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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Ex-Gov. Oates has withdrawn from the senatorial contest in Alabama, in favor of Senator Morgan.

The house committee on foreign affairs has decided to investigate the allegations made by Chas. E. Macrum, ex-consul to Pretoria, South Africa, relative to the opening of his official mail by the British authorities.

At Altoona, Pa., Wednesday, the second section of the Western Express, while running at a rate of 60 miles an hour, was wrecked. Engineer Andrew Kaufman, aged 45, of Harrisburg, was jammed in the wreckage and died from his injuries two hours later at the Altoona hospital.

At Buffalo, N. Y., on Wednesday, fire burned out the interior of the consumptive ward of the Erie county hospital. There were 60 patients in the ward when the fire broke out. They were carried from the building by attendants, all escaping without injury. The fire was confined to the one ward.

Secretary Hay and Ambassador Cambon have signed a protocol extending the time allowed for the ratification of the French reciprocity treaty. By the terms of the protocol the treaty is to be ratified "as soon as possible, and within twelve months from date." This is the same provision that was adopted in respect to the British West Indian reciprocity treaties.

At Chicago, Wednesday, 35 persons were injured by the falling of a freight elevator in the rear of the building at 126 Market street, where the victims of the accident were employed by the Blakely Printing company. It is thought none of the injured will die, although several of them were badly hurt. The accident was caused by the breaking of the engine in the basement.

The charred remains of Cassie Boone, a young white woman, was found in the woods near Cheraw, S. C., last Tuesday. Three men have been arrested for the crime. Whether committed by the men acting as a committee of regulators (the character of the young woman being not of the best), or whether she was forcibly taken into the woods, outraged and then burned, cannot now be told.

Jacob Lorillard, formerly a brick manufacturer and son of Peter Lorillard, the millionaire tobacco man, from whom he inherited \$1,500,000 besides bequests of nearly \$1,000,000 more, has filed a petition in bankruptcy. Liabilities \$867,327, assets \$300. Pierre Lorillard and H. J. Barbey, of New York, are the largest creditors. He admits an income of \$40,000, but says it is necessary for his support.

Secretary Root has granted exclusive concessions to prospectors to obtain gold from the sandy beach at Cape Nome. This fact became known after Senator Turner, of Washington, had offered in the senate a resolution of inquiry as to the action of the secretary in granting these licenses to prospectors to dredge the beach. Mr. Turner declared that if such authority had been given, it was "a shame, a reproach and a scandal." The concessions are said to be valuable.

Beck Olsen, of Copenhagen, met Ernest Roeder, the heavy-weight wrestler of America, Wednesday night at Madison Square Garden, New York, in a Graeco-Roman match for the world's championship, and Olsen was declared the victor by the referee. Roeder gained the first fall in 24 minutes and 25 seconds, by a half Nelson hold. The Dane secured the next fall by a front body hold and throw. Roeder was unable to come to the center at the call of time after a 10-minute intermission and Olsen was therefore given the match.

William Blackstone, of Baltimore, and Ben Jones and James Lacy, of Westmoreland county, Va., three of the four negroes charged with holding up and robbing Thomas Davidson, of Huntington, Pa., Thursday night, and Maj. Toller and Thornton Henderson, both colored, of Orange county, Va., at Cumberland, Md., Sunday night, securing \$25 from the latter, were caught Wednesday near Sir John's Run by Sheriff Harrison and a posse of 15 armed railroad men, after a running fight of two miles. They are now in jail at Berkeley Springs, W. Va. The fourth negro escaped, badly wounded, leaving a trail of blood.

An extraordinary case was terminated Wednesday at Savannah, Ga. D. A. Tyson and ten others pleaded guilty to the charge of conspiracy to defraud through the use of the mails. Thus collapsed a

case that has engaged the court for the better part of two weeks, and which Judge Speer characterizes as "one of the most notable cases ever tried in the federal court in this country." The conspiracy had ramifications through half a dozen counties in Georgia, most of them prohibition counties. The conspirators sent orders by mail to wholesale merchants out of the state for all manner of goods, principally beer and liquors, which they dispensed in blind tigers and the shippers would never hear of their money. But while liquors for sale in "dry" counties were a specialty, many other kinds of goods were embraced in the orders of the gang. Indeed, the confessed leader of the conspirators, D. A. Tyson, built and equipped a long distance telephone line connecting Savannah with neighboring towns with material fraudulently ordered on elegantly engraved letter paper of fictitious firms. Tyson made use of a number of small country merchants, whom he persuaded to permit the use of their names for the fraudulent ordering of goods. Many pianos, organs, reapers, cases of wine and other articles were found in depots in the territory of the gang, consigned to the various members of it. The gang victimized wholesale merchants in Montgomery, Chattanooga, Richmond, Charleston, Baltimore, Cincinnati and elsewhere. The trial had gone on nearly two weeks and nearly 100 witnesses had been examined, when it was suddenly terminated by a plea of guilty.

