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BOERS WELL ENTRENCHED.

British Suffer Considerably but Force the Enemy Back.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Lord Roberts' dispatches announce what many people here take to be the beginning of the final stage in the South African campaign, says the London correspondent of the Tribune.

The commander-in-chief held a council of war with his lieutenants Buller, French and Pole-Carew on Saturday and on Sunday began a general attack on General Botha's entrenched position on which not much impression has been made.

In the preliminary operations of the previous few days the Boers had chosen a line of defense of great natural strength, stronger in fact than any they have held since they fell back from the Tugela. Their forces were dispersed along a formidable chain of hill country extending over a front nearly thirty miles, their flank resting on spurs of broken ground broken by morasses.

The British advanced on the west to north of Belfast, from which place the Boers fell back toward the Lydenburg road. Lord Roberts reports that the Boers are making a most determined resistance in a locality well adapted for their defensive tactics, and badly suited for cavalry movements.

Some experts think that it is really General Botha's last stand, and that if defeated here he will be completely crushed. Lord Roberts' superiority in numbers is so great that he may probably attempt to work right around the Boers and drive them from their position by menacing their lines of retreat. To judge from previous experience it is unlikely that the Boers would stay long enough to permit the maneuver to be accomplished.

Meanwhile the Boers are themselves busy in endeavoring to raid Lord Roberts' lines of communication both in the Orange river colony and in Natal. At Winberg, in the neighborhood of the scene of some of General DeWet's most remarkable exploits, a body of imperial yeomanry was in difficulties under an attack of a considerable force of Boers last Friday. They were rescued by reinforcements hastily sent up from Kromdrif and Heilbron.

Sunday the Boers again renewed their attack on Winberg, but were beaten off having among the prisoners captured by the British Commandant Olivier, whose famous march from Cape Colony through western Boer lines to the northeast of the Orange river colony was one of the notable episodes of the spring.

To judge by the fact that heavy reinforcements have been ordered to prepare to embark for South Africa in the next few days, the British war office does not yet believe that warlike operations are drawing to a close.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—A special from Pretoria dated August 27 says: "It is stated that fighting with Botha's commandos was resumed this morning. The Boer lines were broken and the enemy is falling back. The British casualties are reported to be considerable."

INSURRECTION IN PERSIA. Shah Unpopular Because of His Western Ideas.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—A dispatch to the Times from Paris says: "Your correspondent learns from a thoroughly well-informed source that a thoroughly insurrection has broken out in Persia, which may in all probability cause the Shah's visit to Europe to be curtailed. The object of the revolution is to dethrone the present Shah, whose fondness for western ideas makes him unpopular to Persians of the old school, and to place his brother on the throne. No advice has reached here so far regarding the extent or success of this revolutionary movement, but a telegram announcing the fact has just been handed to the Shah in Brussels.

The Shah himself is disposed to make light of the affair which, nevertheless, is extremely grave in view of the unsettled state of the far East. He has every confidence that the precautions which the grand vizier took before his master started on his European trip, will prove sufficient to cope with the situation.

The insurrection, however, has been very carefully planned, for it has taken the Shah and his ministers completely by surprise.

ADMIRALTY BUYS OUR COAL. First Time It Has Been Bought by the British Naval Authorities.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—More shipments of American coal to England will be made this week. One of the consignments will be the order of the British admiralty and will be sent by the Chesapeake & Ohio coal agency. Already this company has forwarded a supply of coal to the admiralty. Never have the naval authorities of England bought coal from this country, and this fact in itself is evidence of the extreme scarcity which prevails on the other side.

coal while here at least one hundred varieties are found. At the Berwind-White Company, the extensive wholesale coal dealer of No. 1 Broadway, it is said last night that the troubles in Africa and in China were having much to do with the present condition in the world's coal trade. An official of the British consular office said that any deal between the British government and American coal dealers for fuel for war vessels would not be a consular affair. No news about England's coal situation had been received by the consul-general here, and all they could be said about it must be unofficial deduction.

MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

Police Have Been for Ten Days Completely Baffled.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—The mystery which surrounds the killing of Kathryn Scharn some time on August 18, has not yet been cleared up by the police detectives, who appear to be completely baffled. It was admitted last night that they were still looking up the associates of the dead woman and her brother, with the hope that some of them may be able to throw some light on the case.

Little weight is attached by the detectives to the theory that the woman was murdered by a sneak thief whom she surprised while he was ransacking her rooms. The detectives say they are convinced that the crime was the work of a man who was well acquainted with the woman, and it is along these lines that they are working. Some of them are inclined to believe that the murder was committed by a friend of her brother. The police say that the dead girl knew most of his friends and that some of them are known to the police as cheap thieves and young men of criminal instincts. They are frequenters of the neighborhood in which the Scharns lived.

