The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR — THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST, TUESDAY, APRIL 5 1901 — VOLUME LXIII.

The Last Pom Pom

Boers in South Eastern Transvaal Are Now Without Artillery.

General French Continues to Press Enemy in the Vryheid District.

Commandant Kritzinger Unavailingly Attempts to Escape From Cape Colony.

Capetown, April 6.—Gen. French continues to press the Boers at Vryheid, Transvaal Colony.

London, April 5.—Lord Kitchener, reporting to the war office the finding of an abandoned and destroyed pom-pom near Vryheid, says:

"This accounts for all the enemy's guns known to be in the southeastern district."

Bethuli, Orange River Colony, Thursday, April 4.—A force of Boers under Commandant Kritzinger attempted to recross into the Orange River Colony to the west of here, but failed.

Lord Kitchener reports as follows to the war office: "Col. Plummer has advanced twenty miles beyond Nylestetroom unopposed on the way towards Pietersburg."

According to the Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Telegraph the Boers have shifted their seat of government from Pietersburg to a point thirty-five miles northeast.

The Kroonstad correspondent of the Times, wiring Thursday, says that the preparations are being generally made by the British forces for winter operations.

DANISH WEST INDIES.

Copenhagen Intimates Uncle Sam Is Inclined to Bully.

London, April 6.—"It seems that the question of the sale of the Danish West Indies has reached a serious point," says the Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Mail. "Washington is understood to be inclined to take umbrage at Denmark's hesitation to accept the United States offer. The attitude of the United States has become almost menacing, but Denmark has the moral support of the European powers."

FIVE MORE DEATHS.

Report of Bubonic Plague at Capetown For the Day.

Capetown, April 6.—Five corpses of victims of the bubonic plague were found in Capetown to-day. Seven additional cases have been officially reported, six of these being Europeans and one of the latter being a Yeoman at Green Point camp.

NOBLE FIVE MINE.

Rumor That a Big Strike Has Been Made.

Sandon, April 5.—There are rumors around this city to-night that a big strike has been made on the Noble Five extension of the Last Chance drift. Full particulars cannot be learned, but it is generally admitted that it is of sufficient importance to justify a bright future for this property.

CABLE RESTORED.

Communication With Taku and Beyond In Good Order Again.

New York, April 5.—The Commercial Cable Company to-day issued the following notice: "We are notified of the repair of the Taku-Cheefoo cable, restoring normal telegraphic communication with Taku and the stations beyond."

THE RHEIN FULL.

Enormous Number of Passengers on Her From Bremen.

New York, April 5.—The North German Lloyd steamer Rhein, which arrived to-day from Bremen, had 2,449 steerage passengers, probably the largest number ever brought by a single steamer to this port.

TO COMBINE ALL RAILWAYS

Reports of a Trust to Grasp All of the Continental Roads.

New York, April 5.—Reports that huge railroad combinations are in process of formation were widely circulated here to-day. Details of a statement concerning the plan looking to the combination of all the great railway systems under the control of one company, were given, but as a general thing prominent railroad officials and bankers decline to discuss the matter. According to all accounts the enterprise involves the greatest combination of capital known in the history of finance. It was said the company would be formed under the laws of New Jersey for the purpose of conducting a general freight and transportation business throughout the United States, that the company would hold a controlling interest in all of the great railway systems and that the management of the road woull be vested in the controlling company.

According to the proposition, each road will preserve its identity and corporate existence, but the new company would control the affairs of all. By this policy it was claimed, large sums of money could be saved as a result of economies in the management, and the stoppage of rate cutting. The names of men like J. P. Morgan, William K. Vanderbilt, James Hill, Edward Harriman, George J. Gould, John D. Rockefeller, Jacob Schiff and James Stillman were freely used. One report stated that the first step in the proposed plan would be the securing of control of the stocks of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and the G. T. R., and that provision would be made for the acquisition of other properties in the immediate future.

OWNED BY MORGAN.

