

THABA NCHU TAKEN

General Hamilton's Forces Recapture the Place Without Opposition.

ENGLISH NOW DOMINATE THE DISTRICT

They Hold All the Southeastern Free State Country.

BOERS MANAGE TO ELUDE ROBERTS' NET

Rousing Fight is Now Going On in the Southeast Free State.

COMMANDANT S. CRONJE REPORTED DEAD

Son of the Captured General is Said to Have Been Main-Plans of Boer Peace Commissioners.

LONDON, April 27.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, under Wednesday's date, says: "Our mounted infantry entered the high mountain plateau of Thaba N'chu today almost without opposition. As Thaba N'chu is a natural fortress this must mean that the Boers have practically thrown up the sponge in this section. If the force pressed on to Ladybrand the whole country would be in our hands."

"One difficulty is that many of the Boers forming commandos, immediately on finding themselves beaten, retreat to their farms and resume their life of peaceful citizenship, hiding their rifles."

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Standard, telegraphing Thursday, says: "General Ian Hamilton, with mounted infantry, naval guns and a howitzer battery, advanced from the water works in the direction of Thaba N'chu. A large force of infantry supported him. He met with no opposition and the mounted infantry occupied a position dominating the Ladybrand district."

Brush Near Kerees Siding. A report comes that a small force of British mounted infantry had a brush with a party of Boers ten miles east of Kerees Siding, who were trying to establish a connection between Brandfort and the Boer forces in the mountains.

Otherwise there is no news beyond the official dispatches of Lord Roberts, except belated details of recent operations. It appears that General Brabant, in the fight with the Boers at Wepener, had a narrow escape. General Fole-Carew's advance was much hampered by the tardy arrival of artillery, which prevented him from capturing Leeuw kop before darkness set in and enabled the Boers to secure their retreat.

Although the Boers are being driven back successfully, several cases of unaccountable delay in the advance are remarked by the correspondents. Taken on the whole, however, there has been no hanging and apparently Lord Roberts, with the commands in his hands, is making good progress, now his an exceedingly efficient army.

Methuen Still Holds Bushof. The report that the Boers had recaptured Bushof proves to be untrue. Lord Methuen is still near Hunter's division. This is evidence that some important operations are afoot in that district.

It is understood that the reason that the Boers did not destroy the Bloemfontein water works was that there are many Boers among the shareholders.

The Boers are showing more activity in Natal. They are placing some heavy guns for several miles north of Blandalsburg.

Wyndham's explanation in the House of Commons yesterday has aroused considerable comment, especially his statement that Lord Roberts is detaching by the necessity of defeating detached forces of the enemy which threatened his communication from Capetown and Port Elizabeth and which blocked them from East London.

The other information hitherto received that the East London line was blocked had been discredited. This was the Boer report that the bridge at Bethulle had been blown up.

Spion Kop Talk Stopped. All discussion of the Spion kop dispatches has been postponed until May 22 by the blocking motion introduced in the House of Commons yesterday by James Lowndes.

A body of Boer prisoners has been landed at St. Helena.

The Netherlands minister of foreign affairs has received the Boer commission. It is expected that the scheme of operations in the United States so it will occur at the most exciting period of the presidential election campaign.

From Lourenz Marquez comes a report that large quantities of gunpowder are going to the Boers with the necessity of the war office publishes the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, April 26:

"General Ian Hamilton yesterday drove the enemy off a strong position, and effected a well conceived turning movement, which was admirably carried out by General Ridley, commander of the Second mounted infantry brigade, and General Smith-Dorrien, commanding the Eighteenth Brigade. The troops are today advancing toward Thaba N'chu."

"Our losses were slight—only one reported. Major Marshall, Grahamstown mounted rifles, severe wound in the shoulder."

A special dispatch from De Wet's Dorp, dated yesterday, says: "Owing to the approach of General French and to General Ruddle's persistent shelling the Boers relinquished their positions last night, retiring in the direction of a north-easterly direction. Generals French and Ruddle joined hands east of De Wet's Dorp this morning."

General Ruddle is pursuing the Boers in forced marches. DE WET'S DORP, Wednesday, April 25.—Evening.—General French entered this town today with two cavalry brigades. He left camp at daylight and found the Boers holding the hills. These were shelled and the Boers retreated. The cavalry pushed around the position of the Boers above the town, where they were holding General Ruddle in check.

It is reported that 6,000 Boers passed through the town last night in order to avoid General French's attack in the rear.