SWORN TO DEFEND TAYLOR.

Organizers at Work in Louisville With the Knowledge and Support Of Republican Leaders. Golden's Mysterious Movements.

Louisville, March 21.—Republicans are organizing over the state what may prove to be an army. The organization is known as the Liberty League, and bands are to be formed in every county and in every town where sufficient members can be gathered together. In Louisville organizers are actively at work and many bands are being organized. The movement has the support of the party leaders and of the party press, which has made public the details of the organization.

Liberty Leagues are to be formed and are to be held in readiness to carry out whatever work may be assigned to them. It is generally understood that the real work will consist in being an active ally of Taylor's militia, to defend the executive building from the Democrats after the court of appeals shall have acted. But the oath may mean that it is intended to protect those arrested for complicity in the assassination of Gov. Goebel, as there is a pledge to save life. The oath is as follows: "Whereas our civil liberties have been assaulted and a gigantic conspiracy has been formed to persecute and defraud us of our rights; therefore we, the undersigned, do hereby organize ourselves into a Liberty League, pledging to preserve both our civil liberty and lives of our fellow-citizens, who are made the victims of the aforesaid conspiracy, and to this end we pledge our property and our lives and will follow the command of our captain, who is to be selected by us."

The Louisville party organ, in announcing the intention to organize Liberty Leagues, makes no secret that the plan is revolutionary, citing the way in which the minute men were organized in 1776 in order to protect their rights. It also sees farther and depicts the bloody scenes of the Cincinnati riots, when the court house was destroyed.

Golden Slips Into Lexington.

Lexington, March 21.—F. W. Golden, who is the centre of interest in the Goebel murder investigation, slipped into Lexington last night, and has been under surveillance of detectives throughout the day. He left for Winchester today. He was inaccessible to outsiders and to friends was as silent as a sphinx. To H. M. Steele, of London, Ky., who is here, he said: "Rumors going over the country are all a lie. You will find out later I am telling the truth."

Judge Robert Fields, of Perry county, came here from Beattyville today. He says that at the barber shop there where "Tally" Dick Combs works, he heard Combs say that he was at work every day and would make no attempt to escape if the officers wanted him. He said he could prove where he was every hour of the day on which Goebel was killed, and that he was not afraid of the consequences.

Marshall in Washington.

Washington, March 21.—Hon. John Marshall, the Republican lieutenant governor of Kentucky, arrived in Washington today. Mr. Marshall declined to be interviewed. It was said he had not been at the white house during the day.

4,000 BOERS FLEEING

North Before Gatacre's Army. Bridge Was Saved. Belief at Bloemfontein That the Burghers Will Not Make a Stand South of Transvaal Border. Unconfirmed Report That the Two Republics Have Been Federated and That Steyn Has Been Appointed General in Command of All the Boer Forces.

London, March 22.—The Times this morning publishes the following dispatches from its correspondents at the front:

Rouxville, Free State, March 20.—This town has been occupied without opposition by the Kaffrarian rifles, under Maj. Cuming, accompanied by Lord Wolverton. Commandant Olivier is believed to be at Smithfield with 200 burghers and 75 rebels, all others having deserted. Large quantities of rifles, ammunition and stores were found here. Landrost Hoffman has consented to act as magistrate. The British flag was hoisted and notice served on the residents of the town to deliver up their weapons. Immediately messengers were sent round the district for the same purpose.

Trooper Robins, who was captured at Aliwa North on the 11th and conveyed to Smithfield, arrived here at midnight. He reports that Capt. O'Neil, with fifty scouts and 100 of the Berkshire mounted infantry, occupied Smithfield from Springfontein yesterday. He says the Free State Boer commandoes from Aliwa North, Bethulie, and Rouxville have joined forces, numbering together 4,000 men and 18 guns, and retired toward Sand river Sunday night.

