

the Summer Months

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The Free Press,
LONDON, ONT.
Monday, July 2, 1900.

THE TALK
OF LONDON.

ment of Sick and
British Soldiers

AFRICA.

ants' Disclos-

AND GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

An Attack on Lord Kitchener's
Stern Measures.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

Discussed at the French and German
Capitals—British Business
World Worried Over the Wheat
Outlook—The Latest French Idea.

London, June 30.—The spectacle of a man of American birth (Mr. Wm. Ashmead—Bartlett Burdett—Coutts, Conservative member for Westminster), standing in the House of Commons, amidst a storm of cheers and jeers, alleging that abuses followed in the wake of British victories, proved as dramatic as it was unprecedented. For over two hours Mr. Burdett-Coutts, once known as the "young and of the millionaire baroness," now growing gray with his 50 years, his face bronzed by the sun of South Africa, and his hands clenched nervously behind him, commanded the attention of the hostile majority of the House, and drew a succession of ghastly pictures that in gruesomeness of detail eclipsed the horrors of the Crimean war. The task was terribly difficult. Mr. Burdett-Coutts has seldom spoken in Parliament, and never before at such length or with the sole nation waiting to hear what he had to say. He is nothing of an orator. He was forced to present a series of details now and again tedious. He nevertheless held audience by the gravity and length of his assertions. His contention that "every word I have said is true," was made with an emphasis that atoned for all his defects. The speech of the Secretary of the War Office, Mr. Geo. Wyndham, who preceded Mr. Burdett-Coutts, and that of the Government leader and First Lord of the Treasury, Mr. A. J. Balfour, who followed, were both efforts neither man have equalled this at any rate. The Government was awake to the seriousness of the situation, and with surpassing oratory, Mr. Wyndham took his place behind the scenes of the great campaign. In graphic language he described the enormous difficulties of communications, and exposed for the first time the daring conception of the "Robert's" plans and the risks he had taken. In short, without tiring his hearers with too many statistics, the Secretary for War gave such a fascinating panorama of the war, including facts that prove that the War Office took all precautions, reiterating that war must always be fearful, that his hearers well-nigh forgot the sick and wounded in their admiration of the success of the great general. But, as the Times points out today, all this crumbled away before the "damning details" presented by Mr. Burdett-Coutts, who spoke with the advantage of having seen whereof he spoke. Mr. Balfour for once lost his control. Flushed and trembling with passion he denounced the attack, which he declared, merely to ungoverned criticism. He said: "This is the Opposition in point of fact the whole of Mr. Burdett-Coutts' speech is an attack on the stern methods of Kitchener, instead of Lord Kitchener, who was not openly as a result of the dramatic public opinion, seems fairly divided between two verdicts. The War Office is guilty of neglect; second, to reserve the report. Mr. Burdett-Coutts has suddenly become one of the most prominent men of the hour. The Government has still to face a host to a greater state than the declaration of war itself. THE NEW OF THE CHINESE SITUATION. A correspondent writes:—"The Seymour and the Opposition that the Pekin safety has given a situation in which the State Office express views of the safety