Hot After Fleeing Burglars. LONDON, April 26.—All the interest in the South African war is now centered in the running fight in progress between the burghers retreating from the southern portion of the Orange Free State and General French's horsemen and the infantry of General Pote-Carew, Chermide and Ruddle. But the British hold of conclusive results is slim at present, the Boers escaping unharmed and having accomplished an immense amount of damage. They clung to their positions.

(Continued on Second Page.)

EXPLOSION IN A MAGAZINE

Smokeless Powder Magazine at Johannesburg, with Serious Results.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) JOHANNESBURG, April 27.—(New York Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A smokeless powder magazine in Johannesburg was blown up Wednesday night, wrecking the Transvaal government arsenal, killing thirteen men and wounding fifty. The authorities in Pretoria, suspecting the explosion was the work of Englishmen, residents in the Transvaal, promptly expelled a lot of British subjects—ten men, 263 women and 429 children.

The arsenal was in the Begbie works, the manager of which, Herr Grunberg, is among the wounded. The works employed 200 negroes, chiefly French and Italian. The most important machinery was saved.

The Daily Mail's Lorenzo Marquez correspondent notes that the banished British subjects have been ordered to Delagoa bay at a time when there is no steamer to take them to England, adding: "The United States Consul Adolph Hay is doing his best to delay their departure until a steamer is ready. As the British are suspected of causing today's explosion by means of a tunnel dug from a house on the opposite side of the street, it is likely to precipitate the expulsion of those yet remaining."

It is also feared that the Boers will make reprisals on the mines.

The Pretoria correspondent of the Mail says: "The government inquiry suggests that the explosion was a planned outrage. The explosion occurred in a house quite separate from the works and required a much larger quantity of nitroglycerine than could have been found on the premises. It is believed that the factory will be working again in a fortnight."

PRESS PORTE FOR PAYMENT

Charge Graciously Presents a Note Demanding a Prompt Settlement.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Wednesday, April 25.—The negotiations between the United States and the Porte regarding the American indemnity claims have again been transferred here. United States Charge d'Affaires Grisco yesterday handed to Tewfik Pasha, minister of foreign affairs, a note based on instructions he had received from Washington, the tenor of which has not yet been made public. It is understood, however, that it demands prompt payment of the indemnity.

The note will be discussed at the council of ministers today. Similar steps by the other powers are regarded as imminent.

Change of Position. The present circumstances decline to express any opinion. The only issue at present, however, is the execution of the Porte's repeated promises to Minister Straus to pay the indemnity. After Mr. Straus left the matter remained in abeyance until the Associated Press dispatch from Washington, April 17, sharply reminded the Turkish government that the question required urgent attention. The Porte immediately telegraphed to the Turkish minister at Washington asking for extension of the deadline for settlement.

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FAR EASTERN CRISIS COMING

Western Powers Determined to Prevent a Coup by Chinese Emperors.

YOKOHAMA, April 7.—(Via San Francisco, April 26.)—The furry over the Manchu incident and the Korean embassy encroachments in the Korea are today put entirely in the shade by the tidings which indicate serious troubles and the approach of another crisis, of which the Chinese emperor dowager's reign has been so prolific. It is quite evident that this restless female intriguer has another coup in contemplation and it is as evident that this time the western powers are resolved, by concerted action, to prevent it, as is evidenced by the presence of the fleets.

The China Gazette in a recent editorial has declared that "if the present policy of the emperor dowager, inspired by her evil advisers, Kang Yi, Prince Ching, Li Hsiang Chang and Hsiao Tsing on the one hand, and the Russian and German continental political wirepullers on the other, is not speedily restrained, an era of widespread horror and bloodshed is not far off. The people, and many of the mandarins, in almost all the provinces, most certainly in the middle and south, are ready to rise and throw off the strangling yoke that binds them."

That the present ferment is widespread is evident, not only from the actual disturbances and insurrections in various parts of the empire, but disaffection among the Hunanese people, who are the only real fighting men in China. It is only with the extreme difficulty that they are kept in leash and restrained from rising against the arrogant Manchus upon whom the emperor and her party rely for their power.

England, America and Japan May Act Behind all the disturbances and intrigues which threaten to involve eastern Asia in a war it is quite naturally to be expected that Japan sees the hand of Russia in the background in fomenting the trouble. Attention is therefore as naturally turned to the necessity of some concerted action on the part of England, America and Japan. It is clearly recognized that almost anything is better than the present state of affairs. The line of a joint action on the part of the three powers would speedily and effectually solve this eastern problem. Indeed, it is now looked upon as the only recourse for the restoration of peace to unhappy China. No real alliance, offensive or defensive, is needed.

