

State Secretary

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## GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Arrangements have been made for 1,000 urban school teachers to be received free of charge at the Harvard summer school. A suit has been brought at Chattanooga, Tenn., to contest the validity of the bankrupt act under the federal constitution.

A negro was shot and dangerously wounded for attempting to break away from a smallpox quarantine at Huntington, W. Va., Friday.

The American Sea Witch, Capt. Howes, from Waller, has arrived at Lorenzo Marquez, with 800 tons of flour. She traded the British warships until within a three mile limit.

By mutual agreement the two sides in the Kentucky muddle decided to postpone the hearing in the injunction proceedings until Feb. 23. It is not probable that anything of consequence will be one affecting the situation.

A fast freight on the Seaboard Air Line was wrecked near Clinton, S. C., Friday. The fireman was killed and a brakeman mortally injured. The heavy rains had loosened an earth embankment off which the train plunged, demolishing many cars of merchandise.

Will Burts, colored, was lynched Saturday near Baskett Mills, eight miles north of Aiken, S. C. Burts was hanged to a tree and riddled with bullets. He was captured Friday night, after having attempted to assault Mrs. C. L. Weeks, a planter's wife. Burts confessed.

At Topeka, Kan., two men were killed instantly and three frightfully injured by an explosion in the Santa Fe railroad round-house Friday. The explosion was caused by compressed air, which was to have been used as the motive power on the "midget" locomotive, a small switch engine.

The London correspondent of The Figaro says he learns that President McKinley recently sounded Lord Pauncefoot with a view of ascertaining how an offer of mediation in the Transvaal difficulty on the part of the United States would be received, and that the English reply was that such an offer, made officially, would be considered an unfriendly act.

At El Paso, Texas, Saturday, a mob of negro soldiers from Fort Bliss attacked the city police station, with the object of releasing two of their comrades who had been arrested. In the fight that ensued Police Officer Stewart and one negro were killed. It is believed one of the soldiers was wounded. The soldiers belonged to company E, Twenty-fifth United States Infantry.

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

Chairman Hepburn submitted to congress Saturday a favorable report from the Nicaragua canal committee. It says estimates vary as to the cost from \$40,000,000 to \$145,000,000. The reason of this is the different proposed dimensions. It was first proposed to build the canal 15 feet deep and 50 feet wide, it is now proposed to make it 30 feet in depth and 100 feet wide. It is estimated that the receipts from the canal after construction will be over \$6,000,000 annually, with a cost of \$1,000,000 for running expenses.

### Question Answered.

Yes, August Flower still has the largest sale of any medicine in the civilized world. Your mothers and grandmothers never thought of using anything else for Indigestion or Biliousness. Doctors were scarce, and they seldom heard of Appendicitis, Nervous Prostration, of Heart failure, etc. They used August Flower to clean out the system and stop fermentation of undigested food, regulate the action of the liver, stimulate the nervous and organic action of the system, and that is all they took when feeling dull and had with headaches and other aches. You only need a few doses of Green's August Flower, in liquid form, to make you satisfied there is nothing serious the matter with you. For sale by Temple-Marston Drug Co.

Good printing at low prices. The Free Press furnishes it.

## IMPERTINENT SIMIANS.

An Experience in the Monkey Temple at Banars.

On the occasion of our visit to the monkey temple at Banars we had provided ourselves with popcorn and other goodies which we expected to offer their holinesses. But the monkeys did not give us a chance to do that. They snatched the dainties from our hands, and when our supplies were exhausted they amused themselves by mimicking us.

One of our party, who had a bad cold, used his handkerchief with considerable emphasis. Scarcely had he replaced his handkerchief in his pocket when a monkey seized the protruding end, pulled it out and gave an excellent imitation of the act. Then, of course, some of us had kodaks, and after we had taken several pictures another personification of impudence picked up a little block of wood which lay upon the ground and with it took several snapshots at us.

