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LONDON. . . CANADA.

God's in His heaven, All's right with the world.

London, Tuesday, July 25.

British Gossip by Cable.

The cable correspondents this week de vote much attention to the crisis regarding Siam, and there is not a little war talk. Indications grow stronger that France will rurpose against Siam, though it may be some time before the trouble is adjusted. There has been irritating delay in receiving dispatches. This is the season of heavy rainstorms in Siam, and telegrams are often delayed 24 hours. "France blockades the Menam," says a member of the Siamese would suffer most from the stopping of commerce. The Siamese have enough rice to live on and if they cannot get Manchester goods and hardware it is no matter. We can use fig leaves. Clothes are not indispensable in Siam. France will hardly bombard Bangkok, because England will protect her citizens. If Siam grants the demands of the ultimatum and cedes a third of her country England will surely protest, because then the French will be in the English sphere. England's policy is to preserve buffer States in the east. The French want to extend their sphere of influence without respect to right or treaties. "At the beginning of the or treatios. "At the beginning of the quarrel the Siamese Government offered to eade a tract 30 miles wide and 300 miles long, adjoining Annam, but France, in the middle of peaceful negotiations, suddenly began hostilities without warning or declaring war. The German Government is action. We must hope for the best, al-though we fear the worst."

Complicated With Russia's Advance. The Siam affair is closely complicated with the situation in the Pamirs. The latter matter is regarded by China and by some English diplomatists as more alarming than the bullying of Siam by France. There is full confirmation of the report that China has massed a large force on the Turkestan frontier, and is hurrying more troops forward. England's experience in the Pamirs with Russia a year ago destroyed all her confidence in the bona fides of that country. It is safe to assume that Siam will perforce grant all of France's demands, except territorial. If she gets a definite assurance of Chinese or English support she will refuse these. If aid is refused by all the powers she has no choice but to submit. natter is regarded by China and by some

English public sentiment as expressed in imously against France in this pointed out that French trade print is unanimously against France in this matter. It is pointed out that French trade with the country which France practically proposes to annex amounts to only \$40,000 annually, while the annual British trade with Siam is \$12,000,000. The number of British subjects in the country is 13,500 and of French 250. The Siamese army of 15,000 men has been almost entitely drilled and commanded by German efficers. The uniforms are of German efficers. The uniforms are of German policemen were invited in 1875 to Bangkok to organize a police force there. The harbor master and many other officials are Germans. Germans.

Siam as a Buffer.

British newspapers are full of leaders and letters cencerning the British interest in Siam's integrity. Although less bitter and belligerant than their French colleagues, Siam's integrity. Although less bitter and belligerant than their French colleagues, the London editors are not less carnest, and they take every occasion to emphazize the importance of Great Britain's relations to the Siamess Government, country and trade. Few of the British editors, however, have been fire eating. Most of them oclieve that the difference between france and Siam will be adjusted amicably, even if unjustly. Others, actably the ultra-Tories, profess to be ahead a grave crisis in Eastern affairs. All Englishmen pronounce France's threatming action to be pure robbery, executed by force of arms. Great Britain's interests in the settlemens of the question are not regarded as merely commercial, although the houses engaged in the Siamese trade have raised no small part of the popular protest against France's action. The opinion in high political circles is that more important international matters than England's immediate trade with the east are at stake. Siam has long been regarded as the buffer between France and England in the east, and the prospect that this buffer will be mutilated or halved is believed to threaten trouble for the British in Surmab.

districts of Siam. The surrender of it to the French would annihilate a large British trade. Neither England nor China is likely to remain passive in case France persists in her endeavor to exact this unpledged pound of fiesh.

An authority in Oriental affairs has thus explained the nature of France's demands.

French wrested Norfolk and Suffolk from us, and then claimed the entire Midlands, while professing respect for the independence and integrity of England. The French policy is simply to divert the commerce of Indo-China to the Mekong River and Saigon. At present merchandise goes up the Menam River to Bangkok when it is shipped in British steamsings."

Ravages of Cholera. Details of the ravages of cholera in Mecca re even more terrible than stories from Russia last year. Dr. Chaffy, the Egyptian delegate to the Sanitary Council of Alex-andria, reports that the number of deaths andria, reports that the number of deaths is more than twice the official figures. There were 130,000 pitgrims in Mecca when the choical broke out. At least 10 per cent. died, besides a large proportion of the native population of 50,000. He adde that at Monna it has been impossible to bury the dead, who were piled up in different places in the neighborhood. At Mahmal were also found a quantity of bodies unburied. Returning from Monna to Mecca, the reute was strewn with corpess. In the interior of Mecca bodies were lying in a state of putrefaction. When it was decided to carry them to the cemetry they were left there three days unburied, owing to the absence of a sufficient wing to the absence of a sufficient

tery they were left there three days unburied, owing to the absence of a sufficient number of grave-diggers.

