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**R Pills**

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**GRAND MASTER'S VISIT.**

to W. E. Johnston, of Vancouver... Entertained by the L. O. O. F. at... Their Lodge Room.

Last night Bro. W. E. Johnston, of... ancover, Grand Master of the I. O. O. F. for British Columbia, was given a... and reception by the members of the... der in this city. The grand master... ived by the Charmer last night, and... as met by a number of the prominent... representatives of the order. At the re... ar meeting of Peerless lodge, which... as held last night, the work of the... der was explained before the grand... ster by a team composed of members... Peerless and Columbia lodges, in the... ferring of the first degree upon a... mber of Peerless lodge. The work... as in charge of Bro. G. P. Fox, the... an captain of Columbia lodge, who re... ived the hearty commendation of the... and master for the manner in which... work was done.

After adjournment tables were spread... the hall and an oyster supper, pre... ured by Bro. J. H. Sabine, was par... ed by Bro. James Poutinger, D. D. M., presided, having on his right hand... guest of the evening, Grand W. M... in A. Graham, Grand Treasurer G. T... ox, Bro. Richard Hall, M.P.P., Bro... rator, Fox, and Past Grand Master... Henderson, and on the left Grand... representative P. Dempster, Past Grand... nister, J. E. Phillips, and other promi... nt members of the order. An excell... nt last followed the supper, interest... ed with songs.

In responding to the toast of the grand... dge of British Columbia, the grand... der spoke of the difficulty which was... erperienced in attempting to visit all... lges of the province. In the upper... ntry, with scattered lodges, the work... as a very heavy one. The lodges in... province now numbered 42. When... mber reached 50 he hoped the... uld be honored by a jubilee celebra... on of some kind. The membership now... as 3,200. He hoped that a concert... ort would be put forth to bring the... rjected Old Follows Home to a suc... essful issue.

An orchestra, in charge of Bro. V... Duncanson, contributed much to the eve... ng's enjoyment.

Before leaving on the E. & N. railway... Duncanson this afternoon, the grand... der was driven around the city, ac... mpanied by members of the order, and... nder the points of interest in the cap... ital city.

It is said that the... what are... Little Liver Pills if they will... ure it? People who have used them... eek frankly of their worth. They are... all and easy to take.

## Boer Convoy Captured

### Guns, Rifles, Ammunition, Carts and Prisoners Taken By the British

### Many Burglars Belonging to Delarey's Commando Were Killed or Wounded.

London, March 26.—Lord Kitchener has sent the following dispatch to the war office:

"Pretoria, March 25.—Babington's force, including Shelkton's column, attacked Delarey's fifteen hundred strong commando, on the 23rd, and having defeated him, followed him up rapidly, with the result that the Boer rear guard was driven in and their country including the guns, were captured at Vaalbank.

"With great gallantry and dash, they captured two fifteen pounder guns, one pom-pom, six Maxim's, 320 rounds of big ammunition, and 15,000 rounds of small ammunition, 100 rifles, 53 wagons and 21 carts, besides taking 140 prisoners. "Our losses were slight. Many Boers were killed or wounded."

Desire to Address House.

London, March 26.—In the House of Commons today, Mr. Chamberlain, in reply to a question as to the reported intention of the government to settle a number of soldiers in South Africa, replied that the government had no intention of expropriating the owners of lands of taking lands in any other way than it could be taken in England.

Mr. Ballour, reinforcing the Colonial Secretary's statement, on March 18th, did not contemplate any such special folly as confiscating the lands of the natives.

The official casualty list issued last evening indicates a renewal of active operations since the failure of the negotiations between Lord Kitchener and General Botha. At Hartbeestfontein, March 22nd and 23rd, two officers were killed and three wounded and four men killed and twenty wounded. There also seems to have been heavy fighting at a place near Grodenstad, on March 18th, and near Ventersburg on March 10th.

At Hartbeestfontein, it is noticeable, therefore, that the advances as to fighting at these points really refer to the same engagements.

The Pretoria correspondent of the Standard says that it is obvious some months must elapse before Boer resistance can be crushed.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the Daily Express says that Mr. Kruger has advised acting President Schalkberg to formulate peace terms. It is virtually certain that the government will decline to hear Messrs. Merriman and Sauer at the bar of the House of Commons, on the ground that being ministers they are not locus standi.

Queenstown, Cape Colony, March 25.—The town guard here has been called out to a report that a party of Boers is near the town. Business has been shut down in order to allow the military to move in. The Boers, said to be twenty miles off, are alleged to have crossed the railroad near Drummond.

Many Boers Shot.

Capetown, March 25.—It is said that the Boers lost heavily attacking the garri- son at Lichtenburg last week. Upwards of 70 burghers are reported to have been shot at one spot among the ice entanglements.

Vryheid, March 25.—Gen. French with Durrain's and Pultney's columns, arrived here to-day, having killed and captured 1,200 Boers. He has also taken seven cannon, 1,000 rifles, 1,800 wagons, and 226,000 head of horses, cattle and sheep.

Must Return to Original Policy.

