

BARBARISM A PASTIME

SOLDIERS OF KING OF BELGIANS SLAY AT PLEASURE.

Presbyterian Minister From United States Tells of Sights He Has Witnessed—Civilization Indifferent.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Dr. W. M. Morrison, a southern Presbyterian minister to the Congo Free State, in speaking to the Presbyterian ministers' association in session here gave an impressive recital of the alleged barbarities practiced on the natives of the Congo Free State by those holding power, and of the obstacles thrown in the way of their correction by the authorities.

"I lived with the people for seven years. I know what I am talking about," said Dr. Morrison. "Leopold has there a native cannibal army of 20,000 men, officered by White Belgians and armed with repeating rifles. These men, representing the worst and most savage type of the natives, were first caught, then carried far away from their homes and forced into this military service. There, in turn, this cannibal soldiery is used to compel the natives to bring in enormous tribute of ivory and India rubber.

"It is worth noting that the king of Belgium is today reputed to be the largest dealer in ivory and rubber in the world.

"As a result of this forced labor and military service, great and unspeakable cruelties are practiced on the native people. I have seen a number of times at least, 50,000 fleeing into the forests to escape from the cannibal soldiers of King Leopold. I have seen these soldiers scouring through the forests and, after catching a number of men whom the government wanted as laborers, going away with the captives tied together by ropes around their necks. Raids upon villages are being constantly made, some of the people are killed and eaten, others are carried away into captivity and sold, others are forced into labor and military service. I can buy all the slaves you want at Luebo at from \$10 to \$15 a piece.

"When these raids are made the most awful cruelties are practiced. Innocent women and children are killed or captured, hands are cut off to be taken back to the white Belgian officers to show that the work has been well done and great sections are being depopulated.

One of these raids was made near one of our mission stations. One of our missionaries went to the scene and counted eighty-one hands cut off and drying over a fire, to be taken back to the Belgian officers; forty-five dead bodies were counted lying nearby.

"The Belgium government makes the usual stereotyped denial of all these charges. I have seen personally the governor of the Congo Free State. He won't do anything. I have been in the palace of the king of Belgium and have seen the most prominent officials of the Congo government. They won't do anything. The English government is greatly interested in the situation. At the request of Lord Lansdown I preferred a statement of such outrages as had come under my own observation.

Consul Roger Cazment, who as English and acting American representative in the Congo state, has just made a tour of investigation, and his report in the hands of our government at Washington presented a most deplorable situation of affairs.

Declines To Hold Court.

HONOLULU.—When Judge Kalua of the Second circuit court, Maui, received the report of the department of justice at Washington on the charges brought against him, he adjourned his court and postponed the trial of cases before it until June 6. The report did not recommend that the judge be removed from office at present, but declared he should not be reappointed at the expiration of his term which is June 5.

Malady Came From France.

WASHINGTON.—The department of agriculture has received word of an outbreak of colt, serious horse malady, in Van Buren county, Iowa, and an investigation has been begun to determine whether the disease was imported from a foreign country. The infection was found among horses shipped here from France.

THINK WORST OVER

FLOOD SITUATION IN MICHIGAN BEGINS TO IMPROVE.

LOSS ABOUT FIVE MILLION

FIVE LIVES FATALITY LOST SO FAR AS KNOWN.

Conditions Better at Grand Rapids, But Saginaw in Bad Way—Indiana Rivers Pouring a Flood into the Ohio.

DETROIT, Mich.—Five lives have been lost and probably upwards of \$5,000,000 worth of damage to property has been done by the flood which has devastated many parts of Michigan during the past five days. Tonight the indications are that the end is in sight, although conditions are still very bad at Grand Rapids, and also along the course of the Saginaw and Bay City, while no such marked improvement is to be noted, the fact that much of the ice that blocked the mouth of the Saginaw river at Bay City has gone out, is taken as a very favorable indication. At Saginaw the water rose five inches during the past twenty-four hours but it is hoped that the improvement at the mouth of the river will have a noticeable effect at Saginaw during the night and tomorrow.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—The suffering of the flood victims will now be aggravated by the failure of the gas supply. During last night all the gas mains leading to the flooded west side became filled with water, and there is no possibility of their becoming opened for use before the flood completely recedes. It is not known to what cause the filling of the mains is due, although it is supposed that a number of small pipes burst, and that the high water quickly entered the mains. The result will be very serious. Gas was being used extensively for heating and cooking. The Grand river continues to recede today but slowly.

