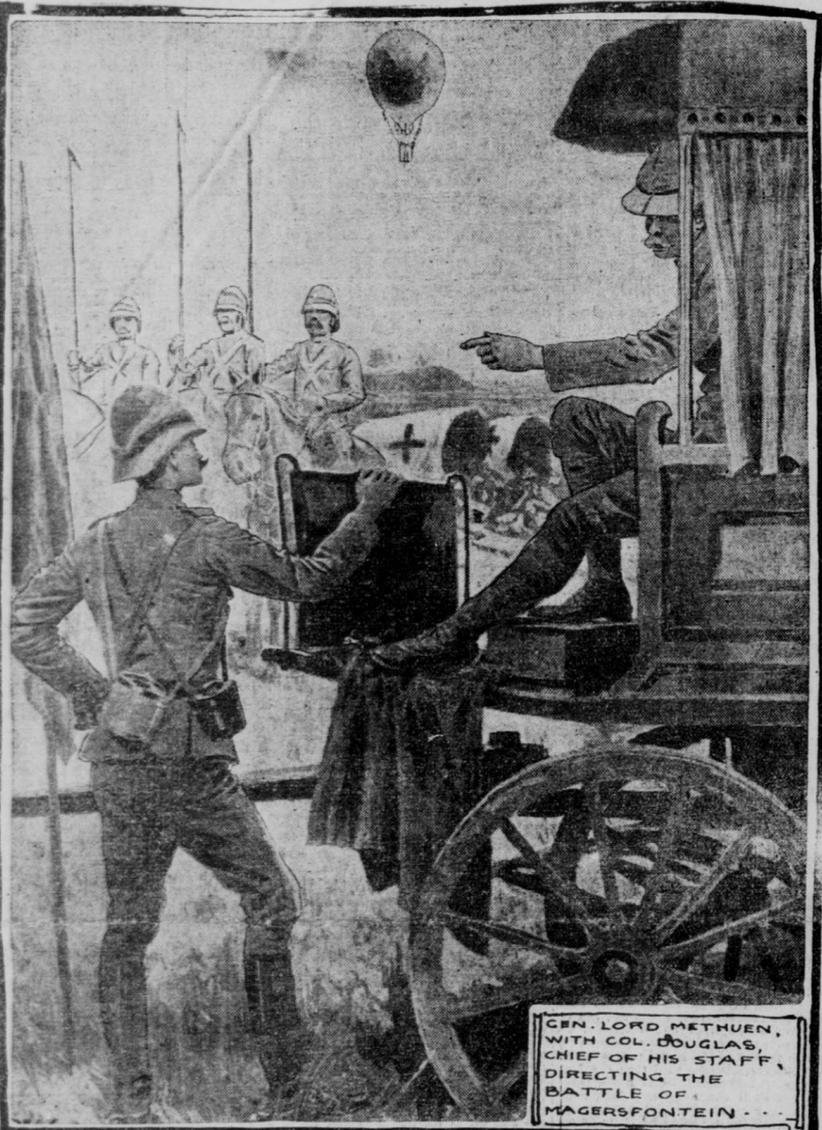


GENERAL FRENCH HAS REACHED KIMBERLEY

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The following is Lord Roberts' message to the War Office: JACOBSDAL, Feb. 16, 2 a. m.—French with artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry reached Kimberley Thursday evening.



GEN. LORD METHUEN, WITH COL. DOUGLAS, CHIEF OF HIS STAFF, DIRECTING THE BATTLE OF MAGERSFONTEIN.

BOER LAAGER, NEAR LADYSMITH, Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Yesterday General Botha, with a small force, crossed the Tugela to a deserted British camp, where he encountered fifty lancers, of whom thirteen were killed, five wounded and nine taken prisoners. One of the prisoners was sent to tell the British to fetch their wounded.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—Once again the curtain has dropped on the great war drama which is being enacted in South Africa. Lord Roberts, with one cavalry division and two infantry divisions, has vanished into the dust of the sandy veldt and is circling round toward Kimberley, while Lord Methuen is watching the Boers at Magersfontein.

From Pretoria comes a report that a large British force had moved toward Colenso and encamped at Bosch Kop. This would seem to indicate that General Buller was again on the move.

With respect to the operations of Lord Roberts, surmises were plentiful. As to the exact spot on which the flanking is being carried out, the view was generally held that French, the cavalry leader, was operating considerably to the east of Jacobsdal. De Kieks Drift, on Riet River, where the Sixth and Seventh divisions crossed on Tuesday and Wednesday, is fifteen miles to the southeast of the Modder River camp. Rondevaal Drift is on the Modder, and about fifteen miles east of Magersfontein. Klip Drift is still farther to the east. These were captured by French and Gordon.

