

PREFERS THE LOWER HOUSE

Peer Who is Willing to Surrender His Seat with the Lords.

PRECEDENTS CITED TO SUSTAIN HIM

Earl of Selborne Will Raise the Point as to Whether His Seat is Vacated by His Succession to the Peerage.

LONDON, May 13.—Much stir has been created in certain circles by a letter published in the London Times signed by Hon. George N. Curzon, member of Parliament for the Southport division of Lancashire, and Hon. William St. John Fremantle Brodrick, member of Parliament for the Guildford division of Surrey, announcing that the earl of Selborne who succeeded to the title on the death of his father on May 5 and who as Viscount Wolmer represents West Edinburgh in the House of Commons, proposes shortly to raise the question whether a peer of the realm can continue to sit in the House of Commons or be elected a member of the House of Commons.

The earl of Selborne intends, it appears, to continue attending sittings of the House of Commons, contending that until he applies for his seat in the House of Lords his seat in the House of Commons is not forfeited. The letter refers to Lords Palmerston, Castlereagh, Idelburgh and others, who forwent their seats in the House of Lords in order to retain civil appointments. Curzon and Brodrick, who are both the eldest sons of peers, apparently intend to follow the earl of Selborne's example.

The Times, commenting editorially upon their letters, points out that the lords are divided on the question whether a peer in the House of Commons becomes vacant by the mere fact of the holder's succession to the peerage. The Times supports the earl of Selborne's position, and says that it is a challenge to an authoritative decision and that he deserves credit for his determination to bring the question to a definite issue.

The St. James's Gazette, on the other hand, seems to be rather frightened at the possible outcome of the earl of Selborne's position, and says: "If he succeeds there will be a demand for a settlement of the question."

REFERRED THE CASE TO A COMMITTEE

Selborne Says He Will Seek Re-Election if the Decision is Against Him.

LONDON, May 13.—In the House of Commons today the case of Selborne, who as Viscount Wolmer represents West Edinburgh in the House of Commons, and who succeeded to his title on May 5 by the death of his father, took his seat as usual. Thereupon Mr. Henry Labouchere, member for Northampton, asked the speaker, Mr. William Court Gully, whether the earl was entitled to a seat in the House of Commons, and the speaker announced his lordship on the subject, with the result that he asked him to withdraw below the bar of the house until the question of his right to sit as a member was decided.

The earl of Selborne, who is the speaker's request, and the chancellor of the exchequer, Sir William Vernon Harcourt, then briefly explained his view of the situation, which was that if a special committee had been gone through, a writ should be issued for a new election for the seat occupied by the earl of Selborne.

BRITISH SHIP SUNK IN COLLISION

Steamer Martina Sunk to Bottom by the Esmeralda.

BREST, France, May 13.—The British steamer Esmeralda and Martina collided today off Armor lighthouse. The Martina sank. Eleven of her crew are missing.

Wreck on the Pacific Coast

VICTORIA, B. C., May 13.—The San Francisco steamer Puebla, which has arrived here, reports the wreck of a schooner, which is likely to prove a total wreck. The distressed steamer hoisted a flag as the Puebla passed, but as the Union was not an attention was paid, and the only comment excited was that of surprise.

Several Small Fights in Cuba

HAVANA, May 13.—The Spanish troops have defeated the band of rebels in San Lorenzo and Medina, and Pedro Monos at Moscosos. The troops captured a number of horses, ammunition, etc., belonging to the rebels.

Cholera Epidemic at Mecca

CAIRO, May 13.—Cholera prevails at Mecca and in the villages frequented by the caravans of pilgrims in El Hijaz, the "land of pilgrimages." In this region are the sacred cities of Mecca and Medina, and the seaports of Jiddah and Yembo. The Egyptian caravans in El Hijaz is smaller this year than usual.

Spencer Balfour Again in Cairo

LONDON, May 13.—Jabez Spencer Balfour, the promoter of the Liberators societies, who was recently extradited from the Argentine Republic, was re-examined at Bow Street police court today and was questioned at length in regard to his connection with the Liberators concerns.

Uproar in the Hungarian Diet

BUDA PESTH, May 13.—There was a stormy session of the lower house of the Hungarian Diet today. Herr Ugrény, member of the left, declared that the government had attacked the papal nuncio without cause, thus dragging the prestige of Hungary into the mire. An uproar followed and the sitting was suspended.