Orders Flag Hauled Down.

LONDON.—A correspondent of the Times at New Chwang, cabling under yesterday's date says: "The Russians today ordered the American flag on the correspondents' mess to be hauled down.

"The proclamation of martial law completely paralyzes the whole commerce of this port." The Chronicle's Shanghai correspondent asserts that practically the whole Japanese army in Korea consisting of 100,000 men, is concentrated at Pak-Chen and Anju, only small detachments being left in southern Korea to maintain communication.

A St. Petersburg special says that a Russian division of 25,000 men from southern Ussuri is advancing in two columns through Korea. The main column, coming along the east coast road, reached Pak-Clank 180 miles from the Yalu river, and the flanking column consisting of Cossocks and mountain artillery, coming along the valley of the Tumen river towards its source, has reached the coast of Lake Tadii. This column reports that the Japanese are advancing north from Gensan, and that their advance guard is encamped at Chong Ping. It is probable, however, that one of these reports can be accepted as authentic.

Rebuked By Court.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—During the second day's hearing on the appeal of William J. Bryan from the probate court in the superior court today before Judge Coger, former Judge Stoddard, counsel for Mrs. Bennett, and Mr. Bryan engaged in a wordy war during the morning session and the court had to intervene. It followed immediately after reference to the correspondence between Mr. Bryan and Mr. Bennett had been made by Judge Stoddard to which it was alleged that Mr. Bennett was brought to the point of writing the "sealed letter" by Mr. Bryan.

Judge Stoddard implied that Mr. Bryan was withholding the contents and said:

"If this man insists on getting \$50,000 from the widow by suppressing facts and showing these letters were written at his behest, the court should know the facts."

Mr. Bryan jumped on his feet and insisted that Judge Stoddard had misstated the facts but the court

ordered Mr. Bryan to sit down.

EARLY CLASH IMMINENT

RUSSIANS IN BATTLE ARRAY IN NORTHEASTERN KOREA.

Japanese Reported to Have Crossed Yalu River and Established Themselves Strongly at Important Points.

SEOUL, Korea.—Telegrams have been received here saying that the Russians are occupying six of the largest border towns on the Tumen river, in northeastern Korea.

A Korean perfect has sent in a report that the Russians and Chinese who were at Yongampho, Korea, have withdrawn to Antung, across the Yalu river. Only a few merchants remain at the former place.

The Japanese authorities have no confirmation of a reported engagement between Russians and Japanese at Kwi Sung.

The reports that Russian troops had appeared at the American mines at Unsan, northern Korea, was without foundation. No Russians are at Unsan now, nor have any been seen there.

CHICAGO.—A special cable to the Daily News from Tokio says: Reliable reports were received here today from Seoul to the effect that part of the Japanese fighting line has crossed the Yalu and established itself in strong positions there at several important points.

Indians in a Wreck.

CHICAGO.—Two passenger trains on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad collided between Melrose park and Maywood today. According to reports received at the general superintendent's office in Chicago, the wreck was caused by the fog. Trains No. 6 and 10 were in the wreck.

The trains which collided were the Oregon express and the fast mail on the Chicago & Northwestern railway. The express train was run into by the mail train. Both trains were eastbound. Physicians were promptly hurried to the scene. As soon as possible the injured were taken to Maywood and Chicago.

All the victims of the wreck were Indians. The coach containing the Indians was a light day car. It was completely wrecked. The rear end of the coach ahead was also damaged.

Court Calls It Gambling.

