

SUSPENSE!

British War Office Will Give but Little News.

SIEGE OF KIMBERLEY

Boers Are Again Very Active, Bombarding Heavily from All Positions...

London, Jan. 23.—Just before midnight the war office issued the following dispatch from General Buller:

Spearman's Camp, Jan. 22.—6 p. m.—The following casualties are reported in General Hart's brigade as the result of yesterday's fighting:

Killed—Captain Ryall, Yorkshire regiment, and five men. Wounded—Second Lieutenant Andrews, Border regiment; Captain McLaughlan, Inniskillings; Lieutenant Barlow, Yorkshire regiment, and seventy-five men. Missing—Eight men. Other casualties will be forwarded when received.

Boers Active at Kimberley.

Kimberley (By Heliograph, Wednesday, Jan. 17, via Modder river, Jan. 22.—"Native reports say that a proclamation has been issued at Barkley West by Commandant Botho, ordering all British subjects to quit before Jan. 22. Ladies are being subjected to great insults. The Boers are again very active, bombarding heavily from all positions from dawn till 8 a. m., the fire being directed chiefly against the redoubts."

Durban, Natal, Jan. 22.—The statement comes from an excellent source in Pietermaritzburg that Lord Dundonald has entered Ladysmith with 1,000 men.

This is not confirmed from any other quarter, but it is known that Lord Dundonald's flying column has been advancing well to the left of the line of the advance.

Warren Continues Pushing.

London, Jan. 23.—The Daily Chronicle has received the following dated Jan. 22, 4:15 p. m., from Spearman's Camp:

"The Boers admit twenty-one casualties during General Lyttelton's skirmish on Saturday.

"General Warren continues pushing, though he is necessarily making very slow progress, as the Boers are numerous and strongly entrenched.

"Our infantry is working over parallel ridges, with Lord Dundonald's cavalry lying well out on the left flank and awaiting developments. The Boers contest every inch of ground.

"This morning General Warren's artillery re-opened fire, but the Boers did not reply and our fire became less hot.

"The naval guns in front here have been quiet. A Boer prisoner who was brought in boasted that it would take us three months to reach Ladysmith."

No Report from Buller.

London, Jan. 23, 4:15 a. m.—General Buller has reported nothing of his operations on Monday and official and press intelligence leaves the British bivouacked Sunday night on the ground they had won after two days' fighting. The war office turned everybody out of the lobbies at midnight, apparently Lord Lansdowne was as much without news all yesterday as other persons were.

Military men assume that fighting must have taken place and that it was probably more severe than on the two preceding days. General Buller would not be likely to give the Boers leisure to add to the elaborate trenchments, to arrange their artillery and concentrate their forces.

The special correspondents Sunday night were allowed to send an announcement that the battle would be almost certainly resumed the following day, and hence official and popular anxiety is at high tension. The British military experts all share the hopes of their leaders and, as Spencer Wilkinson points out, they hesitate to say a word that might be interpreted as unfavorable.

The "cooler judgment of German and Austrian critics," which means that some of the best judges look upon General Buller's enterprise as a forlorn hope, as merely a continual strain of the physical energy of the troops engaged.

Hard Fighting.

The Daily Chronicle's military expert says: "Even when a battle is won in a single day, as a rule, pursuit is only possible when fresh troops are available. But in this instance it is not a question of mere pursuit, but of renewing an attack upon entrenched positions, after a day's hard fighting and a night of lying on the battlefield."

Reinforcements aggregating 5,000 or more have reached Cape Town during the last three days. It is uncertain how these have been disposed, but

HAVE NO DESIRE TO ENTERTAIN BRYAN

SIGNIFICANT LETTER TO PRESIDENT OF DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

The Belmont Correspondence Recalled—Members of the Democratic Club Request the President to Refrain from Action That May Be Misconstrued—Opinions as Individuals.

