

State Library

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY.

Vol. II—No. 281.

KINSTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1900.

Price Two Cents.

THE BOER REVERSE.

The Finishing Stroke to Cronje. Surprise at Smallness of Cronje's Army, Only 3,000 Surrendering. Frightful Condition of the Boer Camp.

London, Feb. 27, 5:02 p. m.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts: Paardeberg, 1 o'clock, Tuesday morning.—From information furnished to me by the intelligence department, it is apparent that Gen. Cronje's forces are becoming more depressed and that discontent of the troops and discord among the leaders were rapidly increasing. This feeling was doubtless accentuated by the disappointment caused when Boer reinforcements which tried to relieve Gen. Cronje were defeated by our troops on Feb. 23d. I resolved, therefore, to bring pressure to bear on the enemy. Each night the trenches were pushed forward toward the enemy's laager so as to gradually contract his position, and at the same time I bombarded it heavily with artillery, which was yesterday materially aided by the arrival of four six inch howitzers which I had ordered up from De Aar. In carrying out these measures a captive balloon gave great assistance by keeping us informed of the positions and movements of the enemy. At 3 a. m. today a most dashing advance was made by the Canadian regiment and some engineers, supported by the First Gordon Highlanders and Second Buffs, resulting in our gaining a point some 600 yards nearer the enemy within about 80 yards of his trenches, where our men entrenched themselves and maintained their position till morning, a gallant deed worthy of our colonial comrades and which I am glad to say, was attended by comparatively light loss.

This apparently clinched matters, for at daylight today a letter, signed by Gen. Cronje, in which he stated that he surrendered unconditionally, was brought to our outposts under a flag of truce.

In my reply I told Gen. Cronje he must present himself at my camp and that his forces must come out of their laager, after laying down their arms. By 8 a. m. I received Gen. Cronje and dispatched a telegram to you announcing the fact. In the course of conversation I asked for kind treatment at our hands and also that his wife, grandson, private secretary, adjutant and servants might accompany him wherever he might be sent. I reassured him and told him that his request would be complied with. I informed him that a general officer would be sent with him to Cape Town, to ensure he is being treated with proper respect en route. He will start this afternoon under the charge of Maj. Gen. Prettyman, who will hand him over to the general commanding at Cape Town.

The prisoners, who number about 3,000, will be formed into commandoes under our own officers. They will also leave here today, reaching the Modder River tomorrow when they will be rallied to Cape Town in detachments.

Surprise at Smallness of Cronje's Army.

London, Feb. 27.—Much surprise was expressed when Roberts officially notified the government that the prisoners surrendered numbered only 3,000. It was expected that he had captured a force of at least 8,000, and unless Cronje's casualties number among the thousands, the first great British victory will not turn out to be so great after all, as it seems incredible that a force of 45,000, trained British soldiers, under the greatest commander the British empire has, could be held in check for ten days and suffer severe losses.

It is said that Roberts has declined to permit newspaper correspondents to send a complete report of the situation, therefore many details are lacking.

Frightful Condition in Boer Camp.

London, Feb. 27.—A dispatch says: The condition of affairs in the camp of the Boers was something frightful. They had run entirely out of food, except the creek cattle, and these were eaten as rapidly as they were killed by the British shells. Their ammunition was badly damaged by the British fire. Most of their wagons were burned. The laager was strewn with corpses, lying in the broad light, unburied and festering. The wounded were in an awful plight. The hospital corps was insufficient to attend to them, and they lay about in heaps, some crying piteously, others shrieking in

their pain, many silently enduring their agonies.

"British troops, immediately on taking possession of the laager, were ordered by Roberts to devote their attention to succoring the wounded and burying the dead, as well as caring for the women and children."

THE OFFICERS CAPTURED.

Maj. Von De Witz, a Distinguished German Engineer, Is Among Them.

London, Feb. 27.—7:07 p. m.—The officers captured by Gen. Roberts, besides Gen. Piet Cronje, include the following well known commanders:

Chief Commandant M. J. Wolverans, a member of the Volkraad; Field Cornet Frus, a Scandinavian; Maj. Albrecht, the famous German artilleryman; Maj. Von De Witz, the distinguished German officer responsible for most of the splendid engineering works of the Boers since the commencement of the war.