A third ill conducted simian (a vain female, who deserted her infant for the purpose) grabbed from my shoulders a red chuddar scarf and in a few flying leaps carried it to a lofty minaret. There she put it on and evidently "fancied herself" immensely. But she was not allowed to retain her prize. In about three minutes at least 40 monkeys had bit a piece of my precious chuddar.

Then our native guide informed me that the monkeys were very fond of scarfs and that they captured a great many on the stone "ghats" near the temple while their owners were bathing in the river. Perhaps on the principle that "misery loves company" he seemed to think his item of news ought to console me; but, although the "monkeyshines" continued as long as we stopped in the temple "compound," I no longer found them quite so ludicrous.—Chautauquan.

### A Model of Joy.

The artist placed the easel in front of his model and worked away rapidly on his allegorical picture of "Joy."

"Uncle Ephraim," he said, "if this picture is a success I shall give you, besides the half dollar I promised, the finest and plumpiest young pullet in the market."

A grin overspread the shiny face of Uncle Ephraim, but the artist was disappointed. The result was not quite what he had expected.

An inspiration came to his aid. "Down on South Water street this morning," he went on, "I saw the fattest possum that was ever brought to this town. I am going to get it for you."

"Golly!" And the picture was a magnificent success.—Chicago Tribune.

### Lady Churchill's Patriotic Retort.

Lady Churchill has inherited the wit of her father, as she demonstrated upon one occasion to an eminent British politician. He was somewhat annoyed at the campaign she had made and said:

"I really don't understand, Lady Churchill, why or how it is that American ladies refuse to enter political life in their own country, but overwhelm us here in England."

"That is because you have never traveled in the United States. The men there are so intelligent and patriotic that they do not require the services of our sex as an educating force."—Saturday Evening Post.

### Honors Essay.

"The audience was a trifle severe in its comments on the essay your wife read."

"Yes," answered Mr. Meekton, "but the audience hasn't any the best of it. It 'ud feel pretty small and discouraged if it only knew what Henrietta says about the people who criticised her."—Washington Star.

### The Very Man.

"Who would be the right officer to approach for inside governmental information?" asked the new Washington correspondent of the old one.

"The secretary of the interior," replied the latter promptly.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

## BOER CAMPS TAKEN.

Buller Captures Ammunition and Many Prisoners. Kelly Kenny Pursuing Cronje, Who Fights From Ravine to Ravine.

London, Feb. 19.—It is officially announced that Buller has captured several Boer camps, ammunition and many prisoners. If he can manage to seize Hlangwa Hill he can attempt to reach Ladysmith by direct road north.

### Pursuing Cronje.

Kelly Kenny is sharply pursuing Cronje, who with rear guard fights at every ravine, then presses on to next. The British have captured 150 wagons, stores and ammunition.

### TO COMBINE THE ISSUES.

Proposition to Be Submitted to Taylor's Attorneys Monday.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 17.—The Democratic attorneys representing Gov. Beckham, will hold a conference tomorrow to decide on a proposition to be submitted to a conference between them and Gov. Taylor's attorneys Monday concerning an agreed case involving all the issues arising from the three injunction suits growing out of the contests over the state officers.

### Adjourned to Meet at Frankfort.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 17.—A joint resolution was adopted by the Democratic legislature today which adjourned the body to meet at Frankfort next Monday. Gov. Beckham will remain here until the gubernatorial case is decided by the court of appeals.

### Chinese Inquests.

Coroners' inquests are well known among the Chinese. One of the chief differences between their system and ours is that the Chinese doctors never dissect. In fact, Chinamen have a perfect horror of dissection.

There are few things more absurd than the code of rules laid down for the Chinese coroner. In the first place, he is bidden to make sure that he has a dead body before he begins his inquest. That, however, is less ridiculous than it sounds, for the heathen Chinese is tricky and may demand an inquest on a sham deceased with a view of extorting money from some person who may be denounced as having caused the death.

The preposterous part of the code comes in with regard to the alleged signs which show the cause of death. If the deceased is supposed to have been poisoned, rice is put into his mouth and then taken out and given to a chicken. Its effect on the fowl decides the question. Most of the other methods adopted are even more absurd and fanciful, and, as a result, inquests in China do very little to prevent crime.—Chicago News.

