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OUR CAPITAL LETTER.

Sir Charles Tupper's Great Speech on the Fisheries Question.

The Proposed Bonilla Point Signal Station—Probabilities of an Experimental Farm for Vancouver Island—Steamboat Inspection.

[From our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, April 14th.—The event of the week is Sir Charles Tupper's great speech on the fisheries' treaty. It was historical, interesting and eloquent; it betrayed a thorough mastery of the fisheries question, and while the minister of finance may not have made out the very best case for Canada he showed that there is every reason for accepting the treaty as a just and honorable settlement of a long standing dispute. The reason of Sir Charles' moderation will be evident to anyone who considers for a moment the present condition of affairs. The Imperial government, the Dominion parliament, and the legislature of Newfoundland will without doubt accept the treaty, indeed, so far as Canada is concerned, it is not at all improbable that the treaty will have passed both houses before this letter reaches Victoria. The one body, then, in which the treaty proposals may be stopped is the American senate, where as everybody knows, there is a majority hostile to President Cleveland's administration. Sir Charles Tupper, with a view, therefore, of conciliating this body and of assisting Secretary Bayard to get the treaty through, was himself conciliatory. British Columbia, perhaps, is not so much interested in the Atlantic fisheries as those on the eastern coast, but having a "fisheries dispute" of its own unsettled there is doubtless some sympathy for the brethren down by the Atlantic.

Sir Charles gave the movement in favor of unrestricted reciprocity its *quietus* and placed commercial union in such a light that in future only one interpretation can be placed on the motives of those who advocate it. His language was as follows: "I knew, sir, that the air was full of stories of commercial union, full of stories of unrestricted intercourse, and I thought I could not do a better service to Canada, under these circumstances, than to ascertain at the very outset what was the position of the United States as to that question. I do not hesitate to tell you what that position is. Although I do not intend to make reference to a past debate, in which I regret very deeply I was not able to participate, although a large number of gentlemen dealt with that question on both sides of the house—and I think you were rather fortunate in not having another speech inflicted upon you on that occasion by myself—I shall make no reference to this; but I am bound to take this opportunity of saying that you may go to Washington, as I did, you may mingle for three months, as I did, with the leading men of all parties and all classes, you may go through the House of Representatives from beginning to end, and canvass every man, and you may go to the Senate of the United States and canvass every man, and I say you will not find a single man who will talk to you on the subject of unrestricted reciprocity, as I did not find at the time when public attention was being turned to it in this country. Was it not desirable that we should know what the views and sentiments of the United States were upon the subject? Talk to them, sir, of commercial union—I tell you that I did not meet a man of any party, I did not meet an American statesman who would not hold up both hands for commercial union with Canada. Why, sir? Because he knows that it would give Canada to the United States, he knows that you would occupy the degrading position of having a neighboring country make your tariff and impose the taxes upon you. I say, sir, that it is a condition of things from which the most craven Canadian would recoil. This proposition of unrestricted reciprocity, of free trade with the United States, with liberty to make our own tariff with the rest of the world, I say I did not meet a man—I discussed this question fully and freely from day to day with scores of leading public men in the United States—I did not meet a man with an intelligent head on his shoulders, that would talk about such a thing for a single mement. Why, sir, they treated the very proposition with scorn. They said: "Do you suppose that we intend to make a free trade arrangement with Canada, to adopt free trade with England, and destroy the position that we occupy in relation to all the vast industries of the country? I say, sir, that under these circumstances I did a service to Canada. And you have got the answer. You did not get from Mr. Bayard the statement: "If you will go the whole length of unrestricted reciprocity with us, if you will make everything free, then we will talk with you." Nothing of the kind."

The answer Sir Charles pointed out was that the commissioners had nothing to do with tariff matters, that Congress alone was the body to deal with the tariff, and that any recommendations coming from the commissioners would inevitably be rejected. The minister of finance proceeded to give a lucid explanation of the different provisions of the treaty and wound up with an appeal to the opposition not to say anything that would furnish arguments to the enemies of the treaty in the States.

BONILLA POINT SIGNAL STATION.

From all I can learn there is every prospect of a lighthouse and signal station being erected at Bonilla Point at no distant day, and "a long-felt want" thus met. Mr. Gordon has had several interviews with the minister of public works and yesterday talked the matter over with the premier, and the member for Nanaimo is sanguine that when the supplementary estimates come down they will contain an appropriation so that the work may be commenced this summer. Let us hope that his expectations will be verified. Although the lighthouse and station would be within Mr. Gordon's constituency, recognizing the benefits to Victoria that the signal station would confer, Mr. Prior is lending an active support to the carrying out of the project.

