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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1900 VOLUME LXII—NO. 33

Angry at Britain

Chinese Minister Says Landing of Troops at Shanghai Makes Complications.

Germany Regards It as Attempt to Control Yang Tse Valley.

United States Declines to Protest Against Seymour's Precautions.

London, Aug. 12.—(4 a.m.)—The only news last night relative to the advance on Pekin was found in a belated Tokia despatch of August 9, according to which, after the capture of Yang Tsun on August 6, it was arranged that two battalions of Japanese infantry, a squadron of cavalry, a battery of mounted artillery and a company of engineers should march on August 7 in advance of the main body of allies and occupy Tsai Tsun, five miles north of Yang Tsun.

Other despatches merely repeat the details of the capture of Yang Tsun.

One cable message, however, credits the Emperor of Korea with giving permission for the laying of a cable bewteen Taku and Chemulpo.

A Yokohama despatch of the date of August 11, says that the Korean government has consented to the despatch of Japanese troops to Korea for the purpose of providing for the emergencies growing out of the Chinese trouble.

Various rumors having their origin in Chinese sources are floating around Shanghai. One of these rumors is to the effect that Prince Tuan and his followers are preparing to leave Pekin in case the allies should succeed in getting near the capital.

Speaking at the Primrose League demonstration at Eaglescliffe, Lord Londonderry expressed the hope that when the allies reach Pekin the first step would be the punishment, not as in the past, of a few subordinates, but of the mandarins and others high in authority. There, he was of opinion, all vengeance ought to end.

London, Aug. 11.—The Chinese minister, Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng Luh, in an interview to-day said the ministers of the powers in declining to leave Pekin had undoubtedly complicated the situation, adding that if the allies pushed on to the capital it might have the effect of involving the southern provinces in great trouble. Only to-day, the minister continued, he had received the information that the proposed landing of Indian troops at Shanghai had already caused grave apprehensions, and there would be an exodus of Chinese merchants. If these troops were landed, he pointed out, others of course would follow this, and great conflicts would result. The minister also said that if the powers had adopted his suggestion and opened negotiations with Li Hung Chang, matters might have been arranged. The march of the allies on Pekin, the Chinese diplomat further remarked, would probably endanger the foreigners' lives, adding that telegrams had already been received showing that trouble had arisen in this connection.

Great Britain, the United States and Japan have now approved the appointment of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee as commander-in-chief of the allied forces in China—the United States and Japan unreservedly, and Great Britain conditionally on all the other powers agreeing to the appointment.

Berlin, Aug. 11.—The belief still prevails here that the allied forces have not undertaken the Pekin advance, and that the recent actions at Pei Tsang and Yang Tsun were solely meant to secure the strategic tenure of Tien Tsin against the Chinese troops sent from Pekin or from the south, as Yang Tsun dominates both railroad and river communications. The military authorities here also maintain that an advance upon Pekin with the present forces and lacking one officer in chief command would be equivalent to failure and enormous losses. The foreign office wholly distrusts the reliability of the news that Li Hung Chang has been empowered to negotiate for peace. The German press coincides therein.

The news cabled here that the United States is now desirous of bringing about a clear diplomatic understanding regarding the intended extent of the expedition is received by the foreign office favorably, since the aims of the United States, viz., the re-establishment of order, the awarding of damages to Americans for injury and guarantees against the recurrence of similar events, tally precisely, the foreign office declares, with the German programme. It is here surmised, however, that such diplomatic negotiations will not meet the approbation of Great Britain and Russia, whose enormous sacrifices in men and money owing to the Chinese troubles seem indeed worth some equivalent. Regarding what are considered here Great Britain's designs upon the Yang Tse valley, particularly Shanghai, Germany will not allow their realization, and in this France supports Germany, and it is hoped the United States will do so, since such action contravenes the open door policy. Germany before long will have a good-sized force in Shanghai to checkmate single-handed the British schemes there. The correspondent of the Associated Press hears that a brigade of 5,000 men is now forming and will proceed to Shanghai for that purpose and to protect German commercial interests in the Yang Tse valley, notably at Shanghai and Han Joi.

