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ENGLISH NEWS.

LONDON, July 19.—Geo. J. Goschen replied in the house of commons today to Thomas Gibson Bolles, who asked whether there was any truth in the statement made by Cunningham-Graham in a letter to the St. James's Gazette, saying the excellent gunnery shown by Admiral Dewey's squadron was due to the fact that most of the gunnery were Englishmen, decoyed from the British Chinese squadron by promises of \$500 monthly.

Mr. Goschen said no one at the admiralty had heard such a rumor. Continuing, he remarked: "It may add with reference to the alleged enlistment of Signalman Matthews, by the commander of the United States steamer Somers, that I have received a letter from Lieut. Colwell, the United States naval attaché, in which he writes: 'That any officer of the United States navy would induce a man of a friendly power to desert is distinctly denied, and in nearly thirty years' service I have never known a deserter from a foreign service knowingly enlisted in my service. Foreign-trained men are not regarded favorably in the United States navy, and for several years a law existed absolutely forbidding the enlistment of any but citizens of the United States or aliens who had already taken steps to become naturalized.'

LONDON, July 22.—Sir James Winter, the premier of Newfoundland, will return to America on August 6 by the steamer Suzerain, having completed the mission which brought him to this country. It is understood that the British colonial office has agreed that Newfoundland should be directly represented at the coming conference on American-Canadian affairs, and the Newfoundland premier himself will be the commissioner from the colony.

Sir James Winter has also had a satisfactory conference with the first lord of the admiralty, Mr. Goschen, in regard to establishing a naval reserve corps in Newfoundland. The British government has not reached a decision on the French shore and other questions.

LONDON, July 25.—The parliament by-election held in Reading today to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late conservative member, C. P. Murdoch, resulted in a victory for the liberal candidate, C. W. Palmer, who formerly represented Reading, but was an unsuccessful contestant for the seat against Mr. Murdoch at the last general election. It was a three-cornered contest, the conservative candidate being C. S. Keyser of Aldermaston court, while a socialist candidate came forward in the person of P. Quetch, editor of Justice. The voting was as follows: Palmer, liberal and radical, 4,600; Keyser, conservative, 3,906; Quetch, socialist, 270; liberal plurality, 424.

REPORT OF BRUNSWICK.

Emperor William Appoints His Brother-in-Law, Prince Adolf, to the Place. BERLIN, July 21.—The Kleines Journal says that Prince Adolf of Schaumburg-Lippe, brother-in-law of Emperor William, has been named as Regent of Brunswick, the present regent, Prince Albrecht, desiring to retire.

Schaumburg-Lippe is the smallest of the petty German sovereign states, save the elder line of Reuss and the five cities of Lubeck and Bremen. Prince Adolf, to whom the Kaiser named his second sister, Victoria, is not likely to rule over even that small territory, as his elder brother, the reigning prince, has a large family. His august brother-in-law has been looking around for some place in Germany into which he has thrust himself, so far without success. When Prince Waldemar of Lippe Detmold, a somewhat larger little state, died three years ago, he was succeeded by the last male of the family, his brother, a man of nearly 70 years of age and by no means hale and hearty. It was necessary to appoint a regent. The Kaiser appointed Prince Adolf, who is related to the outgoing family in the expectation that he would ultimately become the sovereign. The Lippe Detmold people, however, objected to a branch of the Lippe family, which had forfeited its rights owing to mortgagee's charges, put in a claim to the Detmold throne and wanted the grant of election connection with the Detmold rulers, and a pact pressed over by the king of Saxony, not only produced the better right of election, but also the immediate renunciation, but Kaiser's brother-in-law was unable to trace out Brunswick on the death of the mad 'diamond' duke fourteen years ago, should have some right of inheritance to the representative of the male line of the branch of the Guelph family now ruling in England. That request, however, the Duke of Cumberland, son of the ex-king of Hanover, was thwarted by Prussia in 1835, who has never

AGAINST PORTO RICO

Gen. Miles' Expedition, it is Expected, to Move on Porto Rico.

Starving Cubans Appeal in a Most Pathetic Way for Help.

The Movements of Troops by the United States—A Horrible Tale of Suffering.

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The war department was today hurriedly despatching the remainder of the Miles expedition against Porto Rico. Such progress has been made that it is expected all of the troops will be on Porto Rican soil within a week at the latest. Gen. Miles is not expected to defer his landing until that time, but presumably will pick out a suitable place for encamping his troops and establishing himself ashore awaiting the arrival of the other detachments now on their way. The war department officials report that the first news received from Gen. Miles will come through the press despatches, as the general has not with him, so far as is known, any despatch boats. It will be at least Saturday before direct cable communication can be established with him, and in the meantime reliance must be had on the despatch boats running across the St. Thomas, distant about four hours run. It was expected at the department that Gen. Brooke and Gen. Haines would sail today from Newport News to join Miles, and that most of Gen. Brooke's command would be embarked by Wednesday.

