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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Damage done by the freeze in Florida said to be slight.

W. H. Beard, the famous painter of animals, died Tuesday night in New York.

Attorneys in the Kentucky gubernatorial contest are trying to agree on terms for consolidating the two cases.

At Petersburg, Va., Grace Hutchinson, white woman, committed suicide Tuesday by taking an ounce of laudanum and six grains of morphine.

An association was organized Wednesday at Savannah, Ga., to control the Georgia and North and South Carolina press lumber business.

A dynamite explosion occurred in the Union Pacific gravel pits, thirty miles west of Cheyenne, Wyo., Tuesday, in which two men were killed and three injured seriously.

The state of Minnesota encourages tree planting by giving a bounty of \$2.40 an acre for every acre planted. Last year 800 thrifty people drew bounties for one or more acres.

D. L. Lewis, a prominent planter of Linds county, Miss., reports to the state board of health that 50 negroes have died in his neighborhood during the present smallpox epidemic. The disease continues general throughout Mississippi.

Daniel and Wesley Smith, brothers, while attempting to collect rent from Ike Kelley, colored, near Winnsboro, S. C., were set upon by Kelley and another negro and Kelley's three sisters. Wesley was beaten to death. The five negroes were arrested.

At Sharpstown, Md., a basket factory had to close because of a religious revival conducted by Methodists. Thirty girls began to sing, pray and shout. The proprietor of the factory, who is a prominent Methodist, was called. He made no effort to control the girls, but told them to shout and rejoice, and he would pay as much for this as for working. It is said 500 people came to see. Many conversions were made.

The Democratic members of the two houses of the Kentucky legislature met in joint session Tuesday afternoon, and by a vote of 74 to 2 ratified the former proceedings by which William Goebel was declared governor, and C. W. Beckham, lieutenant governor, and through which Beckham, since the death of Goebel, claims title to the office of governor. The Republican members of the legislature remained away from the joint session, having decided in caucus not to attend. The senate had adopted the resolutions Monday, and the house Tuesday, and the adoption of them by the joint assembly from the Democratic standpoint, puts the finishing touches, as to its action on the contests.

ODD TOWN OF CULLODEN.

The Liquor Element "Engineered" the Antis Out of the Village.

"I reckon we've got the oddest town in our state that there is in the United States," said a West Virginia man. "Ever hear of Culloden? I don't mean the clans of Culloden described by the poet Campbell. I mean Culloden, W. Va. Well, sir, about half the population of the town doesn't live in the town and can't vote in the town, although they are right in the town.

"I'll explain. The good people, and they are in the majority, too, are down on saloons and liquor in any shape. They got up a temperance meeting and purposed to drive the liquor men out of town. When you find a West Virginian who believes in liquor, you find a man who is ready to fight for it. The liquor people got together and in some way got the confidence of the town engineer. I don't know whether he was a liquor man or not, but they got him on their side. The engineer discovered that the town was not laid out right, and he got authority to change the metes and bounds. When he finished the job, the temperance people found out that they lived just outside of the line of the town, no matter what part of the town their houses were in. A man could stand in his back yard and talk to the man whose place was right up against his place and who was a voter, but the first man had lost his vote.

"The lines of the engineer excluded, as I have said, the temperance people. It took in the license folk all right. The map of Culloden as it is now looks a good deal like a sheet of paper after a fly with ink on its feet meanders across it. You can tell how a citizen of Culloden stands on the liquor question by the place where he builds a house. If he builds one, which doesn't often occur, in spite of its zigzag boundaries, however, Culloden is a contented community."—New York Sun.

A Painter's Memory.

A lady who lives on Morgan street took her 5-year-old son to a photographer's to have his picture taken. She was anxious to secure a good likeness at this particular sitting because she wished to distribute the pictures among some friends who were then her guests.

The child's idea of the affair, however, did not apparently harmonize with that of his mother, for when the man with the camera began to adjust the lens and direct it toward little Edward that young person set up what was unquestionably a howl.