London, March 27.—The Vryheid dispatch is regarded as giving the total of Gen. French's captures throughout his operations. It indicates, therefore, the capture of additional Boers and war material.

The Pretoria and Bloemfontein correspondents of the Times send long dispatches announcing that operations have been commencing in the north-western districts of the province. The operations have failed to achieve the results hoped for, and pointing out that the British public must be prepared to return to the original policy of occupying towns and strag- gling the country with military posts as the only means of effecting complete pacification. This process, the correspondents say, will occupy much time and necessitate a constant supply of fresh troops. The strain on both officers and men has been and will be immense, and arrangements must be made to meet the situation. It is pointed out that absolutely fresh troops to be sent in order to enable the others to be sent home.

"Until this aspect of the case is recognized by the authorities," say the correspondents, "there is a probability of the war lasting for years. It is useless to renew peace negotiations unless approaching terms," as the word is generally understood, would be possible with the Boers."

The Daily Express prints a rumor that Sir Alfred Milner is dissatisfied with his position. It is stated that he has asked the government to give him either a free hand or no hand. Mr. Chamberlain is reported to have replied that it would not be desirable to associate the majority of the British Empire with the actions of Sir Alfred Milner from that of Lord Kitchener, and the rumor goes that Sir Alfred contemplates resigning.

The Daily Express says: "It is an interesting secret that Sir Alfred Milner has been shown at having Lord Kitchener's chief of staff to check or modify his proposals."

The Amsterdam correspondent of the Daily Mail wires the substance of an

interview with Mr. Kruger, whom he found in a most pessimistic frame of mind. Gen. Babington's victory over Gen. Delarey had been, Mr. Kruger thought, exaggerated in the reports. "He said the Magliesberg range and Rustenburg were again in the possession of the Boers," continues the correspondent, and the old guerilla game will be continued until England has been forced into making peace overtures.

The Capetown correspondent of the Daily Express reports the capture by the Boers of 130 colonials in a rocky defile near Richmond last Thursday. He asserts that the colonials lost 13 men before they surrendered, adding that they were all liberated after being stripped of their accoutrements.

Capetown, March 27.—Inclusive en- counters at widely separated points are reported daily.

Fighting took place yesterday at Tarkask and Henningfontein, both in Cape Colony. The casualties were few. A commando, numbering 200, under Commandant Fourie, has been dispersed at Thaba N'chu.

According to reports received here, the hills above Dewetsdorp, just recaptured by Gen. Bruce Hamilton, were the scene of fighting, lasting several hours, yesterday.

The bubonic plague situation is assuming a graver aspect. The proportion of European victims of the disease is increasing. Among those attacked yesterday were three soldiers belonging to different corps. A native employer in the navy died at Simonstown. Eight other colored cases and two of Europeans are reported from there, and one native has died.

DETECTIVE'S HAUL.

Found Thousands of Dollars Worth of Silver Spoons and Fine Cutlery.

(Associated Press.)

New York, March 27.—Jersey City detectives last night captured Benjamin Hill, a well known bicycle sprinter, and later Hill's wife and three other men in a house seemingly full of valuable plunder. During the chase of Hill, a man named Doyle, who tried to head him off, was shot in the shoulder.

Residents of the heights section of the city, and of Hudson county town, have suffered from burglars, and detectives had been at work on the case for some time. After the arrest of Hill, the officers went to his alleged home in Leonard street. In the basement were found Hill's wife and three men, two of whom the police say were melting down silver in a complete outfit of melting pots, furnaces, furnaces and other smelting paraphernalia. A search was made on a second floor and basement. There the police found thousands of dollars worth of silver spoons, solid and plated, and fine cutlery. Inspector Archibald says it would require time to make an inventory.

MURDER MYSTERY SOLVED.

Heap of Human Bones Found at the Bottom of an Old Well.

(Associated Press.)

Pultney, Vt., March 27.—Workmen removing a cellar wall under a dilapidated building just north of the bridge that crosses Fairhaven river, a quarter of a mile above Carver's Falls, have apparently unearthed evidence which solves the mystery of a murder that was committed seventy years ago.

The discovery was made by accident, the laborers having fallen into a pit while trying to lift some heavy stones. The pit was about eight feet deep, with a solid stone wall about twenty inches thick surrounding it. In the centre of the pit was set a solid iron post, attached to which was a heavy iron chain and an old-fashioned pair of handcuffs. Nearby was a heap of human bones.

Inquiry has disclosed the fact that in 1829 Levey Borden, a young Frenchman, brought his young wife to Pultney to live in the house which the workmen are tearing down. She was witty and beautiful, and attracted considerable attention. In a short time Borden became jealous of her and forbade her visiting his friends. He was kept nearly in the house, and his friends after that.

War Preparations.

New York, March 26.—A dispatch to the World from Constantinople says: "Advices from Odessa, the Black sea port of Russia, say that extraordinary preparations for war are being made. The naval dockyards are pushing work with various points of strategic importance. The garrisons in all the cities are being doubled and domiciliary visits are made continually with many arrests."