Daily Mail Intimates That the United States Is His Property.

London, April 6.—The Daily Mail, in the course of an extended article on the American Steel Trust, says that it can see no escape for the United States from the oppression of trusts, except in free trade, and declares that Mr. J. P. Morgan has appropriated $200,000,000 to crush American independent concerns. "The operations of the trust," says the Daily Mail, "may induce general tariff legislation by Europe and will certainly consolidate the British iron and steel trades, which will give the trust a hard fight here."

A FAINT HEART.

The "Field" Says Englishmen Are Inferior as Yachtsmen.

London, April 6.—The Field, commenting upon the forthcoming races for the America's Cup, says: "The average British sportsman long ago arrived at the conclusion that our American cousins are one too many for us at the yacht game, and most yachtsmen refuse to accept the hardy annuals offered as apologies for successive defeats. These excuses fail to account for the fact that, although since 1851 some 25 races have been sailed, only twice has a British yacht come in first."

HE'S BETTER NOW.

French Premier Is Reported to Be Improving.

Paris, April 5.—The condition of M. Waldeck-Rousseau, the premier, shows considerable improvement to-day.

A Peremptory Remonstrance

Japan Sends an Ultimatum to Russia on Manchurian Question.

And Is Taking Measures to Fight If Reply Is Unsatisfactory.

London, April 6.—"Japan is taking measures with a view to hostilities with Russia," says the Pekin correspondent of the Daily Express. "She has entered into an arrangement with Liu Kun Yi, viceroy of Nankin, who is acting on behalf of the other friendly viceroys and governors, regarding the course they will pursue in the way of airing Japan against Russia. It is understood they have promised to place the telegraphic communications and transport facilities at the service of Japan.

"Russia's reply concerning Manchuria being unsatisfactory, the Japanese government has decided," says the Yokohama correspondent of the Daily Mail, wiring Thursday, "after a conference with the heads of the army and navy and of the departments of finance and foreign affairs, to address a second and more peremptory remonstrance demanding a reply within a stated period. This remonstrance, communicated through the Japanese minister at St. Petersburg, amounts to an ultimatum.

Tien Tsin, April 5.—It is reported here that the Russians have been endeavoring to force a purchase of the disputed railway siding from the original Chinese owners.

TO STUDY METHODS.

Picked British Workmen to Be Sent to the United States.

London, April 5.—The managers of a number of iron manufactories of the Manchester district have decided to send out a picked party of British workmen to the United States for the purpose of studying American methods of workmanship in the automatic tool trade. The districts of New England, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Chicago and other steel centres will be visited, in the hope of convincing the British workmen of the necessity of improved methods if they desire to retain their share of the world's trade.

SHOTGUN CRACKS.

Griffith Wins Big Handicap and Money Stake.

Interstate Park, N. Y., April 5.—At the shooting tournament E. C. Griffiths, of Pascoag, R. I., won the Grand American handicap, by killing 18 straight in the shoot off, miss and out, and get $600 in cash and the silver cup. The second man was J. L. D. Morrison, of St. Paul, Minn., who killed 17 and received $500; P. Rahm, of Pittsburg, was third, with 14 kills, and got $400 cash.

KINDLY REMEMBRANCE.

United States Naval Department to Place Memorial Tablet to Ramsden.

Washington, April 5.—The navy department recently supplied to Lord Pauncefote a photograph of the beautiful bronze tablet which it is about to place upon the house in Santiago occupied by the late Frederick W. Ramsden, the British consul who exerted himself so benevolently in aid of American residents and prisoners during the siege.

SELLS A HARBOR.

Dr. Ash Makes Fair Interest on His Purchase.

Toledo, Ohio, April 5.—The Bee publishes a story to-day to the effect that Dr. Ash, a former resident of this city, has sold to John D. Rockefeller, for $1,000,000, 160 acres in Northern Wisconsin, which Dr. Ash purchased in 1884 for $1,000 on speculation. The tract is said to include the only natural harbor in Northern Wisconsin.