The assemblage of a large American fleet here at Yokohama, in view of the exigencies of the new situation, now looked upon as having some significance. The fleet is here for some time, and within the last week the Brooklyn and Concord have arrived, the three ships attracting much attention and unstinted admiration. Before the fleet is disbanded, the United States will have the 10th Newark, Yosemite and the New Orleans as soon as it comes out of the dock at Nagasaki. Admiral Remy is expected here on the 15th and it is supposed that he will assume command of the imposing fleet, which will then be assembled in our harbor.

The foreign community is keen to note the contrast between this impressive display and that of the day not long since when the sole representatives of the American navy possessed no other than the old sidewheeled Monocacy.

Japanese Naval Maneuvers. The naval maneuvers of the Japanese fleet are now progressing in the Indian sea, the original intention of having them take place in the Korean straits having been abandoned. It is said that the fleet is allowed to visit them, but at their conclusion there is to be a grand review of the ships in the harbor of Kobe and all who desire can have an opportunity to see the evidence of the great fleet, which Japan has taken as a naval power since the close of the Chinese war.

SOCIALIST ACCUSES LEOPOLD Member of the Belgian Chamber Accuses the King Profits by African Atrocities.

BRUSSELS, April 26.—In the Chamber of Deputies today the Belgian socialist leader, Edouard Anseele, accused the king of profiting by African atrocities.

The socialist leader, Van der Meulen, violently attacked the present regime and repeated his assertion that the king of the Belgians was himself the chief trafficker in rubber and ivory.

The minister of foreign affairs, De Favre, replying, denied that the state had anything to do with the appointments of the agents of the Belgian company and categorically affirmed that the company possessed no shares in any of the rubber companies in the Congo Free State, adding that the government was determined to repress any excesses in its territory.

Lorand, socialist, declared that the explanations of the minister were pitiable and that the Chamber insist on explanations of the atrocities in the Mongolian country.

Worse, former minister of justice, reported that such a motion constituted an insult to the government of the Congo Free State and he asked the Chamber to vote the simple order of the day, which was adopted by 58 votes against 25.

WILHELM NOT TO VISIT PARIS. His intention to go there is being denied by Foreign Office.

BERLIN, April 26.—The statement of the French press that the present visit to Paris of Prince Hohenzollern, the imperial chamberlain, is intended to pave the way for Emperor William's visit there is being emphatically denied by the German foreign office.

To enable German officers to see the position the Kaiser has receded the order. Officers must use the prescribed precautions in order to prevent becoming victims of the French espionage law.

Latin Must Give Way to German. BERLIN, April 26.—Emperor William has empowered the Prussian minister of education, Dr. Studt, to forbid hereafter the use of Latin in all university and faculty degrees, assigning as a reason the importance of a "more general use of the German language." An order to this effect has just been issued.

Castro Expels a Writer. KINGSTON, Jamaica, April 26.—Dr. Ricardo Becerra, an aged and distinguished Colombian, resident of Caracas, has been expelled from Venezuela by order of President Castro for press writing.

INDIANA TICKET IS NAMED

Republicans Nominates a Colonel of the Spanish-American War for Governor.

For Governor, WINFIELD T. DURBIN (Republican). For Lieutenant Governor, NEWTON GILBERT (Republican). For Secretary of State, H. HUNT (Republican). For Auditor of State, W. H. HART (Republican). For State Treasurer, GEORGE LEVY (Republican). For Attorney General, W. J. TAYLOR (Republican). For Superintendent of Public Instruction, JAMES W. BROWN (Republican).

Jury in Cincinnati Acquits Woman Who Shot Her Husband.

WILL MAKE HER FUTURE HOME IN THIS CITY.

Touching Scenes are Enacted in Court Room During Relation of the Story of the Dead by Witnesses.

CINCINNATI, April 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Jessie Adams was acquitted of the charge of the murder of her husband by Judge Schwab in the police court today.

Pale and worn she solemnly walked into the court at noon to answer the charge of the murder of her husband, Charles Adams, in her apartments in the Primrose flats on Race street. She was accompanied by her two little children, who sat on her knee during the trial. Neither of the children was old enough to realize the full enormity of the mother's troubles. While Policeman Muehle described the holes in the back of the murdered man's head the woman leaned her head away. Tears trickled from her eyes, and it was the most determined efforts that she was able to restrain herself and prevent a hysterical outbreak. Her sister, Gertrude Furman, sat in the prisoner's dock with her.

Detective Newbecker corroborated the testimony of Officer Muehle, as did his partner, Phil Roach, and Detective Jack McDermott. All the officers stated that Mrs. Adams' face and neck showed light bruises. Dr. Walker, the surgeon, told of the pitiable physical condition of Mrs. Adams.