Washington, Aug. 11.—It is stated officially to-night that the German government will pay no attention whatever to the latest appeal from China, transmitted in the form of a memorial from the southern viceroys, begging the United States to use its influence against the landing of British troops in the Yang Tse valley. This memorial was transmitted to the state department this morning by the Chinese minister, Mr. Wu. It urges upon this government the serious consequences that would follow the landing of a British force at Shanghai, and represented that the preparations already made had caused a panic among the resident Chinese and would paralyze commercial activity in that part of the empire almost as much as a formal decaration of war by Great Britain. This government decided, however, that not only would it be entirely out of its province to interfere with the British programme in Southern China, which was being carried forward by Admiral Seymour on the ground with the knowledge of local conditions, but in view of China's present recalcitrant attitude and the lack up to date of even an acknowledgment of the latest demand concerning the safety of the ministers, the United States was not inclined to shoulder any of China's troubles with Great Britain or any other power. Consequently the appeal of the viceroys will be ignored. It is possible that the communication from Minister Wu may be turned over to the British government for its information, on the general friendly principle that has been adopted by these powers of keeping each other informed on the various developments in the situation. Even this step, however, has not been decided on yet, and will be left to the judgment of the President.

In connection with the proposed landing of Admiral Seymour's forces, it may be said that the report of Japanese opposition to this move is without any official confirmation here. The Japanese minister said that he had no information of any protest having been entered by Japan. What developments subsequent events might bring it was impossible for him to say. It may be said, however, aside from Minister Takhara's statement, that Japan has up to date displayed no jealousy of Great Britain in the campaign. Japan herself it has been announced semi-officially, has no colonial ambitions.

The action of the Russian government in authorizing M. de Giers to start from Pekin for Tien Tsin under Chinese escort, causes no little concern and surprise in official circles here, as it is diametrically opposed to the course of the other governments, although there is no disposition to question the good faith which has inspired it. The officials say that its only effect is to leave M. de Giers acting independently and upon his own discretion.

King Victor Emmanuel III.

Takes the Constitutional Oath in the Chamber at Rome.

People on the Streets Applaud the New Ruler of Italy.

Rome, Aug. 11.—King Victor Emmanuel III. took the formal constitutional oath to-day before parliament. The senate chamber was hung with mourning draperies. The chamber was filled with notables.

During the ceremony of taking the oath the King stood erect and pronounced the words in a loud voice. As soon as His Majesty had concluded, all present broke out into loud acclamations, which lasted several minutes. The whole ceremony, concluding with the oaths of allegiance of the senators and deputies, was touching and imposing.

The King then read his address and the royal party returned to the Quirinal through the still crowded streets, the people vigorously shouting for and cheering the new King. The King's address was in part as follows:

"My first thought is for my people, a thought of love and gratitude. The people who wept by the casket of the King whom they loved are brought in close touch with me and they have demonstrated the racial foundation which a liberal monarchy has in the country. From these manifestations of sorrow, I draw the most favorable auspices for my reign."

The burial of the remains of the late King Humbert will take place at the Pantheon at midnight Sunday. The interment will be strictly private.

POISONED.

Morris Goldstein Died From a Dose of Carbolic Acid.

Toronto, Aug. 11.—Morris Goldstein, a second-hand clothes dealer, on Queen street, was found dead by Dr. Elliott, when called in yesterday to attend him, and on examination it was found Goldstein had apparently died of poisoning. A post mortem examination proved suspicions well founded, carbolic acid being found in the stomach. An inquest was ordered and a couple of women who lived in the house with Goldstein were held as material witnesses.

C. P. R. STRIKE.

Some Days Before the Proposed Conference Can Take Place.

Winnipeg, Aug. 11.—The allied mechanics' representatives are still in conference with Messrs. Ord and Cross. The report that the general committee of strikers would meet Manager Whyte of the C. P. R. this morning proved incorrect. There will be no meeting with Mr. Whyte until a number of details are settled, which may occupy several days. At present there is nothing new in the situation.

GOLDWIN SMITH HURT.

Falls Downstairs and Fractures His Wrist.

Toronto, Aug. 10.—Goldwin Smith met with an accident this afternoon while ascending the steps of the Royal Canadian Yacht club-house at the Island, he fell, fracturing his left wrist.