RADIATORS BURNED OUT.

Fire at Detroit Causes Great Damage.

Detroit, April 5.—Fire to-night destroyed the warerooms, pattern shops and machine shops of the American Radiator Co.; estimated loss, $150,000.

THE ECLIPSE.

Smithsonian Institute Party Reach Sumatra Safely.

Washington, April 5.—The eclipse observation party from the Smithsonian institute arrived yesterday at Padang, Sumatra, on the steamer General Alva.

Injured Innocence

Russia Publishes Its Story About the Occupation of Manchuria.

And Says Alarmist and False Rumors Were Spread in Foreign Press.

Intended to Occupy Country Only Till Normal Conditions Were Restored.

St. Petersburg, April 5.—The Official Messenger to-day published a detailed review of the negotiations conducted by the allied powers with the Chinese plenipotentiaries at Tien Tsin and Pekin, and of the negotiations that led to the presentation of the French draft of peace conditions, which consisted of twelve points but are not yet concluded. The Russian government then makes the following statement:

"While anticipating an early settlement of the questions affecting the mutual relations between all the powers and China, the Russian government on its part considers it necessary to concern itself with the establishment of a permanent order of things in Chinese territory along the borders of which the Russian Asiatic possessions extend for a distance of 8,000 versts (5,300 miles). To this end provisional written conditions for a modus vivendi were agreed upon first between the Russian military authorities and the Chinese governors of three Manchurian provinces.

"With reference to the subsequent institution of a local civil administration, and after a careful consideration of all the circumstances, the Russian government drew up the draft of an agreement with China providing for the gradual evacuation of Manchuria, as well as for the adoption of provisional measures to assure peace in that territory, and to prevent the recurrence of events similar to those of last year. Unfortunately, with the object of stirring up public opinion against Russia, alarmist rumors were circulated in the foreign press regarding the purpose and intentions of the Russian government. Falsified texts of a treaty establishing a protectorate over Manchuria were quoted, and erroneous reports spread of an alleged agreement between Russia and China.

"As a matter of fact, this agreement was to serve as a basis for the restoration to China, as contemplated by the Russian government, of the provinces of Manchuria which, in consequence of the alarming events of last year, were occupied by Russian troops.

"In order that the requisite military measures might be taken, it was imperative that the question should be settled one way or the other. It was impossible to lay down forthwith the conditions of the evacuation of Manchuria. According to the news received, serious hindrances were placed in the way of the conclusion of such an agreement, and in consequence of its acceptance by China, which was indispensable for the gradual evacuation of the province, proved to be impossible.

"As regards the eventual restoration of the province to China, it is manifest that such intention can only be carried out when the normal situation shall be completely restored in the empire, and the central government established at the capital, independent and strong enough to guarantee Russia against a recurrence of the events of last year."

The Russian government concludes a lengthy statement relating to the Manchurian agreement in these words: "While the Russian government maintains its present organization in Manchuria to preserve order in the vicinity of the broad frontiers of Russia, and remains faithful to its original and oft-repeated political programme, it will quietly await the further course of events."

Washington, April 5.—The United States government has received a communication from the government of unusual importance. It bears on conditions in China, and particularly those relating to Manchuria. The document has created a profoundly favorable impression, and at the state department it is looked upon as the most salutory development that has occurred for many months in the Eastern situation. Although the terms of the Russian communication are withheld, it is known that Russia takes occasion to give a strong assurance of her disinterested purposes throughout her dealings with China. The belief is held in official quarters that the assurances of Russia are so sweeping as completely to avert the threatened crisis in Manchuria.

WITH SWORDS AND PISTOLS

Blood Thirsty Preparations for Duel—One Man Really Wounded.

