

Cable Element

On European Topics—The Fashoda Affair—Little Prospect of War Over an African Mudhole.

Marchand Nicknamed "the Mouse"—"Jack Shark" at Candia—Salisbury Running Things—Alpine Fatalities.

London, Sept. 18.—Regarding the supposed presence of Major Marchand at Fashoda, a correspondent says: Granting that the panic-stricken desperado, in their crazy old penny steamer, really saw the tricolor waving at Fashoda, the crucial question is whether the French are prepared to fight in order to retain possession. If sober sense prevails, they are not. By no twisting of history can this portion of the Nile be made out as other than Egyptian territory. Schweinfurth so considered it in 1889. Baker subdued the whole neighborhood on behalf of Egypt in 1870, and three years later the unlucky Yussuf was the Egyptian governor of Fashoda. Thus, for more than a quarter of a century, it has been impossible honestly to label this place no man's land. But suppose the French ignore this fact, as do their historical newspapers. Surely, with a navy of samples, as Lockroy courteously christened it, France can hardly be so mad as to try conclusions with the English fleet—an experiment which, as things are today, can only end in increasing the chastening self-knowledge of the French admiralty, and a striking diminution in the number of their ships. Of course, the French politicians are charmed with any new opportunity of slandering "poor old lion." Yet they care precious little, and perhaps know still less, about all this Upper Nile question. It is not burning or even smoldering in France today, but it might be lighted up by a posse of angry generals, each ready to hide the stench of their own corruption, and perhaps honestly desirous of escaping a revolution by letting the blood of Englishmen instead of shooting down Parisians. This is a real danger, compared to which Fashoda is but a harmless almost a ludicrous incident. Radical journals join today with ministerial journals in warning France that Gen. Kitchener has not gone up the Nile on a mere pleasure trip; he has with him 1,000 Sudanese, 100 men of the First Battalion of the Camerons, several Maxims, and two batteries of mountain guns. England, in a word, means at all costs to control the Nile Valley.

NO REAL REASON FOR APPREHENSION.

Cabling on the same subject, another correspondent says: Equally artificial is the interest taken in the affair by the French and English. It is discussed in a theatrical manner on each side of the channel, but there is no real ground for apprehension that the two powerful nations will ever go to war over a swamp-hole in Equatorial Africa. An open conflict between the British and Egyptian army is hardly within the range of probability. Nor is it credible that the sirdar, after a recent quest of Khartoum, will be asked to place the French expedition in possession of the White Nile region. There will be an exchange of courtesies, after the British and Egyptian flags are raised at Fashoda, and the slow processes of diplomatic adjustment of the frontiers between the French Empire in Northwest Africa, and the British Empire extending thence through Tanganyika to South Africa. The French people are so intensely preoccupied with the Dreyfus affair, that they are now in a critical stage, that they can take only a languid interest in Marchand's adventures.

"THE MOUSE."

The Manchester Courier publishes an account of an interview with an intimate friend of Major Marchand. He describes Marchand as an extremely modest and retiring little man, who, when at school, was nicknamed "the Mouse." He is not particularly clever, but is plodding and determined in a quiet sort of way. The secret of his success in life is his talent for keeping on good terms with the authorities without forfeiting his self-esteem. He is a romantic believer in the future of France as a colonizing power.

ON THE TAGUS.

England's new footing in the Sudan and South Africa has generally made her keenly anxious to strengthen her foothold on the Mediterranean and along a West African highway to the Cape. Now, with Germany compact and Portugal terribly hard up, a money deal is quite possible which would replace England in force at Tagus, as in Nagasaki, and give her a naval and military base there. It would give her also a naval station at Cape Verde, and by fulfilling her right of pre-emption over the Bay of Biafra, make her imperious in South Africa, leaving Kruger high and dry, dependent upon England for access to the sea eastwards and southwards.

"JACK SHARK."

