

# CHINESE NAVY SHOWED FIGHT

## Tried to Engage a Russian Cruiser.

### BUT THE LATTER GOT AWAY

Allied Squadrons Will Force the Warships to Capitulate, or Will Destroy Them—Edicts Being Issued.

London, Oct. 8.—It is reported in St. Petersburg, according to the correspondent of the Times at the Russian capital, that the Chinese fleet in Formosa strait attempted to engage the Russian cruiser Kurik, but the latter's speed frustrated the plan. The correspondent says the allied squadrons will force the fleet to capitulate or will destroy it.

Shanghai telegrams announce that the imperial edict, dated September 30, ordering the court to be removed to Sinan Fu, was issued owing to the famine at Tai Yuan Fu, capital of the province of Shun Si. They also express the opinion that the object of the recent edict regarding the degradation of the Chinese personages of high rank is merely to gain time to enable China to be in a better position to defy the powers, as the new capital will be virtually inaccessible to foreigners. The Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post, discussing this aspect of the case, remarks:

"The German troops have no means of transport, and any attempt to follow the Chinese court would be, therefore, quite futile."

He says the Chinese firmly believe in the existence of a Russo-German agreement, under which Russia will take all the territory north of the great wall and Germany the provinces of Chi Li and Shan Tung.

The Times' representative at Shanghai says:

"It is believed here that highly inflammatory edicts are being issued secretly, and that the recent public edicts are only intended to hoodwink the powers."

## MILLIONS FOR LEVEES.

Why Not Use a Portion of This Money for Reservoirs?

The history of levee construction on the Mississippi river has been a long one. The first levee was begun in 1717, which was, when completed, one mile long, erected to protect New Orleans, then a mere village. This levee was four feet high and 18 feet across at the top. It was not, however, until after Louisiana had been ceded to the United States that levee construction was begun on a large scale. As the work progressed up the river and additional basins and bottoms were enclosed, the levees necessarily increased in height. The average height of the levees in Louisiana above New Orleans, is now between 12 and 13 feet, and this height proved insufficient in the great flood of 1897. This flood indicates to the official engineers that three or four feet additional will be required.

## Fortunes Appropriated.

Millions and millions of dollars have been appropriated by the federal government for the building of these levees and other constructions intended to protect the surrounding country from floods, and millions more must be appropriated by every congress to come unless other steps are taken to prevent these floods. These measures of the government are merely palliative; they do not go to the root of the evil. The report of Captain Hiram Chittenden, of the government engineer corps, however, shows that there is a way to strike at the trouble itself, and largely prevent the floods instead of trying to enclose them between banks after they have become such.

## Storage Reservoirs.

He shows in his official report that, by the building of a series of great storage reservoirs at the head waters of the Missouri, floods can be prevented through the diverting of the excess of waters into these artificial lakes. Surely this is something for congress to give its attention to. Here is a practical plan. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Congress will go ahead appropriating millions every session for flood prevention without a question, but it will not appropriate the same amount for a plan, which, according to the government's own engineers, promises far greater results. Of course, the storing of these reservoirs would mean the reclamation of large tracts of land to irrigation; but this need not worry congress, even its Eastern members, for the Eastern merchants are already alive to the situation, and realize that the reclamation of the arid West would open to them the finest market in the world.

GUY E. MITCHELL.

## Confessed to Robbery.

San Francisco, Oct. 8.—A man giving the name of Frank W. Travers has surrendered himself to the police, alleging that he robbed his brother, D. R. Travers, of 41 Park Row, New York, of \$1,000, last July. He says that he stole the money from the cash drawer after his brother had refused to lend it to him.

# DEVASTATION IN TRANSVAAL.

Consul-General Stowe's Report to the State Department.

Washington, Oct. 6.—An interesting picture of the Transvaal and Free State in August, after the wave of war had passed over the country, is presented in a report to the state department from United States Consul-General Stowe, at Cape Town, dated August 17 last. He had just returned to the Cape from a trip through the two republics. He says that for hundreds of miles all the wire fencing is down and cannot be used again. The posts have been burned for fuel and must be replaced with iron posts, owing to the scarcity of timber. The plowing in progress is limited, compared with former years, and there will be large market for American cereals. By March, 1901, agricultural machinery will be wanted.

Meat and livestock will continue to be imported. Johannesburg had only three days' supply of meat when Mr. Stowe left the town. While the Boers who have returned are anxious to get to work, several months must elapse before things settle down to a normal basis. The government is building a new line of railway from Harrismith to connect with the Orange Colony system, so that the Netherlands railway, with its 200 per cent dividends, will no longer have a monopoly in the Transvaal. There will be a big demand for bridge material and electrical machinery and supplies.

Lord Roberts has appointed an advisory committee to assist him in the reopening of Johannesburg, and to secure the return of the mining population, which the prosperity of the town depends upon. It is questionable whether an undesirable element common to all mining towns will be allowed to return to Johannesburg.

