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SOUTH AFRICA.

General Brabant at Cape Town Completing the Organization of the Colonial Forces.

Martial Law Proclaimed in Several Districts -Committee to Visit England to Re- present the State of Affairs.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—Reporting to the war office, under date January 4, Lord Kitchener says: "Yesterday Brabant engaged De- lary's and Steenkamp's commandos at Naauwpoort. The enemy was forced to retire to the northwest. Our casualties have not yet been received, but are reported slight. A Boer doctor admitted that twenty Boers were killed or wounded. Commandant Dupre was taken prisoner. It appears from reports of the wounded who have arrived at Helibron that a detachment, 120 strong, belonging to Knox's command, came into contact with a superior force of Boers. I would like to say that Lieut. Laing, two other officers and fifteen men were killed and two officers and twenty men wounded. No details have come from Knox of this action."

LONDON, Jan. 7.—In a letter to the Times this morning, the Earl of Dun- raven, emphasizing the "very grave situation in South Africa," warns the country to distrust the opinions of ex- perts on the spot and to be ready for the unexpected. He complains of the "inertness of the authorities" and urges the necessity of large reinforcements.

MADRID, Jan. 7.—The federal re- publican party has introduced resolu- tions in the senate and the chamber of deputies declaring that Spain should adhere to the first proposal of arbitration between Great Britain and the two Boer republics, whether coming from Holland or some other power, and that if no such proposal is forth- coming Spain should take the initiative.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 7.—At a meet- ing of Afrikaner members of the Cape parliament today, it was resolved to send J. X. Marnham, former treas- urer of Cape Colony; J. W. Sauer, former commissioner of public works, and J. H. Hofmeyer, to England to represent the state of affairs in South Africa to the government, parliament and people of Great Britain.

Gen. Brabant has arrived here to complete the organization of the colonial forces. It is reported that 1,500 Boers are nearing the town of Sutherland and that other parties are close upon Rich- mond.

The invaders reached Calvinia, and are expected at Clanwilliam within a few days. Scouts report that the Boer com- mandos under Delaray and Steinkamp, in the Bufferspoort district, number 5,000.

Martial law has been proclaimed in the districts of Calvinia, Clanwilliam, Piquetteburg, Tulbagh, Paarl and Stellenbosch.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 7.—The editor of Ons Land, the principal Afrikaner newspaper, here, has been arrested on the charge of seditious libel.

BERLIN, Jan. 7.—Christian De Wet, nephew of the Boer general, is making speeches in South Germany in be- half of the Boer cause and arousing great sympathy. The meetings which he addresses adopt resolutions protest- ing vigorously against the overthrow of the two republics, the resolutions being telegraphed to Count Von Buelow and Mr. Kruger.

BLOEMFONTEIN, Jan. 7.—It is reported that an influential peace com- mission is being formed here to inter- view General De Wet, Mr. Steyn and other leaders to explain Lord Kitch- ener's terms and to endeavor to in- duce them to yield.

PIQUETTEBURG ROAD, Cape Colony, Jan. 7.—The Boers boast that their present incursion is only a big patrol preparatory to an invasion in force by Gen. De Wet. The latter's influence over the Dutch is so enormous that there is no doubt his actual presence would result in a general rising.

THE FUTURE OF SHIP-BUILDING. The future of ship-building almost baffles prediction. Many of the best-informed men

in the world believe that the new century will see the supremacy of the most potent of industries transferred from Great Britain to America, and certain it is that Germany will ere long take her place among the greatest of naval and maritime powers. There is a revolution of feeling from that sentiment which until recently made man- um speed the first consideration with transatlantic voyagers, but on the other hand, the demand grows stronger each day for the discovery of devices which shall provide more and greater safeguards for the lives of passengers at sea.

The future of marine engineering is, per- haps, dependent to an slight an extent upon outside influences as any force existing, but certainly no other is contributory in so great a degree to commercial and industrial development. Indeed, it is doubtful if any other one element has so direct a bearing as water-horse commerce on the prosperity of every inhabitant of the civilized world. Every innovation, therefore, which tends to contribute to greater economy of time or money in transportation enterprises means added comfort for every household.—Har- per's Weekly.

CHINA PROBLEM. Court Instruct the Chinese Peace-Envoys to Refuse to Sign the Joint Note.

PEKIN, Jan. 7.—The report that the Chinese court had instructed the Chinese peace envoys to refuse to sign the joint note of the powers to China, is confirmed. The court referred to the objections of the southern viceroys, which are the same as the court have. Prince Ching, however, informed the court that it was too late and that the plenipotentiaries from the court is expected shortly.

