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From Paris to New York—Overland. A party of travellers under the leadership of Mr. Harry De Windt is attempting an overland journey from Paris to New York by the way of Siberia and Behring Straits. On the last day of February the expedition reached Verkhoyansk, six hundred miles east of Yakutsk. In crossing the Verkhoyansk Mountains the members of the expedition had a terrible experience. The cold was intense, 65° below zero being reached. All the travellers were frost bitten, but otherwise they were reported to be well and in good spirits, and were setting out for a point 900 miles farther on, from which they would have 1,500 miles more of travel in order to reach East Cape. If the expedition succeeds in its undertaking it will probably be next heard from on the American side of Behring Straits.

improved places and unmovable property to any advantage. They have applied through representatives to the British Government for assistance in removal to Canada, but the Colonial Secretary has not seen his way clear to recommend this. Nor has the Dominion Government as yet offered assistance. A Mr. Lewis who came to Canada with the party and who is apparently a leader among them, is reported as saying that the Patagonian Welsh would like to establish a colony by themselves in some western part of Canada, but that no general movement will take place unless the Imperial or Dominion Government offer some encouragement. The party mentioned above, which arrived in Halifax by the *Ionian*, are described as presenting a healthy, strong and intelligent appearance. No doubt the South American colony would constitute a desirable addition to the population of Canada.

The Atlantic Steamship Combine. The great Steamship Combination under the leadership of J. Pierpont Morgan is at present the subject of special interest in the commercial world. The companies which are said to be included in the combination are the Leyland; the White Star; the American; the Wilson; the Atlantic Transport, and the Canard, aggregating 208 ships and a tonnage 1,106,842. If the Dominion and Holland-American lines enter the combination, which is regarded as probable, the number of ships will be brought up to 224 with a total tonnage of 1,257,109. This would mean that the American Combine would include about two-thirds of the number of steamships now engaged in the trans-Atlantic trade and about three-fourths of the tonnage. The capital of the combine is reported to be \$170,000,000, consisting of \$60,000,000 ordinary shares, \$60,000,000 cumulative shares, and \$50,000,000 4½ per cent. mortgage bonds. A number of the lines included in the Combine are British. It is explained, however, that entering the Combination does not involve any change of flag and that the different companies will continue to be run independently, subject only to the general supervision of the Combine which will use its influence to prevent rate cutting in the freight and passenger service and other forms of injurious competition. It is estimated that the Combination will in this way effect a saving of about \$15,000,000 a year. The general expression of feeling in London in reference to the scheme is unfavorable, based upon the fact that lines which have been hitherto under British management will now be controlled from the United States. The *London Standard* expresses alarm at the possibility of the Liverpool concerns in the Combine eventually passing under the American flag and then being lost to Great Britain in every sense, and says that Parliament should consider seriously whether the proposed arrangements do not pass beyond the limits of legitimate enterprise.

Welshmen from Patagonia. Five Welsh families, including in all some thirty persons, have arrived in Canada from Patagonia. It may be rather premature to speak of these immigrants as "the advance guard of the Welsh colony in Patagonia." It seems to be quite correct, however, that the Patagonia colony, numbering about 2,500, having found conditions in South America less desirable than they had anticipated, and having been very favorably impressed with what they have heard of Canada, are anxious to come to this country if they can be enabled to do so without too great a sacrifice. It is stated that many of them have now been in Patagonia for thirty years, and have accumulated considerable property which would have to be sacrificed in leaving the country, as the influx of population there is small, and the Welsh would not be able to sell their

The Cecil Rhodes Scholarships. The proverbial haziness of even the educated British mind in reference to Canadian geography