New York, Jan. 22.—The following letter, signed by John Fox, a former president of the Democratic club and now a member of the board of governors; Robert B. Roosevelt and John P. Doyle, was sent tonight to John V. Keller, president of the Democratic club:

"It is with the most kindly feeling, and certainly with no desire to criticize your acts, that we take the liberty, as members of the Democratic club, to address you. We are credibly informed that you have invited William J. Bryan to become your guest at the Democratic club and take dinner with you and a party of friends. In other words, Mr. Bryan is to be entertained by you, and the place of such entertainment is at the Democratic club. While it is your unquestioned right, or the right of any member to invite any gentleman whom he may choose to become his guest at the club, yet under existing conditions we greatly fear that your act will become construed by the public as the act of the club should you give such dinner to this distinguished guest without affirmatively disclaiming such intention on the part of the club. We ourselves can fully distinguish between an official act and individual opinions. We want it understood, too, that we have no personal objections to Mr. Bryan, nor do we object in the slightest degree to your giving him a dinner at the club, in your individual capacity as one of its members. We should much regret, however, if what you propose to do should be construed throughout the country as a political endorsement by the Democratic club of the presidential candidacy, at this time, of Mr. Bryan.

ACCUSED OF CONSPIRACY.

Twelve Assumptionist Fathers of Paris Are Involved in a So-Called Royalist Plot.

Paris, Jan. 22.—The trial of twelve Assumptionist fathers began here today before the correctional tribunal. It is alleged they were involved in the so-called Royalist and anti-Republican conspiracy. The court was crowded and a number of ladies were present. The judge opened the proceedings with questioning Father Pichard, superior of the order, who denied that he belonged to an illegal association and declared he never took part in the political agitation. The Assumptionists, he added, attended to purely religious questions. Pichard's counsel then asked for the acquittal of the prisoners.

The public prosecutor, replying, said the fathers were prosecuted because, in violation of the law, they had been living in France for the past fifty years without the authorization of the government. He then spoke of the wealth of the Assumptionists and produced facts in support of the charge that they had entered actively into the electoral campaign against the republic. The hearing was then suspended. The trial is attracting much attention, as it is a miniature repetition of the high court (senate) trial recently concluded.

MEEKS LYCHING CASE.

Judge Simons Declares the Mob Are Guilty of Murder.

Fort Scott, Kans., Jan. 22.—County Attorney Sheppard, addressing the court today, regarding the lynching Saturday night of the Meeks brothers, said the officers were the people's servants and that the people had simply taken the enforcement of the law out of their hands. He said he could not condemn them for it.

The Meeks were to have been sentenced today. When their cases were called, Judge Simons said the men composing the mob were guilty of murder and that they had cast serious reflection on the city and county. He instructed the sheriff to protect Amos Phillips, the third of the murderers whose life the mob also sought. "If it is necessary to shoot to do so, that is your duty, and that is the order of this court."

No action looking to the arrest of any of the mob was taken. A coroner's inquest into the death of the Meeks today rendered a verdict of "killed by unknown men."

SENAX'S CRIME.

Duryea Man Will Spend 14 Years in the Penitentiary.

Pittston, Jan. 22.—In the Luzerne court today before Judge Lynch, Michael Senax, of Duryea, who had been convicted of assaulting his own daughter, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and undergo an imprisonment of fourteen years and six months in the Eastern Penitentiary.

Upon hearing this sentence the prisoner fell in a dead faint and was carried from the court room by his friends, who were protesting his innocence.

DAY'S DEATH ROLL.

New York, Jan. 22.—Dr. Alfred J. Watts, the inventor of crystal gold, which is used in dentistry, died today at his home in Brooklyn, of old age.

Lebanon, Pa., Jan. 22.—John Easton died today, aged 65. He served in the Pennsylvania legislature of 1883, and at the time of his death was justice of the peace of North Lebanon township.

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Theodore Bacon, one of the most prominent lawyers in New York, and who was an independent candidate for governor against Theodore Roosevelt, in 1888, died today, aged 65 years.

