne said: "I never have seen a building that was as big as the Central Hotel."
—The committee from the D. A. R.'s on programme for the observance of Washington's birthday will meet Monday afternoon at Mrs. D. P. Hutchinson's.

—Mrs. John Elms has secured a position at J. B. Ivey & Co's, North Tryon street. The doors of this new establishment will be opened for the first time Monday.
—Some of the operators at Oates' factory refused to be vaccinated this morning, but when the man and the method—the chief, the vaccine points, and the Red Maria—arrived, arms were bared willingly and readily.

IN FEBRUARY.

Some of the People Who Have Been Let So Far.

Capt. A. Theis leaves Monday for Washington to attend the convention of Mining Engineers, which meets Tuesday.
Miss Alice Torpy, of Wilmington, is at Miss Annie Monahan's.
Mrs. Herman Von Maltzahn, who returned to New York a week or so ago, expected to sail today for Europe, to join her husband, in Germany.
Miss Ethel Roberts returned to Durham this morning.
Mrs. B. F. Rogers, of Concord, is at Mr. J. F. Yorke's.
Mr. Chas. T. McCord, the well known traveling salesman, of Atlanta, is a guest of the Central.
Mr. R. F. Arledge leaves tomorrow night for Savannah. He has been spending several days with his home people.
Miss Mary Ross, of Charlotte, and Miss Jennie Henderson, of Croft, left today for Mooresville, to attend a house party given at the home of Mr. Ike Henderson.
Miss Margie Whitfield, of Laurinburg, who has been here on a visit, left last night for Monroe.
Miss Edith Atkins is to spend next week with Miss Adele Hutchinson.
Mr. Jake Newell, of Concord, was in town yesterday. Mr. Newell has "evolved" from a newspaper man to a lawyer.
Billie Bethel "went it alone" to Danville this morning.

LAYING OF CORNER-STONE.

Of New Graded School Building. Interesting Ceremony Next Week.

The corner-stone of the new graded school building will be laid sometime the coming week, the day not yet having been fixed. Mayor McCall will be master of ceremonies. The following programme, which (however, is subject to change, has been made out:
Prayer, by Dr. H. F. Christzberg.
Address, by ex-Mayor DeWolfe, of Seattle, Washington.
Address, by Dr. George W. Graham. History of the graded schools of Charlotte, by Prof. Alex. Graham.
Address on "Religious Side of Education," by Dr. J. W. Stagg.
"America," sung by school children.
Benediction, by Dr. A. C. Barron.
All the addresses will be brief.

CONCOR COUPLE MARRIED.

Squire W. O. Bales writes the News that he married on last Thursday Mr. George W. Lee and Miss Gracie Furr, both of Concord. A number of friends of the contracting parties accompanied them to South Carolina to witness the nuptials. The young couple will reside in Concord.

AYCOCK MONDAY NIGHT.

The coming to Charlotte Monday night of Hon. C. B. Aycock will be the occasion of much enthusiasm among the local Democrats. As has been stated before, he will speak in the court house, the hour being 8 o'clock. Mayor J. D. McCall has made all necessary arrangements to seat the crowd. While many will be compelled to stand, a large majority of the audience will be provided with comfortable seats. Mr. Aycock is one of the most forcible speakers in the State and the News predicts for him a splendid reception in the Queen City.
Mr. Aycock will arrive Sunday night and will be at the Buford. A committee of prominent Democrats will meet him at the train and escort him to his hotel.

CHARGED WITH LIBEL.

United States Senator Taliaferro, of Florida, Arrests His Accuser.

HE MADE SERIOUS CHARGES.

Alleged That An Army Officer Had Stolen a Large Quantity of Government Bacon and that the Senator was one of the Three Who Got the Proceeds.