THE EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

The announcment that the branch experimental farm for British Columbia has been located on the mainland will doubtless be somewhat of a disappointment to the inhabitants of Vancouver Island, but I am inclined to think that ere long the government may be induced to establish a second branch farm for the province in the vicinity of Victoria. It has been strongly represented to the minister of agriculture that the climatic conditions of the Island and the Mainland differ so much that in order to thoroughly gauge the capacity of the province by the different experiments which it is proposed to make that two branch farms should be selected. Meanwhile Mr. Carling has recommended the government to locate a branch in the neighborhood of Agassiz station on the line of the C. P. R. Three hundred acres of excellent land have been secured and operations will commence as soon as the weather permits. The farm authorities here are busy with the new varieties of wheat which have just been received from Russia. The prominence given to the Mackenzie river district by Dr. Schulte's Senate committee, which has been in daily session for the past week or two, has induced the experimental farm authorities to send twenty-five samples of the Ladoga wheat to the Great Bear and Great Slave lakes, which are situated within and near the Arctic circle. Samples of polar barley and rye growing in latitude 67, within the Arctic circle of Russia, and another sample of Russian from Petchora, latitude 66, and a sample of Russian wheat from Lake Onega, latitude 62, will also be sent to parties in this region for experimental purposes. Prof. Saunders will receive returns from these samples next season, and great expectations are held out that they will thrive equally as well, if not better, than in Northern Russia, where these varieties have been grown for years.

INSPECTION OF STEAMSHIPS.

An interesting discussion took place in the commons on Thursday in reference to the class of vessels navigating the great lakes of Canada. There was a concensus of opinion that the government inspection of steamers plying on the inland waters of the Dominion should be of the most rigid character. Mr. Baker, who from his many years experience on the sea is competent to speak authoritatively on the matter, joined in the debate and his views met with the approval of the House. He said: "The discussion on this motion appears to be taking a very wide range. The subject of engineers and engineers' certificates, in my opinion, has nothing to do with the matter under discussion. That subject may come up at the proper time. We are talking of steamboat inspection, which may in an indirect way have some connection with it. To my mind, the disasters referred to must be attributed to one or two causes. Either the vessels were in themselves unseaworthy or they were unseaworthy from having been either overloaded or improperly stowed. As to the remedy, I think that would lie in the first place with the master of the vessel, who is responsible for everything connected, not only with the navigation of his vessel, not only with the discipline of his crew, not only with the interest of the owner, but with the interests of the shippers of the cargo, and with the lives of all on board. It is his place to see that the vessel is properly equipped and manned, and that she leaves port in a seaworthy condition. In the first place, therefore, it is the duty of the master of the vessel to see that the vessel is in all respects seaworthy; secondly, at all the principal ports of the Dominion, there are harbormasters and port wardens, and if the hon. gentleman will refer to the act of the harbor-masters and port-wardens they will find that the port warden may, wherever he sees fit, initiate proceedings, when occasion may necessitate his doing so. Therefore, I think that with the master primarily responsible for everything pertaining to his vessel, and with the harbor and port wardens having general supervision of everything regarding the seaworthiness of the vessel, the ground is fully covered."

CAPITAL NOTES.

Our Act to Establish a Court of Appeal From the Summary Jurisdiction of Magistrates Disallowed.

The Irascible Peter Says a Cuss Word With a Big D—To Amend the Franchise Act—Sir Charles Will Deliver the Budget Speech on Tuesday—Parliamentary Proceedings.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, Oct. 20.—Hon. Mr. Chapleau has given notice of a bill to amend the franchise act. The object is to suspend the division list this year.

Sir Charles Tupper delivers the budget speech on Tuesday.

Good progress was made in the Commons to-day on Government measures.

Peter Mitchell created much excitement by threatening obstruction for the cus toms act and told the Government he did not care a d—n for them.

Sir Charles Tupper tabled to night the full text upon which the Canadian Pacific monopoly will be cancelled. There was no variation from the outline previously wired THE COLONIST.

The act passed last year by the legislature of British Columbia to establish a court of appeal from the summary decision of magistrates, has been disallowed. It is understood the ground of disallowance was that the act interfered with procedure in criminal cases which is a subject solely within the purview of the Dominion authorities.

Hon. Mr. Foster gives notice of a bill to amend the act respecting ships. The chief provision deals with unseaworthy vessels and makes better provisions for the loading of cargoes.

NORWEGIAN TOURISTS

Supported by the Dominion Immigration Agencies, They Reach Victoria En Route To San Francisco.