Guatemala Gives Her Side of the Story

CITY OF MEXICO, May 13.—Guatemalan Minister De Leon is distributing profusely a blue book published by his government giving its side of the late trouble and settlement between Mexico and Guatemala.

CUBAN REBELS WIN A GREAT VICTORY

Thousand Spanish Troops Killed or Captured in a Recent Battle.

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LONDON, May 13.—Minister Dupuy de Lome de Spain says the Tampa story as to a bloody battle in which 1,000 or more Spanish troops were slaughtered is absurd. He does not regard the report as necessary, but he expressed surprise that the public should be misled into crediting a tragedy, which, if true, would be of such magnitude as to be known by the whole world. The minister points out that such a great engagement would not have escaped the attention of the American correspondents on the spot, and that the report is a fabrication. He says that the wires being cut are untrue. The wires are in full use and there is no restriction on communicating full information to the outside world. The minister says that the report of no such battle, nor has word of it reached the minister, as he said would be the case. Such a great engagement had occurred, Senator Dupuy de Lome says, the report of a battle, as there is no enemy other than small scattered bands, who are carrying on a guerilla warfare. The report of a battle, as there is no enemy other than small scattered bands, who are carrying on a guerilla warfare. The report of a battle, as there is no enemy other than small scattered bands, who are carrying on a guerilla warfare.

JAPANESE ARE GREATLY EXCITED

Populace Has Just Learned of the Granting of European Demands.

LONDON, May 13.—The Times tomorrow will publish a dispatch from Kobe saying the fact of the Japanese government yielding to the representations of Russia, France and Germany in regard to the Liao Tung peninsula and agreeing to restore that territory to China has greatly excited and intensely annoyed the Japanese population.

GOVERNMENT MEETS DEFEAT AGAIN

Relating to the Tobacco Tax Measure Out of Sight.

BERLIN, May 13.—The government met with another defeat today. The Reichstag rejected the whole of the proposed tobacco tax bill.

WYOMING RANGE DIVIDED UP

EVANSTON, Wyo., May 13.—(Special.)—The sheep and cattlemen of Lincoln county met here Wednesday to formulate plans for an equitable division of the range between the two interests. A strip of land was paid for and the only comment excited was that of surprise.

Give a Terrible Lullaby

SHERIDAN, Wyo., May 13.—(Special.)—In an altercation at Twin Creek on Monday night a committee of the cattlemen met with a club by George Martin and now lies in a critical condition. George Martin is a member of the cattlemen's union and the fight, which was a full dress affair, was the result of Graham's injuries. The fight occurred on Sunday night and the cattlemen had borrowed from Graham and had failed to return.

Leader of the Bull Hill Miners Killed

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., May 13.—Jack Smith, the famous leader of the Bull Hill miners, was killed today by Marshall Smith, Kelly of Altamont, who took part in the fight, which was a full dress affair, was the result of Graham's injuries. The fight occurred on Sunday night and the cattlemen had borrowed from Graham and had failed to return.

Indianapolis Bank Wreckers on Trial

INDIANAPOLIS, May 13.—The trials of Francis A. Coffey, Percival B. Coffey and Schuyler C. Hauney, charged with conspiracy in wrecking the Indianapolis National bank, have been postponed by order of Judge Baker of the federal court until September 10. The reason for the court's action is that the appropriation to pay the federal witness has been exhausted, and no more money will be available for the purpose until July.

Texas Cattle Being Shipped North

DENVER, May 13.—During the next fifteen days ten cattle cars will run daily from the Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf tracks, in order that 200,000 head now awaiting shipment in Texas and New Mexico may be transferred to Wyoming and Montana feeding ranges.

CATHOLIC KNIGHTS MEETING

Almost All Delegates to the Convention Now in the City.

MANY VISITORS ARE ALSO HERE

"Omaha Club" Entertained Last Evening—St. Paul's Commandery Comes in—Line of March to Cathedral and Convention Hall.

It is conceded on all sides that the "Omaha club" of Cincinnati has played a gracious part in what may be termed the preliminaries to the national convention of the Catholic Knights of America, which opens at Chambers' academy this morning. This club was organized at Cincinnati about a year and a half ago, it had been determined six months before at Chicago that the tenth biennial convention of the Catholic Knights of America should be held in this city. But two of the parties who arrived with the club yesterday, and who are at the Millard, are not residents of Cincinnati. They are Frank Hunter, postmaster at Sidney, O., and H. G. Wagner of the same place. The other members of the club are Colonel and Mrs. O'Neil, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Varley, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hackman, J. H. Mabrey, William F. Ratterman, H. J. Robben, Louis J. Dolle, A. Messner, P. Mitchell, P. J. Schneider, George Korf, F. W. Keating, H. J. Harnmeyer, F. Macke, L. A. Homan, Joseph Berning and Joseph J. O'Connell.

