

Kruger's Answer

To the British Government Received by Agent at Pretoria.

The Proposal for a Joint Commission of Inquiry Has Not Been Accepted.

(Associated Press.)
Pretoria, Aug. 21.—The report cabled here to the Associated Press last week that the Transvaal government had handed its reply to the British agent at Pretoria to be forwarded to Sir A. Milner, British High Commissioner for South Africa and governor of Cape Colony, is confirmed.

It is believed, however, that the proposition of Great Britain for a joint commission to investigate the effect which the franchise reform legislation would have on Uitlanders has not been accepted, but that fresh proposals have been advanced.

Report Confirmed.
London, Aug. 21.—The colonial office, continuing the despatch already telegraphed to the Associated Press from Pretoria, says Sir Alfred Milner has telegraphed a message to that effect.

All that the officials of the colonial office would say in regard to the matter was: "The reply was not a complete acceptance of the proposal by Mr. Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies."

Fall in Consols.
London, Aug. 21.—On the stock exchange today there was a renewed weakness in Kafirs, the outlook in regard to the Transvaal difficulty having assumed a more threatening aspect.

THE GOVERNOR IS SUPREME.
Japan's New Law Regulating Faiths and Beliefs.

(Associated Press.)
Chicago, Aug. 21.—A special to the Times-Herald says:
"Japan's new law regulating faiths and beliefs has gone into effect and much comment has been written in consequence."

"According to it, all sects, pagan or Christian, are placed under the absolute control of the local governor. The regulations go so far as to demand detailed information regarding the religious work, and promoters of the faith must go before the governor with full details. The scheme of the faith must be fully explained, church finances accounted for, and the permit will be granted or refused according to the merits of the applicant, preacher and members outlined in writing."

"The order further decrees that all who desire to establish or build a temple, church, preaching or lecture house for religious purposes must apply for permission, furnishing the following particulars: Why such building is necessary, information relating to the site and structure, also a plan of the edifice, name of the religion, method of control and maintenance, and where there is a church with a preacher, his qualifications and the method of his election. If the building is not completed within the terms stated, the permit will be null and void. If the number of members is to be changed or their number increased, or if any change occurs bearing on any plans or anything connected with the faith, if it is desired to move the building or if anything is done in the church, the preacher, or those in charge, must go to the governor for permission. Even if a sect is to go out of existence the governor must likewise have his say about it."

SNEAK THIEVES AT WORK.
(Special to the Times.)
Vancouver, Aug. 21.—Expert sneak thieves were at work again on Sunday night. They broke into the cabinet safe and extracted \$100 from the cash register.

INDIANS ARE UGLY.
(Associated Press.)
San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 21.—A special from Winslow, Ariz., says: Two hundred Indians in Foreman Mink's grading gang at Navajo Springs, are threatening to exterminate all the whites in that section. Troops from Fort Wingate have been ordered to the scene.

SOLDIERS SHOT.
(Associated Press.)
Leavenworth, Kas., Aug. 21.—A riot between soldiers of the Thirty-Second Infantry regiment and Leavenworth business took place yesterday. Corporal Johnston was shot in the left leg and Alex. Johnson in the left shoulder. Both are seriously wounded.

THE POPE IN GOOD HEALTH.
(Associated Press.)
Rome, Aug. 21.—The festival of St. Joachim yesterday the Pope granted an audience of over an hour to 300 persons, all of whom were presented, in addition to 16 cardinals and many other prelates. His Holiness appeared in excellent health and spirits.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVES.
In a recent article the Engineering Magazine pointed out that the American locomotive engineer deems it advisable to design his engine with a very large margin of power. If an express engine is designed to take a 200-ton load at

50 miles an hour, and if that load should happen to be increased to 300 tons, the locomotive is not expected to be able to take it and keep time, and usually does so. Such, at any rate, is the experience of such an impartial and level-headed observer as Mr. W. M. Acworth. If an American express locomotive at one point in its journey, the engine is expected to make up the lost time, even if the load be larger than usual. And again, this is generally done. But if an English engine is given a single coach above its prescribed load, the driver at once insists upon having a "pilot," and commonly he gets one.