The Russian Minister to Go

De Giers Told by His Government to Accept Chinese Escort.

British Consul-General Says Landing Troops at Shanghai Is Necessary.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 11.—The Official Messenger to-day publishes the following:

"The foreign office received a telegram to-day direct from M. de Giers, the Russian minister at the Chinese capital. The despatch was evidently taken by a special courier to Tsi Nan from the capital of Shan Tung, and was thence telegraphed on August 7 by the local Yamen. M. de Giers announces that the siege of the legations continues. The besieged still have some provisions left. The Chinese government proposes to transmit ministers' messages and that they leave Pekin. As the ministers had not sufficient guarantee, they replied that they must receive the permission of their governments before leaving the city."

The Messenger then announces that the Czar's approval has been given for M. de Giers to start for Tien Tsin with his entire staff and the marine guards, on conditions the existing government at Pekin and the Emperor afford them sure guarantee that the journey can be undertaken without danger.

At the same time M. de Giers is instructed to call attention to the heavy responsibility the Chinese government would incur should there be the slightest infraction of the inviolability of the persons accompanying him to Tien Tsin.

London, Aug. 11.—A special despatch from Shanghai, dated Friday, August 10, says the British consul-general, replying to protests of the Chinese merchants against the landing of troops, explains that this is merely a precautionary measure, due to the fact that the disturbances north are spreading and coming daily nearer to Shanghai.

He also says Kiang Su is already in a state of revolt, and that at Ta Tung there has been serious rioting, the telegraph station being burned.

A special despatch from St. Petersburg attributes to Russia the intention to fill Manchuria with troops and not to let go of that territory when the present ebullition is over. The Russian war office expects to have 142,000 men and 342 guns in Siberia by the end of September.

The total number of allies in the province of Pei Chi Li is 38,000, with 114 guns. The total by August 30 is expected to be 78,000, with 280 guns.

Washington, Aug. 11.—The following despatch, communicating an additional message from Mr. Conger, was made public this morning by the state department:

"Canton, Aug. 11.—Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.: Conger (date Aug. 10, Tsi Nan), answering my message, says that the legations are under siege by the imperial soldiers. The situation is desperate. The losses of the legations are 60 killed and about 100 wounded. There is some sickness, nevertheless the general health continues good. He concludes: 'Whatever may be the outcome, we will hold on indefinitely.' McQuade."

The viceroys of China, including Li Hung Chang, have addressed a request to the United States government to use its good offices with the powers to stop the landing of foreign troops at Shanghai. The state department received the communication to-day from Minister Wu, who received it last night.

WAR OFFICE CONTRACTS.

Canadian Firms Will Make Stockings, Shoes and Huts.

Ottawa, Aug. 11.—Contracts have been given by the war office through the department of militia to parties in Quebec for 20,000 pairs of stockings and the same number of pairs of shoes. The latter will be manufactured by the same firm as supplied hundreds of portable houses to the Panama Canal Company.

George Isdore Barthe, ex-M.P. for Richelieu, and latterly French translator in the House of Commons, died to-day from heart prostration; aged 64.

The mining regulations in the Yukon have been amended so that a free miner may renew his certificate within 90 days of the date of its expiration, the renewal fee in such cases to be $100. With regard to disputed application for Dominion Creek claims which arose over the closing of the creek, an order-in-council has been passed providing that applicants who prove to the satisfaction of the interior department that the claim was staked prior to November 15, 1897, shall be permitted to receive an entry for 250 feet in frontage as provided in the regulations.

Customs revenues: July, $3,707,230; increase, $574,697; expenditure consolidated funds, $2,218,453; increase, $264,648.

TOO MUCH RAIN.

Quebec Clergy Praying to Stop the Downfall.

Montreal, Aug. 11.—The phenomenal rainfall in the province of Quebec has caused alarm that the crops will be destroyed and distress caused thereby. To-day Archbishop Bruchesi of Montreal issued an order to the clergy of his diocese to offer up prayers asking for Divine intervention on behalf of agriculturists.

FIRE AT HENSALL.

A Number of Business Places and Public Library Destroyed.