Nice, April 5.—In the duel fought on the frontier of Monaco yesterday between Count Kontonzoff Tolstoy, a lieutenant in a Cossack regiment, and Count Tarnowski, secretary of the Austro-Hungarian legation at Washington, the seconds were Prince Korohguibey and Prince Podorania, for Count Tolstoy, and Counts Rohozinsky and Ronickes for Count Tarnowsku. The seconds selected an umpire, who decided that on account of the gravity of the offence, the honor of the principals required the use of pistols first and then swords. The meeting was in consequence of a public altercation, the cause of which is not known.

Two shots were exchanged without a hit, and in the first assault with swords Count Tarnowski was wounded in the forearm.

FRENCH LADY HONORED.

Lord Kitchener Presents Red Cross to Madame Ferriers.

Johannesburg, April 5.—Lord Kitchener has personally presented the Red Cross medal to Madame Ferriers, head of the French ambulance detachment, for her services to the British wounded.

QUITE ENGLISH.

A Copy of Henley Regatta to Be Tried in Connecticut.

New London, Conn., April 5.—As an outcome of a conference held here to-day between Mr. Henderson, of Boston, chairman of the United States Henley committee, and F. E. Chappell, chairman of the local regatta board, it seems probable that the United States Henley will be an assured fact for the coming season, and that races will be held at New London for two days of the same week in which the university crews row here.

NEW D. O. C.

Colonel Holmes Passes Through Winnipeg on His Way West.

Winnipeg, April 5.—(Special)—Lieut.-Col. Holmes, late commanding officer of No. 1 military district, with headquarters at London, Ont., passed through the city to-day on his way to Victoria, B. C., where he will take command of the British Columbia district. He is accompanied by Miss Holmes. Mrs. Holmes remains here a few days with friends.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Bowmanville Boy Dangerously Wounded By His Own Gun.

Bowmanville, April 5.—(Special)—An accident occurred here this afternoon, from the result of which the youngest son of J. B. Martyn, of this town, is likely to lose his life. He was out shooting, and his gun was discharged while he was crossing a creek at the flats near town on a foot-bridge. The charge of shot entered his right side, piercing his liver and striking a rib, where it scattered, some of it entering his lungs.

PLAGUE OF DEVIL FISH.

English Channel Invaded by Octopi That Destroy Crabs and Lobsters.

From Chicago Inter-Ocean.

A plague as horrid in its way as any of those from which the ancient Egyptians suffered has assailed the south coast of England.

Countless hordes of octopods—the devil fishes of Victor Hugo—have invaded the English channel and have swarmed along the shores of Devon and Cornwall in tremendous numbers. Travelling about in marauding armies, they have well-nigh destroyed the local lobster and crab fisheries by devouring these crustaceans wholesale.

On the French side of the strait, especially in the department of Finisterre, they are thrown up on the beaches by the sea after storms in such quantities that their loathsome bodies have been gathered up and removed by hundreds of cartloads to prevent them from endangering the public health by rotting.

Many of these creatures have a spread of six feet or more, the tentacles being three feet in length, and covered with suckrs as big as fifty-cent pieces. But specimens have been seen very much larger in size, and individuals are known sometimes to attain a measurement of sixteen feet from arm tip to arm tip. That the larger ones will readily attack human beings is well known, the sucking disks with which the arms are provided holding the victim with an irresistible force. Once fairly embraced by the animal, there is small chance for the strongest man, unless he is lucky enough to have a big knife or a spear.

The most surprising point about the plague referred to is that the octopus has rarely been seen hitherto in British waters—so rarely, indeed, that during many years past specimens could be obtained for aquaria in England only at long intervals, and half a sovereign was frequently paid for a small one alive. It is very numerous in the Mediterranean, and ranges as far north as the south side of the English channnel, which is its extreme limit ordinarily.

Seemingly the present scourge is due to a series of hot summers and wild winters, which have encouraged the propagation of the disgusting molusk—by nature a warm-water animal—and possibly other conditions may have helped it to multiply in unprecedented numbers. Its marked increase was first noticed along the French shores in 1893, and recent investigations go to show that, after having exhausted the available food supply on that side of the strait the overplus migrated in swarms across the channel to England.