In vain did the mother call into use her utmost forensic abilities. Edward did not want his picture taken.

"Why, my child," she said soothingly, "the gentleman won't hurt you. Just smile and keep still a moment, and it will be all over before you know it."

"Yes, I know, mamma," whimpered the youth, with the tears running down his cheeks, "but that's what you told me at the dentist's."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

How She Knew.

Speaking of kindergartens for colored children calls to mind the experience of a "belle de war" matron who was teaching one of the little darkeys on her plantation how to spell.

The primer she used was a pictorial one, and over each word was its accompanying picture, and Polly glibly spelled o-x, ox, and b-o-x, box, etc. But the teacher thought that she was making right rapid progress, so she put her hand over the picture and said:

"Polly, what does o-x spell?"

"Ox," answered Polly nimbly.

"How do you know that it spells ox, Polly?"

"Seed his tail," replied the apt Polly.

—Memphis Scimitar.

At Carbon, Ky., Tuesday, in a gambling affray in a "blind tiger," Geo. Harp was shot through the heart, dying instantly; Lieut. Ab Early was shot in the elbow and back, not dangerously, and Jim Sulfridge was shot through the arm. Sulfridge says that he heard the fight commence, and on opening the door was shot. Lieut. Early says that Harp shot him twice before he fired. The affair started in a dispute over a game of craps. It is uncertain who killed Harp.

CRONJE TOO SLICK

To Be Caught in the Meshes of The British Forces, so London Thinks. Report of Relief of Ladysmith Premature, But Relief Soon Considered Certain.

London, Feb. 21.—Public interest, expectation and anxiety away unceasingly and impatiently between Ladysmith and Bloemfontein. The possible relief of the former place is expected more from Field Marshal Lord Roberts' brilliant strategy in drawing off the Boers than to Gen. Buller's numerous assaults, and news of the result of the battle between Gen. Kitchener and Gen. Cronje, reinforced by the forces thus drawn off from Ladysmith, is expected to almost synchronize with the announcement that Gen. Buller has reached his objective point.

The accomplishment of the latter event, however, is regarded with greater confidence than is the ability of Gen. Kitchener to thoroughly cripple Gen. Cronje, for the Boer general has proved himself so clever and daring in slipping through the British lines that even if Lord Roberts quickly occupied Bloemfontein, there are many fears expressed that Gen. Cronje might still preserve the effectiveness of his mobile force.

Arundel dispatches, dated Tuesday, Feb. 20, show that the Boers, in force, made a determined attempt to invest Arundel, but were baffled by the smart manœuvring of the British mounted troops.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes is expected to arrive in Cape Town Feb. 24th.

Again Across the Tugela.

London, Feb. 21.—(4:27 p. m.)—The war office has the following from Gen. Buller:

"Chieveley Camp, Feb. 21.—The Fifth division crossed the Tugela today by pontooning and drove back the enemy's rear guard, our naval 12-pounders silencing the enemy's guns."

Cronje in a Fix.

London, Feb. 21.—A private telegram received here from Berlin this afternoon declares that Gen. Cronje is in a bad position, bearing out yesterday's Berlin rumor that Gen. Cronje was surrounded and that a time limit had been given him within which to capitulate.

Premature Bravos.

London, Feb. 21.—At a meeting of the town council of Windsor this morning, it was announced that news had reached Windsor Castle that Ladysmith had been relieved.

The announcement was received with immense enthusiasm and shouts of "bravo Buller." It was announced subsequently however, in the house of commons, in behalf of the cabinet, that no such news had been received.

BOERS VACATING NATAL.

Joubert Orders Forces to Concentrate to Oppose Roberts.

Berlin, Feb. 21.—The Tageblatt publishes a special dispatch from Brussels which says the Transvaal legation there announces that all the Boers are evacuating Natal, their positions in that colony being no longer tenable.