A correspondent writing of affairs in Crete, cables: Navy men here are quite satisfied that whatever may happen in Crete, there is little danger of the English Admiral Noel eating crow, however much the Turks may try to disguise the daily fact of their consumption. Noel is not only an extremely determined man, ready to eat up alive any one opposing what he holds to be his plain duty, but he looks the part. Long ago, describing shipwrecked sailors, he said: "Jack Shark," and Edhem Pasha may find that this uncomplimentary epithet is fairly well deserved. Were it possible for England to handle this middle Eastern matters would go quickly enough, though at some cost to the nightly rest of the sultan and the ambassadors at Constantinople. This came out very clearly when the English sailors were murdered, and the interest for a short time became purely British. Then action was taken with quick decision, and what was more, was backed up by the startled diplomats of Constantinople, roused from slumber early in the morning. The offending houses were knocked down in Candia, and the ringleaders, or ruffians, cast for the part handed over to the late admiral. Unfortunately for Crete, the isolated British Squadron cannot go on indefinitely, and the stretched concert starts playing its

dead march once more over the unhappy island. It is a pity that the suggestion made by the Spectator cannot be adopted, of turning out the Turkish soldiers, then telling the sultan to stand in with her if the two other powers kick. This is an admirable idea, but almost too happy for an imperfect Europe.

SALISBURY.

Lord Salisbury has been made a new man by his cure at Contrereville, and, defying all the confident predictions of his approaching retirement from one at least of his offices, has resumed his control of the foreign office and sent Mr. Balfour to his beloved golf links at North Berwick. Lord Salisbury's return to the control of the foreign office has been the signal for fresh alarms about British interests in China. The terribly accurate Pekin correspondent of the Times is again the alarmist. England has, he reports, agreed to the

ONEROUS CONDITIONS.

Imposed by Russia as regards the New Chuang Railway, and the loan for the railway is to be provided by the Russo-Chinese Bank, not by the British Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, while the British and American syndicates gain railway concessions from Canton to the British Kowloon and Hankow respectively. If this news proves correct, it forms the latest evidence of the accuracy of the announcement made weeks ago in these despatches of Lord Salisbury's practical abandonment of the policy of the open door in favor of the policy of spheres of influence. England leaves Manchuria to Russia, Russia recognizes English rights over the Yangtze Valley. The news also indicates the parallel lines along which England and America are moving in the far east.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

All reports from France agree that the Dreyfus case has now brought France to the eve of a crisis, perhaps the most formidable in the history of the third republic. The situation is rendered more acute by the fact that it is threatened not merely by the existence of the cabinet, but the stability of the constitution. A significant feature of the situation is the attitude of President Faure. He is known to be utterly opposed to a revision of the case, but the premier, M. Brisson, and a majority of his colleagues have decided in favor of reopening the matter, and with the resignation of the minister of war, General Zurlinden, as a result, there is but little doubt that popular feeling is still against a revision. Thus the cabinet will come in conflict with the people, while President Faure, as the champion of the army, and with the sympathy of a majority of the nation, assumes a formidable role, which may lead to grave developments.

FATAL AMUSEMENT.

The season's record of Alpine fatalities is appalling. This week has added several to the list. It also brings one of the most splendid stories of heroism ever told. Prof. Nasse, well known in Berlin as the assistant of Prof. Bergmann, and Dr. Borchardt, together with two guides, the four men roped together, were crossing the Fz Balne snow bridge, which is considered safe by the guides. The bridge gave way, and the leading guide and Prof. Nasse fell into a crevasse. The latter had the rope around his chest, and hung in mid-air. A half hour later, the rescue party arrived. The guide who so willingly offered his life was not killed, but was found unharmed by the rescue party.

ZOLA.

London Life cables to have information that M. Emile Zola is about to become a Catholic priest. It says that he was approached on the subject a fortnight ago, and that the pope has given his assent to the ordination of the distinguished author. A month hence, M. Zola's conversion is said to have been decided by Father Congon, the pastor of a small parish church, and an intimate friend of the novelist.

COSTLY HAIRS.

The Staatsburger Zeitung asserts that a barber of Bergedorf, who cut the late Prince Bismarck's hair from 1890 up to the time of his death, has with the permission of the prince, collected the hairs, which he has now inclosed, three apiece, in gold brooches, scarves, etc., for sale, with a notarial document attached to each ornament, certifying that each hair is genuine.