## TELEGRAPH TO SKAGWAY.

The Line Is Completed and the First Message Sent to Seattle Yesterday.

Seattle, Oct. 6.—The first telegraph from Skagway to Seattle, marking an epoch in the history of business between Alaska and the outside world, was received here today. The time occupied by the message in transit was seven hours, which, however, will be reduced one-half as soon as the line is in working order and business reduced to a system.

The route taken by the message was from Skagway to Atlin, thence over the old Atlin-Lillooet line to the Fraser river, thence to Ashcroft and on to Vancouver, from which place it was sent to Seattle.

The line over which it passed to Vancouver is that which the Canadian government has been engaged in constructing for the past four months. It is not yet completed, and will not be for about a week. However, in order to get the first message through today, a temporary line was put up connecting the unfinished portion between Lillooet and Ashcroft, and in this manner the transmission of the message was accomplished.

According to the reports received here today, the whole work of the Canadian government will be concluded by October 10, after which the through line will be open for commercial business.

## TO PUNISH REBELS.

A Whole Regiment Will Be Sent to Marinduque.

Washington, Oct. 6.—The following cablegram has been received at the war department:

"Manila, Oct. 6.—First infantry goes to Marinduque, October 6, on Sumner. General Hare is to command the island, with orders to push operations until insurrection is stamped out absolutely. He will have 12 full companies of infantry for the purpose. Anderson's first operations developed nothing. No reports since October 2. "MACARTHUR"

The above dispatch relates to reinforcements sent to the Island of Marinduque, where Captain Shields and 51 men of the Twenty-ninth volunteer infantry were either killed or captured by the insurgents. At that time General MacArthur sent Colonel Anderson and two companies of the Thirty-eighth volunteer infantry, with the Yorktown and two gunboats, to the relief of Shields and his command, if they were still alive.

## Collision at San Francisco.

San Francisco, Oct. 6.—The naval reserve ship Marion and the United States ship Ranger were in collision this morning and both were damaged, about the lower rigging and along the rails.

Captain Bolles and Bulger, local inspectors of steam boilers, commenced an investigation today of the cause of the collision between the steamer Columbia and the ferryboat Berkeley. The captains of the two vessels and members of both crews were examined as witnesses. Additional evidence is to be taken and the case will then be submitted for decision.

## Andrup's Greenland Exploration.

Copenhagen, Oct. 6.—Lieutenant Andrup's Greenland expedition has arrived here on board the Antarctic. The members of the expedition explored and approached a hitherto unknown stretch of land extending from Cape Town, latitude 69 degrees 28 minutes north to Agassiz land, 67 degrees 22 minutes north.

# BAD TORNADO IN MINNESOTA

## At Least Nine Lives Lost and Many Injured.

### PROPERTY LOSS IS \$100,000

Locomotives Were Shifted From the Tracks and Pounded Into Scrapiron—Mines Disabled.

Biwabik, Minn., Oct. 9.—The tornado that raged in this vicinity last evening was most violent. The storm cut a pathway 150 feet in width through the northwestern corner of the town, completely wrecking several buildings. The property loss is estimated at \$100,000 and the known fatalities number nine, with a score or more injured, some severely.

The storm swept in a northwesterly direction after leaving here and struck a little Finnish settlement near Pike lake, where a number of buildings were wrecked, in one of which an entire family, consisting of husband, wife and four children, were instantly killed. So far their names have not been obtained. It is believed when the more remote districts are heard from further casualties may be reported.

The house in which the Marowitz family lived was completely wrecked, and the body of Mrs. Marowitz was found 400 feet away, every bone in her body being broken and her clothing completely stripped off. The body of her husband was found amid the debris of their home horribly mutilated.

William Hilstrom was struck on the head by a falling tree and his skull crushed. He afterward died at the hospital.

The engine house of the Duluth, Mississippi & Northern railway was completely wrecked and a number of locomotives and cars were shifted from the tracks and pounded into scrapiron. The engine on which Murray and Anders were when the storm broke was blown from the track and the men were pinned beneath it and horribly burned by the escaping steam. Several cars were blown from the Duluth, Mississippi & Northern tracks and were found in the Duluth mine pit, hundreds of feet away. Many of the buildings destroyed were owned by the mining companies, and tenanted by their employes. The shafthouse and buildings of three mines were reduced to kindling wood.

The tornado which lasted less than five minutes, was preceded by an unusually severe thunder and rain storm. The rain had flooded many of the open pit mines, and they cannot be operated for some time.