By Telegraph to the News.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—Jay C. Holland, who says he is a citizen of Jacksonville, Fla., was arrested last evening on a warrant charging criminal libel on Senator Taliaferro.
The warrant was sworn out by Joseph W. Haddock, also of Jacksonville, who is a messenger in the senate. The warrant charges Holland with publishing a defamatory article in a New York newspaper charging that Major Rethers, U. S. A., had unlawfully disposed of 215,000 pounds of government bacon and that the officer, Senator Taliaferro and one other person were to divide the profits.

MR. FAULKNER DEAD.

Passed Away Last Evening—Buried To-Day.

Mr. Thomas K. Faulkner, who, for some days, has been in a dying condition passed away last evening at 6 o'clock at his residence, on North Broadway street. Mr. Faulkner had been in declining health for two years, consumption having fastened its fangs upon him at that time. He made a brave fight against the disease, but to no purpose. He was compelled to give up work six months ago, and since that time has been confined to the house. Death was to him a relief. Mr. Faulkner was a son of the late Dixon Faulkner. He was born and reared in Lancaster, S. C., and came here about fifteen years ago. He kept books for the late A. H. Crowell, and in business as in all relations of life was conscientious and faithful. He was a most excellent man—a man of few faults, and many virtues. He was a member of the Second Presbyterian church, and lived a consistent, Christian life. He married twice. His last wife was Miss Essie Woodside, who with four children survive him.
The funeral services were conducted this afternoon at 2:30, at the residence, 507 North Brevard street, by Rev. Dr. Stagg.

Y. M. C. A.

At the Y. M. C. A. tomorrow Rev. G. W. Belk will speak, in the men's meeting, and Mr. Chas. P. Curry will conduct the song service. An evangelistic service will be conducted for the boys by Mr. Thompson and the general secretary.
The Y. M. C. A. Star Course committee have received word from Mr. DeWitt Miller that he cannot lecture as expected and have secured Dr. P. S. Henson, the famous Baptist preacher, of Chicago, as his stead. He will come March 23rd.

REV. MR. VERNER.

Since Rev. Phillip Verner's visit and illness here, several months ago, many have felt an interest in him and his health. He was taken North to a rest cure and the physicians give hope that his recovery will be early and complete. Mrs. Verner accompanied him North, but has returned to Columbia, S. C.

NEW MILL FOR CHINA GROVE.

Mr. C. J. Deal, of China Grove, Cabarrus county, was here this week. He is interested in the new cotton mill soon to be established at that place. The company has not yet been organized, but will be soon. The mill will have about 7,500 spindles, with a capital stock of some \$110,000.

A 12-YEAR-OLD PARTY.

Hon. R. M. Ranson, of Huntersville, and son, Boyce Lee Ranson, are here today, visiting at Mr. J. J. Ranson's. Master Boyce, who is 12 years old today, came to celebrate the day with his cousin, Miss Laura May Ranson, who is also twelve. She has a party this afternoon in honor of her 12th anniversary.

BUSINESS.

Mr. E. C. Miller, of the Miller Dry Goods Company, returned this morning from the Eastern markets. He says that he will offer one of the largest bankrupt stocks of the city.
St. Peter's Episcopal church: Morning service, litany and sermon, by Rev. E. A. Osborne, 11 a. m. No services at night.

SOCIETY.

A White Dining by Mrs. Miller; Carnation Luncheon by Mrs. Scott.