LINCOLN, Neb.—The supreme court ordered a gambling house closed in Omaha and adjourned. The order of the court is a writ of mandamus directed against the members of the Omaha fire and police board who were appointed by Gov. Mickey. I. J. Dunn of Omaha, secured an order from the district court of Douglas county compelling the board to close the Diamond pool room and this judgment was affirmed yesterday by the supreme court. Mr. Dunn is a politician of some fame. At first he and other citizens of Omaha called on Governor Mickey and asked him to require the board to stop gambling and to close open gambling houses in Omaha. Some charged that Mr. Dunn was working a political scheme. The governor declined to participate in the controversy and referred the citizens to the courts. Mr. Dunn then began an action in the district court and secured the order sought. The case was appealed by Mayor Moores who by virtue of his office is a member of the fire and police board, but the supreme court declined to reverse the order of the district court. An appeal to the courts has thus made public what was generally known, namely, that gambling was permitted in Omaha contrary to the statutes. The opinion of the court declares that the devices used in the Diamond were nothing more or less than gambling devices. The court further states that the evidence shows that the law against gambling had been flagrantly violated.

Findings in Dietrich Case.

WASHINGTON.—The finding in the Dietrich case may not be rendered until next week. Senator Platt, a member of the special committee, is preparing the report. Another member of the committee said today that the document would contain no reference to United States District Attorney Summers touching the latter's course in the prosecution of the cases against Senator Dietrich. The fact that witnesses failed in their testimony given here to corroborate the material testimony which they gave the grand jury in Omaha is not regarded by members of the committee as a reflection upon Attorney Summers. Such disparity is often disclosed in court trials.

MRS. BOTKINGUILTY

SAN FRANCISCO JURY SAYS SHE SENT POISON.

GOES TO PRISON FOR LIFE

ARRESTED AT SAN FRANCISCO AND HELD.

Second Time Convicted of Same Crime—Town of Brownville, Neb., Was Named for Her Father.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The jury in the Botkin case late tonight returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree and fixed the penalty at imprisonment for life.

Mrs. Cordelia Botkin was charged with having poisoned Mrs. John P. Dunning and Mrs. Deane, both of Dover, Del., daughters of Ex-representative Pennington, five years ago, sending them a box of poisoned candy. The cause alleged was her love for Mr. Dunning.

Mrs. Botkin was arrested at San Francisco, where she has been kept in custody notwithstanding attempts of the Delaware authorities to have her taken to this state for trial. In 1898 Mrs. Botkin was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. She secured a new trial, which was begun March 10.

Mrs. Botkin is the youngest of three daughters. Brownville, Neb., was named after her father, and the family lived there until 1866, when they moved to Kansas City. Miss Cordelia Brown married Welcome A. Botkin, cashier of a Joplin, Mo., bank. He later was associated with a Kansas City bank and they lived in that city until 1885, when Mrs. Botkin went west.

More Men To Be Mobilized.

PARIS.—The St. Peterburg correspondent of the Petit Parisier cables the following:

"A colonel of the general staff has informed me that a general mobilization is in course of preparation.

In view of complications which may ensue, the police have been instructed to prepare lists of all university graduates under forty years old capable of serving as reserve officers. A portion of the reserves will be held off to guard the trans-Siberian railroad. The decree ordering the mobilization will be published shortly.

"The arming of the port of Libau has been completed and foreign vessels have been forbidden to enter the port without authorization.

The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Echo de Paris says mobilization of the reserve men in the Sebastopol district has been ordered half of them to be used to reinforce the Russian crews at Port Arthur and Vladivostok, and the remainder to increase the strength of the Black sea.

Fear of an Epidemic.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The terrible sanitary condition of Harbin, which it is feared will lead to an epidemic, is revealed in a dispatch to the Novosti. The matter is of particular importance in view of the fact that Harbin is the center of Russian military and civil authority in Manchuria. All troops pass through this point and all provisions and medical supplies are brought there.