Acting District Attorney McIntyre said last night that no attempt would be made to have Fred Scharn indicted for homicide on the evidence now in possession of the police.

"Young Scharn will not be indicted by the evidence we now have," said Mr. McIntyre. "There is nothing to connect him with the murder, and I do not believe he had anything to do with it. If an indictment was secured on the evidence which has been collected up to this time we would not only be thrown out of court but laughed at."

Coroner Fitzpatrick will, on Friday, begin his inquiry into the death of the woman.

WILL NOT BE EXPELLED. Italy Has Not Demanded of England the Expulsion of Malatesta.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—A dispatch to the World from London says: "A statement which has reached here from Rome that the Italian government has demanded from the British government the expulsion of Anarchist Malatesta from England receives no credence. Malatesta, when asked about the statement, replied: "I do not believe that any such request has been made. The Swiss government was approached by the Italian police when I resided in Geneva, but it wisely refused to do anything in the matter. "But," said the correspondent, "suppose you were warned to leave England within 24 hours, where would you go?" Malatesta replied: "I cannot suppose anything of the kind. I have committed no crime in England. I get my living here as an electric engineer. If such an order was given me by the police I should go to America."

SIGNOR MINETTI, chancellor of the Italian embassy in London, questioned on the subject, said: "We hope for the best, but so far we have received no instructions on this subject from the government in Rome. We have so far refrained from asking for Malatesta's expulsion for fear of a refusal by the British government. I doubt whether the constitution will permit of the expulsion of an anarchist unless he is proved guilty of some infraction of the English law."

NEGROES TEST THE LAW. Will See if the Supreme Court Will Permit Their Disfranchisement.

BOSTON, Aug. 25.—Gates J. Jackson, a negro lawyer of Richmond, Va., acting for the national council of the Constitutional Rights Association, has employed ex-Attorney-General A. B. Pillsbury, of this city, and Hon. W. C. P. Breckinridge, of Lexington, Ky., as his counsel in proceedings which will be instituted for the purpose of bringing before the supreme court of the United States the question of the legality of the recently enacted state laws and constitutional amendments in some of the southern states, which it is claimed tend toward the disfranchising of the negro. The case will probably be argued before the courts of Massachusetts and will be carried to the supreme court of that state.

MOROCCO TREMBLES. Sultan Alarmed at the Arrival of a Massachusetts School Ship.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "Just at this moment the Sultan of Morocco need not be alarmed at the appearance of an American man-of-war in the harbor of Tangier. Officials of the state and navy departments say that the report published this morning that an American warship had put in at Tangier for the purpose of compelling Morocco to pay an indemnity for injuries sustained by an American citizen probably had its origin in a guilty conscience.

ny for injuries sustained by an American citizen probably had its origin in a guilty conscience.

An American naturalized citizen named Marcus Asaqui was murdered two months ago by a mob in the town of Fes. The crime was immediately reported to the state department by Mr. Gummere, consul-general at Tangier, and he was instructed by cable to request the French consul at Fes to make an investigation. The report of the French consul has not yet been received, but Mr. Gummere has reported that during the investigation he made a demand upon the Moorish authorities for the apprehension and punishment of those guilty of the murder.

The report of the arrival of an American warship has excited no comment at the navy department, and it is presumed is made in the Massachusetts state nautical school ship Enterprise. The itinerary of this vessel calls for her arrival at Tangier on August 24, and her departure on August 28. If her presence has stirred up the Moorish authorities to compliance with the demands of Mr. Gummere, the state department will be well pleased with the visit of the Enterprise, notwithstanding the fact that she had no hand in arranging the itinerary.

CORBETT AND MCCOY. Both Are in Fine Condition for Their Fight Tomorrow Night.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—James J. Corbett and RM McCoy are both in first-class condition for their fight Thursday in Madison Square Garden. Corbett has been training faithfully at Bath Beach, L. I., and he says he is confident of an easy victory. His trainers are Dal Hawkins, Charlie Guff, Spider Kelly and Arthur Keeley. McCoy has been training at Saratoga and those who have seen him recently say that he weighs 165 pounds and is in condition to fight the hardest battle of his life. Many of his admirers are confident that he will defeat Corbett. His principal trainer is Jack O'Neil of Philadelphia. He takes a daily ride of twelve miles on horseback.

ALLIES MARCH TO THE SOUTH (Continued from page one.)