The plague is steadily gaining ground despite the hitherto unheard-of sanitary endeavors. But the battle is not lost, and may be gained, because the progress of the scourge is slow and sly. Whenever it raises its head the authorities stamp on it. The cholera is now in France, Spain, Hungary, Turkey, Russia and Asia Minor. As long as European powers permit Turkey to sit idle and make no fight, because cholera is part of its fate, so long will there be cholera. It will beard ship as a stowaway, reach Fance at the Mediterranean ports and now and then get as far as England. It will steal across the Eungarian and Russian frontiers and find a congenial breeding soil in filthy, sluggish villages. Europe is roused this year as never before. Water supply and sanitation are discussed everywhere. Furthermore, there is a prospect of action on the part of the Great Powers to compel the Sultan of Turkey to make his people clean up.

An Englishman's Gift.

An Englishman's Gift. English newspapers are commenting in a areastic vein on the gift of \$25,000 by an American millionaire to the fund for the campaign in favor of the taxation of land campaign in layer of the taxation of land values in London. The reports that Carnegie is the individual concerned are not true. It is now asserted that A. J. Moxham, an Englishman by birth, who made a fortune in New York, is the donor. Moxham intends to follow Mr. Astor's example and make England his future home.

Attacking Christianity.

Many details come from Turkey of pe stent efforts of the Government to stamp out Christianity among the Armenians. Some oppressed converts under the influence of all manner of injustice are turning nominally to Mohammedanism again. Such an act is rewarded by exemption from taxation for fifteen years.

Progress With Home Rule.

The end of the first stage of the home rule campaign is in sight. The financial clauses only of the bill remain to be disposed of in the committee. Mr. Gladposed of in the committee. Mr. Glad-stone will make no further concessions, either to the Irish Nationalists, who de-clare the burden of taxation imposed on Ireland too heavy, or to the English mem-bers, who argue that the quota demanded is too small. The arrangement applies for six years only, and it is almost certain that the bill in its present shape will pass the committee.

the bill in its present shape will pass the committee.

It is now generally admitted that the bill will reach the Lords about the middle of August, and the Tories have practically abandoned further struggles in the Commons. It is clear also that the Lords, instead of rejecting the measure in contempt without debate, will discuss its merits before recording their disappraval. The Parliamentary history of home rule for the next few weeks seems, therefore, tolerably clear.

There has been no heart in the Opposition since Chamberlain's premature exultation over the Irish representation clause warded off what seemed certain Government defeat. It was the only mistake made by the great Liberal-Union-

overnment defeat. It was the only mistake made by the great Liberal-Unionist in the savage campaign which he led. It was a fatal one, and the opportunity will hardly arise again.

Irving and Ellen Terry. Henry Irving and Ellen Terry have bid-den farewell to London until next April They gave their wonderful presentation of Tennyson's "Becket" before a large audience, which cheered cach of the beautirul and impressive scenes and called Mr. Irving out for a speech at the end. Their American tour begins in San Francisco Arerican tour begins in San Francisco Sept. 4. When they return to London they will give "Faust" first, and then a new play written at Mr. Irving's request about the legend of Arthur, Lancelor and Guinevere. Balfour and Goschen.

When the Home Rule Bill shall have bassed the third reading, Mr. Balfour and doschen will probably leave town for a cest, leaving Sir John Gorst, Financial rest, leaving Sir John Gorst, Financial Secretary of the Treasury under the last Salisbury Administration, to lead the obstructive campaign against the estimates. Ballour and Goschen are both tired out through overwork. Curiously enough, while these younger men are breaking down under the strain of endless debates and divisions, the Grand Old Man, who has had twice the burdens of any of them, shows hardly a symptom of fatigue.

Delics of a Calamity.

Relics of a Calamity. Your correspondent at Tripoli sends word that he went along the shore there for Siamese trade have raised no small part of the popular protest against France's action. The opinion in high political circles is that more important international matters than England's immediate trade with the east are at stake. Siam has long been regarded as the buffer between France and England in the east, and the prospect that this buffer will be mutilated or halved is believed to threaten trouble for the British in Burmah.

The territorial claims of France are not fimited to the region 150 miles wide and 350 miles long, inhabited by tribes which Siam has ruled but nominally and which has been explored only by French travelers. They extend over an enormous piece of Siam proper, and if granted will separate Siam from China, and bring French and British possessious in Asia into immediate conjunction. This Siamese territory which France demands simply because she covers it, is one of the most iertile and advanced

LONDON SURE WINNER.

Seventh Battalion Rifle Team Beats All Canada

In the Canadian Military League Matches -The Local Scoring Saturday.

The Local Scoring Saturday.