The Sixth and Seventh divisions should now be on the line of the Modder, between Jacobsdal and Bloemfontein, while Colonel Hannay, at Ramdam, twelve

miles east of Honey Nest Kloof, is protecting the rear, keeping communications open.

The Boers in Zululand are pushing back the British flying column. Should the former take Eshowe they would have a small seaport quite close at hand. This

GREAT BRITAIN FACES A LIFE AND DEATH CRISIS

In the House of Lords Rosebery Warns the Empire of the Grave Danger That Now Confronts It.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—In the House of Lords the Earl of Dunraven raised a question on the Government military proposals and expressed a doubt as to whether these were sufficient. The Earl of Rosebery said he fully recognized the gravity of the situation and agreed with the previous speaker in thinking that the measures adopted were inadequate under the circumstances. He also doubted whether the "paper force of 40,000 men in Great Britain," to which the Secretary of State for War had referred, would stand analysis. For the volunteers Lord Rosebery said he had the highest respect, but by no stretch of the imagination could they be called soldiers, as it was admitted that they needed months of training annually to render them efficient.

move has again revived the talk of encouraging the Zulus to defend their territory against the foe.

In the House of Commons last night Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Balfour, answering questions on this subject, hinted in

Lyttelton succeeds to Clery's command. LONDON, Feb. 12.—A special dispatch to the Times from Chisleley, Natal, dated Tuesday, February 13, says: "General Lyttelton has succeeded to the command of the second division during the illness of General Clery, who is suffering from blood-poisoning. Colonel

ominous tones at the possibility of the introduction into the struggle of the horrors of savage warfare. The Ministers stated that it had been decided that if the native territory of Cape Colony should be invaded the natives would be encouraged and assisted in every way to defend themselves.

In all the clubs last night there was an unusual number of visitors talking over the war news. It cannot be said that the members were elated, but there was a sentiment of suppressed satisfaction, which has been a stranger in the clubs for many a week. Some seemed to think that more news would be forthcoming soon, but that was not the view of the military members, who gave it as their opinion that nothing more would be heard for another twenty-four hours, owing to the severity of the marches already made.

On the Stock Exchange matters were not taken quietly. There was both excitement and activity, especially in the Kaffir market, where a small boom set in, causing the Rand mines to rise over a point.

Lord Rosebery in the House of Lords last night made a second attack upon Lord Salisbury with vigor and often vehemence of language. He made a strong indictment against the Government. There was no mincing of words and no pretense at reserve in the picture which Rosebery drew of the perils of the hour.

"This is a great emergency," said he. "The Government has fifty thousand more troops to send to South Africa. If these are not sufficient, what then? What then?" he repeated in accents that visibly thrilled the house. "This is for us a matter of life and death. Nothing can hide the fact that behind Roberts' force, with the exception of the Eighth division, we have no more trained soldiers. If you lose South Africa you lose the principal column of your empire. You will be shut up in these islands, one of which does not love you."

Rosebery's speech made a great sensation at the clubs and in political circles. Advocates of a reorganization of the Ministry, with Rosebery and a few other imperialistic Liberals in it, are increasing in numbers every day.

LYTTELTON SUCCEEDS TO CLERY'S COMMAND

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PERJURY'S TRAIL IN THE FAIR WILL CASE

Simpton Swears That He Agreed to Lie for Mrs. Craven on the Witness Stand and Was to Be Rewarded.

Another Chapter of Sensations Is Added to the Notorious Litigation in Which Many Reputations Have Been Lost in Pursuit of Rich Game.

THE expected has happened. Another sensation has been sprung in the celebrated litigation over the will and estate of James G. Fair, and several more reputations are dangling in the midair of accusation and suspicion. A few days ago Mrs. Nettie R. Craven, who has been striving to win a widow's rights and privileges and a share of the estate, started the opposition forces to her by producing another apparently important witness, a George W. Simpton, ex-Justice of the Peace of Sausalito. He was thrust forward with the astounding announcement that he had married Mrs. Craven and James G. Fair in 1892. The sponsor of Simpton was A. Sylva, who as Trustee of Sausalito has had a career more or less pleasant to himself.

Simpton swore in an affidavit that he married Mrs. Craven and the late Senator James G. Fair. Mrs. Craven has sworn upon the witness-stand that she was married by Simpton, and now he swears in an affidavit taken before Judge Hunt that the whole incident is a fabrication and a conspiracy of lies and perjury in which he was to receive \$10,000 for his false testimony. He says that he entered the scheme simply for the glorious purpose of trapping Mrs. Craven and contributing to the splendid campaign which is to make justice triumphant and right prevail. His latest contribution to the sparkling literature of the famous case is contained in his affidavit, herewith published.