An arrangement has been made for Harbin to become the first station for the sick and wounded during the war. Despite a dry spring and summer and peaceful conditions in the territory last year, there were cases of cholera and typhoid, and further developments of which were stopped by the November frosts. The chief cause of the contagion is the water of the Sungari river and the shallow wells which are located in unsanitary places. Another source of contagion is that the ground filth in the winter has not been satisfactorily disposed of, but lies exposed above ground in the heart of the city, the streets of which are filled with refuse.

BERLIN.—Mr. Inouye, the Japanese minister here, does not share the view that the sale of the Hamburg-American line steamship Fuerst Bismarck is a breach of neutrality. "From one view point," said the minister, "we are glad to see the Russians buy good ships. The Russians buy them and we capture them."

NEBRASKA NOTES

W. H. Gardner of Auburn, Neb., has been chosen to succeed J. L. Laird as superintendent of schools at Fremont.

A team and buggy belonging to a Beatrice farmer, were stolen in front of the Catholic church. Bloodhounds are on the trail of the thieves.

Fred Rottman and Miss Anna Petring were married at the home of the bride's parents at Nebraska City. They will reside at Nebraska City.

The state board of irrigation will hold its annual meeting to pass upon claims and the decisions made by Secretary Dobson during the last six months.

Mrs. Daniel B. Ray of Tecumseh died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Catherine Marrs, at Wolbach. She had been sick for a month with kidney trouble.

Kathleen Carey and Herbert Chapman were united in marriage at Nebraska City. They will live at St. Joseph, Mo., where the groom is connected with the Kansas City railway.

At Plattsmouth Lewis D. Tolle of Kansas City and Miss Rose E. Wintersteen were joined in matrimony at the home of the parents of the bride. They will live in Kansas City.

A company to promote manufacturing enterprises has been organized at Beatrice with the following officers: J. H. Alden, president; C. A. Habb, vice president; E. M. Carruthers, secretary.

Perkins county farmers have been experimenting with telephones and have found that common barbed wire can be used very nicely. Most of the 'phones are made possible by the use of the barbed wire.

John Teeters an old soldier living in Lincoln was injured in a runaway. He was thrown from his buggy and his collar bone broken and several bruises inflicted upon his face and body.

All the schools of Omaha were closed and memorial services were held at Hanscom Park Methodist church for Miss Lillian Littlefield, late principal of Park school, who died last week in Colorado. Several prominent persons, representing societies of which Miss Littlefield was a member participated in the memorial services. Miss Littlefield has been connected with the Omaha schools for nearly twenty years.

Martha Brown, aged 78 years, is a lodger in the city jail at Lincoln. She walked to Lincoln from Omaha and it is her object to secure sufficient money by begging to build a home in Omaha to replace the one which was destroyed by fire a year ago.

The farmers of Sarpy county have recently organized what is known as the Mutual Telephone company, and have begun stringing wires and putting in phones. They have about fifty phones contracted for at the present time, and have secured a franchise to enter this city, by connecting on the Plattsmouth Telephone company's wires at Meadow. The Plattsmouth Telephone company are making extensive repairs if this city and are also building farmer lines out in the country and in a short time fully fifty farmers will have phones.

Louis Brunske formerly a clerk in the Townsend Gun company and Dunning Hardware company's stores is in the toils of the police, and with him they gathered up \$300 worth of choice cutlery, revolvers and other articles. This stock Brunske is alleged to have pilfered while employed at the stores named. Several revolvers were missing and the detectives were asked to locate the stolen property. They learned that Brunske had a key to the store and called on him. They found in his rooms a great amount of plunder, which he confessed to having taken piece meal while working for the firms to whom it belonged.

At the regular meeting of the Harvard school board a partial corps of teachers were re-elected for the coming year as follows: D. D. Miles, superintendent; Miss Lathrop and Miss Brown, principal and assistant principal of the high school; Mrs. L. M. Wilcox, teacher of the fifth and sixth grades. Owing to the lateness of the hour further consideration of teachers was postponed until the May meeting. Harvard schools are in good condition and the work of the teachers the past year has been generally satisfactory.