### He Won the Bet.

A showman was making great noise at the front of the exhibition of "wonders" he had on show. A man standing in the crowd, with a little dog beside him, cried out:

"I'll bet you a quid you can't let me see a lion."

"Done!" said the showman eagerly.

"Put down your money."

The man placed a sovereign in the hand of a bystander, and the showman did the same.

"Now walk this way," said the showman, "and I'll soon convince you. There!" said he triumphantly. "Look in that corner at the beautiful Numidian lion."

"I don't see any," responded the other.

"What's the matter with you?" asked the showman.

"I'm blind," was the reply, and in a few minutes the blind man pocketed the two sovereigns and went away.—London Answers.

In a map of China recently published by the China inland mission it is pointed out that it is wrong to speak of the "Yang-tse Kiang river," as Kiang means river.

Some husbands suggest nothing so much as that more or less backbone came away with the rib that woman was made of.—Detroit Journal.

## THE FIRE SUNDAY.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Badly Damaged by Fire. A Hard Fire To Extinguish. Insurance \$2,000 On Church and \$300 on Furniture. Church to be Rebuilt.

The fire alarm sounded yesterday morning at 11:20 o'clock. It proved to be the Episcopal church. A crowd quickly gathered, and the benches, windows, doors, organ and all things that could be saved, were quickly torn from the burning building.

The fire was discovered about 15 or 20 minutes after services in the church had begun. It was caused by a defective stove flue in the southeast corner of the building.

A line of hose was quickly laid by the fire company, and then an intense agony of fifteen minutes had to be endured waiting for a stream of water.

At last it arrived and two streams were played upon the slowly burning building. It seemed at first as if the fire would be quickly extinguished, but on account of the construction of the roof it was impossible to get water between the shingles and the ceiling, and for three hours and a half two streams of water were kept constantly pouring upon the building. It seemed at times as if it would be impossible to save anything except the foundation, but when water was shut off, shortly after 3 o'clock, a considerable part of the building was left standing. The roof was burned almost completely off and the sides are badly burned. The firemen did fine work in saving the steeple.

There was \$2,000 insurance on the building and \$300 on the furniture. There was \$1,000 insurance on the rectory. The church building is valued at about \$4,000, and is damaged to such an extent that it will take the whole amount of the policy. The furniture is valued at \$500. A carpet that cost \$150 was ruined. It is probable that the whole amount of insurance on the furniture and building will be collected, making the church receive \$2,300 in all.

The rectory was not damaged. A line of hose was laid within a few minutes after the alarm, and had sufficient steam been up to have turned on a stream of water, the fire would have probably been extinguished before much damage had been done.

As had happened several times before, the engine was unduly slow in steaming. The engine has been made to steam in less than five minutes, and that it should take 15 minutes to get sufficient water, and this to happen several times, is the glaring fault of some one.

The members of the fire company worked heroically to reach the fire and stuck to their posts of duty for hours in the severe cold, and are worthy of the gratitude and commendation of the people of the town. Many citizens, not members of the company, did valiant work.

A meeting was held at the home of Rev. J. H. Griffith Sunday night, and committees were appointed to solicit subscriptions to rebuild, to secure the grand jury room in the court house for temporary use, and to attend to other matters. It seems to be the opinion that the present church will be rebuilt.

THE FREE PRESS extends sympathy to the Episcopalians and makes a suggestion that something more substantial be extended, in the way of subscribing to help rebuild their church. We are sure the people of Kinston will gladly extend their aid.

### ENTHUSIASM FOR A YOOCK.

Goldsboro Democrats Hold a Rousing Township Convention.

Goldsboro, N. C., Feb. 16.—A very enthusiastic and representative township convention was held in the court house here tonight. Delegates were selected to the county convention. On motion of Gen. W. G. Lewis a rising vote was taken to see if any present were opposed to the amendment. The motion was adopted unanimously. Judge William R. Allen, by request, addressed the convention. On mention of the name of Aycock the convention applauded vociferously. It was stated by Judge Allen that from information in hand if Wayne did her full duty by Aycock it was assured that he would not only be nominated for governor, but would win on the first ballot.

