

Charge of Treason

Gen. Sir George Willis Accuses Lord Brassey--Secrets of England's Coast Defense Said to Have Been Laid Bare.

German Emperor Deeply Chagrined--Defeat of the Canal Bill a Personal Affront--To Submit Would Be Tantamount to Abdication--Diet May Be Dissolved--German Documents Could Exculpate Dreyfus--The Netherlands and Belgium Getting Friendly With Germany.

London, Aug. 20.—British naval circles are just now deeply stirred up over charges of treasonable and dishonorable disclosures in regard to British fortifications and coast defenses, which have been publicly made against Lord Brassey, publisher of the famous "Brassey's Navy Annual," by Gen. Sir George Willis, one of the most distinguished officers of the British army and the former governor of Portsmouth. According to Sir George, Lord Brassey has laid bare in his book secrets concerning England's coast defenses, and especially regarding Portsmouth, that would be of immense advantage to England's enemies in the event of war.

The charges are made all the more forcible from the assertion that Lord Brassey secured his material for his book through his official position as parliamentary secretary of the admiralty and as civil lord of the board controlling the naval defenses, a place he has held for years.

In the eyes of Englishmen, this charge, if it is supported, would be a heinous offense, because Lord Brassey's annual is a private enterprise and is printed for profit.

SHOWS WEAKNESS OF VITAL POINTS.

Sir George claims that Lord Brassey has laid bare all the weak points of Portsmouth harbor, the vital point of England's coast defenses. Portsmouth probably would be the first point in England that a hostile fleet would attack, and any mishap there would quickly cripple the British navy, for the arsenal and dockyards are the most important in England.

Lord Brassey unquestionably knows all about the weak points in Portsmouth defenses, but whether he has given away in his annual is another matter. He has been the world's authority on naval matters for years. His name, and the name of his yacht Sunbeam, are familiar to every schoolboy. At present he is governor and military and naval commander-in-chief of Victoria, the most prosperous colony of Australia. For this reason Englishmen are greatly agitated over the charges made against him. Many of them probably lend a more willing ear to the charges than they would otherwise, because it is general belief that Lord Brassey is not a bonafide sailor and that he is both his title and his family tree.

General readers who hunt through Lord Brassey's Annual for 1899 will have some trouble discovering of just what Sir George's charges are based. There is an entire chapter in the book on British coast fortifications, which tells some of England's weak points in a general way, but there is little about Portsmouth specially.

LORD BRASSEY'S ARGUMENT.

Lord Brassey now argues that the commercial ports do not need fortifications for their defense, but men. As for the protection of anchorages, he states there are in the British Empire many fairly sheltered and open-mouthed bays that would probably be frequented in time of war. Here is where he believes there should be battery protection.

As an example of their effectiveness, Lord Brassey discloses that on the "L. B. and S. Coast Railway," which runs along the coast, a gun has been mounted on and fired from a movable truck.

In the case of dockyards, Lord Brassey states that it is to be supposed that until the enemy got control of the sea he would not be able to bring any considerable force against them. If the enemy were a great military power, and had succeeded in getting control of the sea, he would probably do what he liked with the English dockyards.

"Coast fortifications," Lord Brassey concludes, "hold but an insignificant place in any proper scheme of British defense. Fortification, much to the detriment of the prosperity of the British Empire depends and will depend even in war, has been made to include obstructions of channels by under-water mines."

GIVES DIAGRAMS OF SHIPS.

The Annual for 1899 contains a good deal of information that is more specific concerning the progress of work on English defenses and dockyards. In this the Portsmouth defenses are referred to a number of times.

There are no diagrams of coast defenses, but plans are given of British warships which might be of use to an enemy. Plans of warships belonging to other nations are also given. The bulk of the information in Lord Brassey's Annual, however, is concerning British ships and defenses. The 1898 Annual was issued about four months ago.

SNUB FOR WILLIAM

Defeat of the Canal Bill a Hard Blow for the Emperor.

Berlin, Aug. 19.—The result of Wednesday and Thursday's sessions of the diet, the unbroken opposition to the Conservatives, constituting almost a majority of the house, came as a stunning surprise, not alone to Emperor William, but also to the whole cabinet. Dr. Von Miquel, the Prussian minister of finance, included. To one of his intimates the emperor said, early in the week, referring to the opposition to the canal bill:

"To yield in this matter now before me would be tantamount to an abdication."