of the legations is confirmed, the chances of an early settlement of the difficulties will be immeasurably improved. The Chinese legation here is utterly in the dark as to the situation at Pekin. The members of the legation feel a considerable apprehension regarding the future if a state of war should be declared between European powers and China. In an event of this sort, they, in common with other Chinese ministers, would receive a notice to quit. The correspondent of the Associated Press asked a member of the legation what they expected to do in the event of the breaking off of the relations between the French and Chinese Governments. "We really don't know what would happen to us," was the candid reply. Under the position of the Chinese legations in Europe at the present moment is extremely awkward. At the Foreign Office the opinion is expressed that their only place of refuge would be Switzerland, which has no treaty with China. The feeling among diplomats in Paris is to the effect that if the powers and China are acting in concert good faith and that unless some nation makes a move which is interpreted as selfish, that the ultimate outcome will be an amicable arrangement. No matter what the final result in China, the course taken by the United States in heartily co-operating with European nations has created a most favorable impression. Members of the colonial group of the French Chamber of Deputies met to consider the Chinese situation, and Etienne, leader of the party, declared that their duty was to support the extension or strengthening of the influence of Russia in the north and the influence of France in the south of China. It was asserted that it was to the interest of France to prevent dismemberment of the Empire, and to oppose the deposition of the Empress Dowager, if it was meant by this the substitution of another Government, under the tutelage of Great Britain. The colonial party would therefore urge the Government to greatly strengthen its forces in Indo-China, artillery being especially sent. The attitude assumed by the morning papers toward the proposition of the Chinese Government is decidedly unsympathetic. The Figaro expresses astonishment at the conditions the powers are asked to accept, and says that, although the time is unpropitious for a thorough discussion of all the articles, it has no hesitation in saying that there is no chance that they will be accepted. "The viceroys who thus thrust themselves forward," continues the Figaro, "doubtless wish to throw the European concert into confusion in accordance with precedents of Chinese diplomacy, and if perchance they succeeded, the Imperial Government would soon declare that they were without instructions, and unauthorized to enter into direct relations with the powers. The situation in the interior and the north of China is too seriously troubled for the propositions to be made the basis of serious negotiations." Le Journal is also suspicious, and says that there may be good things in the proposition, but that they may perhaps hide traps full of danger.

DISCUSSED AT BERLIN. According to a Berlin correspondent, a high German Foreign Office official at Berlin, replying to questions of the correspondent here of the Associated Press, said:—"The old theory of 'no war' is still upheld." This was said smilingly. "The understandings," he continued, "are still intact. No change of policy is going on. Japan, some time ago, asked the powers for their programme, which communication was answered. The press has been exaggerating the share which diplomacy has hitherto had in the matter. There has not been any talk of dismissing the Chinese ministers in Europe." The correspondent of the Associated Press at Berlin also interviewed the Chinese minister, Lui-Hai-Houn, who said there has been no question hitherto in Europe of handing the Chinese ministers their passports. No one knows where the foreign ministers to China are. If they went to Shanghai-Kwan it was a step taken by the Chinese Government for their protection, and was not their dismissal. The sending of troops home to China is useless for everything will be over before their arrival. It will require six weeks to get them to Tien-Tsin, and Li-Hung-Chang will suppress the Boxers in three weeks. The Chinese Minister, however, admits receiving no direct news from the Chinese Government. The correspondent of the Associated Press understands that his Majesty has reached, with Count Von Bülow, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs (who has just returned from Kiel), an understanding about the general lines of Germany's attitude in the present crisis, subject to unforeseen circumstances compelling a deviation. It is certain, however, that the Emperor could have all the volunteers for China he wanted from the army if larger forces were needed there, for the popular sentiment against China is quite strong. A leading diplomat at Berlin, who has had an extensive experience in China, said to the correspondent that he condemned the present anti-Chinese course pursued by the powers, claiming that the naval demonstrations with which the hostilities began was unjustified, and was the marching of troops toward Pekin in time of actual peace. He considers the subjection of the Chinese nation impossible, and says his pacification is also impossible. Besides, he adds, to accomplish anything like lasting military successes against the Chinese at least 200,000 men will be required, but he continued, even then Europe can administer to the needs of some of the provinces of China. He strongly advocates, therefore, a policy of mutual forgiveness and forgetfulness, and the putting of an effectual stop to missionary efforts there.

YELLOW LITERATURE. One of the results of Great Britain's interest in China is a regular scourge of yellow literature. Such books as "Yellow and White," "The Yellow Peril," "Overland to China by Proxy" and Lord Roberts' book on China are having a phenomenal sale.

THE WHEAT OUTLOOK. The probability of a big rise in wheat, owing to the shortage of the American crop, is worrying the British business world, for though supplies are still coming in plentifully from Argentina, the Indian crop is quite insufficient to meet its normal demands.