The white dining given last evening by Mrs. R. M. Miller, Jr., in honor of Mrs. William A. Graham has, in elegance and beauty, seldom ever been surpassed in the fashionable dinner-giving circle of society leaders. Appos to the guest of honor being a bride, the decorations of the table were of white, relieved only in their beautiful colorlessness by ropes of asparagus ferns. In the center of the table was an immense bunch of bride's roses, sweet in fragrance, appropriate in name and perfect in their beauty. The cut glass vase which they filled was a superb holder. At each corner of the table was a small rod which extended about two feet above the table, and which was wrapped with white ribbon and ropes of asparagus fern. The chandelier ribbons—broad bands of white satin—came from under an immense bow which depended from the chandelier, and ended in big bows at the top of the white satin rods. Trailers of ferns were wound gracefully about the ribbons, and rods, and also covered the chandelier. The damask was covered here and there with costly English Point, and at each plate was a Tiffany array of silver and glass. Silver candelabra with white shaded candles, on table, buffet and mantel contribute their white gleams to the beautiful scene. The effect was fairy-like, pearl-like, bride-like in its loveliness.
Mrs. Miller, in an elegant costume of black satin, with spangled over dress, and diamonds, did the honors with the graceful ease for which she is noted. Mrs. Graham, the inspiration of the white feast, wore an exquisite New York gown of gray poplin and Liberty silk, with yoke of white lace. At her throat was a hoop of pearls and diamonds. She looked superb in her beautiful gown, which was a demi-train, the silk ruffles extending nearly halfway up the skirt. As the guests found their places at the table, Mrs. Miller gave this toast to the bride:
"Here's to the bride—divinely tall and most divinely fair! We all with one accord wish that her future life may be as full of happiness as her beautiful voice, which has given so much pleasure, is full of music." Glasses were raised, each guest pledging the wish of the hostess in the sparkling cup.
Those invited to meet Mrs. Graham were: Mrs. J. W. Stagg, Mrs. E. P. Kerrans, Mrs. Fred Oliver, Mrs. J. A. Bell, Miss Berta Oates, Mrs. H. A. London, Jr., Mrs. W. B. Ryder, Miss Addie Williams, Mrs. George Fitzsimons, Mrs. S. O. Brookes.
A tumbler of creme de menthe, in the library, was a delightful farewell to the hostess and the "Bonnie bride."

Mrs. J. M. Scott gave one of those elegant luncheons for which she is noted, today, complimenting, in her own charming style, Mrs. W. A. Graham and Mrs. Fannie Holt Scott, of Graham.

The flowers were pink carnations, the candles pink and the hostess' hospitality as rosy and delightful as the glow from candelabra and vase. Smilax covered the chandelier and mantel. The lunch consisted of eight courses, each dainty and beautifully served. The guests were: Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Scott, Miss Fan Burwell, Mrs. R. M. Brannon, Mrs. H. A. London, Mrs. J. R. Wilkes, Mrs. A. H. Harris, Mrs. R. M. Oates, Jr., Mrs. E. T. Cansler, Mrs. R. M. Miller, Jr., Mrs. C. C. Hook.
Mrs. H. E. C. Bryant will be at home, at Mrs. Rufus Barringer's, to her friends, Tuesday afternoons, after 3:30 and evening, for the next four Tuesdays, beginning Tuesday next.

CONVOCATION OF CHARLOTTE.

Will Meet at St. Peter's Tuesday and Wednesday.

A meeting of the convocation of Charlotte will be held in St. Peter's Episcopal church Tuesday and Wednesday, the 20th and 21st inst. The meetings and services will be as follows:
Thursday, 1 a. m., morning prayer, sermon and Holy Communion; 3:30 p. m., meeting of convocation; 7:30 p. m., evening prayer and sermon.
Wednesday, 10 a. m., morning prayer and meeting of convocation; 3:30 p. m., meeting of convocation; 7:30, evening prayer and sermon.
Lay delegates from all the congregations within the convocation are invited, also the public in general. Rev. E. A. Osborne is dean of the convocation.

NOT SIGNERS.

The lawyers who did not sign the petition to Congressman Belamy, asking for a resident clerk here, were: Jones & Tillett, George F. Bason, George E. Wilson, P. M. Thompson, H. N. Pharr, F. I. Osborne, W. C. Maxwell.

A GREAT SERMON.

The Evangelist Preached Last Night on "The Brazen Serpent."

DEVIL SICK, BITTEN SINNERS.