Some rather amusing facts were brought to light at the office of Mr. Jessop, immigration agent, Friday morning. Half a dozen Norwegian immigrants arrived on Thursday night on the Louise, having come over the C.P.R. They explained to the smiling agent that they desired the use of the immigration sheds and the supply of sufficient food until the sailing of the *San Francisco steamer* on Saturday. Mr. Jessop pleasantly informed them that his was not the American agent's office, and that if they desired assistance to enable them to add to the population of the United States they had better apply to some of its representatives. This greatly incensed the Norwegians. Why, they said, should the agent presume to refuse the accommodation that had so generously been accorded them at Halifax, Montreal and Winnipeg. At these places the agents had treated them with due courtesy, had supplied them with a place wherein to lay their weary limbs, and provided food to sustain them on their pilgrimage to the west. Notwithstanding these forcible arguments, the agent refused the demand and the Norwegians went away indignant, and have probably paid their keep until the steamer sails. Having been refused food and shelter, no doubt the travelers from Norway considered they had better not demand the bonus accorded immigrants to this province.

The Four Cardinal Points.

The four cardinal points of health are the stomach, the liver, the kidneys and the blood, any failure of their action brings disease and derangement to the whole system. Regulate their condition with Burdock Blood Bitters to secure perfect health. tu-th-sat-dw

CABLE NEWS.

Thirty Deaths Caused by an Explosion in Coal Mines at St. Helen—The French Crisis.

Fifteen Hundred Students and a Crowd of Boulangerists Club Each Other —Police Interfere.

Chamberlain to Accept Office—Four Hundred Ejectments Issued To-day—The Revolt.

Discouraging Report.

LONDON, April 20.—Accounts received here of the German Emperor's condition are extremely distressing. Reports of his occasional lapses into a sleep convey an idea of temporary relief, but private advices from well-informed sources give the assurance that the Emperor is at no time free from pain, his sleep being compelled by exhaustion rather than permitted by the temporary cessation of his suffering. In spite of his physical prostration and excruciating pain which tortures him, the Emperor insists in performing his usual duties, involving conversation and writing, though his voice is almost inaudible and his writing the merest scrawl. For the last forty-eight hours the Empress has scarcely for a moment gone so far from the Emperor's side that she could not return within a minute. The assertion in the Berlin afternoon papers as to the appearance of external and internal ulcers are fully confirmed by later authentic dispatches, and it is believed that another attack similar to that of Wednesday, and such an attack is imminent, will terminate the earthly career of Frederick III.

More Discoveries.

A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Berlin says an external ulcer has developed on the Emperor's neck and two internal abscesses are clearly visible.

Roumanian Riots.

The Roumanian revolt is extraordinarily well organized. No cases of isolated rioting is reported, but on the contrary there is signs of trouble everywhere, confirming previous despatches predicting an uprising in the Galician provinces and lower Balkan states. There is now no pretence that trouble has not been incited by Russian agents plentifully supplied with money, and if the assertion that the revolt has been fomented in the interests of the Czar's government needed any affirmation, the strong reinforcements of Russian troops on the Austrian frontier would tend to supply it. The Austrian military forces are hurrying troops forward to confront the Russian soldiery on the Galician border, but are somewhat hampered by insufficient funds for the transportation afforded by the railway system in that region.

Local Government Bill.

In the House of Commons to-day the local government bill was read a second time without a division.

Discarded by the Liberals.

It is reported that Mr. Jos. Chamberlain has had a decided and complete rupture between himself and the Gladstonians, making his return to the liberal party impossible, by shortly accepting a position in the conservative cabinet.

The Trouble Over.

It is reported that the Czar recently conveyed to Prince Reuss, German ambassador to Austria, the information that the crisis growing out of the difference between the Emperor Frederick and Prince Bismarck over the proposed marriage of the Princess Victoria to Prince Alexander has caused him much anxiety and many sleepless nights. He was, therefore, thankful that the trouble was ended and he fervently hoped, permanently.

Boulanger Demonstration.

Extraordinary preparations are being made in Paris to suppress a Boulangerist demonstration to-morrow when it is expected that a greater crowd than that of Thursday will assemble around the Chamber of Deputies.

Coal Mine Explosion.

Thirty deaths have resulted from an explosion of fire damp in coal mines at St. Helen last night.

A Boom in Galway.

DUBLIN, April 20.—Four hundred writs of ejectment were issued at Galway to-day.

Sentences Reduced.

Gilhooley, M.P., who was sentenced on March 6th to two month's imprisonment for offences under the crimes act, had his sentence reduced to-day, on appeal, to two weeks. Gilhooley has been serving a short term of imprisonment since he received the two months sentence. Jos. Cox, M.P., who was sentenced in January to six month's imprisonment for making a speech at Kildysart, had his sentence reduced to three months; Cox has also been serving a short sentence since January for other alleged crimes.

Minister Pendleton Improved.

WIESBADEN, April 20.—The condition of Minister Pendleton is considerably improved. The paralysis is slight and his complete recovery is almost assured.

Boulanger a Candidate.

PARIS, April 20.—General Boulanger has been nominated for the chamber of deputies to fill the vacancy existing in the department of Isere.

Students and Boulangerists.