San Francisco, Jan. 22.—Captain Julius Friedman, a millionaire, was found dead in his bed at the Palace hotel. Death was caused by heart disease from which he had long been a sufferer. Captain Friedman leaves no close relatives.

Easton, Pa., Jan. 22.—Rev. Father G. Henry Krake, pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic church, at Buresk, Bucks county, died yesterday of consumption. Father Krake died the Haycock charge for twenty-three years. His brother celebrated mass in his place yesterday.

New York, Jan. 22.—John Potter Stockton, for many years attorney general of New Jersey, died at the Hotel Hamilton today. Mr. Stockton was born in Princeton in 1825 and was a son of the late Commodore Stockton, of the United States navy. He was a graduate of Princeton college. He was appointed United States minister to Rome by President Buchanan. He was twice elected to the United States senate but was unseated for the first term.

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"We desire to call your attention to a portion of the correspondence which took place between your immediate predecessor as president of the club and the distinguished gentleman whom you have invited to be your guest at the club. You will remember that Mr. Bryan now stands before the nation as an avowed aspirant seeking the Democratic presidential nomination."

Belmont Correspondence.

Here the letter cites the arduous correspondence between Bryan and Mr. Perry Belmont, growing out of Mr. Bryan's declination of the Democratic club's invitation to the Jefferson day banquet last April, in which he condemned "political communion between Jefferson Democrats and the Republican allies, who masquerade as Democrats between campaigns in order to give more potency to their betrayal of Democratic principles on election day."

The letter continues: "It may be fairly inferred from all of the foregoing that if you were not considered by Mr. Bryan as an avowed believer in his doctrine of free coinage and unlimited silver coinage, at the rate of 16 to 1, he would also have declined your invitation on the ground that no party advantage is to be derived from political communion with you at the Democratic club. We do not believe in the wisdom of free coinage at that rate. We do know, however, that we are Democrats and are interested in the success of the Democratic party in the city, in the state and in the nation.

"This being true, we sincerely but respectfully urge upon you, occupying as you do, the position of president of the club, not to do anything which would tend to forestall the action of the next Democratic national convention.

"As individuals we claim the right to express our opinions in regard to the future policy of our party and the selection of its nominees. We believe it unwise to permit ourselves to go broadcast throughout the land that the Democratic club of this city, so far in advance of the convention, are irrevocably committed to the endorsement of the principles of the national platform of the Democratic party of the last presidential campaign. We are fully aware of the fact that in 1896 we lost the state of New York by 268,469 and the city by more than 20,000. It is our desire, if possible, to prevent a repetition of another such Democratic political disappointment.

"In conclusion let us again repeat that we take this course in good feeling and to prevent, if possible, a misconception of your individual act as being the act of the Democratic club."

Keller Acts as an Individual.

John V. Keller had not seen the letter until a reporter gave him a copy of it. He read it carefully and then said: "I was in my office all day. They could have located me easily enough. I think they might have sent me a copy before they rushed to the newspaper offices with it.

"However," he continued, "I have said again and again that my dinner to Mr. Bryan is that of one private gentleman to another. There is not the slightest change in my plans possible because of this letter. My act is that of an individual. It compromises the club in no possible way. I am surprised that three men should so interpret it, and especially surprised

MOLINEUX TRIAL SOON TO CLOSE

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY AT-TORNEY OSBORNE.

The Only New Testimony Introduced Yesterday—A Tiffany Envelope Found in a Package of Poison Sent to Harry Cornish—Testimony Bearing Upon the Sickness of Cornish.

New York, Jan. 22.—Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Osborne announced at the close of today's session of the trial of Roland B. Molineux, for the murder of Mrs. Katharine J. Adams, that the prosecution would surely close tomorrow. The only new testimony introduced today was that of Matthias M. Dobb, a clerk in the stationery department of Tiffany & Co., who stated that Molineux had an account with the firm in 1898. This evidence is considered important, because a Tiffany envelope was found in the package of poison sent to Harry Cornish and the box in which the poison was enclosed was a Tiffany box.