One of the first signs of its arrival upon the shores of Devon and Cornwall was the appearance of great numbers of crabs which had been driven into the shallow waters by the marauding molusks. The latter enter the traps of the fishermen and destroy the lobsters and crabs which have been caught, and sometimes the seine nets are literally burdened with the writhing, pulpy monsters.

The female octupus makes her nest in any sheltered and convenient hollow in the rocks. There she lays her eggs, which, in due time, hatch out young octopods. One of the curious phenomena incidental to the recent plague has been the finding of immense numbers of minute polyps, not long hatched, and hardly bigger than grains of rice. Not much is known as to their rate of growth, but

AND THE BAND PLAYED.

When the Earthquake Shook Up the Sultan's Palace.

Constantinople, April 6.—During the panic resulting from an earthquake shock felt at the time of the Sultan's reception last Sunday in the palace, a Muezzin from Aleppo, possessed of a magnificent voice, began chanting a prayer from the Koran for protection against the earthquake. His voice rose above the tumult and had an instantaneous effect on those present. The Sultan, who had taken a few steps from the throne, and all other Moslems present holding their hands before them, joined in the supplication of the Muezzin. Afterwards the band resumed playing, and the reception was continued.

MYSTERIOUS CABLE SHIP.

French Vessel Lays a Wire and Takes It Up Again.

Hongkong, April 6.—The foreign residents of Amoy are puzzled by the order of precedure of the French cable ship Diolaban which last Wednesday laid a cable from Amoy out to sea without consulting the local authorities, who did not interfere with the progress of the work, supposing the Diolabah to be a transport. It was reported that a second cableship was waiting outside for the purpose of connecting with the cable laid by the Diolabah. The direction of the laying of these cables is unknown. To-day the Diolabah returned off Amoy and cut the cable she had laid, taking the end aboard.

Farmer Hayrake.—I s'pose ye've heard 'bout my sendin' my son Reuben to an institution av learnin'?

Farmer Snakefoot.—Why, no. Some fool's bin spreadin' the report round the neighborhood that yew've sent him ter college.—Judge.

Question Of Troops

United States and Russia Differ in Opinion With Other Powers

As to the Forces That Should Be Retained as Garrisons in China.

Views of Generals Will Be Presented to Ministers For Approval.

Pekin, April 6.—The meeting of the generals of the allied troops and Count von Waldersee this morning was of great interest and importance. Though it was known beforehand what had been practically decided upon, still the meeting showed conclusively the attitude of the different powers. The only dissent in the plans adopted was by Gen. Chaffee, the United States commander, and Gen. Wogack, commander of the Russian forces, who both thought that the number of points to be occupied was excessive, and also that the number of troops was too great. The other generals were unanimous in the opinion that nine points on the railroad should be occupied between Pekin and Shan Hai Kwan with 6,000 men, exclusive of the 2,000 in Pekin. This will be a permanent measure, while the reduction of the present forces will be made according to the wishes of the respective governments. The railway between Pao Ting Fu and Pekin will not be guarded, it not being a line of communication with these.

Gen. Chaffee suggested that it would only be necessary to occupy two points between Yang Tsun and Tien Tsin, and three between Tien Tsin and Shan Hai Kwan, with a total of 2,000 men, exclusive of those at Pekin. It was not necessary, he said to have soldiers at Tong Ku, as naval vessels were always there, and also because the reliefs would always be passing backward and forward. Gen. Wogack thought 1,000 men would be sufficient for the occupation of Tien Tsin and Shan Hai Kwan.

The views of the majority will be presented to the ministers for immediate action, as the generals feel that the acceptance by the Chinese of these terms, including the total destruction of the forts at Shan Hai Kwan, Pei Talg, Taku, Tong Ku, Pei Tsan and Yang Tsun, will mean complete submission, when arrangements ought to be made for the withdrawal of a majority of the forces from China.