Fifteen hundred students assembled in the Latin Quarter this evening and marched to the Hotel Louvre shouting, "A bas le Boulanger," "a bas le dictateur." They were speedily confronted by a crowd of Boulangerists, who drove the students to the boulevards in considerable disorder. The students reformed and attacked the newspaper offices, but before they could do much damage, a crowd of Boulangerists who had followed them up, came down upon the students like an avalanche, dealing blows right and left with loaded sticks. The students made a good fight but were overpowered and many of them severely wounded. The police appeared upon the scene when the battle was at its height and separated the contestants, and arrested a large number of the rioters.

One Side Paralyzed.

BERLIN, April 20.—Later information states that Minister Pendleton was stricken while in a train near Wiesbaden to which place he had taken a trip from Frankfort yesterday. He was conveyed to the hospital at his own desire. He is paralyzed on one side.

Again Critical.

A despatch from Charlottenburg at midnight says the Emperor is again critical. He sleeps, but is feverish and breathes heavily. The canula is constantly becoming obstructed and sometimes charged at three minute intervals. It has been decided by the doctors to issue bulletins at 9 a. m. and 9 p. m.

The Watch at the Bedside.

Doctors Mackenzie and Wegner will watch at the bedside of the Emperor by day and Doctors Krause and Hovell by night. The Emperor's physicians have requested that fewer visitors be admitted to the sick chamber.

7:45 P. M.—The Emperor's respiration and fever are lessening, though his temperature is not yet normal. It is semi-officially denied that opiates have been resorted to to indnce sleep, or that edema of the feet has supervened.

9 A. M.—A bulletin has just been issued and states the Emperor has passed a satisfactory day, though toward evening the fever increased and his respiration became more difficult.

Worse Than Reported.

BERLIN, April 21.—At 1 o'clock this morning it was stated that the Emperor was worse than the last bulletin intimated, but there was no immediate danger of a collapse.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

Fire destroyed the residence of John Oldrieve, of Glencoe. Loss, $800.

John A. Wadsworth, tailor, Toronto, has assigned. Liabilities $10,000.

John Traffe, aged 15, was run over by a street car at Toronto and fatally injured.

Lord and Lady Lansdowne give a farewell ball on the 26th inst. It will be a brilliant event.

Manager Creighten, of the Toronto *Empire*, has arrived in Quebec to stand trial for criminal libel.

Ellen Rather, a three-year old girl, has disappeared at Ottawa and has not been heard of. Foul play is expected.

Mr. Noyes denies that he has withdrawn from the contest in Shefford. He is in the field and intends to remain there.

The Canada Atlantic railroad company have taken action for $1,000,000 against Stanton & Co., the New York contractors.

Patrick Fanning started to walk from Penetanguishene to his home while intoxicated. His dead body was found near his home.

Robert Van Brun, who was hanged for the murder of Warsaw in New York, was a well-known Salvation Army soldier in Toronto.

It is reported that Hurtsau, ex-M.P. for L'Assomption, will be called to the Senate to fill the vacancy created by the death of Rolland.

Ottawa has lost nearly all its freight business since the opening of the C.P.R. short line. The number of employees has been reduced one-half.

Ben Ellstere, of Thornhill, aged twenty-one, while shooting with his younger brother, was accidentally shot through the heart, and died instantly.

A fire destroyed the Franklin House, the stables of the O'Neill House and the kitchen and east front of the Dillon House at Forest. Loss heavy.

Latest reports from Denison township, to the west of Sudbury, are to the effect that there has been another find of gold, the precious metal being this time struck on the sixth concession.

One hundred and fifty-three excursionists bound from Mexico to Rome passed through Niagara Falls on Sunday. They take with them as presents to the Pope gifts valued at $200,000.

Rev. Dr. Fulton has concluded his crusade in Toronto against Romanism. A meeting of citizens will be held shortly to consider the advisability of forming a league to counteract if possible the interference of the Church of Rome in political matters.

It has been learned that Conductor John Massie, formerly of the Grand Trunk railway, was shot and badly wounded on the 2nd inst. at Madeira, Cal., by a peddler named Jas. H. Myers.

A beautiful team of bay horses has been purchased at Kingston and sent to Quebec by Major Wilson for Lieutenant-Governor Angers; and a handsome white team and a $1,500 carriage have been purchased by the clergy of Ontario diocese as a gift to Bishop Cleary when he returns from Rome about May first.

G. H. Stephenson, a prominent Toronto lawyer, has not been seen for some days, and his absence is giving rise to a good deal of speculation. He was financial agent of C. L. Van Wormer and negotiated the majority of the latter's transactions with the Central bank. He was to have been examined in court next week. He is indebted to the Central bank to the extent of $40,000, the greater part of which is secured.

QUEBEC.

The grand jury returned a true bill against Jos. Ford, Sr., paper manufacturer of Portneuf for forgery.

Edward Hutchinson was fatally injured by a slab falling on him while it was being hoisted to the roof of the new Provincial building, Quebec.