The only other troops in the expedition are 2,000 troops at Baracoa and 1,000 at Sagua. They have not yet been turned over, but they are nowhere in Gen. Garcia's vicinity. He is at Sagua today, and reached there without encountering any Spaniards. Gen. Shafter authorizes an absolute contradiction of the report that Garcia encountered a force of Spaniards who were returning to Santiago to surrender, and was defeated by them. Col. Ewers of the 9th Infantry, acting for Gen. Shafter, will receive the formal surrender of Guantanamo. Yesterday Gen. Shafter released forty prisoners who had been confined in the fort since the capture of the place. Some of them were confined without charges of any character, others on the most trivial pretext, and yet others solely because of sympathy with the insurgent cause. The jail is still filled with many whose crimes and sentences are not as yet ascertained absolutely so far as has been ascertained. A general investigation has been ordered immediately.

The work of embarkation at Hampton Roads is being conducted with much less difficulty and delay than was expected. Col. Parker, in charge of the transportation department, who has just returned from that place, has reported to Secretary Alger that it is eminently suited to the shipment of troops. Consequently the secretary today ordered all of Gen. Grant's brigade, 3,000 men, from Chickamauga to Newport News. It is not expected that all of the transports required for their accommodation will have arrived there by the time the soldiers get in, but they will encamp on suitable ground there, and it is believed will benefit by the change.

Adm. Gen. Corbin, with his private secretary, Mr. Courney, last night completed the hundredth consecutive night's service at the war department, and still there seems to be little diminution in the number of the general's letters and official papers pouring in upon this office. It was announced today at the navy department that the long expected report from Admiral Sampson upon the destruction of Cervera's fleet had reached the department yesterday afternoon of every Saturday at six of the afternoon of every Monday in tidal waters, and from six of the clock in the morning of every Monday in the following Monday, in non-tidal waters, and all sedentary fishing stations, and weirs, and all pound and trap nets, seines, gill-nets and other apparatus used for catching fish, whether under license or not, shall be so raised, closed or adapted as to admit of the free passage of fish through, by an outlet of such apparatus; and during such close time no one shall catch fish in such apparatus, whether under license or not.

Section 14 of the said act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following subsection: "14. Whenever the size of the meshes of nets or apparatus for the capture of fish is fixed by this act, or by any fishery regulation under it, it shall be lawful to so arrange or adapt the nets or fishing apparatus as to practically diminish the size of such meshes."

The sub-section substituted for section 14 of section 13 of the said act by section 7 of chapter 51 of the statutes of 1894 is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor: "13. Except as herein otherwise provided, every one who violates any provision of this act, or of the regulations under it, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars and costs, and, in default of payment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months; and any fishery officer or justice of the peace may grant a warrant of distress for the amount of such penalty and costs."

The sub-section substituted for section 3 of the said section 13, by section 8 of chapter 51 of the statutes of 1894 is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor: "3. All vessels, boats, canoes, rafts, vehicles of any description, fish, fish traps, gear, materials, implements or appliances used in violation of this act or any regulation under it, and any fish or other marine animal taken, caught, killed, conveyed, bought, sold or had in possession in violation of this act or any regulation under it, and all other fish, shell fish or marine animals otherwise legally taken, caught, killed, conveyed, bought, sold, or had in possession, and of whatever size and description, which are interested therewith, shall be confiscated to her majesty, and may be seized and confiscated, on view by any fishery officer, or taken and removed by any person for delivery to any fishery officer or justice of the peace."

Some Cubans. I will faithfully guard that which occurred, reserving what in our judgment is not permitted to give to the public and what might serve as advice to our enemies. The Alfonso XII. was fitted out in Cadiz with six cannon, the necessary crew, three companies of marines, and other necessary articles. In twenty days her captain hoped to make port and land the cannon and troops. I visited the Alfonso XII. with hope to God and in the value of my own pocket to save the cargo as the winds the heights of Cienfuegos where came out three cruisers of the enemy. Seeing them the Alfonso XII. took flight toward the Isle of Pines, in which waters I lost sight of our pursuers.

NEWFOUNDLAND. ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., July 25.—The French steamer Dahome, from Liverpool, July 16, for Halifax, arrived here today. She reports that she struck on Cape Spear, darning a black log, starting in her bows and filling her forepeak with water, but she floated off without further damage. Among the passengers was Mr. Morrice, receiver general of the colony and one of its special delegates to London with regard to the appointment of a royal commission for investigating the affairs of Newfoundland. Mr. Morrice asserts that the commission, labors met with entire success. The British government will appoint a royal commission, and in many other ways the visit of Mr. Morrice and his associates has had the most beneficial results.

NEWCASTLE ACCIDENT. NEWCASTLE, July 25.—Friday morning while James Copeland, an employe in W. A. Hickson's mill, was standing on a table, his leg accidentally came in contact with a revolving saw, cutting the foot off of the right. He was immediately removed to his home, where the wound was dressed by Dr. Nicholson and Pedolph.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, July 25.—Everything here is peaceful. The 7,000 Spanish soldiers at Guantanamo laid down their arms today. The 3,000 from Palma Soriano, San Juan and Longo surrendered to Lieut. Wiley and today pack trains with provisions were sent back.

