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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

The house committee on elections, on Thursday, agreed to report favorably upon its resolution providing that no big game shall be elected to the house of representatives.

Arthur H. Kemp, manager of the Western Union Telegraph company at Macon, Ga., committed suicide Wednesday. The body was discovered by Mrs. Kemp on returning home from shopping.

Tom Sharkey has accepted Fitzsimmons' challenge. Fitzsimmons says: "If Sharkey doesn't come to time within a week, I will make a match with Sharkey without delay. I am willing to make the side bet of \$10,000, the winner to take everything."

A balloon saved Buller's army from a trap. The Boers had a dozen heavy guns all masked, just where Buller would have sent his men. An aeronaut made the discovery. These guns rendered the actual positions of the British untenable and a further advance impossible, except at the cost of a useless and terrible loss of life.

At Columbia, S. C., Wednesday, Mrs. Belle Graddick and Eldridge Dawkins were arrested on the charge of poisoning the husband of the woman. Dawkins had been a frequent visitor at the Graddick house and had been ordered away by the husband. Dawkins tried to kill himself when taken to jail. The evidence against them is strong.

British Liberals, to the number of 300 or 400, held a meeting Wednesday in London, and denounced the war on the Boers as "a crime and a blunder," committed at the instigation of irresponsible capitalists; demanded the publication of the full correspondence regarding the Jameson raid; protested against the increasing armaments, etc.

A special from Charleston, W. Va., says that on Tuesday C. E. Stewart, a merchant of that city, received an offensive valentine, which he charged came from his wife. That night he began to quarrel with her, finally attempting to strike her, whereupon their son, aged 19 years, fired on his father. Two shots took effect, one in the leg and the other in the stomach, and Stewart died Wednesday morning.

The anti-trust conference at Chicago, among others, adopted the following resolution: "We make no assault upon business combinations, for diminishing productive cost or augmenting productive efficiency. What we attack is combinations for coercing producers and lessening production. It is such combinations that constitute the trust evil and them we would abolish, root and branch. When oppressive trusts are examined, they are found to be combinations, not for augmenting wealth, but for hampering production; not for making things plentiful and cheap; but for making them scarce and dear."

MACRUM'S MAIL.

The House Wants to Know About The Story He Tells About His Letters.

Washington, Feb. 15.—A resolution was presented in the house today by Mr. Wheeler, of Kentucky, directing the secretary of state to inform the house if Chas. F. Macrum, late consul at Pretoria, had informed the state department that his mail was opened and read by the British consul at Dunbar; and if so, what steps have been taken to obtain an explanation or apology from England. The resolution also asks for information as to the truth of the charge that a secret treaty exists between the United States and England.

Does It Pay to Buy Cheap?

A cheap remedy for coughs and colds is all right, but you want something that will relieve and cure the more severe and dangerous results of throat and lung troubles. What shall you do? Go to a warmer and more regular climate? Yes, if possible; if not possible for you, then in either case take the ONLY remedy that has been introduced in all civilized countries with success in severe throat and lung troubles, "Boesche's German Syrup." It not only heals and stimulates the tissues to destroy the germ disease, but allays inflammation, causes easy expectoration, gives a good night's rest, and cures the patient. Try one bottle. Recommended many years by all druggists in the world. For sale by the Temple-Mareton Drug Co.

SENATE GOLDBUG BILL.

The Senate Passes Its Substitute For the House Bill, After Adopting The Meaningless Amendment About International Bimetallism.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The senate substitute for the house currency bill passed today, 46 to 29.

The bill, as passed, consists of ten sections. It provides that the dollar of 25.8 grains of gold, .9 fine shall be the standard unit of value and that all forms of United States money shall be maintained at a parity with it; and that the treasury notes and greenbacks shall be redeemable in gold.

The secretary of the treasury is to set apart a fund of \$50,000,000 in gold for the redemption of these notes and to maintain this fund at a figure not below \$100,000,000, he is empowered to sell bonds of the United States bearing interest at not exceeding three per cent.

It shall also be the duty of the secretary of the treasury as fast as standard silver dollars are coined to retire equal amounts of treasury notes and to issue silver certificates against the silver so coined. Under certain provisions, too, gold certificates shall be issued against the gold held in the treasury. No United States notes or treasury notes shall be issued in denominations of less than 10 dollars and no silver certificates in denominations of more than 10 dollars.