PARADE OF THE TROOPS AT MEMPHIS

Competitive and Exhibition Drills Begin This Afternoon.

MEMPHIS, May 13.—The interstate encampment and drill was formally opened at Montgomery park today. There are twelve infantry militia companies in the ground, besides a battery, a Gatling gun detachment and a battalion of regulars, consisting of two infantry companies, two troops of cavalry, about 1,000 men in all, exclusive of the numerous staff.

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FIRE CHIEF REDELL QUILTS

Hands in His Resignation and Insists that it Be Accepted.

TIED OF THE UNCERTAINTY OF OMAHA

Meddling of Outsiders in His Department Prejudicial to His Efforts at Reorganization—Declining to Remain and Face Probable Dismissal.

John Redell, chief of the Omaha fire department, presented his resignation to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners in executive session late last night. The entire evening had been taken up in hearing charges against various officers, and it was nearly 11 o'clock when the board adjourned to the private room to consider the evidence. At this juncture Chief Redell handed in a sealed envelope, saying that he had a small matter to submit to the board. He was invited to join in the executive session and remained closeted with the board for more than an hour. At the end of that time the board adjourned, and the letter of resignation was given out with the information that action had been postponed for one week. Chief Redell's letter gives no hint of the reasons for his action, and is as follows: "To the Honorable Board of Fire and Police Commissioners: Gentlemen—I have first respectfully present to you my resignation as chief of the fire department, the same to take effect on the 15th inst. or not later than May 31, if possible to accomplish my resignation. I have the honor to thank you for the interest and able support extended me and with the hope that Omaha may be successful in all her public and private enterprises, I remain, respectfully yours, JOHN REDELL."

WAS A COMPLETE SURPRISE

Up to the time when the resignation was read the executive session was a person in Omaha outside of the chief knew of his contemplated action. The members of the board, however, were not at all surprised. But they were soon convinced that Chief Redell meant what he said, and action was taken for the resignation to take effect during that time sufficient pressure might be brought to bear to induce him to reconsider his determination. It was argued that the business men of the city would protest in a body against the loss of so efficient an officer as Chief Redell had proven himself to be. The chief, however, was not to be moved. The resignation remained unshaken. This was the situation when the board adjourned.

CHIEF REDELL ABSOLUTELY REFUSED TO BE

Induced to Withdraw His Resignation. He Said that Since the Board had Deferred Action, Courtesy to Its Members Required that the First Information Should Be Obtained from Him Relative to the Matter.

Chief Redell absolutely refused to be induced to withdraw his resignation for his action. He said that since the board had deferred action, courtesy to its members required that the first information should be obtained from him relative to the matter was that he had come in with the resignation and that he would go out at all he preferred to go out with it.

ALTHOUGH THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

SAY THAT THEY WOULD BE GLAD TO ACCEPT HIS RESIGNATION, THEY WERE UNABLE TO DO BETTER THAN TO GET A WEEK IN WHICH TO FURTHER CONSIDER IT. THIS WAS A CONCESSION ON THE PART OF THE BOARD, AND IT IS ANXIOUS THAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT ONCE.

TIED OF THE DISCORD

ALTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL INFORMATION COULD BE OBTAINED EITHER FROM THE CHIEF OR THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, REASONS FOR HIS RESIGNATION ARE KNOWN TO SEVERAL PERSONS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN THE DEPARTMENT. IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT THE REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN MATERIALLY HINDERED BY THE UNCERTAINTY IN REGARD TO THE FUTURE POLICY OF THE BOARD.

PROMINENT OFFICERS OF NORTH AND SOUTH

WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING OF THE CONFEDERATE COUNCIL AT OAKWOOD.

CHICAGO, May 13.—A notable reunion of the blue and gray will take place when the confederate council at Oakwood is dedicated on Memorial day. Officers who were prominent in the army of the north and south will be present and will do their utmost to make the occasion memorable. Several car loads of flowers will be sent to the site of the battle of Gettysburg, and the graves of the 600 confederate soldiers who are buried at Oakwood. The expense of the reunion will be met by the sale of subscriptions raised among some of Chicago's leading citizens.

GREAT GATHERING OF VETERANS

WILL BE HELD AT OMAHA ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

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