Dawson's First Execution

Details of the First Judicial Hanging Brought by Returning Victorians.

Dawson Nantuck Ereaks Down—His Brother and Henderson Die Game.

A number of Victorians returned here from Dawson City last night by the steamer Islander, having reached Vancouver by the steamer Rosalie, on which were about 150 passengers, 100 from the Klondike, and considerable gold. The returning Victorians, who left Dawson on July 7th on the river steamer Columbian, were: H. A. Munn, of the V. Y. T. Co.; C. N. ("Nipsy") Gowen and Gus Gowen, W. Cain, Charles Blumsek, formerly a quartermaster of the D. G. S. Quadra, and now mate of the Columbian, and P. Shaw & Son, who have been putting new boilers in the steamer Willie Irving. Many of the returning pilgrims brought fair sized sacks of gold.

H. A. Munn gives the news that the Klondike is now in communication with the salt water by telegraph. The line was strung into Dawson on Saturday, August 5th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Papers brought by Mr. Munn give full details of the execution of the two Nantuck brothers and Edward Henderson. The Dawson Daily News of August 4th says: "The first judicial hanging in the Yukon territory took place on schedule time at 8 o'clock this morning, and Edward Henderson, Jim Nantuck and Dawson Nantuck paid the penalty of the law with their lives for murders committed that were about as cruel as they were senseless."

Captain Harper, the sheriff of the territory, arrived at 2 o'clock this morning from a forced trip from Tagish, in a canoe, and superintended the executions, for which had already been ably arranged for by his deputies, C. M. Carter and J. A. Longpre.

At 10 minutes to 8 the march to the scaffold was commenced, led by Captain Harper, followed by Rev. Mr. Navler, the clergyman. Next came Henderson, supported by two guards, with his arms pinioned to his sides. Dawson Nantuck and Jim Nantuck came next, each supported by guards. All walked up the steps to the scaffold unsupported, but once on the top Dawson Nantuck broke down and for ten minutes, up to the time the drop fell, he kept up an incessant wailing of his body, and by moaning, having finally to be braced up with a glass of liquor and held up pending the spring of the drop.

At 8 o'clock sharp the signal was given to the hangman and the three bodies, shooting down six feet, were left dangling in the agonies of death.

The bodies, after hanging 20 minutes, were taken down and turned over to Captain Starnes, who, as coroner, held an inquest on them and had them buried in the rear of the barracks.

The two Indians were sometime ago given to understand that they would surely hang to-day. They had all along been sullen and indifferent, though showing no fear of death. They were little better than animals and of a very low type of the densely ignorant Indians of the interior. They were very ignorant that they did not even know anything of the proverbial "happy hunting ground" which causes Indians to court death and never to fear it. The two men had but a small knowledge of English, but enough to express their disgust at the white man's sense of justice and equity. They freely admitted killing the white man and wounding his partner, but maintained that they were justified in killing the white man, not for anything that Fox and Menham had done to them, but because the year previous a white man had killed two Indians, and, according to aboriginal jurisprudence, they were justified in carrying out the biblical injunction: "A life for a life," and kill two white men for the two dead Indians. That they only sought in killing Menham and not Fox was not their fault, for when questioned about it they blantly responded that they would have killed Fox but that their ammunition gave out and the wounded man was allowed to escape by swimming the river.

They had all along felt willing to have one Indian hanged in return for Menham's life, but were never able to reconcile their dull comprehensions to the white man's sense of justice that demanded the lives of four Indians for one white man, and their crude logic was summed up about as follows: "White men first kill two Indians. Indians, in return, kill one white man. This four Indians sentenced, two die in prison and now white men hang two more Indians—no justice."