A FRENCH IDEA. The French Academy of Medicine has just deliberated upon the proposal of Dr. Cazallas in favor of compelling persons desiring to marry to be medically examined, as in the case of conscripts for the army or applicants for life insurance. The academy approved the proposition, and instructed the committee to draw up the regulations with a view to presenting the measure to Parliament to make the prohibition of marriage under these conditions legal. Some of the papers support the idea, and they refer to a report of the State of North Dakota as of similar import.

ALL TOO TRUE.

Continued from First Page.

ALL BUT THREE OF THE LEGATIONS BURNED. Rome, July 1.—The commander of the cruiser Elba telegraphs from Taku, June 30, as follows:—"Advices from the German legation in Pekin state that all the legations have been burned except those of England, France and Germany. All the members of the diplomatic corps have taken refuge in the British legation."

FURTHER CONFIRMATION. Shanghai, July 1.—The German minister in Pekin, Baron Von Ketteler was attacked while proceeding to the Tsungli-Yamen, where he died.

ARSENAL CAPTURED.

NEAR TIEN-TSIN BY COMBINED FORCES.

London, June 30, 2.59 p. m.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Col. Dowdard:—"Che-Foo, June 30.—The arsenal north-east of Tien-Tsin was captured during the morning of June 27 by the combined forces. The British troops engaged were the naval brigade and the Chinese regiment. The arsenal contained a large quantity of arms and ammunition, including two officers. The Chinese regiment had no casualties. The latter checked an attack by the Boxers on our left flank, with heavy loss to the enemy."

RUSSIA CONTINUES TO DESPATCH TROOPS TO CHINA, AND THE GERMAN CRUISER FURST BISMARCK LEFT KIEL THIS MORNING FOR THE EAST.

FROM ADMIRAL BRUCE.

MAGNIFICENT WORK.

London, July 2, 12.45 a. m.—A despatch from Admiral Bruce to the Admiralty, sent via Che-Foo, under date of June 30th, says:—

"The conduct of Commander Stewart, of the Aegle, and Commander Hausse, of the German gunboat Illis, at the bombardment of the Taku forts, was magnificent and elicited the admiration of the allied ships."

RIVER ROUTE OPEN.

"The river route to Tien Tsin, 51 miles from Taku, is now open. The railway head is now nine miles from Tien Tsin. The road inward is not quite safe, and communication to Tien Tsin is difficult. A fort, 13 miles above Taku, was found deserted by Lieut. Commander Keyes and was blown up, leaving the passage up the river free."

BY THE NAVAL BRIGADE.

"Lieut. Commander Keyes reports that the arsenal at Tien Tsin was captured June 29 by the naval brigade. The losses were five killed. Lieut. Colomb was slightly wounded, and a gunner and twenty-one men wounded. There are no further details. Warrender is in charge of all our forces in the river and lines of communication."

A RUSSIAN COMMANDER.

"Vice-Admiral Alexieff, Governor-General of Port Arthur and commander-in-chief of the Russian forces in the east, has arrived on his way to Tien Tsin, taking supreme command of the Russian forces landed to date."

THE ALLIED FORCES.

"Germany has 44 officers and 1,200 men; Great Britain, 184 officers and 1,700 men; Austria, 12 officers and 127 men; America, 20 officers and 329 men; France, 17 officers and 387 men; Italy, 7 officers and 191 men; Japan, 119 officers and 379 men; and Russia, 17 officers and 5,817 men, with a total of 53 field guns and 36 machine guns."

A SCHOONER DISAPPEARS.

Kingston, Ont., July 1.—The captain of the schooner Acadia reports that the schooner Pictou was in company with him leaving Charlotte yesterday. It was blowing a stiff gale, and suddenly 25 miles off Sodus the Pictou disappeared from view. He fears the schooner foundered and that all hands have been drowned. The Pictou is owned in Belleville.

AMERICAN CASUALTIES.