Dr. Henry R. Loomis, the expert chemist, who performed the autopsy on the body of Henry C. Barnett, testified that there was no evidence that Barnett died of diphtheria, evidence of the disease would have been found in the body. Witnesses had no doubt that Barnett died of cyanide of mercury poisoning.

Dr. James C. White, a diphtheria expert, in the employ of the board of health, who has seen between 2,000 and 5,000 cases and several of cyanide of mercury poisoning, testified that Barnett could not have died from any cause except cyanide of mercury poisoning.

Dr. Frank Ferguson, a pathological expert, who made an examination of Mrs. Adams' body, testified that she died of cyanide of mercury poisoning.

Dr. E. S. Foster, who attended Mrs. Adams, testified to the circumstances of her death. The cross-examination evinced a desire by Attorney Weeks, for the defense, to show that Harry Cornish, who says he drank some of the poison, was not really taken sick, as he claimed to be.

William Williams, a colored servant, testified that he was formerly employed at 152 West Seventy-fifth street, where Molineux is alleged to have lived with Blanche Chesbrough, under the name of "Mr. Chesbrough," before he married her. Williams identified Molineux as "Mr. Chesbrough."

The court refused to permit the testimony of Molineux at the coroner's inquest to be used against him. Court then adjourned until tomorrow.

BRILLIANT WEDDING.

Minnie Drexel Fell and Robert Kelo Cassatt United.

Philadelphia, Jan. 22.—A wedding of unusual interest took place today when Miss Minnie Drexel Fell, daughter of Mr. Alexander Van Benschoten, was married to Robert Kelo Cassatt, son of A. T. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad. The ceremony was performed in St. Thomas' Episcopal church, Whitmarsh, a suburb of this city, by the Rev. Samuel Snelling, rector of the parish. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Drexel Paul, Katharine Mac Fall, Ellen Cassatt, Rhoda Howe, Lily Rhodes, Pauline Biddle, of this city; Mary McCormick, of Chicago, and Miss Grey, of Albany.

The bridegroom was attended by Murray Forbes, of Boston, as best man. The ushers included George McFadden, Samuel K. Reeves, George L. Harrison, Thomas Ridgway, F. W. Rawle, Livingston L. Biddle, Samuel Chew, S. A. Lawton, of New York, and C. W. Hanford, of Pittsburg.

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THE JUDGE PUZZLED.

Question Asked by a Prisoner Which His Honor Couldn't Answer.

New York, Jan. 22.—Louis Billie, 24 years old, a butcher's helper, pleaded guilty this morning before Judge Foster in Part II of the court of general sessions, to having received stolen goods. He was sentenced to imprisonment for a year. Billie was asked by Judge Foster if he had anything to say.

"Yes, I have, judge," said Billie. "I would like to know how it is that I am here as a prisoner for a year, while the fellows who stole the goods went free?"

Judge Foster could not reply.

Shot an Officer.

Washington, Jan. 22.—George W. McCammon, of West Alexander, was shot and killed today by a young man named Frank McGee. McCammon had an attached sheep thief in custody and was taking him to the office of Squire Waltz for a hearing when McGee interfered and the officer threatened him with arrest. The young man then drew a revolver and shot him through the head killing him almost instantly. McGee fled but was captured by a posse and is now in jail.

Polite Invitation to Mr. Bryan.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 22.—The state assembly today adopted the following joint resolution: Resolved, That Hon. William J. Bryan, the greatest living exponent of time-honored principles of the Democratic party, be and he is hereby invited to address the Virginia legislature at such time during the present session as may best suit his convenience.