The secretary of the treasury is also authorized to refund the bonded debt of the United States in thirty-year bonds bearing two per cent. interest, the principal and interest of these bonds to be paid in gold. The two per cent. bonds shall be issued at not less than par. Any national bank, by depositing with the United States bonds of this country, shall be permitted to issue circulating notes to the face value of the bank's deposit, no bank being allowed to issue circulating notes in excess of the amount of the paid in capital stock of the bank.

The following was adopted: "That the provisions of this act are not intended to place any obstacles in the way of the accomplishment of international bimetallism, provided the same be secured by concurrent action of the leading commercial nations of the world and at a ratio which shall insure permanence of relative value between gold and silver." Fritchard voted for and Butler against the bill.

He Once Knew Something.

A middle aged gentleman who has been looking over his old school examination papers writes to The Academy expressing his chagrin at the discovery of the fact that he knows less than he did years ago. "I knew some things then—arithmetic, for example. Today I am at the mercy of any waiter who brings me change. At booking offices I keep vast crowds waiting and missing their trains while I do laborious subtraction sums in my head, but at school what a hand I was at figures! Look at this:

"Three graziers, A, B and C, rent a piece of pasture land for a month. A puts on 27 cattle for 21 days, B 19 for 24 days and C 23 for 25 days. If at the end of the month the rent and other charges amount to £23 5s. 10d., how much of this ought to be paid by each?"

"I could do that in 1884. I couldn't do it now. I have no idea where to begin. It may be easy, but the point is that I have not the key. There used to be a jugglery with x, and I could manage it. Now that I pay income tax and have statements of account from my publisher every half year I can manage it no longer. And I seem to have known zoology too. Zoology! I seem to have been able to describe and draw diagrams of the heart and principal blood vessels of the crayfish. Once—good heavens—once I was a well informed boy. Today I don't see how I should pass the third class college of preceptors."—London Academy.

Clerical Sarcasm.

A clergyman on a recent Sunday gave out the following notice, says The Christian Endeavor World:

"The regular meeting of the donkey parade will be held, as usual, at the close of this service. Members will line up just outside the church door, make remarks and stare at the women who pass, as is their custom.

"Any member known to escort a young woman to church like a man and sit with her like a gentleman will be promptly expelled from membership."

KIMBERLEY SAVED.

Gen. French Reached Kimberley Thursday Night. Boer Stronghold of Jacobsdale Captured.

London, Feb. 16.—A dispatch by Lord Roberts from Jacobsdale says that Gen. French, with his force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley last evening—Thursday.

Lord Roberts' dispatch that he had succeeded in pushing Gen. French's force to the relief of Kimberley reached the war office at 4:25 this morning. The place from which the dispatch is dated shows also that the British have captured the Boer stronghold of Jacobsdale.

IN BOER TERRITORY.

Lord Roberts Turns Their Flank At Magersfontein. With 80,000 Troops He Invades Orange Free State. Battle Expected Soon. Proceedings at Rensburg a Feint To Hide Withdrawal of Troops to Riet River. French Dashes Forward and Seizes Crossings on This and Modder River.

London, Feb. 15.—4:20 a. m.—The British army, for the first time since the war began, is inside the Boer frontier. Lord Roberts, with at least 40,000 infantry, 7,000 cavalry and 150 guns, has turned the Magersfontein lines before which the British forces have been encamped for ten weeks, and, with half of his corps, he is already operating on Free State territory.

A battle has not yet been fought, but large tactical advantages have been gained. The relief of Kimberley is within measurable reach, and the way to Bloemfontein is appreciably easier.

The dispatches of Lord Roberts sketch three days' work. The forward movement began on Sunday, when Col. Hankey set out with a brigade of mounted infantry for Ramah, on the Riet, eight miles from Jacobsdale, one of the Boer supply bases.

On Monday Gen. French, with the cavalry division, seized the crossing of the Riet river at Dekib drift, south of Jacobsdale and eighteen miles east of Honey Nest kloof. He skirmished with the Boers and cleared the way for 20,000 infantry who followed across.

Gen. French has now fixed himself on Gen. Cronje's main line of communications with Bloemfontein, and 20,000 infantry, with seventy-two guns, are being pushed up to support him there.