Hensall, Aug. 11.—Fire this morning destroyed buildings occupied by McArthur & Co., the public library, B. C. Stoneman, W. C. Davis, C. V. Smith and A. McPherson. The Odd Fellows' block and McEwen's block were also damaged. The total loss is $10,000; insurance, $6,000.

VANCOUVER NEWS.

Cutch Cuts Up Fishing Nets—Captain of Empress of India Resigns.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Aug. 10.—The steamer Cutch arrived late last night from Skagway with 70 passengers. One of the passengers was Gustave Gravais, who brought with him a sack full of coal, as samples of his discovery of coal beds on the Dalton trail, near White Horse. As the Cutch was making her way into port last night she ran into several fishing boats that had no lights displayed, and ran foul of seven nets, which became tangled about her propellers. Two nets were stretched directly across the Narrows in the navigable channel, and of course $200 worth of cannery property had to be destroyed before the Narrows could be navigated.

Capt. Lee of the steamship Empress of India has resigned. Fourth Officer Smart and Ship's Doctor Caven have also handed in their resignations. Capt. Pybus, of the Athenian, has been appointed in place of Capt. Lee, and Capt. Bowles has taken Capt. Pybus' place.

Held By Methuen

The British General Reported to Have topped the Boer Leader.

The Burghers Are Told By Their Leaders That Roberts Is Dying.

But Gallant Old Bobs Is in Excellent Health and pirits.

London, Aug. 11.—According to the Lorenzo Marques correspondent of the Daily Express, President Kruger in the course of an interview last Wednesday said that the report that he intended to surrender was without foundation. He declared that the war would last a long time yet.

"A Boer bulletin," continues the correspondent, "announces a big battle between Lydenburg and Middleburg, in which the British had 500 killed and wounded. It also announces the capture by the burghers of Heilbron, Devillersdorp and Frankfort."

Boer reports via Lorenzo Marques lately have proved worthy of little credence.

The Pretoria plot is the theme of many editorials this morning. All the papers decry the idea of treating the Boers too leniently.

"Examples, and stern examples," says the Daily Mail, "are necessary. Although we may not agree with Sheridan's fierce maxim, 'Nothing should be left an enemy but eyes to weep with,' yet this was the conclusion of a not inhuman officer, who thoroughly understood war."

It is rumored in Lorenzo Marques, according to a despatch to the Daily Telegraph dated yesterday, that Mr. Steyn has committed suicide.

Pretoria, Aug. 10.—It is said that Lord Methuen has arrested Gen. Dewet's march.

All the Boers in the field credit a rumor cirulated by their leaders, that Lord Roberts is dying. Roberts, however, is now in excellent health, is displaying wonderful energy and rides long distances daily.

LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN

Chief Justice of England Dies Suddenly After an Operation.

London, Aug. 10.—Baron Russell, of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice of England, died this morning as a result of an operation performed yesterday by Dr. Troves.

Baron Russell, who had been ill for about a fortnight, suffered from gastric catarrh. The fact of his illness was not generally known until it was announced that at a consultation held yesterday it was decided that an operation was imperatively necessary.

The courts generally suspended business to-day and the judges and other distinguished lawyers eulogized the deceased chief justice.

Lord Russell was born at Newry, Ireland, in 1833. He was the son of Mr. Arthur Russell, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. He practiced as a barrister at Belfast, and afterwards was called at Lincoln's Inn, in 1859. He entered parliament as a Liberal member for Dundalk. He was attorney-general in the Gladstone administration, and was knighted. In 1893 he was given the G.C.M.G., for distinguished services as counsel in the Behring Sea Arbitration at Paris, and in 1894 was appointed Lord Chief Justice of England in succession to Lord Coleridge. He was a sound lawyer, a masterly cross-examiner and a persuasive pleader, and was engaged in many celebrated cases; his greatest triumph being during the sitting of the Parnell commission. He defended Mrs. Maybrick in that cause celibre, the Maybrick murder, in 1889.

A great lover of horses, Lord Russell was a member of the Jockey Club until recent years.

The funeral of Lord Russell will take place at Epsom on Tuesday next.

We would draw the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Home Novelty Manufacturing Co., of Chicago, dealers in genuine novelties, art specialities, etc.