Gen. Joubert, it is added, has ordered the concentration of all the available forces to oppose Lord Roberts.

The siege of Ladysmith, it is further announced, will be raised and it is expected that Gen. Buller will enter the town at the end of the week.

New Yorkers to Corner the North Carolina Lumber Interests.

New York, Feb. 20.—An association of banking houses in New York and London is said to be interested in a new combination designed to control the entire lumber business of North Carolina. It is proposed to unite seven different companies, who own about four billion feet of lumber and control about 600 miles of railroad. Their saw mill capacity is 1,500,000 feet a day, and they have large planing mills and box factories.

Together they sell about 80 per cent. of all the North Carolina pine distributed, the total output being about 500,000,000 feet a year. Tangible assets of these seven companies are estimated at \$23,000,000, and it is proposed to capitalize them at \$28,000,000, upon which it is expected that dividends can be earned through the economies of consolidation.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Groves' signature is on each box. 5c.

MACRUM'S CHARGES.

It is Probably True That British Authorities Opened His Letters.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The answer of the secretary of state to the resolution of the house of representatives calling on him for information as to the charge of ex-Consul Macrum that his official mail was opened by the British military censor at Durban, Natal, has been prepared and will be transmitted to the house through President McKinley, probably tomorrow. The department officials decline to say whether or not the British government was asked if the charge was true, but it is believed that the matter was brought to the attention of Ambassador Pauncefote.

According to what the officials indicate, no information to verify Macrum's allegation has been obtained by the department. It will probably not be shown by the secretary's report that Macrum officially called the attention of the department to the action of British officers in opening his mail, but the general opinion is from the evidence in hand, that the charges on his part are sustained.

The ex-consul, since his return to Washington yesterday, has expressed the keenest desire for an examination of his charges and does not seem to fear that official inquiry will operate to his disadvantage in the eyes of the state department or the country.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The state department's answer was sent to the house today by the president. It is signed by Secretary Hay, who says that Macrum made no complaint that letters were opened. He admits that mail was held up and that thereafter it was sent by a neutral route. Hay denies that there is any secret alliance with Great Britain.

Since the above answer was prepared it has been given out at the state department that inquiries set afoot immediately after the publication of Macrum's first statement, developed the fact that the British government had no knowledge of any interference with the correspondence of the United States consulate at Pretoria, and the additional fact that if any interference had taken place it was contrary to instructions.

French's Entry Into Kimberley.

Modder River, Feb. 19.—Although the rapid march of Gen. French's division was marked by a number of conflicts, the actual entry into Kimberley was unopposed. When the British were still eight miles off, the signalling corps intercepted a heliograph message from the beleaguered garrison to Modder River, saying: "The Boers are shelling the town."

The advancing column replied: "This is Gen. French, coming to the relief of Kimberley."

The garrison was incredulous, thinking the message was a Boer ruse, and flashed the query: "What regiment are you?"

The reply satisfied the defenders of Kimberley that the anxiously awaited savior was at hand, and a few hours later Gen. French, at the head of a column, made a triumphant entry into the place, the people surrounding the troops and intermingling with them, cheering wildly, grasping the soldiers' hands, waving flags, hats and handkerchiefs and exhibiting in a hundred ways the intensity of their joy. The inhabitants had been on short rations for some time, eating horse flesh and living in burrows under heaps of mine refuse. Diminishing rations were served out daily at 11 o'clock in the market square, under a shell fire of the enemy, whose guns opened on the inhabitants assembled. No horse food was left.

Throughout the siege Cecil Rhodes provided the natives with work and food and kept them quiet.

The miles of convoy, bearing provisions for the relief column and the town, winding its way slowly across the plain in the direction of Kimberley, was the gladdest sight which had greeted the eyes of the besieged for four months.

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 Bilio-ness. 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 bad 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.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

Mr. P. B. Manning, prominent young lawyer of Wilmington, died in Richmond, Va., Tuesday.