The same paper tells of a narrow escape from death of Arthur Strange, a mine operator on Sulphur creek. While out prospecting he started a bear. He emptied the contents of his rifle into it and then the bear made a beeline for him. He ran, but fell, and the bear overtook him, caught his head in its paws. The scamp was torn by the upper tusks of the bear, but the mine escapee, other injury. Why the monster had not crushed Strange's head into a pulp was explained next day when some other member of the party took the bear's trail and found it dead, with the lower jaw broken and useless. A last shot from Strange's rifle had saved his life.

A stampede is on from Dawson to California creek, a tributary of the Sixty Mile.

President's Partiality

Col Jouaste Hissed by the Spectators at Rennes Court Martial.

He Declined to Allow Picquart to Refute Captain Junck's Statements.

(Associated Press.)
Rennes, Aug. 21.—There was a large attendance at the Lycee at the opening of the court martial at 6:30 this morning in view of the possible reappearance of Maitre Laborde, but though he was grossing satisfactorily his physicians deem it best for him to remain quiet.

When it became known that the distinguished lawyer would not participate a large number quitted the court room leaving gaps along the benches.

The court settled down quickly to business, and by nine o'clock five witnesses had already appeared at the bar.

If this rate continues, it is calculated the court will be through with ninety odd witnesses by the beginning of September, and it is considered probable that the verdict will be delivered by September 7th.

Generals Rogot, de Boisdreffe and Hilot were present on the witness stand. General Gonz, was the next witness. He said that in the morning of his statement, it was impossible for him to have secured the information contained therein. He denied that Esterhazy had received money from the intelligence department, and describing the "frequent acts of indiscretion," the witness begged the court to summon the secretary of the minister of war, who surprised the prisoner prying in the offices in a time when there was no business on.

Dealing with the Henry forgery, Gonz declared "I can say it was already known by General Rogot before he was about it at 6 o'clock eight days before he confessed." (Sensation.)

The witness disputed Magistrate Bertulus' account of the interview with Henry, but admitted that when he (General Gonz) handed over his and Rogot's latter assisted it must not be shown to Picquart. (Sensation.)

Replying to M. Demange, witness admitted he had ordered Colonel Picquart not to concern himself with the handwriting of the bordereau, when he commenced his investigation of Esterhazy.

"Then," said M. Demange, "sharply," "when you saw his handwriting were identical with those of the bordereau, did that make you doubt your own opinion?" "Evidently," replied the witness, "the two handwritings had a great resemblance."

When Dreyfus was asked the regular question, he said: "I will only direct to the secretary of the minister of war, who said he saw men in the offices after service hours. As regards General Gonz, I am surprised that the general reports Dreyfus as being known to be an insurmountable difficulty in introducing any one to the ministry of war, and it is absolutely impossible for an officer to bring any one into the ministry." To this the general replied: "No doubt it is difficult."

Colonel Jouaste: "No doubt it is difficult, but it is not impossible. The ministry can be entered easily enough at certain hours. Dreyfus was in a position to know that." (Sensation.)

Dreyfus: "I will reply to Secretary Ferrel, who has told a lie. What I have to say to General Gonz is that every time a friend came to see me at the ministry, even when I was in office, I was obliged to descend to the floor below, and even members of the chamber of deputies who called on me would not enter the ministry. It was consequently absolutely impossible under ordinary circumstances for a subaltern to bring anyone into the ministry."

General Gonz declared that permits could easily be obtained.

ORIGIN OF LIFE INSURANCE.
The System Was Not in Existence Till Three Centuries Ago.

The practice of insuring human lives first came into use two hundred years ago—to be exact, on October 6, 1690—and credit for being the first to give real life to the movement is due to Rev. Dr. Williams Assheton, of London. On the 10th of August, 1696, the Assurance Society for the Benefit of Widows and Orphans was incorporated in London, its statutes and by-laws being framed in accordance with the views set forth in a bold and able treatise, written in 1691, and which was entitled "Natural and Political Investigations in Regard to the Current Lists of Births and Deaths."