In Time to Save the Bridge

Bethulie, March 20.—It is difficult to believe that this pretty and peaceful village, now flying the Union Jack, was ten days ago the headquarters of Duploey's commando. The wrecked railway bridge is the sole evidence of the recent bloodshed. Five spans were destroyed. The Boers used 200 pounds of explosive on each pier.

The effect of Gen. Roberts' second proclamation is evident here. The Free State burghers in the southern districts are surrendering their arms in considerable numbers.

During the forward movement of Gen. Gatacre's force the plucky manner in which Bethulie road bridge, which had already been prepared for demolition, was saved, was worthy of every commendation. The regiment of mounted infantry covered 100 miles without saddles. Communications are free by the Bethulie road bridge, which is standing intact. Bethulie railway bridge, Norvalpont railway bridge, and the Colesberg road bridge were demolished.

Mysterious Messages Between London and Pretoria.

London, March 22.—Several telegrams have passed between President Kruger and the British government in addition to the Salisbury-Kruger correspondence already published. The foreign office received a dispatch from Pretoria yesterday. The contents of these communications cannot yet be obtained.

Kruger Predicts Desperate Fighting.

London, March 22.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Pretoria, dated Monday, March 19, says: "President Kruger returned from Kroonstadt yesterday. He says the fight in the Free State will be desperate. I am informed that the Transvaal government has taken no resolution to destroy mines or property as a last resort."

Removal of Secret Documents.

London, March 22.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Morning Post says: "On the best authority I learn that the real objective of the Fischer-Wolmorsans deputation is Russia. I also hear that they have taken away all the secret incriminating documents from Pretoria, thus making it difficult to implicate Steyn and the Bondites."

Cecil Rhodes Sails for England.

Cape Town, March 21.—Cecil Rhodes sailed for England today.

REPULSE OF GATACRE.

Boers Say They Defeated Him at Bethulie. British Disbelieve It. Kroonstadt, Orange Free State, Tuesday, March 20.—via Pretoria March 22.—The Boers, commanded by Gen. Oliv-

ier, have engaged the British troops under Gen. Gatacre in the vicinity of Bethulie, repulsing the British with heavy loss and capturing many of them.

Burghers are arriving here in great numbers. Gen. De Wet arrived today. Desultory fighting with Col. Plumer's column has occurred near Gaborones.

Boer Victory Over Gatacre Discredited.

London, March 22.—The report from Kroonstadt, Orange Free State, via Pretoria, that the Boers, under command of Gen. Olivier, had defeated the British troops under Gen. Gatacre in the vicinity of Bethulie, is not believed here. A dispatch to the Daily News from Springfontein, dated March 20, says that Gen. Gatacre was all well, and adds that he and Gen. Brabant had not lost a dozen men in a fortnight. The last advice also placed Gen. Gatacre about thirty miles north of Bethulie, where the Boer report says the defeat was inflicted. This, combined with the fact that no mention of the affair was made by Lord Roberts in his dispatch of March 21, confirms the belief that the Kroonstadt advice are erroneous.

The reports of skirmishing near Lobatal, while apparently not inflicting any serious loss on Col. Plumer's columns, cause grave anxiety in regard to his ability to reach Mafeking. Further news from that quarter is anxiously awaited, for in the six days that have elapsed since the last messages were sent off a serious engagement may have occurred, though not of Col. Plumer's seeking. The Boers seem determined not to give up their prey at Mafeking without a fierce struggle.

Boers Repulse British Attacks.

Pretoria, March 19.—via Lourenzo Marques.—Sharp fighting continues in the vicinity of Warrentown, northward of Kimberley. The Boers have successfully repulsed repeated attacks by the British. The railroad in the direction of Mafeking has been destroyed.

Capture of Gatacre Reported.

Kroonstadt, Orange Free State, March 19.—via Lourenzo Marques, March 22.—A rumor is current here that the British commander, Gen. Gatacre, and the members of his staff, have been isolated and captured by Commandant Olivier's commando. It is said that the prisoners are now enroute for Pretoria.

England's Great Resources.

London Black and White.