Houses owned by Evarest Talbott and Dr. Sierois at Riviere du Loup were burned. Talbott's loss is $1,500; insurance $1,000; Sierois' $2,000; insured for $1,200.

In the Hart divorce case, in Montreal, Judge Taschereau dismissed the wife's petition for separation to bed and board on the ground that she deserted her husband without cause.

At a joint meeting of the Ministerial association and Evangelical alliance at Montreal, a strong protest was made against the erection of the statue of the Virgin on Mount Royal.

Gabriel Dumont has arrived in Montreal. It is said he will take part in the provincial bye-elections. He intimates asking that the government should extend indemnity to the Metis who took part in the rebellion. He has given a promise not to return to the Northwest.

It is stated on good authority that prominent Montreal liberals have subscribed $18,000 for a bribery fund in the coming local elections. Premier Mercier is determined to push the persecution of Hon. Dr. Lavalle for alleged misappropriation of colonization funds and had him again arrested. He was bailed to stand his trial at Joliette on 72 indictments.

Application papers for a special term of the court of Queen's bench in May, to try Naegele and Bureau on the charge which Fahey has already been condemned, have been sent to the Solicitor-General. It is understood on good authority that neither Naegele nor Bureau will plead guilty, but fight the matter out to the bitter end. Naegele is still suffering from heart disease, whilst Bureau is growing fleshy in jail. The Fahey trial is understood to have cost $3,000.

Robert Bonner's famous trotter, "Dexter," once king of the turf, died Saturday morning of old age. He was thirty years old.

OUR CABLE LETTER.

Critical Condition in the East—Great Activity in the Russian Army and Navy.

The Bulgarian Difficulty Causing Considerable Anxiety—The French Crisis.

Germany's Future Prospect — Bismarck's Policy Toward Russia —Public Opinion.

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LONDON, April 21.—The situation in the east has become more critical within the past few days than at any time the last two years. Rioting, or rather an uprising against the government in Roumania, together with the determination of Russia follow up her action against Prince Ferdinand causes European statesmen serious alarm. Their apprehensions at present are based on more solid ground that that which has hitherto marked such uneasy feelings regarding the maintenance of peace in the Balkans. Russia induced Turkey to send a note to the Bulgarian government, reflecting on the illegality of Ferdinand's position, and the Bulgarians did nothing. They neither obeyed the instructions of their nominal suzerain nor publicly repudiated them. Bulgaria, in consequence of the assent to the last hypothesis would suggest a withdrawal by the powers which signed the Berlin treaty of their accepted representatives from Sofia. It is presumed that the powers will do nothing of the kind, as at least two of them have expressed themselves as perfectly content with the *status quo* in Bulgaria and will refuse to help on the Russian plans in any way. In well informed quarters it is believed that such an action will lead to internal dissensions in Bulgaria as formidable as those prevailing at present in Roumania, and the danger is

THAT RUSSIA MAY BE CALLED ON

by a weaker faction in Bulgaria and Roumania and at all events may thus be given a pretext to interfere. In Roumania recent events have shown the existence of a deep rooted difference between the government and opposition. M. Bratiano, who has been twelve years in power, was compelled to resign, although he had a majority of 90 in parliament. At the elections six weeks ago 137 of his supporters were returned, while the opposition, consisting of dissident liberals, number only 47. It is, however, asserted that owing to extraordinary pressure put upon voters at election time, a point in which Roumania resembles Spain, the government is always sure of a majority, so that in obtaining even such a minority as 47 liberals, won a moral victory. Meanwhile M. Bratiano is passing through a great storm of popular disfavor. The interest offered by the whole business lies in the revelation thus afforded of the hopeless divisions which prevail among the Roumanian people and the existing crisis presents itself to their minds as a choice

BETWEEN RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY,

and circumstances have made it exceptionally difficult for them to make such a choice. Few Roumanians have forgotten or forgiven Russian conduct in 1877 and 1878. Russia then accepted Roumania's help and very useful the 40,000 Roumanian troops at Plevna were to her. But she never treated her brave allies with friendliness and when the war was over she filched Bessarabia from them, giving worthless Dolerudsicka in exchange. On the other hand, Austria-Hungary has played her cards so badly as to be even less popular with Roumanians than Russia. Austria has treated Roumania badly from a commercial point of view. The upshot is that, between the Russian bear and the Austrian octopus, the average Roumanian chooses the former. A profound difference on the question of foreign policy, consequently, arise, and if King Charles really has bound himself to a triple alliance it is now certain he cannot carry his subjects with him.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

Trustworthy advices from Russia state that in every department of the army and navy the greatest activity prevails. Armies of men are working night and day putting everything in readiness as if Russia were on the eve of opening hostilities.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