### In Thorough Subjection.

Chicago Tribune. Mr. Meeker, who had gone to the front door to answer the postman's ring, put his head inside the door of the room where his wife was sitting. "It's a letter for me, my dear," he said, "shall I open it?"

### The Best Prescription for Chills

and Fever is a bottle of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL CURE. 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.

The A. C. L. ticket office at Wilmington was entered Saturday night. A sum of money less than \$100 was gotten.

The State has chartered the Carolina and Virginia Telephone company, capital \$10,000, principal office at Henderson, owners H. P. Strauss, F. C. Toppleman and J. B. Bridgers.

The State has chartered the "Grand Associated Order of Pilgrim Travelers," with headquarters at Edenton. It is intended to inculcate the principles of love, purity and fidelity.

Secretary T. H. Bruner, of the board of agriculture, will go to Paris directly after the March meeting and will remain there until the June meeting. He will take with him much literature regarding North Carolina to be distributed. North Carolina's exhibit is complete and no more articles will be sent.

At Lumberton Bridge, Robeson county, Sam McLeod, a fusion justice of the peace, who held the preliminary trial of Rueben Ross, who was hanged for raping a white woman, and who made himself very prominent in circulating petitions asking the governor not to commute his sentence, was arrested Friday for a similar offense on a crippled negro woman.

Gov. Russell, who commuted the sentence of Ben Fields from hanging to life imprisonment, has shortened the sentence to four years. He was convicted at Tarboro in 1897 for poisoning a man named Keel at Conetoe. In shortening the sentence of Fields the governor says he was moved to do so by certain evidence discovered after the trial tending to show the man's innocence.

Winston Journal: It is learned that Tax Collector Melver, who disappeared from Mt. Airy last week, carried away about \$500, which his bondsmen will have to pay. One hundred dollars belonged to the Junior Order lodge, of which Melver was treasurer. The merchants and parties who endorsed for him are losers to the amount of \$400. The officer's salary was \$35 per month. He has a wife and two children.

### The Plague at Manila.

Manila, Feb. 17.—Out of a total of 50 cases of suspected bubonic plague, reported, 42 proved genuine and 32 deaths resulted, half of them being Chinamen. There were 12 cases during the past week, mostly within the walled city and 100 inspectors, under the superintendency of a health officer, Maj. Edie, are enforcing the sanitary regulations. Thirty of the inspectors are Chinamen who have been furnished by the Chinese merchants. The health department census shows the population of Manila is about 190,000, including 31,000 Chinese.

### No Sympathy There.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 16.—The sympathy given the Southern Confederacy by England and the fact that United States troops are fighting against the Filipinos, caused resolutions expressing sympathy for the Boers and Filipinos to be overwhelmingly voted down in the house tonight after 90 minutes' debate. South Carolinians who remembered the incident of Slidell and Mason, it was declared, could not censure England, and they are all Anglo-Saxons.

### To Make Lynching Treason.

New York, Feb. 16.—Congressman White, colored, of North Carolina, in a speech before 400 people under the auspices of the Afro-American council of New York tonight, said he had a bill for introduction in congress making lynching treason against the state. At no time, he said, has the race prejudice been so strong and it was time for the nation to see that every individual life is safe until the law takes its course.

### Deepest Sea Sounding Ever Taken.

San Francisco, Feb. 16.—The United States steamer Nero, during its recent survey for a trans-Pacific cable, broke the record for deep sea soundings. One sounding, near Guam Island, marked 5,269 fathoms, only a trifle short of six statute miles.

### No Substitute.

Philadelphia North American. Missionary—Why do you drink that awful liquor? Hungry Ned—By gosh, parson, it's the only liker in the camp. We have to.

### To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BRONCO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. K. GROVE'S signature is on each box, 25c.