Berlin, April 6.—Count von Waldersee reports to the war office that, after dispersing the robber bands to the northwest of Tien Tsin, the troops engaged in that work have returned to their quarters. In the course of the operations 20 robbers were killed, and 1 gun and 29 wagons with arms and ammunition were captured.

A WORLD REPORT.

The C. P. R. and Northern Pacific Will Work in Harmony.

Vancouver, April 6.—(Special)—Harry Myers has been missing from Gambier Island since March 28; he is thought to have been drowned.

Westminster won from Vancouver in an exhibition game of lacrosse yesterday.

The World prints the statement to-day, that should a bonus be granted to the V. V. & E., the Northern Pacific will at once build into Vancouver and run in conjunction with the C. P. R. No authority is given for the statement, beyond the announcement that Mr. Pearson, the superintendent of the Pacific division of the Northern Pacific, is in Vancouver and had interviewed Mr. Marpole.

Mr. Geo. McL. Brown, executive agent of the C. P. R., stated that there was no truth whatever in the story that his company has arranged with the Northern Pacific Railway Co. to build into Vancouver and checkmate the Great Northern provided the V. V. & E. received a bonus from the British Columbia government.

LOST—A GENERAL.

Couriers Trying to Find French Commander on Morocco Frontier.

Algiers, April 6.—Military officials here are anxious over the absence of all news from Gen. Serviere, operating on the Morocco border, whose whereabouts is utterly unknown. Couriers have been despatched in various directions but have failed to communicate with Gen. Serviere, and it is feared that he is short of ammunition and provisions.

NOVEL WARFARE.

Attempt to Stop Sending More Mules to the British Army.

New Orleans, April 6.—Injunction proceedings brought presumably by Boer representatives with a view to stopping the shipment of mules through New Orleans to the British army in South Africa have been postponed in the Supreme Court until next Tuesday.

TO ARMS.

Nova Scotia Board of Health Begins to Vaccinate.

Halifax, April 6.—(Special)—A. C. Moore, a confectioner, died of smallpox to-day at Kentville. He is the first Nova Scotia victim. The board of health here, this morning appointed doctors to vaccinate the poor, and general vaccination begins to-day.

MR. KRUGER.

Starts for Hilversum, Where He'll Stay for Some Time.

Utrecht, Holland, April 6.—Mr. Kruger has started for Hilversum, 15 miles from Amsterdam, where he will stay for some time. The burgomaster of Utrecht and a big crowd bade him farewell at the railroad station.

STRIKE ENDED.

Engine Workers in Lanarkshire Have Agreed to Resume.

London, April 6.—The Lanarkshire strike is apparently ended, the engine workers having agreed to resume work April 8. The miners will, in consequence, resume work also. The strike brought no gains to the workmen.

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ALLAN WILL STAY.

President McKinley Persuades Him He Was the Man for Porto Rico.

Washington, April 6.—Charles H. Allan, governor of Porto Rico, who arrived in Washington this morning, had an hour's conference with President McKinley to-day. Great interest was manifested in Governor Allan's visit on account of the rumors that have been rife ever since he sailed from San Juan that it was the intention to resign his post in the island. After the conference, however, Mr. Allan announced that he would not resign, and would return to his duties about the first week of May. It is pretty well understood that Governor Allan came to Washington in the hope that the President would relieve him of his duties in Porto Rico, and that he asked the President to do so, but the President prevailed upon him to continue at the head of the administration of the affairs of the island.

STOP THE LINE.

United States Steel Company Countermand Carnegie's Plan.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 6.—The plans of Andrew Carnegie to parallel the Pennsylvania railroad system and construct a trunk line to the seaboard have been ordered stopped by the United States Steel Co., which now controls the Carnegie Co. A number of surveyors have been working upon the line for some time, and these men will all be recalled and discharged. The road was planned by Mr. Carnegie and the Carnegie Co., and was to be used as an outlet for their extensive tonnage to the seaboard. The road was started within a few days after Mr. Carnegie alleged he had been deceived by the Pennsylvania officials into announcing that he was satisfied with the 13 per cent. rate on manufactured steel.