TOBACCO COMBINE.

The London correspondent of the Dundee Advertiser learns that a great combination for the purchase of tobacco growing in the United States and Cuba is proposed in London.

DO NOT AGREE

Three Parties Represented in Aguinaldo's Assembly at Malolos.

Manila, Philippine Islands, Sept. 19.—The Philippine National Assembly, which was inaugurated at Malolos on Friday, continues in session, and is proceeding with the work of appointing committees, formulating rules of procedure and other routine matters. The assembly unanimously resolved to reject the proposal of a joint Spanish-American protectorate over the Philippine Islands, or anything of a Spanish nature.

There are three parties represented in the assembly, one favoring absolute annexation, another absolute independence, while the third is formed of compromise annexationists, who apparently predominate, and who suggest internal autonomy. The assembly probably will conclude its discussion of the matter in a few days. Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, is reticent in regard to the pending questions.

EUROPE ANXIOUS

Over the War Clouds That Seem Ready to Burst.

Britain Ready to Take Vigorous Measures at Candia.

Fashoda Must Not Go to the French—The Mahdi's Tomb at Omdurman to be Destroyed.

London, Sept. 19.—Three or four more black thunder clouds are overhanging the political horizon of Europe. The diplomats are anxiously waiting to see whether they will pass away or burst. The Dreyfus, Cretan and Egyptian questions have become more acute, and it is difficult at present to forecast the outcome in either case.

An indication of the activity in the official world is found in the fact that the Marquis of Salisbury, who went for a quiet holiday, to take the waters of Contrereville, had a special telegraph office established at his hotel last week in order to deal with the mass of official telegrams pouring in and out.

VIGOROUS TREATMENT.

It is understood the British premier has ordered that the most vigorous measures be taken at Candia, Island of Crete, where British troops were recently fired upon by Mussulmans, the execution of which only awaits the arrival of sufficient reinforcements of Her Majesty's soldiers, who now number 2,600 there, while another battalion is on its way to Candia from Egypt.

BRITAIN TO HAVE A FREE HAND.

The most recent advices tend to show the powers are disposed to give Great Britain a free hand to obtain reparation for the massacre of Christians, and the insults to British arms. Admiral Noel, the British naval commander in Cretan waters, has already arranged with the other admirals for the immediate withdrawal of the military contingents. The British squadron now lying before Candia is powerful enough to raise that place in a few hours.

THE TURKS' OLD GAME.

The Turkish authorities at Candia are playing their old game of surrending a number of nobodies, as the ringleaders of the massacres, while a number of boys, who are known to be the real instigators of the trouble, are still at liberty, and are likely to remain so unless considerable further pressure is brought to bear upon the Turks.

SCARED THE SULTAN.

As it is, the prompt action of the British admiral gave the sultan a bad fright. He sent his ambassador to their beds at 2 o'clock in the morning in an endeavor to persuade them to put a bridge over the powers. The British charge d'affaires replied to the Turkish representations in the strongest terms. He said the Mussulmans were "unprovoked murderers of British sailors and the British Government would take the most serious view of the matter."

CRITICAL SITUATION.

Meanwhile, the situation at Candia is critical. Thousands of the most notorious Bashibazouks have now left the town and fortified themselves just inside the military cordon, while, outside the cordon a body of Christian insurgents is gathered. They are springing forward if their prey, the Bashibazouks, attempt to leave the town. The chances of bloody fighting hinge upon the Turkish Government's reply to Edhem Pasha, the British governor, who has been notified by Admiral Noel that the Mussulman population must be disarmed. The British admiral is apparently determined to enforce the disarming of the Bashibazouks, whether it is agreeable to the sultan or not.

ON TENTER HOOKS.

The absence of news from Fashoda the important place about 400 miles south of Khartoum, which is reported to have been occupied by a French force, has put the British upon tenterhooks, but they have implicit faith in the British commander, Gen. Sir Herbert Kitchener, and have cheerfully assumed that the British and Egyptian flags are already flying over the Egyptian flag, and the French commander is there or is not there.

WARNINGS TO FRANCE.

