

FEW CHANGES IN BRITISH CABINET.

Lord Salisbury Will Still Retain His Position as Premier.

LANSLOWNE TO HELP ROBERTS

In Reforms He Would Not Begin With Wolsley—Chamberlain Bitterly Attacked Over His Course Regarding Rhodes—Timothy Healy Having a Most Enjoyable Time in Ireland—Ex-Queen Natalie, of Serbia, Speaks Very Bitterly of Her Son and His Wife.

London, Oct. 6.—As a Conservative majority daily becomes more and more assured, speculation as to the personnel of the next Cabinet grows rife. The Associated Press learns that the make-up of the next Cabinet will be so similar to that of its predecessor that it will come as a startling surprise.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, who, next to Mr. Chamberlain, is the object of more attacks than any other Cabinet member, can have the India Office portfolio again if he desires, and he probably will accept it, as he has implicit belief in Lord Roberts, and is anxious to co-operate with him in reforms which he has been contemplating for some time, but would not commence with Lord Wolsley, late Commander-in-Chief, and Sir Evelyn Wood, Adjutant-General, with whom his relations are greatly strained.

Salisbury to Stay. It is untrue that either Lord Lansdowne or the Duke of Marlborough has been offered the Secretaryship of Ireland, and it is quite improbable that either will have such an offer, though Earl Cadogan does intend to retire, and the relief of the leading Conservatives in Ireland who are bitterly opposed to Mr. Gerald Balfour's (the Chief Secretary), and Earl Cadogan's attempt at non-partisan Government, Lord Salisbury will resume the Premiership and the Foreign Office portfolio, at least everything he has said to his fellow-members of the Cabinet points to his doing so.

The Admiralty. Probably the only really important change made will be in the Admiralty, for which the Right Hon. Robert William Hambro is being favorably considered, though Lord George Hamilton, who formerly as the head of the Admiralty could have the portfolio again, but he prefers to remain at the head of the India Office. The Earl of Selborne, at present Mr. Chamberlain's assistant, has been selected for preference. He is regarded as the strongest member of the Government and may be sent in the Cabinet in place of the Right Hon. Walter Long, President of the Board of Admirals. If he does will add one more to the list of Lord Salisbury's relatives controlling England's destinies, as he married the Premier's daughter.

Chamberlain's Enemies. The vigorous personal attacks upon Mr. Chamberlain continue, and seem to gather bitterness as the reality of defeat dawns upon the Liberals. The Hon. P. J. Stanhope's reverse at Balfour is being pointed to by the K. S. V.'s as a direct rebuff for his bitter denunciations of Mr. Chamberlain, but Mr. Stanhope adheres to his attitude, regarding that he is ready to prove in the courts that Mr. Chamberlain only withheld Cecil Rhodes' name in the House of Commons because of a contract which had letters in his pocket incriminating Mr. Chamberlain with the raid. This member, though not named by Mr. Stanhope, the Associated Press learns, is a Liberal, and a Liberal, who represented East Carmarthenshire in the last Parliament.

The Campaign in Ireland. While Mr. Chamberlain is practically the only person of importance in the struggle in England, there are in Ireland several men and issues stirring up the country in such a chaotic condition of party lines as has never existed before. It is claimed that Mr. Timothy M. Healy has split the Irish party to almost as great a degree as did the late Charles Stewart Parnell and that the bitterness injected into the fight equals that of the historic division. The Freeman's Journal declares that an open contest for Mr. Healy's candidates is "without an equal in self respect," and describes his campaign as one of "secret calumny and vilification."

Charges Freason. The paper berates him for the loss of Galway, saying: "Galway has disgraced the national soldier, broken once more by the treason of renegade Home Rulers, and the flag of the Union has been planted beyond the Shannon." On the other hand the Dublin Independent supports Mr. Healy, and Cardinal Logue has also come out with a declaration in his favor. As a result of the split Londonderry and Galway have changed their colors, and other constituencies are likely to follow suit.

Natalie Speaks. The Free Lance has published a remarkable interview with former Queen Natalie of Serbia, who has been summing at a villa near San Sebastian. The Queen's remarks are words in regard to her son and the present Queen of Serbia. She says: "The charge that I sent her insulting postcards is an infamous bit of malignancy on her part, got up as a pretext for the dismissal of a few officers of my household still at Belgrade and in order to pocket their allowances. Never was a man more infatuated than my dear, deluded son by this petty, narrow-minded, narrow-minded Serbian subject, fifteen years his senior." No language is too strong, apparently to express Queen Natalie's dislike for Queen Draga. She recounts her useless efforts to nip the poison in the bud, and approached a serious point.