STOP FURTHER BLOODSHED.

The French Papers Think England Should Accept Mediation.

Paris, Feb. 27.—6:30 p. m.—The newspapers of this city pay the highest tribute to Gen. Cronje's valor, and express the opinion that his surrender is far from ending the war. They add that it will only make the resistance of the Boers all the more desperate.

Several newspapers, however, urge that Great Britain accept mediation now that she has secured an important victory, and stop further bloodshed.

The Temps, in an article headed "Honor to Both Combatants," appeals to Great Britain to end the war, saying:

"If England, once unfortunately engaged in this struggle, could not emerge by accepting the humiliation of defeat, it appears to us that she will do well, and reconquer the sympathies of all nations, if, after having given proof of her superior strength, she knew how to stop herself, and in so doing stop the scenes of carnage and destruction now unfolding themselves in the Orange Free State."

BULLER WINS A VICTORY.

Captures Main Position of Boers and Takes 60 Prisoners.

London, Feb. 28.—The war office has received a dispatch from Gen. Buller announcing that Pieters Hill, the Boers' main position, was magnificently captured yesterday and sixty prisoners taken.

Dr. Daniel E. Motley.

Communication. A word concerning Dr. Motley and his proposed work may not be amiss since many of the readers of THE FREE PRESS are simply disciples of Christ and are therefore interested in the advancement of the plea represented by them.

Dr. Motley was born near Chatham, Va. He connected himself with the church while but a boy. He took the full course at Milligan College, Tenn., and after graduating there he studied at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, where he took his degree as doctor of philosophy last spring. His standing at Johns Hopkins was very high. He won several prizes on competitive examinations; and stood the best final examination in his department of any student who has gone through this course, save one. All this means something at such a place as Johns Hopkins.

During his student life Dr. Motley has done some effective preaching as evangelist and also as pastor. During his student days in Baltimore he filled the pulpit occasionally of the leading churches of all denominations, save the Catholics. His preaching is characterized by careful preparation, which shows clear analysis and logical arrangement, and his delivery is with the utmost moral earnestness. He is a man of deep convictions, high ideals and unflinching courage.

He has been appointed State evangelist for the Churches of Christ in North Carolina. His work will consist in visiting among the weak churches, and in planting the cause of primitive Christianity at points where the disciples of Christ have no organization and no church house. For such work as this we believe Dr. Motley to be eminently qualified, and we predict for him success.

His discourses in Kinston were very helpful and much enjoyed by those who came to hear. His work is done to strengthen the church.

W. G. JOHNSTON.

Saturday is the last day we will make our fine photos, 15 for 15c. Come at once, while you get pictures for nothing.

CLIPPER PHOTO CO., Opera House.

White's Black Liniment—full size 25c. bottle for 15c. It cures pain.

J. E. HOOD.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Chairman Jones seems to think imperialism will be the chief issue in the coming national campaign.

The United States supreme court has denied the application of Capt. Oberlin M. Carter to bring his case into that court. There was no written opinion.

The federal court of claims decides against Admiral Dewey's contention that the Spanish fleet in Manila bay was superior to his, and awards him \$9,570 as prize money for its capture.

The flour trust, capitalized at \$25,000,000 last April, has been placed in the hands of receivers. The failure was caused by inability to float its securities on the open market. There is already a scheme on foot to reorganize the trust.

The United States civil service commission has officially decided that the war closed in all the states except Texas April 2, 1866, and in Texas Aug. 20, 1866. The matter came up in the appointment of a messenger who claimed to be a veteran of the war.

A dispatch from Potam, Mexico, says: The Mexican federal troops, under Gen. Torres have saved Guaymas from the Yaquis by dint of the fiercest fighting of the war and a sacrifice of 227 soldiers. The town here is filled with the wounded and all the public buildings are utilized. Torres anticipated the surprise the Yaquis intended. The Indians were accompanied by ten adventurers, miners and cowboys, who acted as commanders of separate companies of 40 men each. The Yaquis had also a Maxim gun, which had been smuggled through at Bisbee, Ariz., in a load of machinery. The gun was manipulated, the Mexicans say, by two former Rough Riders. The Indians were forced to retreat, leaving 73 dead. The Maxim gun, disabled and useless, was captured.