Explosion of 7,500 Pounds of Dynamite. Duluth, Minn., Oct. 9.—A special from Eveleth, Minn., tonight, reports a disastrous explosion. Seven thousand five hundred pounds of dynamite in the powder magazine at the Pruce mine, situated a half mile from town, blew up about 5:30 o'clock this afternoon. A hole 100 feet square and 25 feet deep marks the spot where the magazine stood. The force of the explosion was so great that it smashed every pane of glass within a radius of two miles. The mine laboratory and warehouses were totally wrecked.

At least 200 people were hurt more or less from being thrown down by the shock or hit by shattered glass. The explosion was plainly felt at Biwabik, 12 miles distant. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

## Boers Short of Ammunition.

London, Oct. 9.—It is estimated, according to the Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, that 4,000 to 5,000 Boers have retreated from Pilgrim's Rest, northeast of Lydenburg, with four long toms and 22 other guns. The correspondent understands that their long tom ammunition is almost exhausted.

Lord Roberts, the Daily Mail announces, will leave South Africa during the last week of October. The authorities have decided to limit the number of colonial troops who are to be the queen's guests in London to 500.

## Crime of an Insane Mother.

New York, Oct. 8.—Mrs. Lillian Smith, of Inwood, borough of Manhattan, while insane this afternoon shot and killed two of her children, wounded a third and committed suicide. The tragedy took place in the old Frank Leslie mansion. Mrs. Smith was the wife of Walter N. Smith, who has been connected with a large grocery house in this city for 21 years. They had been married 13 years. Mrs. Smith had been in poor health of late, and long brooding over the prospect of death is believed to have unsettled her reason.

## American Collier Floated.

Suez, Oct. 9.—The American steam collier Emir, which recently sank in the Suez canal while on her way to Manila with coal for the American fleet, but was successfully floated yesterday, has arrived at Suez roads. She is unable, however, to enter the port, as she draws too much water. Her cargo is being discharged, and divers will examine her bottom to ascertain the extent of her injuries.

# OPERATIONS IN PHILIPPINES.

Strengthening Weak Garrisons—Steps Taken to Help Our Trade.

Manila, Oct. 10.—Four troops of cavalry and two companies of infantry have recently reinforced General Young in Northern Luzon, where the insurgents are concentrating in the mountains of North and South Ilocos provinces under the leadership of Aglipay, the ex-communicated priest and renegade.

General Tinio and General Villanueva, who had been quiet for some time, are now showing signs of becoming active as the end of the rainy season approaches.

Of late there has been considerable scouting and skirmishing in the provinces of Abra and North Ilocos, though without decisive results. It is obvious, however, that the maneuvers of the Filipinos are more skillful than formerly and that the field tactics of the Americans are being followed by them.

Senor Mateni, the founder of the so called Filipino government, who was captured by the Americans last December and lodged in jail in Manila, has been liberated. As he had always persistently refused to take the oath of allegiance to the United States government he had maintained his reputation among the Filipinos as a resolute patriot. They now believe that he has reached a private understanding with the American authorities which has secured his release, and consequently he has lost some of his popularity, although he is still considered the leader of the dormant revolutionary element.

This week the commission will begin the work of revising the tariff, making use of the results on the investigation of the army board in this direction. It is the intention of the commission to give American trade a better chance than it has heretofore enjoyed owing to the high duties.

The transports Sumner and Venus have sailed for the island of Marinduque, off the west coast of Luzon, carrying two battalions. The former has already arrived there. The transport Logan will reinforce the Twenty-ninth United States infantry now in Marinduque.

## GALVESTON NEEDS MORE.

People Require Material to Build Themselves Houses.

Galveston, Texas, Oct. 10.—Miss Clara Barton, president of the National Red Cross Society, today issued a statement to the manufacturers and business men of the country in which she appeals to them for aid in the way of material to be used in the building of homes for those who lost their all in the recent storm. It is addressed "To the manufacturers and dealers in lumber, hardware, builder's materials and household goods and to the business men in general of the United States," and says:

"We believe it is reliably stated that there is not one house in the area of the storm undamaged by it. A large proportion of those persons formerly occupying them are strictly entirely without homes or even shelter, save such as persons nearly as destitute as themselves can offer them temporarily to their own great inconvenience and cost.

"The number of this homeless class is estimated at 8,000 or more. Winter is less than two months away. Although a mild climate, still snow and ice are known here. If tents would protect, which they will not, the sand would not hold them down. Some substantial shelter must be had at once for these people.

"The havoc wrought by the storm in Galveston at once was much larger in loss of life and property than at Johnstown, but the donations in money so far have aggregated one-third less for both the city and mainland than was given at Johnstown.

"While the bountiful outpouring of the people's generosity has enabled the general relief committee and the Red Cross to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and render the streets of Galveston partially passable, nothing has as yet been done toward reinstating the impoverished survivors in houses where they can escape disease and enjoy a slight measure of the comforts of which the storm deprived them.