The British newspapers have taken a most uncompromising attitude in regard to Fashoda. They are daily issuing warnings to France, telling her to stand off, or trouble will follow. There is no doubt that the Marquis of Salisbury has the nation behind him, even if Gen. Kitchener has to oust Major Marchand from Fashoda by force of arms.

The Spectator says: "If we go to Fashoda and quietly take possession, France will not order us out. If she does, and we, naturally, refuse to go, she won't attack us. Nothing else, however, will turn the matter, as it is asked, what right has Great Britain to take Fashoda? The answer is, then, the French are at Fashoda, we do not see any reason to be greatly alarmed. The most they will do is to try to make the account of the Nile a little way south of Fashoda, and really a continuance of the Nile) and its affluents might, it is conceivable, be conceded to her on certain terms."

WHAT THE FRENCH SAY.

The French newspapers, which first took the matter quietly, are now indulging in truculent articles. They declare that if Major Marchand is really at Fashoda, he will stay there. The idea that Fashoda is within the Egyptian sphere is, they say, a "fantasy." It is asked, what right has Great Britain to Uganda, which also belonged to the former Egyptian equatorial province?

The Echo de Paris says: "The sirdar's forces dare not fire upon Major Marchand, for France is behind him. England must now consent to a European conference, unless she wants war." The Soleil adopts the "perfidious Albion" line of argument, and thinks the report of Major Marchand's arrival at Fashoda is a British trick to prepare public opinion for an immediate advance upon Fashoda before the French arrive there.

COST OF THE NILE CAMPAIGN.

The interesting announcement is made here that the whole cost of the Nile campaign since 1896 has been only £6,000,000 (\$13,000,000), including £1,000,000 spent upon the Sudan railways, of which £500,000 have been constructed during that time.

Gen. Kitchener was decided to destroy the tomb of the mahdi at Omdurman, which was so prominent a

mark for the British artillery during the bombardment. This step will be taken to prevent Omdurman becoming a second Mecca.

SENSATIONAL SURPRISE!

A Startling Sequel to the Bridgeport Mystery.

Grace Marian Perkins Goes Home in Good Health.

Her Father Had Identified Remains of a Murdered Woman and Made Arrangements for the Funeral.

Middleboro, Mass., Sept. 19.—The supposed victim of the Bridgeport, Conn., murder, Miss Marian Grace Perkins, arrived at her home Saturday afternoon in perfect health, to the great joy of the family and the unbounded astonishment of the entire community. Her father was not in town, for at the time of his daughter's arrival he was on his way back from Bridgeport with the gruesome remains which he had identified as those of Grace, and for which the funeral arrangements, including the digging of the grave, had already been completed.

Miss Perkins came from Providence, R. I., and was accompanied by her lover, Charles Bourne, and at first it was stated that the couple had been married. This was afterwards denied by young Bourne's uncle. So unexpected was the coming of Miss Perkins and young Bourne that outside of Mr. Thompson and one or two friends who had been previously notified, there were very few at the railroad station when the train came in.

The young lady, however, was immediately recognized by the bystanders at the station and the news spread around the town with incredible rapidity. There was a large crowd at the gate, as the young lady stepped from the carriage and ran into the house.

Just across the street from the Perkins house is a little cemetery and only that morning, in response to the request of the uncle of Mrs. Perkins, a grave lot, and the new earth thrown up beside it could be plainly seen from the home. Half an hour after Miss Perkins arrived home, a local undertaker's wagon drove up to the house, and in it was the coffin which had been ordered by the family. The funeral arrangements had even gone so far that the family minister had been notified and asked to conduct the services.

PATHETIC SCENE.

Taunton, Mass., Sept. 18.—The few people who were on the platform of the Taunton Central passenger station on the arrival of the Providence train at 7:30 last night witnessed a pathetic and, it almost seemed, a tragical incident. It was when Frank W. Perkins, of Middleboro, was first identified as the daughter of the murdered woman. When the train stopped a middle-aged man, with marks of care upon his face, alighted and walked along the platform looking up and down the train. When the train stopped a middle-aged man, with marks of care upon his face, alighted and walked along the platform looking up and down the train. When the train stopped a middle-aged man, with marks of care upon his face, alighted and walked along the platform looking up and down the train.