To the same gentleman his majesty complained bitterly of the fact that the cabinet often managed affairs of importance so badly as to force him against his will to actively interfere. The result of Thursday's vote in the

lower house, when by a vote of 212 to 193 it rejected the second reading of the bill relating to the Dortmund-Rhine canal and the completion of the Dortmund-Ems canal, and by a vote of 223 to 126 rejected the Central canal bill, came as a surprise to the house itself, nobody supposing that the opposition was as strong, especially after the emperor's vigorous declarations. The whole Polish faction voted against the entire canal bill, as it was expected they would at least vote for the Dortmund-Rhine canal section. The Center also acted contrary to all expectation. It split into three portions, one voting for the canal bill and another against it, while the third remained neutral and abstained from voting. This, though meant as a clever trick, rendered the Center powerless and helped in the Conservatives' ruin.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEFEAT.

The crushing defeat of the government, which was meant as the defeat of Emperor William, as king of Prussia, is generally admitted to be due to the clumsy, half-hearted manner in which the government fought the battle from the first. Neither Prince Hohenzollern, the imperial chancellor, nor Dr. Von Miquel, though both were present at the session on Wednesday, said a word in favor of the measure with which the emperor has so publicly and strongly identified himself. Their inactivity excited general comment. The Kreuz Zeitung said: "We do not know whether Dr. Von Miquel is really for or against the bill."

The word "dissolution" was not even used by any of the government speakers, though those present comprised nearly the whole cabinet. The only government representative who spoke at all was Mr. Bude, who declared that the canal was a military necessity for Germany.

It is quite evident that an important part of the cabinet does not share the emperor's enthusiasm for the canal. Put together, it is almost certain that if the bill fails, as there now seems small doubt, it will, so far as the vital part, the Midland canal project, is concerned, the cabinet must be reorganized. It has been confidently asserted among persons in the intimacy of his majesty that in the event of the defeat of the bill the emperor will dissolve the diet and appeal to the country. Even if this experiment be made, which is unlikely, the outcome is quite doubtful.

COMMENTS ON THE DREYFUS TRIAL.

The second trial by court-martial of Captain Alfred Dreyfus at Rennes on the charge of treason, excited much comment here during the week, especially the attempt on the life of Maitre Labori, leading counsel for the defense. Mercer's so-called denouements. The latter are not taken seriously. His statement that Germany was on the point of declaring war with France in 1894 is generally ridiculed. The whole German press is united on this point. The extreme step which Germany would have taken then if President Casimir-Perier had not put a stop to the violent attacks on the German embassy would have been to send Count von Munster-Ludwig, the German ambassador at Paris, on a long leave of absence. In no case would the relations of the two countries have assumed a threatening aspect.

The Tageblatt calls Gen. Mercier's revelations preposterous. The Frankfort Zeitung says Gen. Mercier's talk about Germany meaning war in January, 1895, has excited only hilarity throughout Germany.

The Cologne Gazette, after calling the present state of the French mind "a species of dementia," says nobody in Germany takes General Mercier seriously. While the energy of the French Government is generally commented upon favorably, doubts are expressed as to whether it is strong enough to overcome the dissatisfaction in the army. Emperor William, on receiving news of the attempt on the life of M. Labori during the ceremony of unveiling the monument to his grandfather at Arolsen, Monday, used strong language in denouncing the deed. He said the crime was evidently part of a regular plot. His majesty has kept himself minutely informed of the incidents of the trial at Rennes.

The correspondents here of the Associated Press hears that a proposition, first made in the English press and also taken up by a number of papers here, for the publication of some documents in the hands of the German Government, calculated to exculpate Dreyfus beyond all doubt, was seriously broached to the emperor and lengthily discussed. But he finally concluded that this would not do, and that he must adhere strictly to his system of absolute non-interference. Later several of the unprinted papers expressed the same opinion.

GERMANY'S FOREIGN POLICY.

An interesting feature of Germany's foreign policy is the strong rapprochement with the Netherlands and Belgium. The advances came from the smaller states. The rapprochement has made a steady headway for some time past. The minister of the Netherlands here recently submitted the draft of a regular treaty to the German minister of foreign affairs, Count von Bülow. Definite action has not yet been taken, but it is a positive fact that negotiations to that end are now under way. Some of the Dutch newspapers, in pointing out the need of such a treaty, express fears of the United States seizing the Dutch colonies in Asia and the West Indies. The German press talks favorably of the project, except the Pan-German papers, which express the belief that Holland and her colonies will some day drop into Germany's jaws, anyway.

BERLIN BREVITIES.

Prince Henry of Prussia will return

from the far east in December by way of the United States.

Dr. Victor Norgaard, delegate of the United States agricultural department to the veterinary congress at Baden-Baden, has been elected vice-president of the congress.