GENERAL DEWET NEAR WEPENER.

An English Boer Commander Surrenders.

BULLER CHASING THE BOERS.

City of London Volunteers Sail for Home—Quick Recovery of the Wounded—Boer Prisoners Protest Against the Continuation of the War—Lord Roberts' Return.

Ottawa, Oct. 5.—The South African mail, which arrived to-day, brought several reports to the Militia Department. Lieut.-Col. Otter, in his report for the week ending 24th August, from Krugersdorp, says: "In connection with the past month's service it may interest you to know that the battalion has so far completed 1,000 miles of straight marching since its arrival in this country, and that during the last two weeks we have not had a man fall out on the march, although our average was 17 miles a day. The battalion, when it reached Krugersdorp, Aug. 22, was very weak, under 400, all ranks, but was reorganised in first-class marching order, under Hart, on our leaving Krugersdorp, took occasion to express his gratification with the conduct of the battalion and his regret at parting with it, and wished it every good fortune. This expression from an officer of General Hart's stamp I consider a great compliment. During our recent marches I have tried the experiment of organized singing, and found this to work admirably.

"I am very glad to be able to report that Captain Marston, who was captured by the enemy's hands since June 7th last. He has appeared before the usual board of officers (Imperial) and has been exonerated from all blame. He is looking very well, and gives a very interesting account of his experience in the enemy's hands. Perhaps the day is not yet over, but I will even regret Lord Salisbury, for the Ministerial majority now means the triumph of the very school which not long ago he most earnestly condemned. It means a return of vaporing sentiment, of bad language, and of quack devices."

Regimental Records Lost. Col. Otter reports with regret the loss of the following regimental records: Order books from date of disembarkation to February 11th, records of officers' services, regimental defaulter books, court-martial, boards of officers, courts of inquiry, files of important regimental papers, books of reference and medical sheets. These records were left at Bloemfontein in charge of a non-commissioned officer for safekeeping, but when Capt. Macdonell came along he undertook to take them to the regiment, and they were lost when he fell into the enemy's hands at Rooledaal on the 7th June. The matter will be enquired into. The report of the departure for England of Lieut. Willis, Col. Otter says he hears he has been given a commission in the Imperial service.

Casualties to Rifles. The report of Lieut.-Col. Evans, commanding the 2nd Battalion, Canadian Mounted Rifles, is dated Doornkop, August 31st, and gives the strength of the 116th, 37 employed, and one missing. He states that on the march Lieut. O. Smith died from sunstroke near Van der Stroom, and was buried at Bloemfontein on August 17th. While on patrol duty Lieut. Flynn and Morrison were fired on by the Boers on the 19th. Flynn was shot and wounded in the shoulder. Morrison's horse was killed.

Shot by Boers. On the same date Corp. J. R. Taylor was posted a sentry on a ridge near the camp, when he was fired on and mortally wounded, being shot through the abdomen, and died four hours afterwards. He was buried with military honors, and the following telegram sent to his sister, Mrs. Perry, in Calgary: "Battalion sincerely regrets your brother's death."

Major Williams, temporarily in command of the 1st Battalion, C. M. R., reporting from Noortwyk, Aug. 27th, notes the return of Lieut.-Col. Lessard from sick leave.

Hurdman and Red Cross Fund. Ottawa, Oct. 5.—The family of Major Hurdman, commanding D Battery, received a letter from him yesterday, in which he expresses some interesting opinions regarding the Red Cross fund. He says: "I don't know how much money I will have left of what was given me in Ottawa for the men, as I have had to buy a great many comforts for them. We have not received any of the things that were sent us, but when we have the cash we can get what we need. I have had a great deal of trouble getting condensed milk for the men who were not well, and what I did get I had to pay three prices for. It is simply impossible to get anything up from Cape Town. Since I came out here I have been able to, and have, paid about £10 for the same. I will have something to say about the Canadian Red Cross fund and the way it was expended out here. Since landing in Cape Town I have not seen one cent of it or anything purchased with my battery from the same."

"Perhaps I may get some for use on the steamer on my way back, but I have my doubts about that. There are some things that I would like to say about the manager of that fund out here, but I think it will be better to wait until I get home. There is one thing that you can rest assured of, and that is that my men will not want for anything if I have to spend my own money for them."

Major Hurdman thoroughly approves of the plan of the soldiers' wives to send the men a sovereign to spend in London.