"SAFE AND WELL."

Mr. Kingsbury stepped forward and placed in Mr. Perkins' hand a slip of paper on which the words were written: "Your daughter Grace and Charles are at home safe and well." Mr. Perkins started as though he had been struck, looked at the train dispatcher and then at the slip of paper, and said: "I will believe it when I get home and see her with my own eyes." At this juncture a young man stepped up to Mr. Perkins and introduced himself as David Surry. He stated that he had come directly from Middleboro, and that Grace was alive and well, and that it was his purpose to accompany Mr. Perkins home. In the meantime, looking out at the people, asked: "Is Frank Perkins here?" The man who had been standing alone raised his head, and indicated that he was the person sought.

THE TRAGEDY.

It will be remembered that just a week ago the police of Bridgeport, Conn., were startled by a gruesome find of two packages on the mud flats of an arm of the Yellow Mill pond, which pointed conclusively to another murder mystery to unravel. The package contained the head of a woman cut from the body near the ear, and the lower limbs, which had been separated from the body, unjoined and cut in two at the knees, then tied together again and wrapped up in a strong glazed paper. The head of the woman was battered and jammed on one side, and had a cloth tied over the mouth. Corner Doten had the parts of the body removed to the morgue. Later the head was photographed. The head is thought to be that of a woman about 25 years old, but it was impossible to form any opinion of the nationality. From the condition of the bundles it is thought that they could not have been on the flats but a few hours before discovered.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

There were various surmises and guesses as to who the victim was, and more than one person at first seemed to recognize the face of the murdered woman, which had been photographed by the police of the authorities. Mr. Joshua L. Perkins, of Middleboro, Mass., went to Bridgeport, where he viewed the remains of the young woman found in the Yellow Mill pond near that place, and said he was satisfied that the dismembered body was that of his daughter, Grace Marian Perkins. Mrs. Perkins was overcome by the intelligence that her husband brought home, and was prostrated by the shock.

Their daughter was 21 years old, and had been missing from home since Aug. 25, when she left ostensibly to go to Onset, where she was to visit friends.

Mrs. Perkins is a miller. He is highly respected, and his daughter has an excellent reputation. It had been stated that Charles Bourne, a 20-year-old youth, was the girl's suitor. Several persons were said to have asserted that Bourne and Miss Perkins were seen at Tremont on Sept. 1, when they were about to board a train. All trace of them seemed then to have been lost.

The identification of the body at the

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WE have placed on our bargain table for this week about 200 Boys' 3-Piece Suits. These suits are heavy, seasonable goods. You take your choice—

\$2.75

Shop early and make your selections.

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154 Dundas St., London.

ALF. TAYLOR, Manager.

Bridgeport morgue by the father of Miss Perkins was positive, in that before viewing the body he described hitherto unnoticed pock-marks and a scalp wound. Medical Examiner Downs filled out a death certificate covering the case of the woman, and the name of the victim he wrote as "Grace Marian Perkins."

IRON HIGHWAYS

Changes and Improvements Made by the Wabash.

Increase in Eastbound Shipments—Promise of Better Business.

The Great Northern is preparing to absorb the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.

The value of the new freight and coal cars now being ordered by the southern roads alone aggregates over \$2,000,000.

Alfred P. Blosser has been appointed city passenger and ticket agent at Buffalo for the Michigan Central, vice Wm. H. Leslie, who quits railroad business.

On the main line of the Wabash in Indiana and Illinois 25,000 tons of 80-pound steel rails have been put down this season, and 80-pound rails are now being laid between Detroit and Buffalo.

The Japanese Government has placed an order with the St. Louis Car Company for 250 street cars, to be shipped within the next 90 days. The amount to be paid for the cars, delivered, is \$300,000.

It was decided at the annual meeting of the Wabash that the company should construct, to fill the gap in the system and connect East Hannibal and Quincy, Ill., a distance of fifteen miles. The railroads are all sending out notices of an advance in passenger trans-continental rates that will take effect Sept. 25, and it is believed that the Canadian Pacific local cut rates will give place to the old prices on the eastern day, although the notice to that effect has not been sent out.