"It is for the purpose of awakening the sympathies of the American people and further appealing to their bountiful instincts to rescue these sufferers from the hardships still confronting them that the foregoing statements have been put forth."

## No Trace of Captives.

Manila, Oct. 10.—The report of the capture of about 60 men of the Twenty-ninth United States infantry on Marinduque island is confirmed through communications to MacArthur and Kempff, from Marinduque island, but details are lacking. The Yorktown's relief column landed at Terrijos, on the Marinduque coast, and marched to Santa Cruz, which was the proposed route of the captured party, without encountering the enemy or learning anything definite regarding the captives, except that they had entirely disappeared. It is possible that the rebels have conveyed the captives to Luzon.

## Assam Tea Crop in Danger.

Calcutta, Oct. 10.—An unprecedented drought is prevailing in the district of Chachar and Silhet, province of Assam, causing the greatest anxiety in regard to the tea and other crops.

# HEALTHY TONE OF TRADE.

Business Not Yet Seriously Affected by Politics.

Bradstreet's says: Despite some irregularity both as to demand and prices, due partly to warm rainy weather, but likewise a reflection of a hesitancy to embark largely in new business, pending political events, the general tone of trade is a favorable one, and confidence as to the outlook for business in the remainder of the year is notable. Some diminution in the volume of jobbing business is noted at large Western centers, and continued rainy weather in the Northwest alike checked the movement of wheat to market, injures the grade of the same, and discourages retail and jobbing distribution. Ten cent cotton is the key to the very favorable report which comes from the South and the character of reports from this section is more nearly favorable than for many years past at this time.

The indisposition to contract heavily as to the future is perhaps most marked in the iron and steel trade and here, also, the most marked tendency toward weakness in the cruder forms of production is noted.

The industrial outlook has been improved by the signing of the tinplate scale, but the anthracite coal situation is, on the surface at least, rather more unfavorable than a week ago, more mines and miners being idle and production steadily diminishing.

Special strength is noted in provisions and hog products, in which the very strong statistical position is receiving more attention.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week, aggregate 4,459,167 bushels, against 4,242,810 bushels last week.

Business failures in the United States for the week numbered 177, as against 169 last week.

## PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, 1 1/2c.  
Lettuce, hot house, \$1 per crate.  
Potatoes, new, \$15.  
Beets, per sack, 85c@\$.1.  
Turnips, per sack, 75c.  
Beans, wax, 4c.  
Squash—4c.  
Carrots, per sack, \$1.00  
Parsnips, per sack, \$1.25.  
Cauliflower, native, 75c.  
Cucumbers—10@20c.  
Cabbage, native and California, 2c per pound.  
Tomatoes—30@50c.  
Butter—Creamery, 26c; dairy, 16@19c; ranch, 16c pound.  
Eggs—26c.  
Cheese—12c.  
Poultry—12c; dressed, 14c; spring, 13@15c.  
Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$12.00 @13.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$19.00.  
Corn—Whole, \$25.00; cracked, \$25; feed meal, \$25.  
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$20.  
Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.50; blended straight, \$3.25; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; Graham, per barrel, \$3.00; whole wheat flour, \$3.25; rye flour, \$3.80@4.00.  
Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$12.00; shorts, per ton, \$14.00.  
Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00.  
Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, price 7 1/2c; cows, 7c; mutton 7 1/2; pork, 8c; trimmed, 9c; veal, 9@11c.  
Hams—Large, 13c; small, 13 1/2; breakfast bacon, 12c; dry salt sides, 8 1/2c.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 55@56c; Valley, 59c; Bluestem, 59c per bushel.  
Flour—Best grades, \$3.10; Graham, \$2.50.  
Oats—Choice white, 42c; choice gray, 40c per bushel.  
Barley—Feed barley, \$15.00@15.50; brewing, \$16.00 per ton.  
Millstuffs—Bran, \$14.50 per ton; middlings, \$20; shorts, \$16; chop, \$15 per ton.  
Hay—Timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7@7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@55c; store, 30c.  
Eggs—20c per dozen.  
Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.  
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50@3.50 per dozen; hens, \$4.00; springs, \$2.00@3.00; geese, \$6.00@8.00 doz; ducks, \$3.00@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 14c per pound.  
Potatoes—40@55c per sack; sweets, 13 1/2c per pound.  
Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, \$1; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 2c per pound; parsnips, 85c; onions, \$1; carrots, \$1.  
Hops—New crop, 12 1/2@14c per pound.  
Wool—Valley, 15@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@13c; mohair, 25 per pound.  
Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3 1/2c; dressed mutton, 6 1/2@7c per pound.  
Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.75; light and feeders, \$5.00; dressed, \$6.00@6.50 per 100 pounds.  
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@4.00; cows, \$3.00@3.50; dressed beef, 6@7c per pound.  
Veal—Large, 6 1/2@7 1/2c; small, 8@8 1/2c per pound.