Lord Roberts' dispatches, wired from inside the Free State and on the Riet river, left him Wednesday morning. His advance had not been opposed by the Boers in force. Their patrols melted away as the British moved forward. The Boer army is likely to be felt in a day or two and a battle is consequently imminent.

As to what forces Gen. Cronje has now at his disposal, and as to where he purposes making a stand against the invaders no one here connected with the war office knows anything.

The forces placed immediately at the disposal of Lord Roberts are placed at 50,000, in a general way. The incidents at Rensburg have been seen out of all proportion. Merely skeleton lines were maintained there, while the British were being secretly and rapidly concentrated on the Modder river. The facility with which 30,000 men have already been sent beyond the rail terminus shows that Lord Kitchener has been fully successful in organizing transports. He is now supposed to be down the line, sending forward more troops and getting together more transports. About five miles of ox and mule wagon trains are estimated for each division, so that Lord Kitchener, who is reputed to have more skill than a circus manager in handling field transports, has immense labors in hand.

SKIRMISH WITH LANCERS.

Botha Crosses the Tugela Killing 13 in a Deserted Camp.

Boer Laager, near Ladysmith, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Yesterday Gen. Botha, with a small force, crossed the Tugela in a deserted British camp, where he encountered fifty lancers, of whom thirteen were killed, five wounded and nine taken prisoners. One of the prisoners was sent to tell the British to fetch their wounded.

Confidence in Roberts.

London, Feb. 16.—Intense satisfaction continues dominant in consequence of

Lord Roberts' plan of operations in South Africa. A feeling of quiet confidence prevails that the strong hands of Bob's "Bahadur" and the hero of Khar-toum are shaping matters towards a much needed decisive victory. As the St. James Gazette says:

"Lord Roberts, with his own line well guarded and having little reason to fear only a defense which would be deadly, viz., a counter stroke attacking his long line as it swings round will be able to force the Boers to fight under unfavorable conditions, or abandon their heavy guns and stores."

LaGRANGE ITEMS.

FREE PRESS BUREAU. LaGRANGE, Feb. 15, 1900.

Miss Eva Jones has accepted a position with Mr. R. B. Kinsey.

Mr. D. C. Murchison left Monday night to visit friends and attend to business in Florida.

Miss Emma Potter and brother, Herbert, of Snow Hill, spent today at Mr. J. H. Fields'.

"Aunt Jane" Joyner, an old colored woman, who was well and favorably known here, died Tuesday night.

Mr. Doremus Dixon and Miss Nannie Frizzelle, of Greene county, spent Wednesday night at Fields' Hotel, visiting their friends.

Dr. J. W. P. Smithwick was summoned yesterday by telegraph to the bedside of his little girl, Inez, who is quite sick at Aurora.

The Valentine party Wednesday night was well attended by well-dressed, handsome couples. The young ladies put themselves to much trouble and expense to decorate and beautify the room, and the refreshments were palatable and delicate. Innocent games were indulged in, and the time passed merrily. Beautiful carnations (white and pink) were given each one present. A large awning lamp dropped and frightened the young people, but no serious damage resulted. The whole affair was pleasant to all.

KENTUCKY REPUBLICANS

Hope to Keep Injunction Cases in Court Till Taylor's Term Expires.

Louisville, Feb. 15.—Lieut. Gov. Marshall, following Taylor's lead, brought suit this afternoon against Beckham and Carter. He asks that they be restrained from acting respectively as lieutenant governor and president pro tem of the senate. No application has yet been made for a temporary restraining order. The petition is similar to that of Taylor's. Even if ultimately defeated in the state courts, it is the hope of the Republicans to hang the whole contention on a legal nail while they continue to hold the offices and draw salaries.

Republican attorneys make no concealment of the belief that they will be able to keep the question in the courts for years, or a sufficient number of years to permit Taylor and other Republicans to serve out their terms. Should the court of appeals decide against them they will endeavor to take the case to the supreme court of the United States on a writ of error, executing a supersedeas bond in order to stay the execution of the judgment of the court of appeals.

TO SUCCEED EWART.

Much Speculation as to Whom McKinley Will Appoint. Names of Fritchard and Boyd Mentioned.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Since it is generally accepted that Judge Ewart's nomination will not be reported by the senate, there is now much speculation as to whom President McKinley will appoint to succeed him.