John Graunt, a wealthy Londoner, was the author of this book, and Assheton was so impressed with the fact that he at once took steps to form a life insurance company. He succeeded, but not without much difficulty, and among the provisions of this first company were the following: A man could not be insured for more than thirty years old, could be insured for £1,000, one not more than forty for £500, and one not more than sixty for £200. Sailors and persons travelling to distant countries could not be insured, and suicides, as well as those condemned to death, lost the benefits of their insurance.

The company flourished during the first years, but soon afterwards the directors learned to their cost that the expenditures were much in excess of the receipts, and consequently they raised the rate considerably. This did not help them much, however, and the result was that parliament finally came to their relief by granting the company an annual subsidy of £3,000. From this time forward the company did a good business, and it was not long before similar companies were started throughout Europe, as well as in this country.

an abominable crime," compared the general, "to have endeavored to substitute for him a man of straw, however reputable he may have been, and whatever his offence, which in any case would not lessen the guilt of Dreyfus. My conviction is the same as it was at the commencement of affairs. Esterhazy is guilty, and I am convinced that he could never have discovered the documents enumerated in the bordereau."

Replying to the court, General de Boisdreffe admitted that there had been a leakage into military headquarters. After the condemnation of Dreyfus, he added, it ceased for a year, but in 1895 a paper was discovered proving the communication to foreigners of a document relating to the distribution of artillery, and showing that a foreign government was perfectly acquainted with changes made.

General Gonz, who was under chief of the staff, was the next witness. He said that in the morning of his statement, it was impossible for him to have secured the information contained therein. He denied that Esterhazy had received money from the intelligence department, and describing the "frequent acts of indiscretion," the witness begged the court to summon the secretary of the minister of war, who surprised the prisoner prying in the offices in a time when there was no business on.

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Dust and smoke, and telegraph wires, penny omnibuses, and railway trains, and many other things make life so busy and so hurried, that our graves before most of us perceive that we live.—Saturday Review.

The new Allan steamship Bavarian, which is to run between Liverpool and Montreal, has finished a most successful trial trip, averaging 14½ knots for a distance of 240 miles. This is 19.86 miles per hour.

The C. P. R. Co. is constructing a branch from McGreggor, between the main line and the Manitoba & Northern railway, and the Northern Pacific have announced their intention of building their Portage branch to the northwestern boundary of the province, and will parallel the C. P. R.'s McGreggor branch, even if it runs to the Pacific coast.

Disgruntled Nelsonians

Manager Wright of the Visiting Lacrosse Team Speaks Unkindly.

Reported by Vancouver Papers To Have Made False Statements.

It is very much to be regretted that Mr. Harry Wright, the manager of the Nelson lacrosse team, should see fit to assist in the circulation of unimpeachable statements regarding the reception of the Kootenians in Victoria, especially so that he should be willing to allow himself to be made to appear reckless of the truth in so doing. The Vancouver papers, the Province and the World are the media through which Mr. Wright has made these statements, and the articles containing them are worthy of reproduction. The Province says:

It seems a strange thing that no athletic organization which has ever had occasion to visit Victoria has ever had a good word to say of the treatment they received there or have ever expressed a desire to again enjoy the "hospitality" of the sporting fraternity of the capital city. The J. B. A. A. is a well-known local sporting circle as a "cinching" organization. Unless its teams can get the best of any particular side they are very apt to act like spiteful children and refuse to play.

The Nelson lacrosse club's western tour had Victoria included in its itinerary and now Manager Harry Wright is wondering how any of his men managed to get out of the town with a copper in their pockets. The game there was under the auspices of the J. B. A. A., which in common courtesy should have made all arrangements for the reception and defrayed all incidental expenses in connection with the match.