For Officers of Senate.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Senator Platt, of New York, will present the name of ex-Representative Bennett, of New York to the Republican caucus for secretary of the senate when it assembles on Wednesday and the general opinion is that he will be elected. It is also believed that Daniel Hannan, of Indiana, will be named for sergeant at arms.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Jan. 22.—Sailed: Amsterdam, for Rotterdam. Cleared: Lahn, for Bremen via Southampton.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: FAIR; MODERATE TEMPERATURE.

1 General—South African War News. No Desire to Entertain Bryan. Day's Dolg in Congress. Progress of the Molineux Trial.

2 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania, Financial and Commercial.

3 Local—Opting in Fell Township School Case. Third Week of Common Pleas Court Open.

4 Editorial. News and Comment.

5 Local—Murder at a Christening. School Board Engages the City Controller. The Necessity for More Schools.

6 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.

7 Round About the County.

8 Local—Live Industrial News.

EYRE'S HEAD FULL OF SHOT.

Inquest Proves That He Was Murdered and Robbed.

Philadelphia, Jan. 22.—The coroner of Bridgeport, N. J., today held an autopsy and inquest on the body of George B. Eyre, of Chester, Pa., whose body was found yesterday unburied in the mud of Cadwalader island, near there, after the man had been missing since December 21. The post-mortem examination showed that Eyre's death was the result of a gun shot wound—the head being filled with shot.

When the body was found the legs were bound with what appeared to be the painter of the boat. Investigation showed that the knots were tied by an expert boatman or a man familiar with sailor's knots.

The wound in Eyre's head indicates he was shot while looking forward from the boat by a person who might have been paddling in the stern. There was every indication that the body had been robbed. The body was identified as Eyre and the jury rendered a verdict of death at the hands of parties unknown.

The body of Eyre will be taken to Chester, Pa., and be buried tomorrow at Chester Rural cemetery. Chief of Police Berry, of Chester, who has been in consultation with Prosecutor Starr, of Gloucester county, N. J., returned to Chester this afternoon. No arrests have been made.

MONTANA SENATORIAL CASE.

Senate Committee Investigating the Matter Has Brief Session.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The senate committee on privileges and elections investigating the Clark Montana senatorial case had but a brief session today on account of the non-appearance of witnesses. President Smith of the Montana National bank and Representative Murray of the Montana house of representatives were the only witnesses on the stand.

Mr. Smith's testimony was immaterial. Mr. Murray testified that he was offered \$10,000 to vote for Senator Clark by persons whom he considered representatives of that gentleman.

TOWN OF BATANGAS TAKEN.

The 48th Infantry Indulges in a Lively Engagement.

Manila, Jan. 22.—5:45 p. m.—Two companies of the Forty-sixth infantry, under Major Johnson and three companies of the Thirty-eighth infantry, commanded by Major Mull, defeated 800 insurgents at Tual, Province of Batangas, Saturday, taking the town. The United States gunboat Marietta also shelled the place. The insurgents had four cannon, two of which were captured.

Two Americans were wounded and ten insurgents dead were found on the field. The plague statistics now show a total of fourteen cases and 11 deaths.

Dinner to Mr. Bryan.

New York, Jan. 22.—Commissioner of Charities John W. Keller today announced the following list of guests who will dine with him at the Democratic club tomorrow night, when W. J. Bryan will be the guest of honor. There will be twelve at the table, including Mr. Keller, John F. Carroll, John W. Quinn, Judge O'Gorman, Andrew Friedman, Bernard J. York, W. L. Brown, H. O. P. Belmont, Alfred Henry Lewis, ex-governor Horne, of Texas, Thomas Grady and Norman E. Mack.

Strike at Cleveland.

Cleveland, Jan. 22.—Practically every factory in the city is affected by a strike of the fastest and best workmen. Two and three hundred men are out. They demand an increase in wages of 10 per cent. for ten hours work. So far the employers show no disposition to grant the demands of the strikers.

Increase in Wages.

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 22.—Notice was given today at the collieries of A. Pardee & Co., of an increase of 2 per cent. in the wages of their 1,500 employes. Next month another advance of 2 per cent. will be made. All the coal companies in the Hazleton region have granted increases within the last eight weeks.