IN THE RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Washington, July 1.—The following message was received this morning at the navy department:—"Che-Foo, Secretary Navy, Washington, D. C.—Following telegram from Kempf casualties relief expedition, June 25:—Killed: Boatwain's Mate Thomas Benson, Apprentices Broman, Landsman Severol. Wounded—Boatswain's Mate Holiske, Machinist Handford, Landsman Kilgaly, Cadet Laussig, Capt. McCalla, Fireman Rowe, Landsman Garretty, Coxswain Ryan, Quartermaster Conway, Coxswain McCreary, Fireman Flaherty, Seamen Lloyd, Henderson, and McCreary. Landsman Philip Voellmoeller, Coxswain Thomas, Lindom, Apprentices Johnson, Rasmussen and Welsh, Private Orloff.—(Signed) Rogers." The prisoners have been informed that the Princeton has arrived at Canton. Coxswain McCreary's name could not be found on the rolls. Possibly he had been transferred from some other ship, since the rolls were returned. The name McKenney also is not to be found in the rolls.

FROM TAKU.

ANXIETY REGARDING FOREIGNERS AT PEKIN.

Taku, June 27.—The greatest anxiety exists concerning the foreigners at Pekin. Admiral Kempf believes that large reinforcements are necessary to reach Pekin. Major Waller's command, with 40 Russians, was ambushed three miles from Tien-Tsin on June 21. They were compelled to retreat, the Americans abandoning a three-inch rifle and Colt's gun, losing four killed and seven wounded. Admiral Kempf opposed the policy of attacking the Chinese army unless they began hostilities. It is now admitted that the powers attacking the forts

TURNED THE CHINESE.

into allies with the Boxers. Americans think this might have been avoided. Admiral Kempf has held aloof from hostilities beyond movements necessary to rescue Americans. The forces ashore number 16,000, of which 3,500 are British, 1,500 German, 4,000 Russians, 3,000 Japanese, and the remainder American, French, Italian and Austrian. Yesterday the English torpedo boat Fame visited the fort at the new city, twelve miles up the

river. It was found deserted, and was blown up. Lieut. Jane, of the Newark, trying to reach Tien-Tsin by boat at the time of the storming of Tien-Tsin, had a fierce fight with the Chinese.

ALLIED FORCES REPULSED.

Major Waller's battalion of 150 marines, with Commander Craddock's British naval brigade, numbering 500, were camped on June 22 eight miles from Tien-Tsin, where the railroad had been destroyed. At daylight on the morning of the 23rd Major Waller and two companies of British marched on Tien-Tsin. The remainder of the British and 200 Russian soldiers supporting went up the river bank, and a column consisting chiefly of Russians and Germans took up the route chosen by Waller. They were repulsed, however.

RUSSIANS AND CHINESES.

On June 21 the Russians became engaged in a conflict with the Chinese. First Major Waller reinforced them, and then rejoined the British, the military college being attacked. The Chinese exploded a mine under the Russians, merely bruising a few of the men. While crossing to join the English they were exposed to a heavy shelling from the Russian gunboats. The Russians were killed, and the English two were killed and three wounded. The English and American forces

CARRIED THE VILLAGE.

outside of the walled city by storm. They found in Tien-Tsin Lieut. Irwin with a cadet and 40 men in good condition. When the Chinese attacked Tien-Tsin on June 21, Major Waller's command, with 40 Russians, was ambushed three miles from that place. They were compelled to retreat, abandoning a three-inch rifle and a Colt's gun, and losing four killed and seven wounded.

THE GREATEST ANXIETY.

exists concerning the position of the foreigners at Pekin. Admiral Kempf believes that large reinforcements are necessary in order to reach Pekin. He is anxious to avoid all action likely to involve Americans in future diplomatic discussion. When the forts were attacked the British gunboat Algerine surprised and boarded four Chinese torpedo boats under the shadow of the forts. They offered one to Admiral Kempf, who declined to receive it. The Russians, Germans and Japanese each took one of the boats.

CHINESE PROPOSALS.

FOR PROTECTION OF FOREIGNERS.

Paris, June 30.—The text of the agreement between the Viceroy and Consul at Shanghai for the protection of missionaries and foreign merchants in South and East China, which was cabled here yesterday for ratification by M. Delcasse, is as follows:—

"We, the Viceroy of Nankin and Hankow, in order properly to provide for the protection of missionaries and foreign merchants in the southern and eastern parts of the Chinese Empire, have agreed with the Government of Shanghai to submit to all the Consuls and to combine with them in the following agreement:—

"Article 1.—The measures we have taken to protect the missionaries and the lives and properties of missionaries and of foreign and Chinese merchants without distinction.