In spite of the large majority secured by the French Cabinet in the vote of want of confidence in the government on Thursday, the general state of affairs in France continues in an acute crisis. A number of Republicans, who formerly would not see anything dangerous in General Boulanger's proceedings, now believe him to be the instrument of the royalists' restoration; others, however, believe that Boulanger is not so much would-be-monk as would-be-Cæsar. The monarchial restoration or dictatorship would at once create fresh danger of an armed conflict. All the unwarranted talk about Bismarck's alleged secret dealings with the enemies of the republic is only apt to feed the flame of Pauvinism in France, and thus to prepare a way for military dictatorship. It is strange that so many French republicans do not see this. They are actually laying traps for themselves by their groundless assertions, whilst thus promoting Boulangerism, they at the same time help to make militarism a national necessity, as it is in Germany.

THE GERMAN CRISIS.

The death of Emperor Frederick just now would undoubtedly have the effect of creating a strong feeling of antipathy towards Bismarck throughout Germany, as it is generally understood that the Chancellor's unquestionable policy in the matter of the union of Princess Victoria to Prince Alexander has had the effect of at least hastening the progress of the disease. The Emperor was satisfied with Prince Alexander. There was a minor question of court red tape; Alexander's mother did not belong to a royal caste. But as there was no question of succession to the Prussian crown this point could have been dismissed. Objections of the Czar could have possibly been removed by simply making Alexander ineligible to the Bulgarian throne. Still Bismarck insisted that such was objectionable as well as politically inconvenient, and that such a union would naturally enough, to the Czar be a symbol of policy which Germany has hitherto officially disclaimed. The whole policy of Bismarck since last December has been to avoid doing anything which would give Russia a pretext for an attack on him. Public opinion in Germany has undergone a rapid change around to the Emperor's view during the past week and that notwithstanding Bismarck's conciliatory policy towards Russia, Prince Alexander will have only a few months to wait, as events in the east will by that time settle the relations between Germany and Russia independently of personal ties.

AN EASTER IN THE TROPICS.

A Drama of the Desert—Matagalpa's Duel with the Carib Indian—A Terrible Vengeance.

(Continued.)

BY M. LOPATSCHI.

(Written for THE COLONIST.)

Matagalpa gladly accepted my offer, and as a sign that everything was ready for the combat he unfurled a long piece of white sheeting.

We had not very long to wait. Out of the midst of the Indians rode a Carib of gigantic stature and on a strong bay horse. On his head the warrior had a crown of black hoco's feathers; the upper part of his body was naked and painted red and black. According to agreement he had no arms, but a lasso.

The sun shone brightly and in its golden rays we could admire the graceful, yet full of manly vigor, movements of the savage, as he rode slowly yet fearlessly towards our camp. Arriving within about half of the distance between the band of Indians and our camp, he halted his horse and remained motionless like a centaur.

Now it was Matagalpa's turn to ride forward; but to our great surprise the Zambo did not move from his position. As if in a trance our peon remained motionless, his mouth wide open, his eyes shining with a strange light, the veins on his forehead visible like cords. "What does it signify?" We asked each other in astonishment; for it was impossible to think that our brave, courageous Zambo should show the white feather.

"Adelante, Matagalpa," said Don Rafael, "el Caribo esta esperando."

Matagalpa shuddered and slowly rode forward a few paces. But here again he halted and again he began to look earnestly and with a strange look in his eyes towards his antagonist.

"Caramba," said I now. "What does it mean Matagalpa! Por todos santos, I did not know you were afraid of a bulky Indian. Vaya que dios te preserva."

Zambo shivered again and his powerful frame trembled, but this time he rode far ahead and halted within a short distance of the Indian.

Meanwhile the savage looked with contemptuous disdain on the curious actions of Matagalpa, and impatient and scornful, as soon as he saw our Zambo in his vicinity, he rapidly threw his lasso towards Matagalpa.

The lasso shot forward like a serpent ready to strike, and would have entangled our peon if he, widely awake now to the danger, had not adroitly avoided it.

And now began a strange combat, savage in its nature, for it was conducted by two savages and with uncommon weapons. The prairie was silent, for no wind played with the tall stems of the palms, and no noise enlivened the scene. The Indians kept quiet, and we, excited, and despite of everything, very much interested, did not utter a sound, but anxiously watched the proceedings of this marvelous combat.

The lassos darted to and fro like a rain of fiery sparks, for each antagonist, as soon as he threw his lasso, also immediately drew it back. The skill of a savage native here came into play, and the agility of the two men showed wonderfully in the strange surroundings and under the matchless canopy of heaven.

The duel was, however, undecisive, for both of the combatants showed a remarkable skill in handling the lassos. The Carib, seeing that his adversary was not to be taken at a disadvantage, suddenly changed his tactics, and with the rapidity of lightning began to ride around Matagalpa, charging from all positions and all directions. His movements were splendid, and the rapidity of his attacks remarkable. The horse, feeling the masterly hand, moved like in a circus, and its rider, already triumphant and excited, with every second more boldly swung his lasso.