STATE FUNDS TIED UP.

Kentucky Bankers Will Recognize Neither Beckham Nor Taylor.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 27.—Two state governments, completely officered and each claiming to be the regular and legal officials, are in Frankfort today and will remain, each claiming the right to administer the affairs of state until the question is adjudicated in the courts. As anticipated the banks refuse to recognize either of the contending factions and as a result both are without money and the state funds are as securely tied up as well as they could be. Legislators, county as well as state officials and all kinds of contractors with the state will have to wait until somebody is authorized by a decision of the court to pay them and the state will have to wait on what is due it until the courts say who is authorized to receive it. The Democratic state officers have opened offices in the State Hotel. The charitable and penal state institutions are among the sufferers.

PLUM FOR PRITCHARD

He May Be Appointed in Ewart's Place. Said Senate Will Reject Ewart.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 27.—Once more the sub-committee of the senate judiciary committee has reported to the full committee adversely in the Ewart case; but the friends of Judge Ewart say that in spite of an adverse report he will be confirmed. The story tonight is that Ewart will not be confirmed, but that he will be rejected by the senate, that when this announcement is made the president will appoint Senator Pritchard to fill the vacancy.

Senator Pritchard, who is loyal to Ewart was offered the judgeship a year ago, but declined because he did not want it said that he had not been true to Ewart, whose cause he has championed since his first appointment. The charge cannot now be made and therefore it is asserted that the senator will accept the appointment.

THEY BEG FOR FREE TRADE.

And Gen. Davis Backs Up the Porto Ricans' Appeal.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Secretary Root today sent the senate a letter from Gen. Davis with a petition from Porto Ricans asking for free trade with the United States. Gen. Davis strongly depicts the urgency and gravity of the industrial paralysis.

Artistic job work is the kind you get at THE FREE PRESS OFFICE.

AN UNDERTAKING ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Webb Wants to Increase His Business. Talks About Quality, Price and His Competency.

Mr. George B. Webb called the writer into his place of business a few days ago and said that he desired to do some advertising for his undertaking business, "but," Mr. Webb said, "my business is somewhat of a hard kind to advertise. You know that by advertising you cannot increase the demand, and it would hardly be the proper thing to state in glaring headlines that we had just received the latest things in coffins."

The writer assured Mr. Webb that he did not think advertising would increase the demand in his line of business, and asked him what was his idea for advertising anyway.

In response to this Mr. Webb said that he did not desire to increase the demand for coffins, but that he did desire to increase the proportional demand upon his undertaking establishment.

"Well Mr. Webb," the writer answered, "we are certainly disposed to make this a paying business for both of us. We will sell you space in our columns, of course, but if you want us to get up your advertising, we would like to ask you a few questions. You at present have no competition and do all the business in the undertaking line around Kinston, and to whom do you wish to advertise?"

"Well," Mr. Webb said, "a good many deaths occur in territory which is about as near to other undertaking establishments as it is to mine, and I am certain that in a good many instances, people who go elsewhere, if they had the matter properly set before them, would get the services of my establishment."

"You say, 'if the matter was properly set before them,' what do you mean?"

"Well, in the first place, I know that I am in a position to do work cheaper, considering quality; and in the second place, I know my business, and every one has, by my reputation, a perfect guarantee that my work will be done correctly. I think these two reasons ought to decide a doubtful person to give me the preference."

"You have summed up in that reply, Mr. Webb, the whole argument toward selling any article or service—first, the quality; second, the price, and third, your competency. Now, as to the quality, what have you to say about that?"

"I have never sold a coffin but what it and all the fixings, inside and outside, were what I represented them to be. The customer always knows what he is getting, and gets what he orders."

"How about price?"

"I have been the only undertaker in Kinston a long time, but my prices have always been reasonable; in fact, where comparisons have been made with establishments elsewhere, I think, in nearly every instance, mine have been cheaper, and I know that upon an average they have been considerably cheaper."