"Article 2.—It is understood on both sides that the Shanghai concession shall be protected by the foreign powers.

"Article 3.—The Viceroy of Nankin and the Viceroy of Hankow formally undertake to protect the missionaries, missionaries and foreign merchants in the valley of the Yang-Tse-Kiang, and in the ports of Fou-Chow and Hanko. Orders have been given by the local authorities to the various provinces forbidding the spreading of false news, and directing the arrest of Boxers.

"Article 4.—In ports where foreign warships are lying, they are authorized to remain at anchor on condition that the sailors remain on board.

"Article 5.—Should the foreign powers send warships to the Yang-Tse-Kiang without the consent of the Viceroy and Governors, the latter are not to be responsible for the misdeeds or massacres resulting, and China shall not be called upon to pay indemnity.

"Article 6.—Foreign warships shall not anchor or anchor near the Wou Sung forts or in the valley under any pretext, not even for the drill of sailors, in order to avoid any misunderstanding or unforeseen misfortune.

"Article 7.—All the foreign powers undertake not to permit their warships to approach or to anchor in the neighborhood of the Shanghai arsenal, and to permit their sailors to approach the ammunition manufactured in the arsenal and intended for use against rebels and the protection of missionaries and merchants. Should, however, the Viceroy or Governor withdraw any (ammunition), he must not be suspected.

"Article 8.—In places thus far devoid of troops, missionaries and foreigners are not to go, in order to avoid that they may not expose themselves to any danger whatever.

"Article 9.—The protection of the Shanghai concession shall be carried out with the greatest vigilance, and with an absence of ostentation, for, in the present excited condition of the people, the slightest alarm might provoke disorders, of which evil-minded persons could take advantage to instigate dangerous agitation.

"If other action is taken than that here expounded, it will be impossible to protect the lives and property of missionaries and foreigners.

"The Consuls have not yet signed the agreement, but are awaiting authorization from their respective governments."

The viceroy concludes by instructing the Minister in the interest of the various provinces of South-east China, to submit this arrangement as quickly as possible to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, and to beg him to accept it.

CHINA'S RESOURCES.

AS VIEWED BY LORD WOLSELEY.

London, June 30.—Lord Wolseley, in an interview published this morning, says:—"China possesses every requisite for over-running the world. She has a population of 400,000,000, all speaking the same language or dialect, readily understood from one end of the empire to the other. She has enormously developed wealth and still more enormous natural wealth awaiting development. Her men, if properly drilled, and led, are admirable soldiers. They are plucky and able to live on next to nothing. Moreover, they are absolutely fearless of death. Begin with the foundation of millions upon millions of such soldiers as these men are capable of being made and tell me, if you can, where the end will be."

BATTLESHIP ORIGIN.

AGROUND 50 MILES FROM TAKU.

Washington, June 30.—The Navy Department has received a cablegram from Capt. Wilde, of the Oregon, dated Che-Foo, yesterday, confirming the report that his ship is aground fifty miles from Taku. The Iris and another relief ship are now with the Oregon.

The following despatches were received at the Navy Department this morning relative to the grounding of the Oregon:—"Che-Foo, June 29.—Secretary Navy:—Anchored yesterday in dense fog in 17 fathoms, three miles south of How-Ko light, Gulf of Pe-Chi-Le. Sent out two boats and sounded; least water 5½ fathoms. Weather clear. Got under way and struck Pineapple rock. Much water in forward compartment. Perfectly smooth. Shall charter steamer if possible at Che-Foo and lighten the ship. Rock through side of ship above double bottom, about frame 19. Small holes also through bottom of ship—Wilde."

NO LOSS OF LIFE.

London, July 1.—A special despatch from Shanghai, dated June 30, Saturday, says that all on board the U. S. battleship Oregon, which went ashore in the Gulf of Pechili, have been saved. There is some chance that the vessel may be refloated.