Judge Defeats Dobbs.

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 22.—Martin Judge, of Philadelphia, fought a 20-round draw with Bobby Dobbs, of England, at the Trenton Athletic club tonight. Jack Smith defeated Tom Duffy in the sixth round of the fastest and hottest contest ever witnessed in this city.

Alleged Hotel Thief Arrested.

Pittsburg, Jan. 22.—A man suspected by the police to be one of the cleverest hotel thieves in the country, was arrested today at the Union station. He is wanted by the Chicago authorities and in his possession were found jewelry worth probably \$2,000, a full dress coat and overcoat and fully 200 keys. He gave his name as John Peters, and said he was a Chicago jeweler.

ORATORY IN THE SENATE

But Little Business Beyond the Routine Is Conducted.

Washington, Jan. 22.—This was another day for oratory in the senate, little business beyond routine being transacted. Mr. Pritchard (N. C.) delivered a long and carefully prepared address on the race question in the South, his remarks being addressed particularly against the proposed amendment to the Constitution of North Carolina, which, if enacted, he said, would disfranchise a large class of voters, both white and black.

Mr. Pritchard concurred in the opinion of Senator Morgan, expressed a few days ago, that the question involved the peace and welfare of the nation and the stability of our institutions. The Constitution, in his opinion, guaranteed to each state a Republican form of government. But according to Mr. Morgan's contention, said Mr. Pritchard, the Constitution could be violated if it became necessary to violate it in order to maintain Democratic rule in the South. That was nullification, pure and simple.

Mr. Pritchard said Louisiana was one of the states which by Constitutional enactment had deprived certain of its citizens of privileges guaranteed by them by the federal constitution and he said that the Democratic party of North Carolina was attempting to secure the adoption of a proposition to amend the Constitution of that state in a way similar to that adopted in Louisiana.

"If the senate from Alabama is right," said Mr. Pritchard, "in his contention that the negro is not entitled to exercise the elective franchise, the Democratic party should have the manhood to propose the abrogation of the fifteenth amendment. This would afford the people of the United States an opportunity to pass upon the question, the only lawful method by which the colored people can be deprived of the rights which are now guaranteed to them by that amendment.

An Important Question.

"I consider the proposed amendment to the constitution of the state of North Carolina is the most important question that we have been called upon to deal with since the war. The constitution of 1868 of North Carolina was framed by the Republican party and among other things it contained a provision which guarantees free suffrage to the rich, the poor, the illiterate and the educated alike. Its adoption marked an era of encouragement to the common people of the state."

Mr. Pritchard was followed by Mr. Turner (Wash.). In a speech on the Philippines question in which he arraigned the administration's policy as set out in the senatorial message contained in the speech of Mr. Beveridge (Ind.) Mr. Turner was given close attention by his colleagues.

Forty Minute Session in House.

The house was in session only forty minutes today and nothing of public importance was done except to refer to the speaker for settlement a dispute between the appropriations and military affairs committees relative to the estimates for the appropriation for the manufacture of small arms at the Rock Island and Springfield arsenals. Both committees claim jurisdiction. A few District of Columbia bills of minor importance were passed.

YOUNG BURGLARS ARRESTED.

Two young boys were last night arrested in Green Ridge, while attempting to burglarize Gordon's store at the corner of Green Ridge street and Caspouse avenue.

Patrolmen Thomas and Dugan found two lads engaged rifling the store of cigars and other articles. They were immediately arrested and taken before Alderman Bailey who held them in \$1,000 bail to answer to the charge of larceny.

Supreme Court Proceedings.

Philadelphia, Jan. 22.—The Supreme court today refused the motion to continue the case of the Commonwealth vs. Hays, from theayer and term court of Fayette county.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday: For eastern Pennsylvania, fair with moderate temperature. Tuesday—fresh south to southwesterly winds, Wednesday, fair and colder.