An amusing story is going the rounds of some Midland districts with reference to President Kruger. A grandson of that amiable old gentleman is said to have been in communication with Pretoria, and received a cable: "More ships arriving. Are any men left in Manchester?" Young Kruger went to Manchester and cabled back: "Regret, Manchester still full." A second cable came from Pretoria: "Still more ships arriving. What about Leeds?" The answer was: "Regret, Leeds also full." A third cable came: "Try Newcastle." Young Kruger went to Newcastle and there saw a lift go down the shaft of a mine empty, bringing up eight men to the surface. Rushing off to the telegraph office he cabled: "Stop the war, grand-papa. England is bring up men from h—!"

He Craved a Favor.

"Say," called the victim from beneath the bed coverings.

"Well?" asked one of the burglars, gruffly.

"Would you fellows mind carrying off that ornamental watchdog of mine in the front yard along with the rest of your swag?"—Philadelphia North American.

Cautious.

"Do you think a prizefighter has a right to call himself a gentleman?"

"Er—there isn't one within hearing, is there?"—Indianapolis Press.

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.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

While out hunting Wednesday Malcolm Robinson, of Charlotte, dropped dead of heart disease.

It is learned that Judge Dossey Battle is very sick, and that it is feared he has Bright's disease and also heart trouble.

The Democrats of the 10th judicial district met at Hickory Thursday and nominated W. B. Council, of Watauga, for superior court judge.

Dr. Geo. Davis, of Beaufort, resigns as second assistant physician at the insane asylum at Raleigh, in order to take the practice of his father, recently deceased.

Concord cor. Charlotte Observer: Mr. W. S. McDuffie, manager of the stock exchange here, lost his voice on Saturday and has not been able to speak since. Cigarette smoking is supposed to be the cause.

A very determined effort is to be made to purify college athletics in this State by dispensing with professional players, now so common. May 5th at Durham the heads of the colleges will make an agreement which will bar the professionals.

Clarence Call, chairman of the Republican congressional executive committee of the Winston district and ex-sheriff of Wilkes county, was convicted in Wilkes superior court Thursday of disturbing religious worship and carrying concealed weapons. He was fined \$10 in the first case and \$50 in the second.

The state has chartered the Southern Saw Mill and Lumber company, capital \$500,000, principal offices at Philadelphia and Lumberton, N. C. The Atlantic Shipboard company, of Philadelphia, owns all the stock save three shares, which are also held by Philadelphia. The company will buy timber lands, manufacture lumber and make any kind of wooden goods.

The Southern Railway has another \$20,000 damage suit started against it. This suit grows out of the death of Linwood Couch, a young flagman on the Southern, who was killed at Funston siding, about six miles from Durham, several months ago. The causes for the action alleged by the complainant are defective machinery and negligent operation of cars. The case will come up for trial at the next term of Orange superior court.

The man who worked the slick trick on a Durham tobacco warehouse, has been discovered and arrested. His name is George Daniels, of Robinson county. This is the man who went to the sales clerk, asked him for the bill of sales for the tobacco of F. Link. He said he was Link and the clerk not doubting his identity, gave him the bill, and he went to the office and got the check. The error was discovered when the real Link applied for his check.

Superior Court Judge Timberlake has decided the Craig law unconstitutional. The act was passed last year by the legislature, in an attempt to prevent the transfer of cases from State to federal courts. The case now comes on appeal to the supreme court, which, it is believed, will sustain the court below. It is now said that in a case from Louisiana there is a similar ruling, and that railways and other corporations knew this last year when the legislature enacted the Craig law.

Elijah Whitaker, the negro boy who was shot by William Pugh at Weldon Saturday night, died of his injuries Wednesday. Whitaker said before his death that they were all shooting "craps" and that Pugh went down town and returned with a pistol and fired the fatal shot. The witnesses examined in the mayor's court, however, testified that Pugh had no pistol, and that it was Whitaker's pistol Pugh took from Elijah and fired while Whitaker was advancing with a knife wide open.

Democratic State Chairman Simmons has arranged for an entirely new departure in this State in the shape of a series of ratification meetings covering twelve days of continuous speaking, beginning April 16, five days after the Democratic State convention at Raleigh. At these meetings every candidate on the State ticket will be present and speak. These candidates will leave for Raleigh to speak at Burlington, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Asheville, Fayetteville, Salisbury, Charlotte, Concord, Rocky Mount, and