Russians Kill U. S. Soldiers

Artillery Shells Them by Mistake and Plays Havoc With Americans.

Report From Pekin That the Foreigners Are in Bad Plight.

New York, Aug. 13.—The Evening World to-day has a despatch dated Chee Foo, August 9, signed by Frederick Palmer, telling of a mistake at the taking of Yang Tsun. The despatch says:

"The Russian artillery opened fire on the American troops. Before the mistake was discovered many American soldiers had been killed or wounded by the Russian shells. Part of the casualties to the 14th infantry was the result of the Russian fire.

"As the Chinese fled the regiment entered and occupied one of the Chinese positions. A Russian battery some distance off did not notice the movement. It opened fire on the position and planted shells among the American troops. The Russians were quickly notified and ceased their fire. The Americans captured the Chinese works. Their casualties are 70 altogether. Most of these are in the 14th Infantry.

"The long march and the heat played havoc with the troops," continues the correspondent. "40 per cent. of the 9th Regiment being completely exhausted as a result of the march and the fight that followed.

"The allied forces are resting at Yang Tsun for two or three days. Then it is to rush forward on Pekin. The Chinese are demoralized by their defeats, and no rest or chance to recover from their demoralization is to be given them by the allied troops."

Tien Tsin, Aug. 6, via Shanghai, Aug. 13.—The army advanced 12 miles today.

Two reliable couriers, who left Pekin on the 1st, arrived to-day at Tien Tsin. They say that the Empress Dowager fed the foreigners for a few days. The former viceroy of Shan Tun, who is bitterly anti-foreign, arrived with new troops, according to the couriers, and planted two batteries on the wall near the legations. The enemy began shelling and opened a fierce rifle fire, which was kept up for two days.

The head of the missionary board, with a party, while trying to get provisions was killed.

The army took Yang Tsun to-day. They suffered heavily.

London, Aug. 13.—As the allies were to rest three days at Yang Tsun, it is supposed that a further advance was begun on August 10, but no word has come through from Yang Tsun since August 8, when the Japanese commander, in a message to Tokio under that date, said 20,000 Chinese were confronting the allies.

The Japanese losses at Pei Tsung on August 6 were 300 killed and wounded. The Chinese left 200 dead on the field.

Washington, Aug. 13.—The department of state to-day made public the reply of the United States government to Minister Wu's communication, delivered on Sunday morning, notifying the department of the appointment of Earl Li Hung Chang as envoy plenipotentiary to negotiate with the powers. This reply was sent to Minister Wu at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, and is as follows:

"Memorandum—Touching the Imperial edict of August 8, appointing Li Hung Chang envoy plenipotentiary to conduct negotiations on the part of China with the powers, and the request for a cessation of hostilities pending negotiations, communicated to Mr. Adee by Mr. Wu on the 12th August, 1900, the government of the United States learns with satisfaction of the appointment of Earl Li Hung Chang as envoy plenipotentiary to conduct negotiations with the powers, and will on its part enter into such negotiations with a desire to continue the friendly relations so long existing between the two countries.

"It is evident that there can be no general negotiations between China and the powers so long as the ministers of the powers and the persons under their protection remain in their present position of restraint and danger, and that the powers cannot cease their effort for the delivery of these representatives, to which they are constrained by the highest considerations of national honor, except under an arrangement adequate to accomplish a peaceable deliverance.

"We are ready to enter into an agreement between the powers and the Chinese government for a cessation of hostile demonstrations on condition that a sufficient body of the forces composing the relief expedition shall be permitted to enter Pekin unmolested and to escort the foreign ministers and residents back to Tien Tsin, this movement being to provide for and secured by such arrangements and dispositions of troops as shall be considered satisfactory by the generals commanding the forces composing the relief expedition."

WANTED—AT ONCE—For the Ganges district school, a teacher, ($40 per month.) Married man preferred. Apply E. Walter Secretary board of trustees, Ganges Harbor. a12

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WEEKLY INVALIDED COMING HOME.

A Hundred and Twenty Canadians Sail For Quebec on Thursday.