The letter is dated August 25th, Milngrove River, which the writer was to leave next day for Belfast, where he expected to have a big fight.

Letter From Lady Roberts. Toronto, Oct. 6.—Dr. Ryerson has received the following interesting letter from Pretoria, August 25th, from Lady Roberts at Pretoria, which explains itself: "I think you must have returned home by this time, and I must, therefore, write to thank you for the £100 you sent me before leaving South Africa, from the Canadian branch of the Red Cross Society. I was very glad to get it, for the Red Cross depot had not been opened at Pretoria at the time, and I had rather come to the end of my resources. The receipt that I have spent £81 5s. on sheets, pillow cases, and shirts, and the remainder, £18 15s., is to be spent in providing invalid chairs and couches for one of the hospitals.

"The weather here is quite perfect, and there is very little sickness considering the enormous number of men in the district around Pretoria. The hospitals here are perfect now. This weary war still drags on, and the prospect of the Boer force under de la Rey is very troublesome and difficult to deal with. My husband has started off on what, I trust, will prove to be his last advance. Please God it may be successful.

"I am thankful to say he is in wonderful health I don't think I have ever seen him more vigorous in mind and body, nothing seeming to tire him. I cannot imagine how the rumor has got about that he is in bad health. Thank God there is not the slightest foundation for it. Believe me, dear Colonel Ryerson, yours sincerely, (Signed) "Nora Roberts."

Boer Convoy Captured. London, Oct. 5.—Lord Roberts' reports to the War Office, under date of Pretoria, Oct. 4, that the force under General Clements had surprised a Boer convoy near Rustenburg, capturing 29 wagons, some rifles, and 10,000 rounds of ammunition. The only British casualty was one man wounded.

Lord Roberts adds that the casualties at De la Rey's drift on October 4, were 100 Boers, and that the first reported, only seven having been wounded.

Refugees Return. London, Oct. 5.—The Foreign Office has received the following despatch from the British High Commissioner in South Africa, Sir Alfred Milner: "The refugees will begin to return to the Transvaal Oct. 16, at the rate of about 1,000 weekly. It will take at least three months to repatriate those who are waiting in South Africa."

Durban, Oct. 7.—Details of the disaster to the British convoy near De Jagers drift on October 1st show the Boers' tactics and the extent of their success. The Boers numbered 450, and were commanded by Gen. Christian Botha. The British force, comprising the Durban volunteers, was completely surprised. The British had outmarched when the attack commenced, and the native ox-drivers were shot down. The British casualties were 10 killed and 63 prisoners, who were subsequently released. The Boers captured 21 wagons, and set fire to 21 wagons, together with the oxen and mules, leaving one mule wagon for the transport of the British wounded.

Edwards Surrendered. Johannesburg, Oct. 6.—Gen. Barter is fighting with a Boer command northeast of Krugersdorp. Several bands of guerrillas have appeared in that district recently, and more are expected.

Capt. Edwards, an Englishman, commanding a Boer force, who became prominent after the Jameson raid on account of a rabid anti-Boer attitude, has surrendered at Krugersdorp with a few followers. A colonial force has gone south to Bloemfontein to clear the Boers out of the Khrilversburg hills. These hills have been a regular rendezvous for the burghers lately.

The ignorant Boer inhabitants here attribute the fact that the British officers are selling and distributing flour to a desire of their part to clear out the stores before they give up the country. These same people still readily believe and circulate the usual stories about the intervention of the power.

Colonel Henry, who wears the decoration of the Star of India, who is regarded as the police department here, has introduced from Noortwyk a collection by finger-marks, and in this way intends to register every native. This plan will be of great assistance in the distribution of passes, the regulation of labor, and the suppression of illicit liquor selling.

Pursued by Buller. Lydenburg, Oct. 2.—Gen. Buller's force has been pursuing the Boers through Hlirgins Rest and Krugersdorp. He is now near Ohngstad, and is still marching northward. The Boers nowhere have made a stand.

Sailed for England. Cape Town, Oct. 7.—The City of London Volunteers sailed for London to-day, their departure being attended by a scene of tremendous enthusiasm. Sir Alfred Milner, in the course of an address thanking them for their services to the Empire, told them that a still greater reception awaited them at home.

British Denounced. Cape Town, Oct. 7.—The Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church has adopted a resolution condemning the conduct of the British in the war as not in accord with the rules of civilized warfare. The Chairman of the Synod, Rev. Mr. Strydom, was particularly violent in denunciation of the British, accusing them in his speech of barbarously burning houses occupied solely by women and children, outside of the Synod his speech is angrily condemned.