Gertrude Furman, sister of the woman who was shot, said that when Adams arrived home for his supper he quarreled about the meal. Later Adams suddenly jumped from his bed, where he was sitting, and rushed toward his wife down. He seized her by the throat and she screamed blood curdlingly. She said she then began to rummage in the bureau where she kept his pistol and razor. When his wife asked him what he was looking for Miss Furman says that Adams suddenly struck her and knocked her wife down. He jumped on her and began to beat her. Miss Furman said that she ran from the room for assistance, and while in the hall she heard the shots.

During the cross-examination of Miss Furman little Irwin Adams, the six-year-old baby boy, fell asleep in his mother's arms. Once a fly crawled across the row glow of health that painted the plump cheeks, and little brother Fay, ever on the alert, snapped it off the sister's face. The voices of the attorneys were softened down to a low tone that at times sank almost to a whisper. The witnesses were in sympathy with the baby, and once in a while when they unconsciously raised their voices they quickly glanced at the child with looks of apology lest they had disturbed the sweet slumber of innocent childhood.

Frank Grieve, a hardware clerk of Fifth and Elm streets, testified to having seen Mrs. Adams the revolver she used a short time before the shooting. She told the clerk she wanted a pistol to protect herself. Mrs. Adams then took the stand and said that her husband abused her and she was afraid of him.

She was acquitted within three-quarters of an hour. It is believed the case will be dropped, as there are no witnesses to disprove her story.

Mrs. Adams will visit her mother, who lives in a small town in Missouri, accompanied by her little ones. After remaining with her mother a short time she will make her permanent home with the mother of her husband in Omaha.

CHOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS

State Republicans Elect Delegates and Alternates to National Convention at Philadelphia.

BOSTON, April 26.—The republicans of Massachusetts today elected delegates and alternates to the national republican convention in Philadelphia. Of the 1,894 delegates elected to the convention, 1,254 present. Congressman F. H. Gillet, the permanent chairman of the convention, delivered a long address. The platform, which was presented by Attorney General Knowlton, was adopted unanimously.

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DEWEY CANNON IS FIRED

Three Oaks Has a Celebration Over Admiral's Promise to Visit Them.

THREE OAKS, Mich., April 26.—(Special Telegram.)—The world-renowned Dewey cannon boomed for the first time on American soil Thursday evening at sunset in Three Oaks. The cause of the demonstration was a telegram received from Mayor E. K. Warren, who had an interview with Admiral George Dewey Thursday morning in which the admiral gave his full and definite promise that he would devote at least two hours to Three Oaks early in June, at the time of his promised western trip, which covers Detroit, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and a few other prominent cities. Mr. Warren concluded his message of gratification with the words: "Boom the cannon."

Captain C. L. Hooper of the McCullough suggested that the cannon point westward, he says, "westward is the direction of civilization is advancing, and it is in the direction of the enemy." So the gun was placed near the Dewey park, where pointing toward the setting sun, it awoke the echoes of miles around. Bells were rung and whistles were blown and hundreds of voices joined in a prolonged cheer.

In the light of the admiral's promise, Miss Gould's favorable consideration, and pledges of interest and support by numerous other distinguished personages, scarcely anything can prevent the ceremonies at the formal unveiling of the Dewey cannon in June from being an enthusiastic success.

STONCOWICH LOST HIS BET

Wagered Powder Would Not Explode, but It Did and Killed the Winner.

GREENSBURG, Pa., April 26.—It was through a wager between John Stowcowich and John Mickolik that death and destruction was brought about in the tenement house at Larimer on Tuesday night. The party of Austrians sat in a room where there was stored several kegs of powder and some dynamite. At the home of John Mickolik, discussing the explosive powers of powder and dynamite, Stowcowich offered a wager of 25 cents with Mickolik that the blasting powder contained in the kegs would not ignite. The bet was accepted and a quantity of the powder was placed on the floor, a lighted match thrown into it—and Stowcowich lost the bet. The body of John Mickolik lies at the morgue here. The other victims will recover.

G. M. Dodge in the Cuba Company. NEW YORK, April 26.—At a meeting of the shareholders of the Cuba company, the entire capital stock of \$500,000 was taken up. Arrangements were made to secure \$250,000 cash for immediate use. The following board of directors was elected: William Van Horn, president; William C. Whitney, Thomas F. Ryan, P. A. B. Widener, General Samuel Thomas, George H. Edwards, Bernard W. H. General G. M. Dodge. The shares of the company are \$50,000 each.

Ashland Man Buys a Valuable Cow.