To the surprise of the Nelsonites, however, they discovered that Victoria hospitality means that visitors pay for all they get and a little more. The newspapers there regarded the touring lacrosse men as their legitimate prey and all of them, including the little Globe, fastened on Harry Wright as being a "good thing." He was compelled to pay all the papers for the advertising inserted by the J. B. A. A. men, pay for the doctors, for the strikers across one of the streets and even for the five complimentary tickets which he received. Those also cost him \$1.75, whereas by paying at the gate the same tickets could have been purchased for \$1.25. After all these expenses had been tagged on the Nelson manager the sport-loving people of Victoria turned out to see the match to the extent of \$70 worth, about half of which was taken up by the expenses before mentioned.

An excursion had been "arranged" for the visitors, but at the last moment they were informed that it had to be postponed. Under the circumstances Mr. Wright did not feel inclined to pay for a steamer to take his hosts out for a sail and accordingly there was no excursion.

All the Nelson men returned from Vancouver this morning on the Joan and the Victoria foreclosing, tickets were obtained from their manager, who added that in Nanaimo and in Vancouver they had all been shown every consideration.

Mr. Wright says all his men have enjoyed the trip well and that another visit to the coast is almost a certainty next year. But he remarked that unless the club should happen to be provided with money, which would probably have to be left out of the programme as it costs too much to entertain the members of the J. B. A. A., and at the same time provide there was no excursion.

Manager Wright this morning did not make any bones about talking for publication of the unkind treatment in several ways that had been accorded the visitors at Victoria. In the first place, the people there turned out only to the extent of a \$70 gate, while they had a \$205 gate in Vancouver, and the whole arrangements were badly managed. The Nelson men were called upon to pay \$22 for advertising, while in Vancouver and Nanaimo the papers either did this part of the entertainment free of charge or else the clubs arranged locally for the settlement. There was one item, for instance, of \$2 for hanging the sign for the game, that should, of course, have been attended to by Victoria. Then the general reception was very poorly looked after, and Mr. Wright says that altogether their visit to the capital was unsatisfactory to a very great degree.

Mr. A. J. Dallain, secretary of the J. B. A. A., when shown the above by a Times man this morning, was exceedingly surprised that Mr. Wright should have authorized such a statement. The arrangements for the match were made by Mr. Dallain at the request of Mr. Wright. It had been explained to the Nelson team that it was impossible to have the match played in Victoria on Saturday, other engagements conflicting, and it was also explained that the gate on any other week-day would certainly be small. Notwithstanding this, the Nelson team, through their manager, instructed Mr. Dallain to go ahead with the arrangements and offered to play here for the net proceeds of the gate, they paying the rental of the ground and the cost of advertising. These stipulations are contained in the correspondence.

The gross proceeds of the gate were \$93, not \$70 as the Province says; the net proceeds handed to the Nelson team were \$70.

As to the complimentary tickets, Mr. Wright was not charged \$1.75 for four of the tickets given him, but for the printing of all the complimentary tickets, which is a legitimate item in the advertising account. He was charged.

Regarding the entertainment of the visitors, it had been intended that they should be taken up the Gorge on the evening of the Arion Club's open-air concert, and Mr. Dallain went to considerable trouble to obtain boats for the

purpose. The concert was postponed by the Arion Club, and it was proposed to entertain the Nelson men at the J. B. A. A. club house. In the meantime, however, Mr. Wright had been busy disparagingly regarding the J. B. A. A. in hotel corridors and around the city, and the management thought Mr. Wright thus rendered himself beyond the sphere wherein ordinary courtesy extends, and the proposed entertainment was called off.

As to the advertising in the city papers, Mr. Dallain's understanding with Mr. Wright was that the Nelson team, deriving all the benefit from the gate, would pay all advertising, and as is customary, he paid the newspapers for the advertising on account of the visitors. To endeavor to cast a slur upon the newspapers as the Province does, is distinctly mean and decidedly surprising.