THE BISELY MEETING. LONDON, July 22.—The Canadian prize winners in the second stage of the competition at Bisley for the Queen's prize are Robertson, Davidson and Gilchrist, who win £4 each, and Forbes and Armstrong, who win £3 each. In the Daily Telegraph competition, Broadhurst won a prize of £2. In the Queen's prize competition Lieut. Fletcher of the second Liverpool regiment won the silver medal; Scotland won the national Challenge Cup trophy. The following Canadians won money prizes: In the St. George's competition, first stage, Ross; in the Daily Graphic competition, Lieut. Smith and Privates Blair, Broadhurst, and Armstrong; in the Alexander competition, Simpson, Broadhurst, Armstrong and McVittie.

SERIOUS N. S. FIRE. Eighteen Houses and Eleven Pugwash Outbuildings Brought to the Ground. Amherst and Picton Firemen to the Rescue—The Persons Burned Out. PUGWASH, N. S., July 25.—A most disastrous fire broke out here at 1:13 o'clock this morning, and tonight eighteen houses and eleven outbuildings, covering an area of about two acres, are a huge mass of smouldering ruins. The fire originated in the lower floor of the warehouse adjoining Wm. H. Brown's three story brick building. When discovered the flames were leaping out of the roof and sides of the warehouse. A general alarm was given, and the populace turned out to fight the flames with buckets. The flames, fanned by a gentle southeasterly wind, spread with great rapidity. The large American hotel, also owned by W. H. Brown, yielded to the flames, to be followed in a few minutes by the large corner brick building, owned and occupied as a general store by W. H. Brown. The fire then presented an immense furnace, and huge embers were carried in all directions. Building after building followed in the general ruin until seventeen families were rendered homeless and their homes laid in ashes. The sailors from ships in the harbor, who rendered excellent aid, and with the populace worked with a will, almost without hope of saving the whole town. The Episcopal, Methodist and Roman Catholic churches caught fire, although they were some distance away, and only escaped sharing in the devastation through very energetic work. Telegrams for aid were sent to Amherst and Picton, which quickly responded, but owing to the great distance they did not arrive here until 4 o'clock. Valuable assistance was rendered, and in a short time all further danger of the fire extending was averted. Many families are tonight homeless, but are taken care of by their more fortunate neighbors. The places burned out are: Brown's three story brick building, used as a store and dwelling, valued with contents at \$15,000; his warehouse, where the fire originated, valued at \$1,000; his hotel, the American house, occupied by Paul Chappell, valued at \$2,000; and other dwellings, houses valued at \$12,000. In all, \$19,000 loss by Brown, with only about \$3,000 insurance; house occupied by Tom Landis, owned by Mrs. Angus McIntosh, loss \$500; no insurance; house owned and occupied by Rufus Black, loss \$500; insurance \$300; house occupied by Sam L. Power, \$500; no insurance; house of Mrs. Levi Borden, loss \$1,500; covered by insurance; Louis and shoes owned by occupied by Alex. Denning, no insurance; loss \$100; Denham street hall, rented by Mr. Chase of Truro, agricultural implements, no insurance, loss \$300; house and shop of Wm. Jamieson, no insurance, \$500 loss; house and shop owned by Cumberland, loss \$1,000; house of Herbert B. Reid, blacksmith, \$1,000 loss, \$500 insurance; house of Hanco Hollis, loss \$1,000; no insurance; house and barn of Henry Akersley, loss \$200; house and barn of James A. Elliott, \$1,500 loss; house of Mrs. O. Clark, loss \$1,500; insurance \$500; house and barn of J. H. Clark, loss \$1,000; insurance \$600; house and barn of Hibbert F. Elliott, damaged to extent of \$1,000; insurance \$1,400.

FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE. MONTREAL, July 25.—The Star's London cable says: Peterson has been notified by the Canadian government that the fast mail contract was to be considered at an end. Peterson's firm will, the government asserts, forfeit its deposit of £10,000 sterling. Dobell when interviewed today said that fresh tenders would not be called for just yet. They would let matters settle down for a little while first. Many firms, he thinks, are willing to contract for the same subsidy as Peterson's, whose failure is considered due more to powerful opponents than to the decreased amount of subsidy. Dobell returns to Canada Wednesday on the Parisian, when the matter will be discussed by the cabinet. Peterson absolutely denies that he ever said as was reported in the Toronto Telegram, that if Fiddling had been sent instead of Dobell the contract would have gone through.

THE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL. LONDON, July 25.—The Earl of Minto has been appointed governor general of Canada, in succession to the Earl of Aberdeen. Gilbert John Elliott, fourth Earl of Minto, was born in 1845, has been in the Scots' Family Grenads, was a volunteer in the Egyptian campaign, and commands the South of Scotland volunteers, with the rank of colonel. He is a liberal, and retired from the army in 1873. He was secretary and military secretary to the governor general of Canada in 1886-87, and served as chief of staff in the Northwest rebellion in Canada in 1885.