The State chartered the Winnoah Cotton Mill, to be located at Lexington, Wednesday, capitalized at \$150,000.

Hon. C. R. Aycock opened the State campaign with a great speech at Charlotte Monday night. The Mecklenburg Democracy is reported to be about solid for Aycock for governor.

Another case of smallpox has been discovered in Winston. The patient is Mr. Mack Edland, a young man who went there Saturday from Salisbury. He has never been vaccinated. The health board decided to allow the patient to remain at home if he would agree to pay for his physician and guards to keep the house in strict quarantine.

The University trustees met in Raleigh Wednesday in annual session. The president's report showed the institution to be in fine condition, with the largest attendance in its history. Continuous sessions were ordered by the trustees, so the University will never close hereafter. This is for the purpose of giving those of limited time an opportunity of hastening their graduation, as well as for other good purposes.

The Democratic convention of Edgecombe county was held Tuesday. A large crowd was present and perfect harmony prevailed. The constitutional amendment was endorsed without a dissenting voice. A full ticket was nominated. Gilliam was unanimously endorsed for congress and allowed the privilege of selecting his delegates to the congressional convention. There was great enthusiasm and a strong ticket was nominated. Edgewood is solid for the amendment.

Greensboro Telegram: Mr. J. S. Ingram was in Reidsville yesterday, and reports the funeral there yesterday of Hunter Trotter, a young man of that place who lost his life in Danville Friday night. Mr. Trotter was driving a young horse some distance from the town. It is supposed that the horse stopped and thinking him in the road, Mr. Trotter struck him with the whip; the horse sprang forward and went over a precipice. The unfortunate young man was killed instantly. His neck was broken.

News-Observer: Chairman Simmons has completed and will send out this week to the various county chairmen the plan of organization of White Supremacy Clubs. Mr. Simmons says that these clubs will be organized throughout the State this year and by the middle of June he expects to see at least 2,000 of these clubs in full blast in North Carolina. He predicts that before the election there will be such a coming together of the white people of North Carolina in support of the amendment as has not been in the State in any previous election.

A special from Greensboro refers to Rev. J. W. Lee, the Irish evangelist, who was tried some time ago there by the Methodist quarterly conference on a charge of immoral conduct and acquitted on the main count but convicted of invertecity and suspended from the ministry. Lee went to Washington, D. C., and a gentleman from Greensboro while in that city recently investigated Lee and found that he is living there with the Georgia young woman with whom he had been charged of having behaved immorally. It is also said the evangelist has been seen drinking in Washington barrooms. Lee's family live in Greensboro and he has not supported his family since he has been in Washington, having written them only a few times and representing himself to be in hard luck.

To Try a Filipino by Court Martial.

Manila, Feb. 20.—A military commission meets at Calamba tomorrow to try a Filipino member of the guerilla band which attacked a squad of Americans on Feb. 2d, killing a corporal. The charges are murder and assault with intent to kill. It is supposed that one reason which has hitherto deterred the American authorities from adopting this policy is that the insurgents have over 50 American prisoners, and they may retaliate, although a few of them were captured while fighting.

The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of Groves' TASTELSS CHILL TONIC. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

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



Hair Help

So many persons have hair that is stubborn and dull. It won't grow. What's the reason? Hair needs help just as anything else does at times. The roots require feeding. When hair stops growing it loses its luster. It looks dead.

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR

acts almost instantly on such hair. It awakens new life in the hair bulbs. The effect is astonishing. Your hair grows, becomes thicker, and all dandruff is removed. And the original color of early life is restored to faded or gray hair. This is always the case.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor, and am really astonished at the good it has done in keeping my hair from coming out. It is the best tonic I have tried, and I shall continue to recommend it to my friends."

MATTHEW HOLT,
Burlington, N. C.
Sept. 24, 1898.

If you do not obtain all the benefits you expect from the use of the Hair Vigor, write the Doctor about it. Address, DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.