An interesting event will be the ride of the Fifteenth Regiment of the Uhlans from Hanover to Strassburg and back, a total distance of 700 kilometers, during the army maneuvers. The highest Prussian court has decided it to be a punishable offense to keep for sale American meats and sausages, which have not passed examination. A dealer at Scovraglan, Fosen, was fined 300 marks on this account.

The agrarian papers have published the last alleged dividends of two German branches of the Standard Oil Co., as being 66 2/3 per cent and 47 per cent, and the papers demand that the government put a stop to "such bleeding of the people."

While at Remscheid, Emperor William made several characteristic remarks. To a little boy to whom his father entrusted a bouquet for his majesty, and which the little fellow was loath to relinquish, his majesty said: "Yes, what a German once has he likes to keep."

A former secretary of the Russian Prince Orghinsky, a man named Schneider, was arrested recently at Posen, on the charge of being at the head of a band of forgers of American paper money, which has found its way to Berlin and the United States in large quantities. A big package of \$50 notes was seized.

The colonial offices are now going begging. The foreign office is vainly offering 10,000 marks salary, with easy work, to a number of small officials of Wurtemberg, if they will go to the colonies in East Africa under two and a half years' contract. Simple copying clerks are also vainly sought for at 7,500 marks salary.

DETAILS OF DREYFUS TRIAL

Testimony of Boisdeffre and Gonse--Leakage at Military Headquarters Continued After Dreyfus' Arrest.

Rennes, France, Aug. 19.—There was a thrill of curiosity when Gen. De Boisdeffre, former chief of the general staff of the French army, advanced to the witness box and took the customary oath to tell the truth. The general remarked that in view of his exhaustive evidence already given he would try to be brief. He hurriedly reviewed the leakage in the ministry of war, the discovery of the bordereau, the arrest and trial of Dreyfus, and the latter's alleged confessions, before the ceremony of degradation, to Capt. Lebrun-Renaud. Witness said he believed the confessions were genuine. He next referred to Col. Picquart's appearance in the intelligence department, although the witness had hesitated to appoint him because he thought Picquart too self-confident and not sufficiently deferential towards his chief.

"It has been said," continued Gen. De Boisdeffre, "that a secret package of papers was shown the judges of the court-martial of 1894. I positively assert that, so far as I am concerned, I never ordered Col. Picquart to convey any envelope to Col. Maurel. I may add that Col. Picquart never doubted the guilt of Dreyfus and never expressed doubts of his guilt, when he took over the duties of chief of the intelligence department. The first instructions I gave him were to follow up the Dreyfus affair, and it is well known what was the result of those instructions."

INTERVIEW WITH PIQUART.

The general next described the interview between himself and Col. Picquart, when the latter first mentioned Esterhazy, without, however, connecting him with the Dreyfus affair. Witness discredited Col. Picquart's statement that the latter asked him (witness) not to mention the investigation to Gen. Gonse.

"Gen. Gonse," said Boisdeffre, "is a friend of thirty years standing. I always had the greatest confidence in him, and he should certainly not have entertained a request to leave him in ignorance of what was occurring."

Gen. De Boisdeffre, whose evidence was attentively followed, especially by the members of the court-martial, then related the incidents of his interviews with Picquart to see Gen. Gonse, and Gen. Gonse's subsequent letter to the witness advising a continuance of the investigation, and that the affair must not be mixed up with the Dreyfus affair. As Col. Picquart persisted in trying to hurry matters and was neglecting his duty, the witness proposed to the minister of war to send him, not in disgrace, on a mission to Tonking, but the minister of war, the general asserted, found another mission for him.

BELIEVED IN THE GUILT OF DREYFUS.

Everything, the general added, went quietly for a year until M. Scheurer-Kestner intervened. This was followed by the denunciation of Esterhazy by Matthew Dreyfus and the inquiry into Esterhazy's proceedings. At that time, the witness said, "I was convinced of the guilt of Dreyfus, and this conviction is as strong today as ever." (Sensation.)

"I regard it as an abominable crime," continued the general, "that the emperor deigned to substitute for him a man of straw, however reputable he may have been, and whatever his offenses, which in any case would not lighten the guilt of Dreyfus. My conviction is the same as at the commencement of the trial of Esterhazy, it is true, at a certain psychological and singularly well-chosen moment, confessed to having written the bordereau, but he has made many other statements. He is always telling lies. What is certain is that he could never have delivered the documents enumerated in the bordereau."