The Application Brought from the Camp in the Wilderness to the Sinners of the Present Day in Three Parallel Facts—

Mr. Pearson stated last night before beginning his service proper that he would be at the Second Presbyterian church tomorrow morning, not to preach, but to make a talk to the Presbyterians, who, as known, are to have a joint service there. "This meeting," said he, "is not Presbyterian, except that it is held under the auspices of the Presbyterian church, and the Presbyterians are responsible for it, but the meeting at the Second church Sunday morning is Presbyterian. I don't mean that other people will not be welcome, but I want to give the Presbyterians of the city a plain talk, and I want everyone of them to be there to hear it."
After the usual announcements about the services—the last tomorrow night, subject: "Confession," the preacher addressed the large body of men and women before him.

"I want to take two texts tonight," said the preacher: "John 3:14—'And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness even so must the Son of man be lifted up;' and Numbers 21:4-9."

The verses read told of the journey of the children of Israel through the wilderness; of their speaking against Moses, and of their punishment—God sending fiery serpents among them which bit the people so that "much people of Israel died;" of their repentance, saying to Moses: "We have spoken against thee! pray unto the Lord that He take away the serpents from us," and of Moses praying for the people; of the making of the "fiery" or brazen serpent and its being put upon a pole, and of God's promise: "Every one that is better, when he looketh upon it shall live."

"Notice in the passage from Numbers," said Mr. Pearson, "what the Israelites had done: 'We have spoken against thee'—Moses—God's minister, a preacher is not above criticism, but if the Church is the apple of God's eye, so are the dear, faithful men, the pastors in God's Church. You Church members think you have a right to stand your pastor up and dress him up and then dress him down. Be careful. These Israelites sinned against God by sinning against Moses. Love your pastor, pray for him and never criticize him except to his face."
This text in John is one of the profoundest in God's Word, because it sweeps the field of ruin and redemption, but when explained in the light of this passage from Numbers, it is one of the simplest texts in the Book. Some people think the Old Testament is like a back-number almanac—dry and uninteresting, but Christ didn't think so. There is a great deal of Gospel in the Old as well as the New Testament. The difference between them is that in the Old Testament Christ is the Rose of Sharon in bud; and in the New He is the Rose of Sharon in full bloom. Hence we are told in Luke that Jesus, after His resurrection, 'beginning at Moses and all the prophets, expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.'

"I am going to preach to you tonight on 'The Brazen Serpent,' and I am going to give you plain, simple facts, for I am a great stickler for facts. From the passages in Numbers I get three facts:
"1.—Those Israelites were better in the wilderness.
"2.—A serpent of brazen was erected as a remedy.
"3.—A look at that brass snake was the condition of the cure. Christ said, 'As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up.'
"Now in John I learn three facts parallel to those in Numbers:
"1.—You and I and all of Adam's race are devil bitten.
"2.—Christ crucified is God's remedy for our sin-sick souls.
"3.—Faith on the part of a penitent sinner is the condition upon which God saves a soul.
"First is it a fact that those Israelites were bitten? 'They bit the people.' It is a recorded fact in God's Word, endorsed by Christ. Is the parallel fact—that you and I and all of Adam's race are devil-bitten, true? The Bible teaches the doctrine of the devil as much as it does the doctrine of the angels. Gen. 3:13—'and the woman said, the serpent beguiled me and I did eat.' And again in Rev. 12:9: 'That old serpent called the devil.' The serpent was the devil. I might paraphrase it: 'the devil did beguile me and I did eat.' This was when the venom of the old serpent, the devil, was in-

fused into the federal pair. Gen. 6:5; Jeremiah 7:9; Isaiah 1:6; Matt. 15:19." The preacher quoted each passage from memory and continuing said: "These," said Jesus, "are the things that defile the man." It is a fact, deny it if you want to; explain it if you can, but the fact remains true that you and I and all of Adam's race are devil-bitten.