Wounded in the war in South Africa, 29,000 have returned to duty. Such quick recovery of such a large percentage of the wounded rather than to be sent home on the Boer ships, which is impossible, is a true, 10,000 British soldiers have found graves in South Africa.

Relatives Must Wait. Ottawa, Oct. 7.—The Militia Department has been fairly inundated with letters asking for a list of the men who are coming home on the Idaho. The cost of cabling the names was estimated at about \$1,800, a sum that was regarded as rather too much to pay for information that would be of little use, and could serve no particular purpose, so it was decided to follow the English precedent, and let relatives wait until the transport arrives.

DeWet Near Wepener. Allwal North, Cape Colony, Oct. 1.—General DeWet is reported to be a few miles south of Wepener, in the Orange River Colony, about seventy miles north of Allwal North. The Boers near here are in a state of great excitement. All the outposts have been called in, and preparations are being made to defend the town. A detachment of Cape police engaged in reconnoitering Rouxville (somewhat less than half way between Allwal North and Wepener) rode out of one end of the town as the Boers galloped in at the other end.

Two mounted Australians were captured. Some of the Rouxville merchants have destroyed their stocks to prevent them from falling into the hands of the Boers.

Still 4,000 Left. London, Oct. 7.—It is estimated, according to the Pietermaritzburg correspondent of the Daily Mail, that from 4,000 to 5,000 Boers have been taken prisoner since the Boer campaign of September with four Long Toms and 22 other guns. The correspondent understands that their Long Tom ammunition is almost exhausted.

Boer Prisoners Protest. Bloemfontein, Oct. 7.—A despatch from Bloemfontein says that one of the Boer prisoners in the Green Point (Cape Colony) encampment has written to the Post, protesting against a continuance of the struggle. If the Boer is not released soon, he declares the prisoners at Cape Town and elsewhere will issue a public protest.

Lord Roberts' Return. London, Oct. 8.—The News says that the return of Lord Roberts' departure from South Africa has been fixed for the last week in October.

Marchand's Last Words. Late Premier of Quebec Bids Constituents Farewell. Honored with their Trust. Montreal, Oct. 5.—A few days before his death, after making his will, the late Hon. Mr. Marchand called one of the members of his family to his bedside and dictated the following farewell letter to his constituents: "I am going through a crisis which may have a fatal end. As my mind is very often turned towards you, who have honored me with your confidence ever since my youth, I am impressed to send you my last thanks for the sympathies which you have always bestowed upon me. I have constantly endeavored to discharge with scrupulous correctness the trust which I held from you, for I never understood that the pledge given to a community was less binding on conscience and honor than a promise made to a private individual."

"Rest assured, my dear and faithful friends, that if I failed in anything in the discharge of my duty, it was not willingly. It has always been my desire to serve my country to the full extent of my capacity. One of my regrets is to leave the arena at the moment when the Federal contest is beginning. It would have been my desire to furnish my humble support to my friend, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I have, however, the consolation of knowing that the old Liberal flag will continue to float over the whole district of Iverville."

CHINESE IMMIGRATION. The Commission Holds Its First Meeting in Ottawa. Ottawa, Oct. 6.—(Special)—The first meeting of the Royal Commission to investigate and report upon certain statements relating to Chinese and Japanese immigration into Canada was held here yesterday. There were present B. C. Clute, Q. C., and D. J. Mann. The other commissioners, Ralph Smith, M. P., is busy with his election at Nanaimo. George Simpson, of the Hansard staff, was appointed stenographer to the commission. Arrangements were made to make a full and exhaustive inquiry into the whole subject, and the commission then adjourned to hold its next meeting on the Pacific Coast.

With such men as Clute, Smith and Mann, the investigation will be thorough, and therefore the remedy must follow. Mr. Clute's work in connection with the Crow's Nest Pass and the great mining strike of the boundary creek district where he was assisted by Ralph Smith, is a guarantee that nothing will be left undone to place grievances in regard to Chinese and Japanese immigration among burning questions already settled by the Laurier Government.

STRIKE STOPS WORK. And May Delay Improvements at Port Colborne. Port Colborne, Oct. 5.—As a result of the strike of their drill men Messrs. Hogan, Macdonnell & Co., contractors for the work of improving the harbor, have decided to-day to lay up their drills. This means that from 75 to 100 men will be thrown out of work and that work on the harbor improvements will be practically at a standstill.

Mr. Stephen J. Young, B. A., of Trenton, was nominated by the Liberals for West Hastings.