Pekin outside of Chinese officials at any point. The subject also may be made the basis of some strong representations to the Chinese director of posts and telegraphs at Shanghai.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: "The news of an attack on the Chinese force assembling at Nam Yen near Peking is anxiously awaited according to a Japanese telegram from Taku. A combined detachment of Russian and Japanese cavalry were to have encountered this hostile body on last Saturday. The Japanese are more successful than the rest of the combined contingent in getting through runners, probably because of their superior knowledge of the Chinese character and language, but even General Yamaguchi's message published at Tokio yesterday was despatched from Peking as long ago as August 18. The Japanese general's telegram reported the capture of the imperial family, and indeed it would seem that this cavalry force abandoned the chase on reaching the village of Mausan, where its commander learned that the emperor and the empress under General Ma's escort had started for the west.

The approach of nine thousand of the Shang Tung troops with fifteen guns to attack the line of communication in the rear of Peking emphasizes the necessity of further reinforcements. These Shang Tung men are among the best European drilled soldiers in the Chinese service and have been carefully trained and organized under foreign instructors by the former Governor Yuan Shih Kai. They are armed with German Mausers and Krupp long range guns. With Peking and its suburbs to pacify and with these enemies to deal with outside, the allied commanders have none too many troops at their disposal. Peking, moreover, is not a self-supporting town. It has always to be fed by convoys of rice from the south, and if these are stopped it is urgently necessary that no time should be lost in clearing the line and getting up supplies from the coast.

The situation in the southern provinces is much complicated by the outbreak of undisciplined revolutionary as well as anti-foreign movements. The nineteen men expected by the viceroys are alleged to have belonged to the reform party which cherished the intention of rising against the provincial authorities and ultimately overthrowing the Manchu government and restoring Emperor Kwang Hsu to power. This movement is said to be widespread throughout the Yangtze river and to be encouraged by the agents of Kang Yu Wei's league, which is largely financed by "reforming" Chinese in Singapore, America and Australia. It is believed to be also working in close association with the famous Hui, Hui-chang and other secret societies. In fact southern China is in a disturbed and restless condition and further important developments are expected.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Sharp differences of opinion among the foreign admirals at Taku as to Li Hung Chang's proper status were apparently the moving cause of the note of inquiry recently addressed by the United States government to a foreign power as to accepting the aged viceroy as a peace envoy of the Chinese government, says the Washington correspondent of the Herald.

Officials will say little about the discussion among the naval representatives of the powers. It is learned, however, that on Thursday, Admiral Remy sent word that a conference of the admirals at Taku had been held at which the arrangements for the removal of Li Hung Chang and the privileges he should be allowed were discussed. A proposition was made that Li Hung Chang should be allowed to accompany the Russian admiral signed to the Russian government promptly protested to the other powers.

Admiral Remy's message was considered by the cabinet, which entirely approved the refusal of Admiral Remy to be a part to any such an agreement. Then the note of inquiry as to the attitude of the powers with regard to Li Hung Chang's acceptability as a peace envoy was formulated and sent out. The effect of the protests of the United States and Russia has been to secure practically the unanimous approval of the agreement of the foreign admirals. Why the admirals should wish to prevent Li Hung Chang from communicating with Chinese officials in Peking is not understood here. Seemingly it would be in the interest of peace for the viceroys to be put in



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prompt relations with the imperial authorities. From Minister Conger's dispatch it is apparent that the allies in Peking are not waiting for the arrival of Li Hung Chang, but are trying to get in communication themselves with Chinese officials. His message shows conclusively that there is no authority in the capital at this moment with whom the powers can negotiate.

METAL MARKET. NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Silver, 61 1/2; lead, brokers, 4; exchange, 437 1/2.

SEVENTEEN KNOTS SPEED. BOSTON, Aug. 25.—The United States battleship Alabama made an average speed of seventeen knots in her official speed trial today.

TO CARRY EXHIBITS FREE. Southern Pacific's Generous Offer to State Fair.

The Southern Pacific Company set a mark for liberality on progressive lines when it offered to carry all exhibits to and from the state fair free. This action of the company places every county on its line in easy reach of the state fair this year, and will enable the Southern portion of the state to exhibit her famous fruits, vegetables and grains at a small expense. The following letter is so plain and to the point that it needs no further comment other than Portland, July 25.—Mr. M. D. Wisdom, Secretary State Board of Agriculture, Portland, Or.—Dear Sir: In order to encourage exhibitors and attendance at the state fair this company will transport exhibits originating at points on its line within the confines of the state to Salem and return to point of origin free of charge. Exhibitors will be re-

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