But Matagalpa was an antagonist not to be despised, and for a few minutes the combatants were satisfied to show their splendid horsemanship and their agility. The lassos whistled in the air like serpents, yet so far neither of the antagonists was captured.

But, hark! now this strange duel is approaching its end. Matagalpa suddenly rode close to the Carib and quickly, like an arrow, threw on him his lasso. The Indian had no time to avoid the running noose, we saw the lasso shivering and quivering yet solid and spun like a wire, and not returning to its owner. The Indian was captured.

And now came Matagalpa's turn. As soon as he perceived that the Indian was entangled he revolved his horse around an angle of ninety degrees and plunged the spurs in the animal's belly.

The horse darted around like an arrow. We heard a thumping sound, and the Carib fell to the ground like a log of wood.

The battle was finished, but no—it was only the beginning of the drama.

Instead of capturing the Indian as everybody expected, Matagalpa darted forward like a demon, dragging after him his entangled adversary.

We looked upon each other terror-stricken, and the band of Indians uttered a terrible yell, to which, however, Matagalpa paid no attention. As if possessed by all the spirits of hell, the Zambo rode in all directions, over stones and prickly cacti, dragging the unhappy man behind him. It was a savage, barbarous, ferocious and brutal cruelty.

But Matagalpa was merciless. Not satisfied with this action, he began now to ride around our camp in the same manner and in the same direction as it was done before by the Indians. His victim was covered with blood, dirt, and scarcely gave any signs of life.

Matagalpa rode once, twice, three times around our camp, and when he at the third time reached the spot where he overcame his antagonist, he halted, dismounted and approached his powerless enemy.

His face was terrible and his eyes bloodshot, as he kneeled down on the grass and grasped the throat of the dying man.

"Me conoces?" roared Matagalpa, as he gave with his other hand a terrible blow in the bloody face of the Indian.

"Me conoces?" he repeated, and one, two, three, we counted the blows.

"Ah, you do not know me, you son of a devil, mi nombre es Matagalpa, Matagalpa, Matagalpa!" and one, two, three, sounded the blows.

"Matagalpa, Matagalpa, Matagalpa," one, two, three.

We looked on each other, unable to utter a word. Don Rafael's face was as white as snow.

And meanwhile, on the prairie we hear the words "Matagalpa, Matagalpa, Matagalpa!" and one, two, three.

Suddenly the Zambo uttered a piercing shriek, jumped to his feet, took a large stone and crushed with it the skull of the dying man.

Then silence followed, the silence of the sepulchre. Even the Indians did not utter a word, but silently mounted their horses and rode away like the spirits of the night.

The drama of the desert was finished, but now we had to witness the epilogue.

Don Rafael, pale as death, but bristling with indignation, grasped a revolver and aloud called:

"Matagalpa!"

The Zambo approached with a sorrowful face and with his usual respectful countenance. All the previous wild savagery was gone from the man. The Zambo seemed again the same old silent Matagalpa.

Senor Moreno said slowly but firmly:

"Matagalpa, you committed a dastardly and most cruel act, an act unworthy of a man and a Christian; you must die."

"Esta bueno, Senor," answered the Zambo, "but before you kill me listen to what I have to say."

"You have five minutes," said Don Rafael, "be quick, for nothing can save you."

"Mire senores," began Matagalpa, "that devil whom I have killed was my greatest enemy."

"What!" exclaimed we, astonished, "did you meet this man before?"

"Si senores. "A few years ago I was as happy as anybody in this world. I was living with my family on the banks of the Matagalpa river, and I was engaged to be married to a young girl of our tribe. One day there arrived a young Carib with the name of Wul-wul, who was obliged to flee from his native land before the vengeance of a powerful cacique. We received him kindly and he became one of our family. I loved him like a brother and he professed great friendship toward me. When Wul-wul was a few weeks in our village, there arrived a messenger stating that the cacique was dead and that our guest could return safely to his native land. Wul-wul indeed returned, but not alone; one night he disappeared and with him my affianced wife."

At these words Matagalpa covered his eyes with his large brown hands and all his powerful frame trembled. I remarked here also that Don Rafael threw aside the revolver he held until now in his hands.

"I followed the seducer for a year," spoke further Matagalpa, "and when finally I found his village I was told that Wul-wul and all his family had perished in war. It was a lie, but that time I believed it. To-day I have found my mortal enemy and I took justice in my own hands. And now, Don Rafael, judge me."

Moreno spoke slowly:

"Matagalpa, you suffered very much, but you committed a terrible crime today. A man must be magnanimous even to his enemies. Take a horse, your arms, some provisions and go. Look for another master, I never could look in your face any more. Go."