"Now comes the last question, Mr. Webb. How about your competency?"

An expression of even still more firm conviction settled upon his face as he replied:

"I have been in this business all my life. This establishment was erected by my father, who did an undertaking business in it before the war. I have helped him ever since I could remember, until in 1887 I took charge and have conducted an undertaking business ever since. I am a graduate of the Champion Baltimore College of Embalming, and know the details of an undertaking business from beginning to end. There is hardly a family that has lived in this section a long time but that my father or myself have conducted the last sad duty for one of its members."

The writer assured Mr. Webb that he thought that the publication of the facts would help him in his business.

Democrats Granted Certificates.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 26.—The state contest board today awarded certificates of election to all of the Democratic contestants for minor state offices. Immediately afterward the contestants were sworn in and repaired to the state house in a body where they made a formal demand on the Republican incumbents for possession of the offices, but the demands were not acceded to.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

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

It is worth more than 10 cents a week to run over every day to your neighbor's house and borrow his paper. Take THE FREE PRESS and stop bothering your neighbor. It's a sight cheaper.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Goldsboro Baptists Sunday contributed about \$400 for the Baptist University at Raleigh.

W. H. May & Co., of Springhope, Nash county, have made a voluntary assignment in bankruptcy; liabilities \$5,000.

Dr. R. J. Brevard, at Charlotte, lost his barn and its contents, including the family horse, and a handsome driving horse by fire Monday. The fire was in the heart of the city. The origin is unknown.

Raleigh Cor. Messenger: Populists are saying very freely that they do not propose to allow their State convention to make the constitutional amendment an issue. This means a knockout for Senator Butler and his allies, who will seek to drive the opposition to the amendment over the convention.

The State has chartered the Lily Cotton Mills, of Spray, Rockingham county. The capital stock is to be \$10,000 at first, with the privilege of increasing same to \$1,000,000. The business proposed is the manufacture of cotton, wool, jute, hemp, silk or other textile products and the bleaching and finishing of same.

Greenville Reflector, Feb. 27th: At 6:40 this morning, of pneumonia, at her home in this town, Mrs. Lou Rountree died. She leaves two sons, Mess. L. H. and Eustas Rountree, and one daughter, Mrs. Herbert Rountree. Mrs. Rountree was 56 years old. She had been a resident of Greenville for a number of years. The remains will be interred at the old Rountree graveyard two miles from town.

The attorneys for the railways will ask Judge Simonton to direct Standing Master James E. Shepherd to begin March 20th the taking of testimony as to whether railway property is not assessed at a higher valuation than other property in the State. As yet the standing master has no orders. It is estimated that it will require at least a year to take the testimony. There will be thousands of affidavits.

Capt. Morton says that next Saturday the auxiliary cruiser Hornet will make a winter cruise to Charleston. On board will be the Wilmington division, now the largest of the seven, having 65 men, a number of men of the Southport division, and perhaps some from other divisions. It is a voluntary cruise, the men paying the expenses, perhaps \$5 or \$6 each. During the summer it is the plan to take out all the reserves and there are to be two cruises, as far north as New York.

Charlotte Observer: The Hargrave & Leak Manufacturing company, of Wadesboro, is the only concern of the kind in the State. It makes drill and Canton flannel drawers. From a small beginning two years ago, the factory will soon turn out 1,500 garments a day. The goods are sold all over the eastern part of the United States. The concern uses about 3,000 yards of cloth per day, which is the equivalent of three bales of cotton. When in full operation the factory will employ about 75 girls and women and a dozen or more boys.

Charlotte Observer: Mr. C. H. Mathis, of Blackville, S. C., is going to try an experiment with melons in Robeson county, near Maxton, this year. He will plant 500 acres in watermelons and 50 acres in cantaloupes. The ground is now about ready for the seed. Mr. Mathis is an experienced melon grower. He has large farms in Florida and South Carolina, and will try one in this State. He will put in over 2,000 acres this season. The melons in Florida will begin to ripen for the market about June 1st; in South Carolina about June 28th, and in North Carolina about July 4th. Therefore, Mr. Mathis will have three crops coming on the market at different seasons.

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, "Boschee'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-Marston Drug Co.