The names mentioned today are Senator Fritchard and Attorney General Boyd. Friends of these gentlemen say that they possess every qualification for the office, and there would be no opposition to their confirmation.

While the names of Fritchard and Boyd have been freely used in connection with the judgeship, it is not known that they have authorized any one to use their names. The opinion prevails this evening that in the event of the rejection of Ewart by the senate, the judgeship will be tendered to either Fritchard or Boyd.

Trinity M. E. church, one of the oldest Methodist church buildings in Chicago, was almost totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday night. It is estimated that the loss will exceed \$100,000.

The Best Prescription for Chills

and Fever is a bottle of GAY'S TARTARIC CHILL Tonic. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

A \$75,000 cotton mill has been chartered; to be located at Lowell, Gaston county.

A company has been incorporated to build a \$25,000 cotton seed oil mill at Shelby.

The Coleman Cotton Mill at Concord, owned and operated by negroes, began operations Wednesday with 5,000 spindles.

Wednesday evening John B. Felzer, a passenger engineer of the Southern Railway company, dropped dead in his cab at Greensboro. Heart disease was the trouble.

Wilson News: Mrs. C. C. Daniels, who went with the delegation to Raleigh, was probably the only lady who voted for Bryan in 1896. She cast her vote at Cheyenne, Wyo., where she was living at the time.

The plant of the Roper Lumber company at Roper, one of the most extensive in the State, was totally destroyed by fire Thursday, together with 60,000 feet of sawed lumber. A large number of men were thrown out of employment.

Mr. Abner McKinley, brother of President McKinley, accompanied by his wife and daughter and their guests, passed through Raleigh Wednesday en route to Southern Pines. Mr. McKinley and party will spend Sunday in Raleigh. They will be guests of Gov. Russell.

Greensboro Telegram: The amendment question is gaining ground. It will be ratified by a good majority. Republicans who are strictly honest with themselves believe there is no chance to defeat it and many of them who love their race above the spoils of office will vote for it.

Dr. Newton, of Richmond county, was tried before a Republican magistrate at Winston Wednesday on a charge of forcing vaccination upon a negro girl who had been vaccinated. To the surprise of many who heard the evidence, the defendant was fined \$1 and costs. His counsel appealed the case to the criminal court.

Rocky Mount Motor: A gentleman in town gave a colored man a five dollar gold coin through mistake for a nickel. The man went to the fisheries of Eastern Carolina and after an absence of two weeks came back and returned the piece, saying he did not discover the error until several days later. He was rewarded by a gift of \$1.

Impelled, it is conjectured, by the suggestive account of the suicide of James W. Felteer, of Chicago, as contained in a newspaper clipping found in his pocket, William F. Parker, son of a prominent North Carolinian living at Murfreesboro, committed suicide at Norfolk, Va. Tuesday night by taking laudanum. He left a note saying he was tired of living.

At Pittsboro Tuesday Hon. James H. Pou spoke in favor of the constitutional amendment. Before beginning his speech a division of time was requested by some of the Rep-Pop fusion ring, which Mr. Pou readily granted, but so well did Mr. Pou handle his subject and so completely did he nail the anti-amendment fusion lies being circulated that not a man could be found who would attempt to answer the able argument presented.

Mr. R. C. Ball, of Raleigh, has brought suit for \$10,000 damages against the town of Selma, the county of Johnston and the administrative officers as well. The plaintiff was detained at Selma as a smallpox suspect and placed in a house under guard, in which he alleges there was "a malignant case of smallpox." Mr. Ball further alleges that he was kept there against his will and by force; that he was neglected and unprovided for, and that he was compelled to send off and buy food for himself.

Statesville Landmark: So far as we have observed, only one candidate has been mentioned for the Democratic nomination for State superintendent of public instruction—Mr. W. E. Abernethy, of Burke. There is said to be a strong sentiment in favor of nominating Mr. Mebane, the present superintendent, and it looks as if the nomination would go to him by common consent. Although Mr. Mebane was nominated and elected by the fusionists in 1896, he is not a partisan, and so far as our information goes has made a very capable, faithful and impartial superintendent.

Keep up with the town news. The Free Press prints the town news. Only 10 cents a week.