SHANGHAI, Jan. 7.—Sir Ernest Mac- saron Satow, British minister in China, has proposed to the other foreign en- voys the draft of a commercial treaty with China based upon the following conditions: First—Freedom for all coasting ves- sels. Second—Freedom for all vessels on inland waters, especially the Yang Tse Kiang. Third—Permission to import foreign salt. Fourth—Adoption of regulations en- couraging Chinese investments in foreign concerns. Fifth—Steps extending China's ex- ports and imports. Sixth—Protection of trade marks. Seventh—Protection of treaty ports. The draft has not been accepted by the powers and discussion regarding it has been postponed.

Bigoted court officials, it is reported, still raise objections to signing an ac- ceptance of the joint demands.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The British foreign office considers the reported agreement between Russia and China regarding the Manchurian province of Feng-Tien as probably referring to military measures of a tempo- rary character. There is nothing in the possession of the foreign office to support the statement that the sanction of Russia and China. In the opinion of the foreign office there is likely to be a great deal more discussion for the Chinese imperial personages finally agree to the penalties insisted upon by the powers.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—A Sister of Charity, writing from the Mission de Jesu Infant, at King Is, writes that she has seen the mangled remains of 100 little boys. Some of them, she says, were roasted alive in the church. Others, led by their brothers, escaped to the orphanage outside the city, but all were killed and the place was burned.

Despite threats to torture and the frequency of most painful deaths, declares the sister, "apostasy was wonderfully rare."

COLUMBIA AND VENEZUELA. KINGSTON, Jan. 7.—Letters re- ceived here from Panama say the re- lations between Colombia and Venez- uela are much strained in consequence of the latter's connivance with and the assistance being given to the re- volutionists in the former country. The activity of the rebels, it is added, only restrains Colombia from taking warlike measures against Venezuela, and even now Colombian troops are being moved to the border. The rebels are still receiving large supplies of arms and ammunition through Venez- uela.

WOODSTOCK. WOODSTOCK, N. B., Jan. 7.—Much sympathy is felt for Allison B. Con- nell over the death of his wife, which occurred this morning. She had been ill for a long time, and in spite of all medical care could do gradually failed, passing away peacefully. She was 48 years of age, the only daughter of the late Sheriff Dibble. The husband, three children, all boys, the eldest, Kenneth, now a student of Sackville, and a brother, Col. F. H. J. Dibble, survive. The funeral will be at two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

DEATH OF W. W. WELLS. One of the M. P. F.'s for Westmorland County. News was received on Saturday of the death at St. Agathe, Quebec, of W. Woodbury Wells, M. P. F. for West- morland, who died in October and was at the time of his death, which was due to a hemorrhage. He went to St. Agathe some time ago, accompanied by his wife, who recently returned home to Port Elgin, and then because of the smallpox quarantine was able to leave. Mr. Wells was a son of Charles C. Wells of Point de Bute, Westmorland, and was 40 years of age. He was one of the best liked members of the legislature, and the news of his death will be heard with almost re- gret, not only in his own home in Port Elgin, but by friends all over the province. Mr. Wells was for some time a teacher of the Port Elgin superior school. He was called to the bar in 1886, and soon built up for himself a lucrative practice. He was first elected to the local legislature in 1892, and has since been a member of the house and one of its best members—always in his place and always giving fair and careful consideration to all mea- sures. He supported the local govern- ment, and in his dominion politics was liberal. Mr. Wells was stricken with hemorrhage last winter while at- tending to his duties at Fredericton. For a while last summer it was thought he would regain his accus- tomed strength, but as the fall came on he grew worse again. Mrs. Wells, daughter of Hiram Turner, lumber merchant, of Port Elgin, and two chil- dren survive. Mr. Wells was a very active member of the Independent Foresters. His remains will be in- terred at Port Elgin.

A PAINFUL SUBJECT. MADRID, Jan. 7.—In the senate to- day Count Alenques pointed out that

RESTIGOUCHE ELECTIONS.

Application Made Before Mr. Justice McLeod Monday Evening.

Extension of Time Granted to Mr. Reid; the Respondent in the Case, to File Objections to Petition.

On Monday application was made before Mr. Justice McLeod, on behalf of James Reid, the respondent in the Restigouche election case, for an ex- tension of time within which to file preliminary objections.