FAR EAST NOTES.

ANTI-FOREIGN PLACARDS.

Hong Kong, June 30.—A river boat which has just arrived at Wu-Chow, reports that it was detained for 24 hours at Wu-Chow-Fu, by order of the British consul, in order to afford protection for foreigners until the gunboat Robin arrived. It was added that anti-foreign placards had been posted at Wu-Chow-Fu, saying the time had now arrived for the massacre of foreigners. The British gunboat Sandpiper, it was further announced, was still between Wu-Chow-Fu and Nghau-King-Fu, and could not be recalled owing to the wires being cut.

AN OFFER FROM VICTORIA.

Melbourne, June 30.—In response to a request from the Admiralty that three vessels of the auxiliary squadron should proceed to Chinese waters, the Premier of Victoria, Mr. McLean, has cabled an offer of 200 marines and two guns.

AND ONE FROM QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane, Queensland, June 30.—The Government of Queensland has offered the British Admiralty a gunboat for service in Chinese waters.

DEWEY'S VIEW OF IT.

New York, June 30.—Admiral Dewey, Narragansett Pier, R. I., discussing the Chinese situation, said:—"The troops we now have on the ground, I think, can readily cope with the situation. A year ago last winter, at the solicitation of the American Minister, I sent 120 marines, divided between Pekin and Tien-Tsin. At that time trouble appeared to be brewing. For years the Chinese have been antagonistic to what they term the 'foreign devils,' and this feeling must be overcome if we wish to retain our over-position as second to England. Americans or Europeans have little idea of the immense wealth of China, owing to the secret policy of the Government, and it is only during the past few years, or since the arrival of the missionaries, that this almost untold wealth has become apparent. Admiral Seymour's safety gives me great satisfaction."

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

THE ELECTION ACT PUT THROUGH COMMITTEE STAGE.

And Will be Fully Debated on Third Reading—A Number of Important Amendments.

Special from Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, July 1.—The Dominion Election Act Amendment and Consolidation Bill was practically put through the committee stage at Saturday's sitting of the Commons, but with the understanding that details may be fully debated upon the third reading.

The clause which provided that persons who have been convicted of any offence under the provisions of the Criminal Code should not be eligible to serve as returning officers, deputy returning officers, election clerks or poll clerks, was amended to read:—"Persons who have been convicted of an indictable offence."

An amendment was added to the bill to the effect that no person should serve as an election officer at Dominion elections who has been convicted of any violation of the Provincial election law.

An amendment offered by Mr. Morin to provide that no person under 21 years of age should be eligible to serve as an election officer was rejected. So was a proposition by Mr. Clancy to insert a form of oath to be taken by the voters. It will be that presented by Provincial law.

It was decided that for each polling subdivision there shall be, where possible, not more than 200 electors nor less than 200.

There was a prolonged discussion on the best method to ensure the elector an opportunity to vote, but the proposals to declare a half-holiday on polling day, as well as Mr. Puttee's amendment to keep the polls open in cities until 8 p. m., were rejected, and the law in this respect remains unaltered.

The Solicitor-General promised that the law would be amended so as to ensure to every elector in South Africa unimpaired rights of franchise.

At the suggestion of Mr. Clarke Wallace, Mr. Fitzpatrick also promised to draft a clause to safeguard the rights of young men who have become 21 years of age since leaving home for South Africa.

A new clause provides that the printer of the ballots shall bind them in books of from 100 to 250, the ballots to be numbered, and upon turning them over the returning officer shall make an affidavit that he has not supplied ballots to any one else.

The form of the ballot decided upon was that printed in the bill. The names on the ballot paper are separated by broad, black, horizontal lines, and the voter must make his cross in the blank space to the right of the name of the candidate for whom he votes. The disc is done away with altogether.

The bill will likely come up for third reading on Tuesday.

A bill was put through appropriation \$500,000 for the Intercolonial Railway.

The House adjourned at six to meet at 11 a. m. Monday.

The Last Summer

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