Backing Out Gracefully

Identical Note From Russia Being Presented to the Various Powers.

Rather Than Stir Up Unpleasant Row Agreement Not Insisted Upon.

London, April 6.—A despatch from St. Petersburg says it is learned from a trustworthy source that Russia's diplomatic agents abroad were instructed on April 3 to communicate to the governments to which they were accredited an identical note in the same terms as that presented by Count Casseni, the Russian minister at Washington, to Secretary Hay.

The text of the identical note, as it appears from news which has come to hand, is as follows:

"That in the present circumstances a special agreement in the Manchurian affair instead of being an open testimonial of friendly sentiments on the part of Russia towards China, might entail various difficulties for the neighboring state. Russia does not in any way insist upon the conclusion of such agreement and even abandons all possible negotiations in this matter.

Inasmuch as the imperial government ever adheres faithfully to its original and oft-related programme, it will quietly await the further course of events."

INTERNAL DISORDERS.

Russia's Labor Problem Has a Dark Outlook.

St. Petersburg, April 6.—The stoppage of the works in the province of Ekaterinoslav has caused 10,000 workmen to become idle. The government, with a view of preventing disorders, political agitators being busy, is sending the unemployed gratuitously to the places whither they originally came from. The closing of the factories in Kharkoff has produced must unrest there, and trouble is likely to occur during the Easter festivities, not only in the districts of Ekaterinoslav and Kharkoff, but also in the factory quartors of St. Petersburg, Tula, Moscow and Brinsk, where work is almost at a standstill.

SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS

Court Considered That Todd Had Killed Gordon Under Provocation.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Winnipeg, April 6.—At the assizes today, the Chief Justice sentenced the prisoner Todd to two years in the penitentiary for manslaughter, intimating, however, that the case might be reviewed by the Full Court and the prisoner released. The verdict of the jury, the court pointed out, meant that the jury were of the opinion that Todd had shot and killed John Gordon. Sentence was made much shorter than it otherwise would have been on the assumption that the act was done on provocation. The court dwelt at some length on the effect of the evidence of Linklater.

The prisoner, on being asked if he had anything to say why sentence of the court should not be pronounced against him, answered: "I am not guilty."

The libel suit of Roblin v. the Free Press has been withdrawn by mutual consent.

Five special trains with Ontario settlers and effects arrived from the East to-day.

Charles Elham, aged 13 years, has disappeared mysteriously from Emerson.

JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS.

Mr. Kato opes Canada Will Deal Leniently in the Matter.

Vancouver, April 6.—(Special.)—Mr. Mr. Kato Hopes Canada Will Deal Leniently in the matter. In the meantime the government will strive to prevent illiterate Japanese emigrating to America, while doing all they can do to have the British Columbia Immigration Act done away with.

Seeking Excuses

Russia Says Other Powers Are Responsible for Seizure of Manchuria.

Intimates That She Is Not Going to Be Left at Any Disadvantage.

Japan Had Declined a Proposal to Consider Neutralization of Korea.

St. Petersburg, April 6.—The newspapers here aver that the foreign powers and not Russia, are responsible for the continued occupation of Manchuria. The Viemosti says it is quite impossible for Russia to withdraw without some guarantee more order will be preserved on her frontiers, adding: "Russia does not intend to be left in the Far East at the disadvantage she was placed under in the Far East twenty-three years ago."

The apoplectic seizure of Yang Yu, Chinese minister to Russia, after his recent interview with Count Lamdorff, the Russian foreign minister, will probably necessitate his withdrawal from the post. Negotiations with the Chinese at St. Petersburg have ceased since his illness.