"You know the result," said he, "I will not tell you what I suffered at that moment. As soon as everything was ended I tendered my resignation, but was asked to withdraw it. I was told every one could make a mistake, but I regret, as I had, to assert to a jury that a document was genuine when in reality it was forged; that everyone ought to stand by one's word, and that when a man happened to experience such a misfortune there was nothing left for him but to go away, and from that moment I have never returned."

The witnesses certainly said much more at the secret trial than they would have done at a public trial. But, the judges have a better opportunity of forming an opinion, even though the public might retain doubts. I deplore it keenly."

Gen. Gonse denied that Esterhazy had received money from the intelligence department, and describing the

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TUESDAY ECONOMIES

Monday being Civic Holiday the store will be closed, and Tuesday will take its place in the list of Specials.

With September but two weeks away, we are anxious to make room for fall goods that will be pouring in on us. Consequently all summer stock must go at quick step prices. It's your opportunity to economize, and buy now. The following list for Saturday and Tuesday will be found exactly as printed.

In Staple Section

Muslins, Prints and other Wash Goods at special prices. Wrappettes and Flannelettes, new goods, at special prices. Red and Black Reversible Wrappettes, regular 12 1/2c, for 10c. Plain Pink Flannelettes, special prices 5c, 8c, 10c and 12 1/2c. Heavy Loch Lomond Shirting, special 10c and 12 1/2c. 36-inch Fancy Stripe Flannelette, suitable for nightshirts, etc., regular 13c, for 10c. 34-inch Light and Dark Striped Flannelettes, good solid cloth, worth 10c, for 8c. 32-inch Fancy Striped Flannelette, also plain colors, 20 yards for \$1.00. Gray Union Flannelette, light and dark shades 10c, 12 1/2c and 15c. All-Wool Gray Flannelette, best makes, dark and light shades, per yard 20c, 25c and 25c. Cotton Blankets, cream and gray, per pair 75c, 85c and 95c. Wool Blankets, large size, in light weight, clean new stock \$2.45, \$2.75 and \$3.50. Mercerized Satens, for Skirts and Linings—a new lot—black grounds, with white and colored stripes, per yard 25c. Fancy Mercerized Satens, stripes and spots, in navy, cerise, pink, etc. 35c. Linen Towels, special, per pair 25c and 30c. Linen Bath Towels, each 37 1/2c, 45c, 50c and 62 1/2c. Large Cotton Bath Towels, per pair 25c, 35c, 45c and 50c.

Clothing Department

50 Boys' Special Suits, sizes 22 to 28, regular price \$2.50 and \$3, Saturday and Tuesday \$1.50. Boys' 2-Piece Suits, from 28 to 32, regular price for \$3.00. Boys' Cotton Blouses, all sizes, regular price 6c and 7c, each, Saturday and Tuesday 3c.

Hosiery

Boys' Extra Heavy Ribbed Cotton Hose, Saturday and Tuesday 15c and 20c. Boys' Heavy Ribbed Cotton Hose, Saturday and Tuesday 8c and 10c. Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, fast dye, special, 2 pairs for 25c.

Dress Goods Section

750 Yards All-Wool French Serge, all colors, including black, worth, today, 55c a yard, for 25c. Very Heavy All-Wool Serge, navy and black, special 50c. One Lot Fancy Black Dress Goods, one-quarter off regular price. Handsome Cloth and Camels' Hair Plaids (just in), the correct thing for skirts 75c to \$1.25.

Very Special. New Goods.

ROUGH RIDER FELT HATS, The popular Hats of the day, in all the leading shades. Prices from \$1 to \$3.50.

All Straw Sailors, worth 50c, 75c and \$1 each, for 25c.

Ribbon Department

Five-inch Pure Silk Taffeta Ribbon, all shades, regular price 15c a yard, for 10c. Chiffon Bows, regular price 80c each, for 10c. One Lot of Chiffon and Silk Bows and Ties, one-quarter off regular price.

Ladies' Blouses

In order to make big selling on Saturday and Tuesday in Ladies' Blouses, we submit the following special list. The prices will speak for themselves.

The Blouse Season has been an enormous one with this store. All White and Colored Muslin, Pique, Percale and Print Blouses this week at bargain prices. White Lawn Blouses, tucked; regular \$1.25, for \$1.00. White Lawn Blouses, insertion trimmed. Regular \$1.00, for 85c. Regular \$1.25, for \$1.00. Regular \$1.50, for \$1.31. White Pique Blouses, regular \$1.00, for 85c. 800 Muslin, Lawn and Print Blouses, worth from 70c to 90c each; sale price 50c. 125 Muslin, Lawn and Print Blouses, worth \$1 to \$1.25; choice for, each 75c. 11 only Handsome Plaid Silk Blouses, regular price, \$3.75 each; sale price \$2.82. 20 Blue and White Polka Dot Blouses, were \$1.25 each; sale price 94c. 75 Pink, Green and Black and White Satteen Blouses; regular value \$1.25, for 75c.