The ground taken was that the re- spondent desired to apply for a sum- mons to set aside the service of the petition and have it removed from the files of the court on the following grounds:

(1) That the affidavit which had been obtained by the petitioner, ex- tending the time of service, was defective in not showing sufficient grounds for delay.

(2) That no notice of presentation of the petition had been served; the papers served on the respondent, pur- porting to be copies of the notice and not an original.

(3) That the papers were entitled in the supreme court and not the election court, as provided by the rules.

It was contended on behalf of the respondent that by filing preliminary objections it would be an admission of service of proper notice and would waive objections which the respondent desired to take.

His honor extended the time until the 22nd inst. The attorney general, A. G. Blair, jr., and H. F. McLatchy of Campbell- ton were the counsel present on be- half of the respondent.

CASE OF BLACKMAIL.

American Army Captain Under Arrest on a Serious Charge.

MOBILE, Ala., Jan. 7.—This after- noon Secret Service Agent E. P. Mc- Adams arrested on Royal street, this city, Captain C. W. King, quartermaster and supply officer of the govern- ment work at Fort Morgan. Ala. Captain King had just received one thousand dollars in bills from J. H. Hobson, a contractor on government work at the fort. McAdams, a local detective, as a witness, searched the captain and found the roll of money, King telling them if it was any value to them to know he would say that he received the money from Hobson. All the bills had been previously recorded, so that McAdams was able to identify them. Hobson told McAdams that this was the second thousand dollars paid by King to him. King was taken before U. S. Commissioner Rickerby for pre- liminary examination.

Hobson testified that for some time he had been having trouble in carry- ing out his contracts on buildings at Fort Morgan, about 50 per cent. of the material he furnished being rejected as unsatisfactory. About eight months ago King approached him and sub- stantially said if Hobson made an ar- rangement with him he would not be paid on his contracts. The amount named by King was \$5,000, and as failure on the contracts meant ruin, Hobson agreed to pay \$3,000. King said he would accept that amount, as he had caused him loss by being hard on him. Hobson paid him \$3,000 in October and the same amount in November, and \$1,000 today. Captain King was bound over in the sum of \$10,000, but up to 7 o'clock had not made his bonds.

King is a volunteer officer. He en- listed at Dubuque, Iowa, in 1861, re- ceiving appointment of captain and assistant quartermaster. He served in Porto Rico during the war, superin- tending loading and unloading of transports. He was assigned to Fort Morgan in April last. He has a wife and two children and has been well received here socially. He is said to have well-to-do relatives in Iowa.

RECEIVE IMPERIAL COMMISSION. MONTREAL, Jan. 7.—The Star's London cable says: The war office an- nounces the following seven Cana- dians nominated by Lord Minto have been appointed second Lieutenants in the Imperial regiments: R. Wood, Royal Warwickshire; F. E. Leach, King's regiment, Liverpool; A. Butler, Norfolk regiment; R. Cockburn, Buffs regiment; J. H. Dwyer, East Lan- cashire regiment; W. R. S. Dann, Manchester regiment; A. N. Bredine, Prince of Wales' Leinster regiment.

Advertisement in Semi-Weekly Sun.

NOVA SCOTIANS

Lost From the Gloucester Fish- ing Fleet Last Year.

Nearly Thirty of the Fifty-Three Victims Were From the Sister Province.

The past year, says the Gloucester, Mass. Advertiser, has been one of ex- treme leniency in the fisheries from this port, so far as the loss of life and property is concerned, a total of eight vessels, one of which foundered at sea with entire crew, (including one tem- porarily engaged in freighting), and one unregistered boat, with a total of 54 men, being the record for the year. This number including, as is our usual custom, men dying on shipboard or in other ports and those drowned in the harbor and elsewhere while attempting to board their vessels.

The value of the vessel property lost is placed at \$14,450, with an insurance of \$28,912, while 18 of the men were married, leaving 42 fatherless children.

The loss of two vessels with their entire crews during the past two months largely increased the total number of lives, and but for these dis- asters the loss of both lives and prop- erty would have been much below the average, and in fact with these addi- tions they have been smaller than for many years past.

The list of losses includes: Soh. Mary Stoney, engaged in hand- line codfishing, run down and sunk on Brown's bank, July 8th, by the coast- ing schooner Fred Gower. Three of the crew, Charles Sears, the steward, 50 years old, native of Wood's Harbor, N. S., left widow and five children, Angus Sears, his nephew, 22 years old, native of Wood's Harbor, N. S., left widow, and John H. Wagner, 45 years old, native of West Berlin, N. S., left widow, were drowned.