The fourth and last match in the Canadian Military Rifle League, was shot on Saturday afternoon. The team of the Seventh Battalion was on the ground early, but found a half gale of wind blowing from the right front, lumpy clouds and a changing light; in fact the conditions were most unfavorable for good shooting. After waiting patiently until after 5 o'clock, and the weather becoming more threatening, they were reinstantly compelled to make a start at the 500 yards range. They were forced to shoot very rapidly in order to finish before the storm came. The last few shots were fired after it began to rain. Under the circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the scores at this range were the worst made by the team in any match or practice this year. The rain came down in torrents, and for a time it seemed as if there would be no let up to it before dark. At 6:30, however, the clouds showed signs of breaking, and in ten minutes it had stopped raining. The wind was all gone, and with a beautiful gray light, the very best for rifle-shooting, the apprits of the team rose perceptibly. The markers were instructed to be as quick as possible, and under the very best possible conditions the shooting was resumed at 600 yards, the 200 yards range being reserved until the last, on account of the difficulty of seeing instructed to be as quick as possible, and under the very best possible conditions the shooting was resumed at 600 yards, the 200 yards range being reserved until the last, on account of the difficulty of seeing well at the long range late in the evening. The difference in the scores made at 500 and 600 yards are the best indication of the influence that the atmospheric conditions have on a rifle builet traveling through the air. The team total is a very excellent one, and it is very doubtful if it will be many points behind the score of any other team in the Dominion. The score, with the lead of 99 points which the Seventh Battalion team previously had, should secure to them the honor of being the full returns from all the teams will not be received for seven or eight days.

The scores of the Seventh Battalion team Saturday were: 296 points at 200 yards, 252 points at 600 yards, 252 points at 600 yards; total, 833 points. This added to their previous aggregate makes their total score on Saturday. Mr. Beeth, an old and at one time prominent rifle shot, was on the ranges during the after-

phenomenal score on Saturday. Mr. Booth, an old and at one time prominent rifle shot, was on the ranges during the afternoon exhibiting a Lee-Milford magazine rifle. This is the weapon that has been adopted by the authorities for the British army. It is a very rapid-firing and destructive arm. A shot was fired with it at an old iron target made of half inch boiler plate. The bullet (which was nickel pointed) nearly went through it. The plate was buiged out and split open at the back. The rifle is sighted for 2,000 yards, and very good shooting has been done

plate was bulged out and split open at the back. The rifle is sighted for 2,000 yards, and very good shooting has been done with it at 1,500 yards. Much interest was manifested in the new gun.

THE SEVERTH SURE WINNERS.
TORONTO, July 24.—On Saturday afternoon the last of the series of matches of the Canadian Military Rifle League was shot. There are 21 trophies to be awarded. They will be distributed as follows: Nine prizes for teams of 10 men; 3 for 20; 2 for 30; 1 each for teams of 40, 50, 60 and 70 respectively, and three for civilian associations. The regular championship badges, one of gold and two of silver, will go to those making the three highest aggregate individual scores of the whole league. Each member of the team winning the first prize trophy is to receive a badge. Each team entering will receive a silver badge, but a corps entering two teams will receive a gold badge and a silver badge for each team. It is too early yet to speculate as to the prize witners as the exact results will not be

AS ONE POSSESSED.

MONTREAL, July 24.—L'Union des Can-tons de l'Est tells a curious story of a girl and to be possessed of the devil. The girl is named Angeline Pageot, and resides with her parents near Thetford, in the

girl is named Angeline Pageot, and resides with her parents near Thetford, in the county of Megantic. She is both young and beautiful. One day about the middle of June, while engaged at needlework, she screamed, jumped up and ran into the woods near by. She returned in about a quarter of an hour and told her parents that she was possessed of the devil. Nothing more occurred for three days. "But on Sunday morning when they spoke to her of going to church there was a terrible scene. Streams of fire poured from her eyes and her mouth, and she uttered biasphemics to make the lair of those who heard her atand Streams of fire poured from her eyes and her mouth, and she uttered biasplemies to make the lair of those who heard her stand on end. She threatened her father, and overwhelmed him with curses, and with a terrifying gesture showed him the door, exclaiming with a strange voice, 'Go and see him if you want your master. As for me, I remain here; and I will sing the praises of mv own.' There are days when she is perfectly quiet, but from the moment that one speaks of religion she becomes furious, beside herself, and is pacified with difficulty. Sometimes toward evening, when the moon makes its appearance, she sings a romance. What a voice! What singing! One would believe it to be an angel. And what is the strangest thing is that the young girl sever sang before this event. The physicians consulted say that there are symptoms of madness, but there is something of the supernatural. The religious authorities have been warned of the case."

The court martial that is a quiring intended the loss of the battleship Victoria a Valetta met yesterday, but no evidence wataken. The court adjourned until to



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