

EIGHTEENTH YEAR

EIGHT PAGES—FRIDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 17 1897—EIGHT PAGES

ONE CENT

R. C. Clarkson ASSIGNEE, TARIO BANK CHAMBERS, Scott-Street, Toronto, established 1864.

THE PRINCE OF NAPLES

Was Amended the Day Before the Cronstadt Feast.

SECURITY AGAINST GERMAN INVASION

Was the Object of the Military Convention as Originally Prepared.

The Document as Amended Provides That if France is Attacked Russia Will Consider the Treaty of Frankfurt Non-Existent—French Government Clinched Nothing Until After the Prince of Naples Visited Metz—The Compact is Also to Prevent the Sultan of Turkey From Making a Military Alliance With Germany—The Bank of England and Silver Bullion.

London, Sept. 16.—The Paris correspondent of The Daily News says: "I learn that the day before the Cronstadt feast, during the recent visit of M. Faure to St. Petersburg, the Franco-Russian military convention already existing was amended. Two articles and a protocol were arranged on Eastern affairs. The original convention gave France security against German invasion in return for French support of Russia in the Levant, and in certain contingencies naval assistance in the Baltic. Under the amended convention, if France should be attacked, Russia would consider the treaty of Frankfurt non-existent. "The French Government clinched nothing until the Prince of Naples attended the review at Metz, on the anniversary of the fall of Sedan. The advantage of the convention and protocol is that they do not come within the ratification clause of the French constitution. They can, however, be returned into a treaty at any moment. "I cannot ascertain the clauses of the protocol, but it is an open secret that France and Russia have agreed to prevent the Sultan from entering into a military alliance with Germany, to the exclusion of the other powers.

BANK OF ENGLAND AND SILVER

Will Hold One-Fifth of its Bullion in Silver if the French Bullion is Sold.

London, Sept. 16.—At the semi-annual meeting of the Bank of England to-day the Governor, Mr. Hugh C. Smith, said: "You are probably aware of the proposals laid before the committee in the summer by the United States and France, whereby this country might increase its use of silver, as well as the United States, to resume free coinage. Among the proposals was one asking the bank to hold the amount of silver permissible under the act of 1841, as against its notes. "The Governor then read a letter, dated July 29, addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks Beach, as follows: "Referring to our conversation, we beg to say the bank is prepared to carry out what is laid down as permissible in the bank charter, viz., to hold one-fifth of the bullion, held against its note issue, in silver, provided always that the French mint is again open to the free coinage of silver, and that the prices at which silver is procurable and saleable are satisfactory. "The Governor, in reply to questions, said the bank had no negotiations with the United States, monetary commission. "We have bought no silver. All we have done is to agree, under certain circumstances, to hold a certain amount of silver under the act of 1841."

THE WEEKLY STATEMENT

The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes, as compared with the previous account: Total reserve, increased £2,239,000; circulation decreased £221,000; bullion decreased £52,129; other securities, increased £381,000; public deposits, increased £124,000; notes reserve, increased £185,000; government securities unchanged. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 52.00, is now 51.70 per cent. Discount unchanged at 2 per cent.

The letter read at the Bank of England meeting to-day excited surprisingly little comment in the city, and did not affect silver stocks. Great satisfaction, however, is expressed at the headquarters of the Bimetallist League. The Governor of the Bank of England declines to discuss the matter, saying the letter spoke for itself.

As the Gold Men see it. Manager Ross of Glyn, Mills, Currie & Company, ardent supporters of the Gold Standard Defence Association, voiced the opinion of the bankers. He said: "The letter, with such qualifications, does not pledge the bank to anything, and its only effect will be to encourage the bimetallic agitation. If the plan was carried out it might raise the price of silver temporarily, which would be followed by the reopening of the American mines, over-production, and another fall in the price of silver."