SIMPSON WAS TO TELL A PERJURED TALE IN COURT

Swears That He Never Married James G. Fair and Mrs. Craven, but Was to Receive \$10,000 to Say So.

I, George W. Simpton, of the town of Sausalito, county of Marin, State of California, being duly sworn before Judge John Hunt, a Judge of the Superior Court in and for the county of San Francisco, State of California, do depose, make oath and under said oath do say as follows: In the month of August, 1899, Mr. A. Sylva, a Trustee of the town of Sausalito, informed me that one Mrs. Nettie R. Craven had been to see him and told him that she had heard that he (Sylva) had influence and power over the Justice of the Peace of Sausalito Township, and that she wanted a Justice of the Peace to testify as a witness in her case against the Fair estate to the effect that he (Sylva) and she (Craven) had married her to Senator James G. Fair in the year 1892; that she had offered a large sum for such testimony, to wit, the sum of ten thousand dollars. Mr. Sylva informed me that he had told her that he thought he could get me to give such testimony. He further told me that he (Sylva) intended to get me to stay with him and let her and all connected with her believe that I would falsely testify to said marriage of Nettie R. Craven and Senator Fair, adding that if I refused she might get some other person authorized to solemnize a marriage to so testify falsely. I have noted upon said advice. Two or three days after the above conversation with Mr. Sylva, Mrs. Nettie R. Craven came to see me in Sausalito and asked me if I had seen Mr. Sylva and had arranged with him about my testifying for her



JUSTICE G. W. SIMPTON.

in the said case. I told her yes, that everything was fixed and that I would testify as she desired. She told me that my money was sure if I would testify that I married her to Senator James G. Fair in Sausalito in the year 1892. She then asked me to write a letter to Mr. W. W. Foote as to what I would testify to, telling me at the same time that Mr. Foote and Pence & Pence believed her story that she was married by a Justice of the Peace in Sausalito to Senator Fair. She asked me never to let them know that the story was false and concocted. I wrote the letter to Mr. Foote, and a day or so afterward I received a letter from him asking me to call and see him. I did call in response to said letter and made an affidavit that I had as Justice of the Peace married Nettie R. Craven and Senator

James G. Fair in Sausalito prior to the year 1894, but gave no other date. I have always kept Mrs. Nettie R. Craven in the belief that I would testify as a witness in court for her and swear that I married her to Senator Fair as above set forth. The truth is I never knew Senator James G. Fair in my life. I never knew or saw Mrs. Nettie R. Craven until I saw her first in Sausalito in the month of August, 1899. I never performed any marriage ceremony nor solemnized any marriage between Nettie R. Craven and Senator James G. Fair in Sausalito or anywhere else. I never saw them or either of them in Sausalito or anywhere else, and I know that the story of her having been married to Senator Fair by me is a fabrication and a fraud. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Pence brought the Examiner, Chronicle and Call reporters to me and asked me to tell them the story I have above stated. I did so that Mr. Pence would not suspect that I would not appear as his witness on behalf of his client, Mrs. Craven. The time has now come when I believe it to be in the interest of justice to unmask the conspiracy and to tell the whole truth in connection with it. I make this affidavit freely and voluntarily, without any compensation whatever for the same, and am willing to appear as a witness before the Superior Court, where the action is now pending before his Honor, Judge Troutt, and testify to the above facts, as they are absolutely true in every particular. GEORGE W. SIMPTON. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of February, 1900. JOHN HUNT, Judge of the Superior Court, City and County of San Francisco. Witness: GEORGE A. KNIGHT.



A. SYLVA.

WHILE the host of lawyers representing the heirs and the executors of the will of the late James G. Fair were occupying the hours in Judge Troutt's court yesterday, apparently sparing for time in which to consider the various kaleidoscopic changes in the famous case within the last few days, representatives of Mrs. Craven were engaged in an effort to locate the responsible parties to what they evidently regarded as a gold brick game of the rarest description. Last Wednesday evening a statement was given newspaper men at Sausalito by Dan Slinkey, a poundmaster, that in a garret he had unearthed a musty register of the El Monte Hotel for the year 1892, and that in this register, under date of July 23, was the entry "James G. Fair and wife." It was the common opinion of plaintiff's counsel that this purported discovery was a trap laid for them, the idea being to get Mrs. Craven to admit under oath that she had passed the night at the hotel with Senator Fair and then to prove that no such register existed. If a trap it was plaintiff's lawyers were too shrewd for the game and spiked the guns of the enemy before the skirmish. When the case was resumed in Judge Troutt's court at a few minutes after 11 o'clock Mrs. Craven was put upon the stand and her examination concluded by Attorney Lafe Pence. "Mrs. Fair," he said, "did you ever pass



MRS. NETTIE R. CRAVEN.

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