and the conditions of the country generally appears to reflect itself in the late Cecil Rhodes' will. It was probably not at all the intention of the testator to exclude the greater part of Canada from participation in the benefits of the Oxford scholarships which the will provides for in the interest of young men of the British colonies. But while Rhodesia, the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, West Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Newfoundland, Bermuda and Jamaica are specifically mentioned as participating in the appropriation for the scholarships, when it comes to the Dominion of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the Province of Quebec only are mentioned, as if it were supposed that those Provinces constituted the entire habitable part of Canada. It is said however that the large powers which, by the terms of the will, are vested in the executors are sufficient to enable them to carry out what it is reasonable to suppose was Mr. Rhodes' intention, that all the Provinces of Canada should share in the educational advantages which the will provides with a view to general culture and the consolidation of the Empire. In order that such men as are most likely to promote the purposes he had in view shall become the beneficiaries of his bequest, Mr. Rhodes has named in his will certain qualities to which respect is to be had in the election of a student to a scholarship: (1) his literary and scholastic attainments; (2) his fondness of and success in many outdoor sports, such as cricket, football and the like; (3) his qualities of manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for the protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship, and (4) his exhibition during schooldays of moral force of character and of instincts to lead and to take an interest in his schoolmates, for these latter attributes will be likely in after life to guide him to esteem the performance of public duties as his highest aim. As suggestions to those who will have the choice of students for the scholarships, it is declared that in the testator's view the ideally qualified student would combine these four qualifications in the proportion of three-tenths for the first, two-tenths for the second, three-tenths for the third, and two-tenths for the fourth qualification, so that if the maximum number of marks for any scholarship were 200, 60 marks each would be apportioned to the first and third qualifications, and 40 marks each to the second and fourth qualifications. For the first qualification the marks would be awarded by examination; for the second and third, respectively, by ballot by the fellow students of the candidates, and for the fourth qualification by the head master of the candidate's school. It is provided that no student shall be qualified or disqualified for election to a scholarship on account of his race, or religious opinions.

The Outlook for Peace.

There appears to be a somewhat hopeful feeling generally in respect to the prospects of peace in South Africa. It seems evident that on the Boer side, the power of decision rests principally with Steyn, Schalk Burger and the Boer commanders and the Burgers in arms, and not with Mr. Kruger and other representatives of the Boer cause in Europe. The Boer Commanders have asked for time to lay the British offers of peace before the Burgers and take the vote of the latter thereupon. It is understood that the leaders are favorable to the acceptance of the proposal. Lord Kitchener has not granted an armistice, but has given assurance to the Boer leaders that facilities will be given for their taking the sense of the Burgers upon the peace proposals. In the meantime, the British Commander-in-chief may be expected to make the best use of his opportunities to strengthen his positions, but it is improbable that during the next week or two any very vigorous offensive warfare will be carried on against the Boers. The London correspondent of the *New York Tribune* quotes Sir Charles Dilke as expressing emphatically the opinion that peace will be made before the Coronation, and says that in this he, without doubt, reflects the opinion of the House of Commons. It is conceded generally by members that the Boer leaders have reached a tentative agreement with Lord Kitchener and Lord Milner that they have returned to the commandos as converted and reconciled advocates of peace. The delay caused by these consultations and the formal negotiations which will follow the return of the delegates will postpone the final armistice and declaration of peace until the beginning of June. This is said to be the opinion of the most cautious observers.

Editor Cartwright's Case.

The forcible detention in South Africa of Mr. Albert Cartwright, formerly editor of the *South African News*, has subjected the British Government to a storm of sharp criticism in the House of Commons, and some of the Government's prominent supporters have joined with the leaders of the Opposition in condemnation of the course pursued. Mr. Cartwright as editor of the *News* had charged that Lord Kitchener, prior to an engagement with General DeWet, ordered his officers to shoot all prisoners, and having been convicted on a charge of libel, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment. Mr. Cartwright had served out his sentence, and desired to return to England, but was not permitted to do so. Mr. John Morley in moving what amounted to a vote of censure on the Government, and on Lord Kitchener and Lord Milner in particular, referred to the explanation of Lord Stanhope, the Financial Secretary to the War Office—that the Government did not think it desirable to increase the number of Anti-British propagandists in England, and characterized it as "the most outrageous heard in the House since Simon de Montfort invented Parliament." Mr. Brodrick, Secretary for War, speaking in defence of the Government said that, although Mr. Cartwright had served out his sentence the question of his release was still *sub judice*, which Sir William Vernon Harcourt declared to be a scandalous proposition and contrary to the elementary principles of freedom. Mr. Winston Churchill (Conservative) was also among those who adversely criticised the Government in the matter, and expressed the hope that the House would force the Government to withdraw within the limits of the law and observe the Constitution. Mr. Balfour, the leader of the Government in the House of Commons, defended the course taken in reference to Mr. Cartwright on the grounds that the Government was justified in detaining a British subject if it thought his wanderings calculated to injure the interests of South Africa, and said that to adopt Mr. Morley's motion would be to condemn Lord Kitchener and Lord Milner, in whose hands at that moment rested the hopes of peace. This view of the case no doubt had force with many of the members, and in spite of other vigorous protests from both sides of the House, Mr. Morley's motion was rejected by a vote of 259 to 182.