Washington, D. C., April 6.—The Japanese minister, Mr. Takahira, has received no word from his government since the latest Russian declaration was communicated to Japan. The minister says that a despatch appearing to-day in United States newspapers as to the warlike attitude of Japan, probably was sent out before the Russian declaration had been received by the Japanese government. The despatch alluded to stated that the Japanese government had decided Russia's reply concerning Manchuria was unsatisfactory, and that a peremptory remonstrance, amounting practically to an ultimatum, would be delivered to Russia. This appeared to refer to Russia's latest declaration, but on examination it is clear that it could not have referred to the latest Russian declaration, as this was not sent to the powers until Thursday after the warlike despatch sent out from Japan. This leaves open the questions of Japan's policy on the case as now presented by Russia, and removes the impression that Japan had peremptorily rejected the Russian statement.

Berlin, April 6.—The correspondent of the Associated Press learns on the highest authority that Prince Tuan's fate has finally been decided. His death sentence is commuted to banishment to Turkestan. The list of guilty provincial authorities included only two to be beheaded, and seven degraded.

"The Chinese commissioners are surprised that the guilty should escape with light punishment," the informant of the correspondent of the Associated Press added, "and well they may."

The Frankfurter Zeitung publishes another letter from Pekin containing a verbatim account of the interview between Dr. Munn von Schwarzenstein, German minister to China, and the Chinese Prince. The most interesting point in the interview is the Prince's admission that if the allied troops are not withdrawn the Boxers would immediately re-appear in strong force. The Prince added: "This Li Hung Chang and Prince China likewise know."

The correspondent gave a vivid account of the keen competition between the Imperial princes to be chosen to go to Berlin in order to express the Chinese Emperor's penitence for the murder of von Ketteler.

London, April 7.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Sunday Special says it has transpired that Russia recently proposed to Japan the neutralization of Korea, but that Japan refused the proposition as insufficiently safeguarding her interests.

LIVE BIRD SHOOTING.

Results of the Handicap Events in New York State.

New York, April 6.—The ninth annual trap-shooting tournament at live birds, which was begun last Monday at Interstate Park, R.I., under the auspices of the Interstate Association, was concluded this evening in a drenching downpour of rain. The contests on the programme were one for the Gilman Barnes trophy and the other for the Sportsmen's Association trophy. Both are handicaps; the men were placed from 25 to 33 yards, and each event called for 25 birds per man and $15 entrance.

Both events were shot off simultaneously at two sets of traps, but owing to the severity of the storm, it was arranged that the number of birds in each case should be reduced from 25 to 15. In the Gilman Barnes trophy contest, nine men tied with straight scores of 15 kills each, and in the Sportsmen's trophy contest, there were seventeen straights with 15 each. These ties were to have been shot off "miss and out," but the weather conditions prevented this being done, but the men drew lots to see who is to get the trophies. L. D. Morrison, of St. Paul, who was the runner up in the Grand American yesterday, won the Gilman Barnes trophy, and Frank S. Parmelee, of Omaha, Neb., was the lucky men in the draw for the Sportsmen's trophy. Forty-one men competed in the Gilman Barnes handicap, and 36 in the Sportsmen's handicap.

NOT FORGOTTEN.

John Robertson and the Club That Was Not Formed.

Montreal, April 6.—(Special)—During the last federal elections, a number of men solicited subscriptions for a political club, but the money went into their own pockets. Several of the men were arrested and punished, but one John Robertson left the city. He returned a couple of days ago and was promptly scooped in on the charge of obtaining money under false pretences from Senator Dandurand. Robertson pleaded guilty this morning in the police court. He will be sentenced later.

RICE MURDER.

Patrick Will Not Be Witness in Preliminary Hearing.

New York, April 6.—It is said to-night that it has been decided that Albert T. Patrick, who is charged with the murder of Wm. M. Rice, shall not take the witness stand in the preliminary examination, which has been in progress before Justice Jerome in the criminal court for the past week. The prosecution expects to close its case next week.