

Spurgeon has withdrawn from the Baptist Union. He says:—"To pursue the union at the expense of the truth is treason to Jesus."

China is re-organizing her army, and German officers are to be employed to discipline it and otherwise bring it up to a proper state of efficiency.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon has refused \$90,000, which he was offered if he would deliver one hundred lectures in the United States. Nine hundred dollars a night is a heavy offer, and speaks volumes for the popularity of the great Baptist divine.

It is stated that the death of Lady Brassey which was reported several days ago, was most tragic. Maddened by fever, she jumped overboard from the yacht, and her husband, who quickly dived after her, was with difficulty rescued from sharing the fate of his wife.

It is reported that the people of the Russian Caucasian Province of Gorgia are agitating for Home Rule. The report can scarcely be considered newsy, since the people about the Caucasus have been engaged in a vigorous Home Rule demonstration ever since the Russian absorption commenced.

It is said that the European powers are about to ratify an agreement to the effect that the Suez Canal, with its approaches, is to be regarded as neutral territory in the event of war. The Egyptian Government is to enforce this agreement, but if unable to do so she is to be backed by the other powers.

Russia is going to reduce her import duties upon British goods twenty per cent., as a recognition of the free admission of Russian grain into the British markets. A reduction of ten per cent. is to be made upon imports from France, but Germany will have to pay the full figure, one object being to cripple German trade.

The Moscow *Gazette*, referring to the results of the recent manoeuvres of the Russian reserves, excites renewed distrust. After declaring the entire success of the measure similar to mobilization, the article concludes:—"Russia, as well as France, can now say, we are ready." The tone of the article is explicitly official throughout, and is a menace to Germany.

The unemployed workmen in London have taken to street parading, and much uneasiness is felt by shopkeepers, who are taking measures to protect their property. It is estimated that there are at least 50,000 blacklegs in London. These always incite the unemployed to riot, taking advantage of the confusion to loot the shops while the police are otherwise occupied.

Excavations in Jerusalem on ground belonging to the Russian Government has resulted in the discovery of remains of the ancient town wall, and the position of the gates of the town during the lifetime of the Saviour, through which the Saviour passed to Golgotha. Grand Duke Sergius, President of the Palestine Society, invites subscriptions to a fund for the purpose of preserving these relics.

Dynamite cannot be handled with impunity, as clearly shown by the terrible accident which resulted from its explosion recently in Peru. A large amount of dynamite was being passed through the custom house, and while undergoing inspection one of the cartridges exploded, igniting many others. Fifteen people were instantly killed, and at least a score of others are supposed to be fatally injured.

Much uneasiness is now felt in Germany as to the health of the Crown Prince. His father, the Emperor William, is ninety-two years of age, and in the event of both father and son dying within a measurably short period, the crown would fall to young Prince William, the eldest son of the Crown Prince. Prince William, who is now twenty-eight years of age, would, it is thought, be an aggressive monarch, and if this proves to be the case, the peace of Europe would not long be preserved.

Sir Wilfred Blunt, who was formerly an English Conservative, but who is now a Liberal and a strong supporter of Home Rule, recently went to Ireland and undertook to address a proclaimed meeting at Woodford, County Galway. The police attempted to break up the meeting, and upon Sir Wilfred taunting them with cowardice, he was seized and thrown into jail. The British Government make no distinction between English and Irish home-rulers when they attempt to speak in defiance of the law.

The steamship *Gaelic*, just arrived at San Francisco from Hong Kong and Yokohama, reports that on September 15th the Chinese transport *Waylee* was lost in Pescadores. Two hundred and eighty Chinese and five Europeans were lost. The steamer *Auton* is reported as having encountered a typhoon, when the second officer and 24 Chinese were washed overboard and drowned. All shipping arriving at ports near the China Sea has suffered considerable damage from the typhoon. Jardine Matheson & Co. have concluded a contract to supply \$3,000,000 worth of war materials to the Chinese Government, and a China American bank has also been established.

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