Saturday and Tuesday in Basement

25 Bottles English Worcester Sauce, at per bottle 9c. 100 Tins Sardines, in oil, 5c each, or 6 for 25c. 5 lbs. May Pick, Japan Tea, for, \$2.00. 21 lbs. Redpath's Granulated Sugar for \$1.00. 1 lb. Imperial Blend Black, Mixed or Green Tea, equal to any sold at 40c, for 25c. 23 lbs. Bright Yellow Sugar for \$1.00. 50 Only Rock Teapots, each 15c. 50 Only China Creams, decorated, each 5c.

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"strange behavior" of Dreyfus and his frequent acts of indiscretion," the witness begged the ministry of war, who surprised the prisoner prying in the office at a time when there was no business going on there.

The general defended Guenee and referred to another spy as an "honorable man," whose name he could not give as having furnished military headquarters with valuable information.

Col. Jouaust asked: "Is he in receipt of regular monthly pay?" Gen. Gonse—He was paid when he brought information.

Major Carrière—We have here two different versions.

Gen. Gonse—I mean to say that, as he watched others he was paid his expenses, as we did not want him to be out of pocket.

After this the witness asserted that while the name of Dreyfus was often mentioned in the document in the possession of the intelligence department, his innocence was nowhere hinted at.

PATY DE CLAM DEFENDED.

The general then proceeded to defend Paty de Clam from the insinuations of Col. Picquart, and corroborated Gen. Mercier's evidence in regard to the alleged confessions made to Capt. Lebrun-Renaud. Witness learned, however, that Capt. Lebrun-Renaud "intimidated by the censure of M. Casimir-Perier," did not dare to repeat these confessions, and gave only an incomplete account of the occurrences at the time of the prisoner's degradation. There was no truth, the witness said, in Col. Picquart's statements in regard to his Gen. Gonse's excitement, Jan. 5. The general said he only learned of the ambassador's actions, Jan. 6.

The general denied other statements made by Picquart, and referred to the alleged number of arrests ordered by Picquart on "unfounded charges of espionage."

Considerable comment was aroused by the fact that, contrary to the provisions of the law requiring the testimony to be verbal and without notes, Gen. Gonse, adjusting his eyeglasses, proceeded to consult a large notebook and frequently refreshed his memory. Dealing with the Henry forgery, Gen. Gonse said:

"I can say it was already known. Gen. Roge spoke to me about it at least eight days before Henry confessed." (Sensation.)

One of the court asked if the witness knew that a document relating to the conveying of troops was for 24 hours in the hands of the prisoner, and if he knew that imaginary sketches executed by the prisoner had been delivered abroad.

Gen. Gonse—I could not give a positive answer to that question.

Q.—Are there proofs that the docu-

ments mentioned in the bordereau were delivered abroad?

A.—There was no direct proofs, but their dispatch was certainly announced. Proceeding, witness disputed Magistrate Bertulot's account of the interview with Henry, but admitted that when he, Gen. Gonse, handed Henry his forgery, the latter insisted it must not be shown to Picquart. (Sensation.)

HANDWRITING OF THE BORDEREAU.

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

"Then," asked M. Demange, sharply, "when you saw his handwritings were identical with the writing of the bordereau, did that make no impression on you?"

"Evidently," replied the witness, "the two handwritings had a great resemblance."

M. Demange—"The honorable" person already referred to, was not in receipt of pay, you said just now.

Gonse—"The person was not an agent. He, indeed, wished to procure information in and out of Europe, but he

(Continued from page 7.)

Scrofula.

Another permanent cure by B.B.B. after two doctors failed.

Ask any doctor and he will tell you that, next to cancer, scrofula is one of the hardest diseases to cure.

Yet Burdock Blood Bitters applied externally to the parts affected and taken internally cured Rev. Wm. Stout, of Kirkton, Ont., permanently, after many prominent physicians failed; Cured Mrs. W. Bennett, of Creswon's Corners, Ont., permanently, when everyone thought she would die. Now Mr. H. H. Forest, Windsor Mills, P.Q., states his case as follows:

"After having used Burdock Blood Bitters for scrofula in the blood, I feel it my duty to make known the results. I was treated by two skilled physicians, but they failed to cure me. I had running sores on my hands and legs which I could get nothing to heal until I tried B.B.B. This remedy healed them completely and permanently, leaving the skin and flesh sound and whole."