GERMANS DEFEATED.

Eight Thousand Boxers Encounter 500 Germans.

CHINA'S MILITARY ACTIVITY

Forts Being Put in a State of Defence and Manufacture of Ammunition Hurried—Li Hung Chang Starts for Peking—Left Tien Tsin Suddenly for the Chinese Capital.

Tien Tsin, Oct. 6.—Li Hung Chang, whose visit to Peking apparently had been postponed indefinitely, left this morning for the Chinese capital. The five Belgian engineers and 15 mechanics who had been kept prisoners for many weeks at Paiting Fu, but were recently released under orders from Li Hung Chang, who directed that they have safe escort to Peking, refused to start, fearing treachery on the part of the Chinese escort.

Approve of French Plan. London, Oct. 7.—A despatch from St. Petersburg states on direct official information that Count Lamsdorff, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, is in entire accord with the views expressed in the note of M. Delcasse, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, in regard to the settlement of the Chinese trouble. France, it is said, will intercept the views of Russia in regard to a concerted programme in China to the allied States.

A despatch from Peking of date of Oct. 1st, says the Russians have evacuated the summer palace. Chinese Court for Singan. Washington, Oct. 7.—The Japanese Minister has left with the Secretary of State a copy of a telegram dated Oct. 1, received from the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, to this effect: "The Japanese acting Consul-General at Shanghai reported on the 28th ult. the publication in Chinese papers of an undated imperial edict, the purport of which was as follows: 'Though we have accompanied Her Majesty the Empress Dowager to Talyen and settled there, it is not our intention to remain there permanently. Inasmuch as Changan was the seat of the ancient rulers of China, and is defended by nature, we order the acting Governor of Shensi to select a suitable site for the Imperial palace in the city of Singan, and to provide everything necessary for our journey thereto. He should bear in mind the hardships we are now exposed to, and refrain from all extravagant preparations.'

West River Trade. London, Oct. 7.—A despatch from Hong Kong says that the British shipping companies have abandoned the West River trade owing to restrictive regulations and unfavorable treatment. They have sold their vessels and will devote themselves to the Yang-Tze traffic.

Prince Tuan's Successor. London, Oct. 7.—In a despatch from Peking to the Times, Dr. Morrison says: "It looks now as if M. De Giers, the Russian Minister, would negotiate with Li Hung Chang. The American withdrawal will facilitate a Russian negotiations concerning Manchuria. All the mandarins in Peking have declined the Empress Dowager's order to proceed to Talyenfu, assigning various pretexts."

According to the Shanghai correspondent of the Times, writing Oct. 6, it is announced that Huatshu, nephew of the Empress Dowager, who was dismissed by Emperor Kwang-su in 1898, has succeeded Prince Tuan in the Tsung Li Yamen, and has also been appointed generalissimo of the Chinese forces, replacing Gen. Yung-li. The Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post, in a despatch yesterday, says: "All the foreign troops here are held in readiness against an attack by 8,000 Chinese troops now advancing along the Grand Canal."

The American marines from Peking have arrived here. Some of the French troops are leaving. The Morning Post has the following despatch, dated October 5th, from Malow, on the Peiho: "Sir Alfred Gaselee, the British Commander, has returned to Peking after issuing an order that all the British troops except the Welsh regiment shall prepare for the winter."

German Defeat Near Tien-Tsin. London, Oct. 8.—The Standard's Tien-Tsin correspondent reports that the Germans met with a reverse a few miles south of there on Friday last. They came in contact with 8,000 Chinese, and were obliged to retire to Tien-Tsin. The Chinese were described as Boxers, but the Standard's correspondent says it is suspected that they are some of Li Hung Chang's veterans who had been ordered to wait near by in case the allies should attempt to check Earl Li's progress to Peking. Another report records the return of the Germans to Tien-Tsin, but makes no mention of a reverse. The force numbered 500, and had two guns.

A Shanghai despatch to the Standard says Yung-Nieh, who was cashiered at the same time Prince Tuan was degraded, has already been reappointed to a high post.

The Chinese are pushing their military preparations. There is the utmost activity in the manufacture of arms and ammunition, and in putting the various forts in a state of defence. Chang-Chih-Tung, the Viceroy of Hankow, who it was recently reported had been appointed a peace commissioner, has been ordered to expedite the completion of the Han-yang arsenal.

Mayor Gordon, of Vancouver, has accepted the Conservative nomination for Burrard constituency.

THIS IS THE HISTORY OF THE OCCURRENCE IN THE CITY OF SINGAN