"Don Rafael, have pity," begged the Zambo, "do not send me away."

"It is useless," answered Moreno, "go."

"Y Usted, Don Manricio, no puede Usted decir nada," spoke the Zambo to me.

I looked at my friend, but he averted his face. It was useless.

"Bueno, bueno," spoke Matagalpa, "I see that I must go. Adios senores, adios Pedro, adios Muchacho."

Pedro gloomingly looked to the ground, Jose Maria was crying like a child.

Matagalpa took what belonged to him, mounted his horse and slowly rode away to face alone the unknown of the desert.

"Let us leave this accursed place," said Don Rafael, hoarsely, "What a beautiful Easter Sunday we spent here."

We mounted our horses and silent and sad rode forward toward the blue outline of the Gracios Mountains.

Such was our Easter Sunday in Honduras.

RAILROAD NEWS.

President Robert Harris' Views—Messrs. Huntington and Crocker's Trip.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—President Robert Harris, of the Northern Pacific, last night in conversation said that his company had not mapped out any branch system to be built in Washington Territory, nor had it any idea when it would secure an entrance into Winnipeg, Manitoba, with the assistance of the Canadian line. His company had already completed a branch line from its main line in Minnesota northward *via* Grand Forks to the Canadian border. All now depended on the Manitoba people building to a connection with this branch, and probably that might soon occur from the fact that the Canadian government had recently, for the consideration of some $15,000,000, arrived at an understanding with the Canadian Pacific railway by which its exclusive right to operate in the country from Winnipeg south to the United States border had been relinquished.

THREE FIRST-CLASS COLLIERS.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20.—The statement is published here that C. P. Huntington and Charles Crocker, during their circuitous visit to the Puget Sound country, secured several undeveloped but promising coal mining properties which, it is said, will give the Southern Pacific an excellent supply of coal. The new acquisitions are said to be on both sides of the border line of British Columbia, the property being near Departure Bay. It is also stated that the Southern Pacific is having plans prepared for the construction of three first-class steel colliers which are to exceed in size anything now on the coast. No estimate of their cost has been made, but it is thought the cost will be over half a million dollars for each steamer. The colliers, it is stated, are intended to ply to the new mines and possibly to the old mine at Tacoma.

THE CAROLINE'S MISSION.

When it was announced that H. M. S. Caroline had left Honolulu on the 8th ultimo under sealed orders various speculations were made here as to the nature of the mission Sir William Wiseman was on. Later reports say that the vessel steamed to Fanning's Island and reaching there on the 14th anchored in the lagoon. The next morning at 8 o'clock Captain Wiseman landed with marines and blue jackets and took possession of the island. The Captain read the proclamation, the British flag was hoisted and the marines fired a salute. The Caroline left Fanning's island on the 15th for Christmas island, reaching there on the 16th and taking possession of that island, the same form being gone through as at Fanning's island. She left Christmas island at 8 p. m., on the 17th, and arrived at Penrhyn island on the 22d. That island was also taken possession of, and after the British flag had been hoisted, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the ship, as this was the largest island of the three.

The Senate by a vote of 26 to 23 passed the bill admitting South Dakota to the statehood.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP, and take no other kind. d&w

DEATH OF HON. THOS. WHITE.

He Passes Peacefully Away Amid His Family Circle.

A Pathetic Farewell—His Loss An Irreparable One to Canada—Ottawa Grieving For the Minister of the Interior—Conference of Canada and the Australian Colonies.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, April 21.—Hon. Thos. White, Minister of the Interior, died to night at 9:50 o'clock after a week's illness of pleuro-pneumonia. He regained consciousness about an hour before his death, and called all the family around him. The farewell was pathetic in the extreme. The greatest grief prevails in the capital; the loss is almost irreparable to Canada.

At the meeting of the Imperial Federation League to-night a resolution was adopted recommending that the government take steps to bring about a conference of Canada and the Australian colonies on matters of interest to both.

CABLE NEWS.

Rumor Denied.

LONDON, April 21.—The *Telegraph* denies the rumor that Chamberlain is about to enter the cabinet.

Riot at Skibbereen.

DUBLIN, April 21.—Rioting broke out at Skibbereen last night and continued until two o'clock this morning. The mob stoned the police, who, in return, used their batons upon the rioters. Several persons are injured.

Nine persons were arrested for participating in the riot. The injuries inflicted on Constable Deacons are quite serious and many of the civilians hurt in the conflict have been surgically treated.

Dillon Addresses a Meeting.

Mr. Dillon to-day addressed a meeting of tenants of the Marquis Londonderry, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, at Newtownard, County Down. The meeting was not interrupted by the authorities and passed off quietly.

Berlin Notes.

BERLIN, April 21.—The Emperor's appetite is failing and his temperature throughout the day has been above 39 degrees. Several times through the day he has had slight chills. The downward tendency of