Ottawa, Aug. 13.—A cable received from Col. Otter says that he was operating against Dewet on the 11th instant.

It is understood one hundred and twenty invalided Canadians will sail from Liverpool on the Beaver liner Lake Ontario on Thursday.

Quebec, Aug. 13.—Among the arrivals on the Allan liner Corinthian here last night was Surgeon Ryerson, Canadian and British Red Cross commissioner in South Africa, who went out with the second Canadian contingent. Speaking of hospital accommodation in South Africa, the conditions of which have given rise to serious charges in London against the military authorities, Ryerson said it was impossible to prevent conditions prevailing owing to difficulties in the field, due to bad water and the number of flies and bad transportation facilities. He said the charges, to a large extent, are untrue.

FATALITIES.

Drowned the Day Before He Was to Be Married—Canoe Accident.

Lindsay, Aug. 10.—The daughter of James Sharp of this place was drowned while canoeing in the river last night.

Kingston, Aug. 10.—Arch. Simpson was fishing from a skiff at Clyde Forks when a squall upset the boat and Simpson was drowned. He was to have been married the next day.

Hamilton, Aug. 10.—William Young, baggageman on the T. H. & B. railway, was overcome by heat yesterday, dying in an hour.

Russians Take New Chwang

War Ships Bombarded the Town and It Surrendered on August 4.

Li Hung Chang Authorized By His Government to Arrange Peace.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 10.—The Russian admiralty have received the following despatch from Admiral Alexieff:

"New Chwang, Aug. 5.—The Chinese town of New Chwang, on the Gulf of Liao Tung, was captured on Aug. 4, two warships taking part in the bombardment. The inhabitants were disarmed."

The Russian war office has received the following despatch from Gen. Grodekoff:

"Khabaroltsk, Aug. 9.—Gen. Rennenkampf on August 7 overtook and defeated the enemy beyond Amur river, capturing two guns. The battle was continued as far as Jegest.

"During the evening of August 7 the Chinese assumed the offensive on both our flanks. They were driven back with great loss.

"Rennenkampf has been reinforced with infantry, artillery and cavalry. The railway north of Tashi Tsao is in the hands of the Chinese, who destroyed the station at Hai Sheng on August 6 and damaged the line. Hai Cheng was recaptured after an obstinate fight.

"The mountain floods interfere with the reconstruction of the line."

It is officially announced that the Russian troops captured Kharbin on August 3.

London, Aug. 10.—An edict emanating from Pekin and authorizing Li Hung Chang to negotiate with the powers for peace, has, it is reported from Shanghai under yesterday's date, been received here.

The correspondents at Yokohama again send the statement that a Russo-Japanese force is moving on Pekin from the north. The movements and number of this force, are, it is further asserted, kept secret, in order to prevent accurate intelligence from reaching Pekin.

The French consul at Shanghai says 300 Annamite troops will arrive there next week for the protection of French settlements. The Chinese merchants of Shanghai have petitioned the foreign consuls there to prevent the landing of troops declaring that it will create a panic among the Chinese.

Li Ping Heng, the former governor of Shan Tung, personally commanded 15,000 Chinese at Yang Tsun.

A Chinese official at Shanghai says 17 pirates and brigands were beheaded at Canton on August 8.

Washington, Aug. 10.—The department of state made public to-day the telegram from Minister Conger which was received by Minister Wu late last night, in a telegram sent to him by the Taotai of Shanghai. It was handed by Minister Wu to the acting secretary of state at 9 o'clock this morning.

"Secretary of State, Washington: The Tsung li Yamen states to the diplomatic body that the various foreign governments have repeatedly asked, through the respective Chinese ministers, that we immediately depart from Pekin under suitable escort. The Yamen asks us to fix a date for our departure and make the necessary arrangements to do so. Our reply is that we will seek instructions from our government, and that in the absence of such instructions we cannot quit our posts. I must inform you that in order to insure our safe departure foreign troops only can escort us, and they must be in sufficient force to safely guard 900 foreigners, including 200 women and children, as well as 3,000 native Christians who cannot be abandoned to certain massacre. We cannot accept a Chinese escort under any circumstances.

"All my colleagues are despatching the foregoing to their respective governments."