Sch. Sigrid, sailed from port Sep- tember 14, on a handline codfishing trip to Quere bank, and is supposed to have been wrecked on Sable Island in the gale of October 12. She carried a crew of 15 men, including Alexander Fraser, master, 38 years old, native of Port Hastings, N. S., single; John Frazier, brother of the master, 32 years old, native of Port Hastings, N. S., single; Lewis Gosbee, 37 years old, native of Camoy, N. S., single; James A. Townsend, 50 years old, native of Louisburg, C. B., widower, leaves one daughter; John A. Cagway, alias John Highland, 58 years old, native of Gays- boro, N. S., leaves widow and eight children, mostly adults; Charles Noble, native of Nova Scotia, leaves widow and three children; John MacCallan, native of St. Anne's, C. B., single.

Sch. Mary A. Brown, wrecked off Hampton Beach, December 4; was engaged in the handline fishery. Her entire crew of 10 men were drowned, including Capt. Arthur E. Aldrich, master, 40 years old, native of London, leaves widow and one step-daughter; Thomas Saulnier brother-in-law of the master, 40 years old, native of Yar- mouth, N. S., leaves widow and two children; Benjamin Johnson, alias Benson, 40 years old, native of Nova Scotia, single.

Charles Llewellyn, 24 years, native of Port Medway, N. S., single, and Burns Moody, 22 years old, native of Port Matouin, N. S., single, two of the crew of the schooner Ethel S. Wilson, went astray from the vessel in a snow- storm, while attending their trawls on the Cape Shore, January 1, 1900.

Gregory Frazier, 31 years old, native of Harbor Bouche, N. S., single, one of the crew of the schooner Alva, cap- tained by his brother-in-law, James T. Frazier, sailed from Grand Banks Jan- uary 14, Frazier enlisted in the navy during the Spanish-American war and served with Dewey at Manila after the great battle.

James Tarrilo, alias Clarence Dan- iels, 25 years old, native of Arichat, C. B., was wrecked overboard from schooner Pythian, on Georges, Janu- ary 23.

Arthur Crowell, 22 years old, native of Cape Sable, N. S., single, washed overboard from schooner Annie Green- law on Georges, February 28.

Leslie Smith, 31 years old, native of Cape Sable, N. S., single, washed over- board from schooner Nereid on Georges, February 28.

William Delaney, 25 years old, native of Cape Breton, single, thrown over- board by a tax of schooner Hattie A. Heckman, on Georges, March 4.

George Campbell, 50 years old, native of Nova Scotia, of the crew of schooner Niagara, went astray from the vessel, on Quere bank, April 6, while visiting trawls, and was never heard from. Campbell leaves a widow.

Welch Crowell, 22 years old, single, native of Cape Sable, of the crew of schooner Electa A. Eaton, strayed

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from the vessel in a fog on Quere bank, while tending trawls, April 6, and never heard from.

Wiltford Swin, 21 years old, native of Clark's Harbor, N. S., single, one of the crew of schooner Nereid, drown- ed on La Have Bank, April 9, by the capsizing of his dory.

Capt. William C. Whitman, 58 years old, native of Gaysboro, N. S., master of schooner Mary E. Webb, died of heart disease on board the vessel, off Newport, May 11. Was a widower and left one son.

Louis Babine, 42 years old, native of Tusket, N. S., died at Sydney, C. B., May 15, from an attack of the grip, having been landed there from schooner William E. Morrissey. Left widow and one child.

George M. Strahan, 28 years old, native of Wood's Harbor, N. S., single, one of the crew of schooner Alva, died at Halifax, N. S., May 22, of hemor- rhage of the lungs. During the Span- ish-American war he served in the navy as an ordinary seaman.

Roderick Chisholm, 55 years old, native of Nova Scotia, single, died at Woods Holl in August, from appendi- citis.

Alex. McLeod, one of the crew of schooner Hattie and Lottie of Provin- ceton 45 years old, native of Cape Breton, single, found drowned in the dock at Fears' wharf, August 17, hav- ing apparently accidentally fallen over- board.

Julian Landry, native of Pictou, N. S., single, washed overboard from sch. Columbia, on Grand Banks, September 12.

Joseph Smith, 39 years old, native of Sulice Point, N. S., single, washed over- board from schooner Mead M. Story on Western Bank, September 1