One of the drawbacks the Wabash management has is the large sum it pays for lack of equipment in hire of cars, the company in the year ending June 30 paying out for passenger sleeping cars, etc., \$101,789 34, for freight cars, \$366,769 40, making a total of \$468,558 74, an increase over the preceding year of \$119,283 46.

East-bound shipments of the past week were 57,216 tons, against 51,113 tons for the previous week, and 62,789 tons for the corresponding week last year. The Lake Shore led with 9,449 tons. Other roads carried: Michigan Central, 4,822; Wabash, 4,528; Pan Handle, 7,447; Fort Wayne, 6,979; Baltimore and Ohio, 3,172; Grand Trunk, 5,444; Erie, 7,278; Nickel Plate, 6,110; Big Four, 2,927.

The indications are now that there will be a general and marked improvement in the general passenger situation immediately upon the proposed restoration of tariff fares. While there are some interesting questions involved in the adjustment of fares under the new order of things, it is believed that it will lead to the cessation of practices which have imparted to the passenger fare situation most dangerous features.

The differential fare question is likely to bring about, sooner or later, the disruption of the Joint Traffic Association," said a well-known eastern passenger man. "The Baltimore and Ohio has given out that if differentials are abolished and no corresponding concession is given the weaker lines it will rebel. The latest gossip is that the Grand Trunk has announced that it will have a differential on Chicago-New York business or it will withdraw from the Joint Traffic Association."

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is about to indulge in an experiment of using the telephones for long distance

communication. Work will be begun in a few days on the construction of two new copper telegraph lines between Baltimore and Pittsburgh, 340 miles, and they will be so arranged that when the necessity arises they will be available for telephonic communication. One of the wires will be extended as far as Newark for telegraphic use. A new line has also been constructed between Columbus and Cincinnati. It will take 800 miles of copper wire, weighing 166 pounds to the mile, to complete the work.

"BLIND TOM"

His Passion for Music Is Just as Strong as It Ever Was.

"The name Thomas Wiggins means nothing to the majority of readers," writes John J. a booklet in the September Ladies' Home Journal. "But Thomas Wiggins is 'Blind Tom,' a name familiar to hundreds of thousands in this country and abroad, who have heard the piano played by this wonderful negro. The impression that he is dead is a pretty general one. As a matter of fact, Blind Tom has never been ill a day in his life. On the banks of the Shrewsbury River, at a domain of over two hundred acres of woodland, stands a picturesque two-and-a-half-story wooden house with a broad veranda. Here Blind Tom is at home."

"His hands are not at all 'plano hands.' In place of the slender, long fingered hands which one so often sees in great pianists, Tom's hands are small and plump, with the thumbs and tapering fingers quite short. "The strongest impression I bore away was that of the sweet, contented life the poor blind negro is leading. There was pathos in it. I had expected to find a wonder at the piano, and I did, for his untutored mastery of that instrument is marvelous. From the time when the Bethune family left the dinner-table to see who could be playing the piano, and discovered the sightless pockmarked of four years perched on the stool, his little hands plucking uncanny melody from the keyboard—from that time up to now he has had an unwavering devotion to the instrument whose music is his life."

Rev. J. N. Vanatter, of Albion, Wis.

WRITES A LETTER ON DR. CHASE'S OINTMENT.

He says: My wife was most terribly afflicted with protruding piles, and contemplated a surgical operation. A friend of ours recommended the use of Dr. Chase's Ointment, and less than one box effected a complete cure. We were so pleased with the ointment that I tried it myself, as I have been troubled with an unsightly skin affliction which covered the lower part of my face.

For 25 years I suffered untold agony, and was treated by the best medical skill in the United States. I consider Dr. Chase's Ointment worth its weight in gold for piles and skin disease. Dr. Chase's large-size recipe book, cloth-bound, sent to any address on receipt of 50 cents, by addressing Dr. Chase's Company, Toronto or Buffalo, N.Y.

Sufferers are at liberty to correspond with the above address and will obtain full particulars regarding the great cure.

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