SOME STRONG COMMENTS

London Standard says the Governor's Letter is Mischievous and Perfidious. London, Sept. 16.—The Standard's leading editorial deals with the letter of the Governor of the Bank of England to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and says: "A more absurd and mischievous letter has seldom been written by a man of position and high responsibility. It may be assumed that the question was put to him in the name of the bimetallicists, and that the Governor's reply was a direct answer to their request, whatever its motive, there can be but one straightforward, manly answer, namely, that as the Bank has promised to pay all its notes in gold, it could not admit silver into its reserve, without giving such an answer and thus separating the Bank formally from pernicious agitation, the Governor, apparently without the knowledge and consent of his colleagues, wrote the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the Bank was prepared to hold one-fifth of the bullion held against its note issue in silver, provided that the free coinage of silver, and that the price at which silver is procurable and saleable should be at any given time satisfactory. It is no excuse to say that the Governor's letter involves no practical danger to our currency, for the mass of our people are unable to distinguish between the shades of theory and opinion on this currency question. But India has been even converted to bimetalism and the devotees of that transcendental cult will be slow to boast another victory."

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UNSANITARY.



POLITICAL HEALTH OFFICER WHITNEY (to Widow O'Hardy): Oh! Yez may laugh me, good woman, but it'll be the cause of a good deal of political ill health for yez, will that same piggy.

DROWNED ON THE WAY

Robert Patterson, who Started from Hamilton for the Klondike.

Hamilton, Sept. 16.—(Special.)—A private telegram was received in the city this evening stating that Robert Patterson, who left here a few weeks ago with the Hamilton party, to go to the Klondike gold fields, was drowned in the river above Athabasca. It stated that he was on his way to the Klondike, and that he had a narrow escape, as the supplies were lost. Patterson was about 50 years of age, and leaves a widow. He resigned his position as engineer at the City Hospital, to go to the new Eldorado.

THE HUNDRED PRESENT

Representing the Political, Professional and Mercantile Interests.

Alberta Butcher in Demand.

Government Creameries Have Shipped Largely to Britain and B. C.

Winnipeg, Sept. 16.—The Alberta creameries operated by the Government have shipped 28,000 pounds of butter to Great Britain and 40,000 pounds of cheese to date. The demand in British Columbia is increasing, and the market improving.

LAUREN IN MONTREAL

Board of Trade Banquet at the Windsor Hotel.

Montreal, Sept. 16.—(Special.)—The Board of Trade banquet to Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Windsor Hotel was attended by about 400 people and was most enthusiastic. Mr. John McKergow presided, and to his right were Mayor Smith, Chief Justice Sir Alexander LaCrosse, Hon. R. W. Scott, Sir Louis H. Davies, Hon. R. A. Fisher, Hon. W. Stikinson and Printer, Wellington and Jordan-streets, Toronto.

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ATTACKED IN THE NIGHT

Heavy Fire Kept Up Against the British for Six Hours.

LIEUTS. TOMPKINS AND BAILEY KILLED.

One Lieutenant Wounded—Two Privates Killed and Five Wounded.

General Jeffrey's Brigade Had a Right Hot Reception on Arriving at the Foot of the Rawat Pass—Great Bravery Shown by the Defenders of Fort Gulistan—Fanatics Repeatedly Driven Back at the Point of the Bayonet—Afridis and Orakzais Said to Have Scattered to Their Homes—Thirty British Troops Killed and 59 Wounded in the Samana Operations—Cable News.

Simla, Sept. 16.—The second brigade of the Mohmand punitive force, commanded by General Jeffrey, reached the foot of the Rawat Pass on Tuesday last. During the night the British troops were attacked by the enemy, who kept up a heavy fire for six hours. Lieutenants Tompkins and Bailey were killed. Lieut. Harrington was dangerously wounded, two privates were killed, five privates were wounded, and 25 horses and mules were killed.

The garrison of Fort Gulistan made a most gallant defence. The enemy appeared before that place at noon on Sunday last, and by 1 o'clock the water tanks were filled and other preparations were made to resist a siege. The garrison consisted of 163 Sikhs, commanded by Major Des Voeux and Lieut. Pratt. Surgeon Prall, Mrs. Des Voeux, her four children and two nurses were also in the fort. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon the enemy closed round the fort. The garrison fought bravely, and at times rushed right up to them. The garrison repeatedly repulsed the tribesmen at the point of the bayonet, and there were some remarkable exhibitions of bravery. A havildar (native sergeant), with sixteen Sikhs, charged into the midst of 300 tribesmen and captured three standards. Another and captured three standards. Another and captured three standards.

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