Perhaps Mr. Wright will learn before he brings another team to the coast that whatever consideration he expects to receive should be stated in advance. The J. B. A. A. certainly did as much as they were asked and more. The extra help at the grounds was paid for by the J. B. A. A., as was every other expense which the Nelson manager did not expressly state he desired to be borne by his team.

Hoboes Get a Cheap Ride

Two Thousand Deadbeats Go Down Yukon River at \$5 a Head.

Peter Dunn's Body Recovered—Grand Forks a Minorure Hell.

The latest available news from Dawson was brought to the city last night by Charles Blomquist, formerly quartermaster on the Quadra, but now first officer on the Canadian Development Company's steamer Columbian. The Columbian left Dawson on August 6th, reaching Five Fingers on the 9th, and her mate came down by the Rosalie yesterday.

It was from the Columbian that Peter Dunn was drowned about two weeks ago, and curiously enough it was the same vessel which recovered his remains. On the trip up Five Fingers on the 9th, the crew of the Columbian saw Dunn's form clinging to the cable by which they were towed up. One arm was caught over the cable, which retained the body from floating down stream. Several boats had used the cable in the interval, so that the body must have been accidentally caught by the wire. His body was brought on to the boat and Mr. Blomquist brought out a letter for his wife in Birkenhead, together with \$750, which by economy and hard work Dunn had accumulated.

Mr. Blomquist will write for a master's certificate to-morrow, returning directly to Dawson.

He reports that the Anglian has been raised, and was met by the Columbian coming down from White Horse with a good load of freight apparently none the worse of her protracted bath.

All the deadbeats and "broke" men are being taken down the river by the N. A. T. & C. Co. and the A. C. Co. The tide out left a short time ago with about 2,000 on board the boat and the barge taken down the river for \$5 a head and had to provide their own blankets and food.

The Rosalie carried about 200 passengers, having secured nearly all of those brought up the river by the Canadian, Victorian, Bonanza King and Columbian, there being no other boats at Skagway at the time.

Mr. Norman Macaulay has paid over the \$500 which the Columbian had won for her fast trip up the river, and it has been divided as prize money among the crew. Time on the river has been so reduced that fruit from Victoria has already made the trip to Dawson in seven days.

Mr. Blomquist gives an interesting account of the execution of two Indians and a white man in Dawson on the 4th, particulars of which appear in another column. Captain Harper disappointed the curio seekers by burning the ropes used in the execution immediately after conclusion. An immense crowd witnessed the interment of the men by the prisoners of the jail.

Mr. Blomquist says this winter will be a lively one in Dawson owing to the death of being taken out and a general revival of trade. The telegraph line he reports completed to Selkirk, 170 miles from Dawson. The water in the river is getting very low. Dawson rivals Toronto for orrliness but Grand Forks is a seething hell of gambling and drinking. He says that most of the police are stationed there now to preserve order.

MONTREAL MINING MARKET.
(Associated Press.)
Montreal, Aug. 21.—Stock market morning board—War Eagle, sellers, 380, buyers, 385; Payne, 140, 135; Montreal & London, 56; 57; Republic, 127, 125. Sales—Payne, 1,700 at 138; Republic, 300 at 126½, 500 at 128; Montreal & London, 1,000 at 156, 2,000 at 57, 700 at 58.

Grand Recorder J. M. Pickens, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in Washington, and formerly probate judge of Chehalis county, mysteriously disappeared from his office in the Colman block, Seattle, Thursday afternoon, August 10, and not the slightest clue has been discovered as to his whereabouts. It is stated on what is believed to be reliable authority that the experts who are at work on his books have found a shortage of about \$1,000.

Damage to the extent of \$10,000 was done by a fire which broke out in the premises of the Dominion Transportation Company, Dalbousie street, Montreal.

Education has higher aims than mere practical utility. It is, as Plato says, not so much filling the mind with knowledge as turning the eye of the soul towards the light.—Daily News.