"Again, was the brass serpent a remedy? Numbers 21:8: 'And it shall come to pass that every one that is bitten when he looketh upon it, shall live.' So you see the brass snake was the remedy for the bite of the living snake. You see now how the whole thing stands or falls together: If those people were not bitten there was no need of a remedy. It is also true that Jesus Christ crucified on the cross is the remedy for sin, and proves that we are sinful and need a Saviour. John 3:14-15: 'Act 4:12; 1st Cor. 3:11. Then don't you see that the second parallel fact is a fact, and as the brass snake was the remedy for the devil-bitten Israelites, Christ is the remedy for our sin-sick souls? Now grip that idea that the brazen serpent was the remedy. There's a man there in the wilderness who is snake bitten. What is he going to do? Not go to work to make snake remedy, but accept God's remedy. How simple, you say! and yet you befuddle your head with theology; you have nothing to do with it. Christ on the cross is a personal Saviour. All you have to do is to accept Him as such. Here's a poor, devil-bitten sinner, going to hell. What is such a sinner to do? Not burst his head open with theology, but to accept Christ, who is a personal Saviour. Now to the

"Third fact—a look at the brazen serpent was the condition of the cure. The serpent was the remedy, but not without a condition—'When he beheld the serpent of brass he lived.' But some snake-bitten man says: 'Moses, what is brass? Why did God make a brass serpent? Don't you have to do more than look? Don't you have to climb the pole?' What was snakeology to him, or how brass was made; he had just simply to look. He was not to get excited; not to get into an emotion or a commotion, but simply to look.

"Now see if the third parallel fact is not true? Faith in Jesus Christ is the condition on which God saves a penitent sinner. John 1:12-13: 'But as many as received Him to them gave He power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on His name;' which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, but of God.' Have to be born of God; to be saved by receiving Jesus. How must a sinner receive Jesus? by believing on Him as his personal Saviour: John 5:34—'He that believeth on me hath eternal life, and shall not come into condemnation.' Gal. 3:26: 'For ye are all the children of God, by faith in Christ Jesus.' How does a guilty sinner become a child of God? Not by emotion or commotion; not by what he feels, thinks or does, but by faith in Jesus. How simple is the Gospel when you get right down to it! As the bitten Israelites just 'looked,' the sinner must just 'believe'—believe with all your heart that He is your personal Saviour, and hold on to Him just like if you were drowning and I should hold out my hand to you, you would grip it and hold on. Just believe, just say Jesus is able to save me and I will trust Him here and now. So much for the three facts and three parallel facts. And now in order to simplify this matter, and for the sake of illustration, let us draw on our imagination a little: Down in Egypt are the camps all about. The snakes are there. They are crawling in the water-trenches, in the houses, in the little children's beds—everywhere—biting the people and they are dying. Moses comes walking along through the camp and sees a man snake-bitten. He says, 'Are you snake-bitten?' 'Yes,' answers the man. 'Why don't you look there on the brazen serpent?' asks Moses. The man replies: 'What did God make snakes for? Until you tell me that I won't look.' Moses says: 'I don't know why God makes snakes, and what's that to you; that is none of your business. You are snake-bitten and if you don't look at the brass serpent you will die.' So some sinner who is devil-bitten says: 'Why did God make the devil?' It's none of your business in the first place, and in the second place, God didn't make the devil. He made an angel, and he made himself a devil. Dear dying sinner, you had better let that alone.

"I see another man in the camp who is snake-bitten. Moses asks him why he doesn't look at the remedy God has provided. 'Well, I won't look,' says he, 'until you explain to me the philosophy of how a brass serpent can cure the bite of a living snake.' Moses says: 'Directly you'll be dead.' Now here I am preaching the Gospel to a poor, devil-bitten sinner, and he wants to understand the philosophy of this question, and that, before he accepts Christ. But Moses goes on further: There is a man sitting near the fire. There's considerable bustle going on. Moses says: 'Are you snake-bit?' The man says, 'Yes.' 'Why don't you look at the serpent?' asks Moses. 'You see that kettle on there and the water,' says

Continued on eighth page.