The Week In Britain

Lord Mount Stephen Visits India In October, En Route to Canada.

Plot to Kill Officers in Pretoria Causes Bitterness in England.

Artists Get Small Prices This Year—The Czar's New Minister.

London, Aug. 11.—This can hardly be said to have been a lively week in England, for obituaries and funerals have been taking the largest space in the newspapers. The way the South African war drags out wears upon Englishmen and no news would be so welcome as that some well wisher of the Transvaal has convinced President Kruger that nothing in Europe or China will make Great Britain release her grip on South Africa. But knowing that it must go on to a finish, the dregs of war are having some bitterness. The plot to kill the British officers at Pretoria is taken in England as showing the savage temperament of the Boers.

The Standard prints a Pretoria despatch dated August 9, saying: "The Boers captured a train at Bronkhurst yesterday on the line between Pretoria and Middleberg. Two of its occupants were wounded. In accordance with Gen. Roberts' warning, all the farms were fired within a radius of 10 miles." The English papers say there must be a mistake about the despatch.

Lord and Lady Mount Stephen go to Bombay in October to visit the Northcotes. They will then make an extensive tour of India, continuing eastward across the Pacific ocean and through Canada over the Canadian Pacific railway, of which Lord Mount Stephen was at one time president.

While most persons are complaining that the prices of everything are going up, the Royal Academicians are dismayed at the low prices their works are bringing this year. There is a long array of canvasses in the Burlington House exhibit, from which artists have parted company for as low as ten guineas, and many other works, deemed of merit sufficient for the Royal Academy, went for seventy-five and eighty guineas. The highest price recorded was for Frederic Vernele's "Bison," 1,250 guineas.

Preparations are almost complete for the pilgrimage of the Roman Catholic nobility and clergy of England to Rome during October. The Duke of Norfolk and Cardinal Vaughan will take part in it. Church periodicals believe the Pope will take the opportunity to make an important announcement in connection with the English Roman church.

England is manifesting much interest in the famine condition in India, and the extensive tour of investigation and relief made by the viceroy, Lord Curzon of Keddleston. Whether, as suggested in some papers, the superstitious and courteous Indians are sure to attribute that the Viceroys' presence caused the recent satisfactory rainfalls may or may not be true. It is pointed out that it is his good fortune that the rains fell and that this coincidence is likely to add to his assets as an Indian ruler.

Count Lamsdorff, the Czar's new foreign minister, is reported among diplomatic negotiators as being one of the easiest yet most difficult men to deal with, because he so readily apprehends what the other side wants and why it wants it. His power of projecting himself to the aspirations and necessities of the other country is so unusual, that he sometimes amazes the ambassadors by pointing out how a change in their designs would be popular at home. The gift of entering into the life of other countries he has long cultivated. For twenty years Count Lamsdorff has been occupying important junior sequestered positions in Russia's chancellorie, and has been systematically reading translations of newspaper cuttings in languages he did not understand, not merely editorials on foreign subjects, but whole debates and the spheres of leaders of all parties. Unlike most Russian statesmen, he believes in newspapers.

RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

The Chinese Have Evacuated the Country Round Kharbin.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 11.—Official despatches report Russian successes on the frontier. The Chinese have evacuated the country around Kharbin as far as Sinetchempe and Chuianthehen. The capture of Kharbin was very timely, the situation being still grave, as, owing to the repeated attacks which had to be repelled, there was danger of the ammunition becoming exhausted.

THE KILLING HEAT.

Poor People in New York Suffer—Infant Mortality Appalling.

New York, Aug. 10.—Eleven persons died here to-day from the excessive heat. The greatest suffering is endured by the people of the lowest east side districts, which are so thickly populated. In these neighborhoods numerous families occupy single apartments and many of them sleep on the pavement in front of the buildings in the hope of obtaining some little fresh air. The fire department to-night opened a number of plugs and flushed the streets in the hope of reducing the temperature. This gave a temporary relief. The infant mortality is appalling.

Chicago, Aug. 10.—Nine deaths and fifteen prostrations resulted from the excessive heat here to-day.

Philadelphia, Aug. 10.—Intense heat to-day resulted in five deaths and twenty prostrations.