"There is a real war fever abroad, and the general impression seems to be that there will be a conflict in the Far East with Japan and possibly a European power."

States and Chinese Question.

Washington, March 26.—While attention has been centred upon the crisis connected with the Manchurian agreement, an entirely new and important phase of the Chinese question has been presented by the action of the ministers at Peking in agreeing yesterday to submit to their various governments whether articles 8 and 9 in the Chinese protocol shall be carried out by the military authorities of all the powers interested in China or only those powers who consent to take part in the application of these articles. The articles in question are as follows:

"Article 8. The destruction of the forts which might obstruct free communication between Peking and the sea."

"Article 9. The right to maintain occupation of certain points, to be determined by an understanding among the powers, in order to obtain open communication between the capital and the sea."

These two questions appear to involve territorial affairs, and it may become of considerable moment whether the determination of such affairs is to be left with the military authorities or all the pow-

## Appeals Rejected

### M. de Giers Declines Extension of Time For Signing of Manchurian Treaty.

### Earl Li Urges the Expediency of Complying With Russian Demands

London, March 26.—The foreign office and the Chinese minister informed the Associated Press at 6:15 p. m. to-day that the Manchurian treaty had not been signed, according to their latest advices. Whether it will be signed or not they were unable to say.

Extension of Time Refused.

London, March 26.—"M. de Giers has emphatically declined," says Dr. Morrison writing to the Times from Peking on Sunday, "to grant an extension of the period for signing and further amending the Manchurian convention which the Chinese court implored. Li Hung Chang continues to urge the expediency of immediate compliance. His hands were strengthened by Count von Buew's statement in the Reichstag that the Anglo-German agreement does not apply to Manchuria."

"There is some reason to doubt the bona fides of the modified demands respecting Mongolia and Turkestan."

Attitude of United States.

New York, March 26.—According to a Washington special to the Tribune, the United States has just declined to join a protest against the seizure of Manchuria by the Russians, although approached by other powers with that end in view and warned by them that the consummation of the negotiations today in St. Petersburg would insure the dismemberment of the Chinese Empire and probably lead to war in the Orient. The decision of this government to abstain from intervention is in accordance with its traditional policy in communications beyond the seas, and was communicated very recently to Wu Tung Fa by Secretary Hay.

Russian Press Uneasy.

St. Petersburg, March 26.—The press is beginning to display uneasiness on account of the position taken by Japan with regard to Manchuria. The Bourse Gazette expresses itself optimistically declaring its confidence that this question will never become a topic of discussion between the two mightiest Asiatic powers.

Killed by Brigands.

Tien Tsin, March 25.—Inquiries show that Rev. J. Stonehouse of the London Mission Society, was killed by brigands, 14 miles east of Tien Tsin. He was murdered at the ferry at the village of Whanglo on the Hun river, ten miles off Tungan Ustun, while distributing rice to a crowd of rice hoec on uate, but not before he had been shot in the head and the starving villagers.

London, March 26.—The Reuter Telegram company has received the following dispatch:

"Pekin, March 26.—(7 p. m.)—The report that China rejects the Manchurian convention is not true. She objects to many points which are under discussion. China strenuously objects to the prohibition of the importation of arms and ammunition to Manchuria and to the provision forbidding China to construct her own railways without Russia's consent. She also takes exception to relinquishing the autonomy of Chin Shou. China does not desire to grant a concession which would be likely to prove an embargo to either power."

The Murder of a Missionary.

Pekin, March 27.—The Chinese had not signed the Manchurian agreement last night when the time had expired.

The ministers of the powers do not consider that the time has elapsed for the construction of the London Missionary Society, who was killed by Chinese brigands, 14 miles east of Tien Tsin recently, affects the Chinese situation politically. They are perfectly aware that the country around Shihai is infested with robbers who are hostile to foreigners, and would take such an opportunity as in the present case to kill him. Mr. Rockhill, the special commissioner of the United States, says he does not consider it safe for people to travel alone in the country districts and guards cannot be supplied to the missionaries. Consequently those going into the country take the risk. The district in which the murder was committed is policed by foreign troops, therefore China is not officially responsible. The foreign troops directed by Shihai of everything worth taking, and the people there are indignant against all foreigners. The missionaries attribute the murder to the leniency of the powers towards China which makes them seem to be afraid.

The ministers have many views on the indemnity question which may result in considerable delay in the negotiations on that subject.

SHOT DURING FIGHT.

Trotting Horse Trainer Killed in His Father-in-Law's House.

(Associated Press.)

Louisville, Ky., March 27.—Oliver McCrackin, a trotting horse trainer, was shot in the head yesterday at the home of his father-in-law, Thos. Smith, in New Albany, Ind. McCrackin went to the home of his father-in-law and it is said, assaulted his wife, Kattie McCrackin, who had gone there after a quarrel on Monday with her husband. Her father got into the house with McCrackin, defending her, and Mrs. Smith attempted to hand her husband a shotgun, but McCrackin kicked it from her hands. In falling, the gun exploded, the charge taking effect in McCrackin's body, killing him.

Pain from indigestion, dyspepsia, and too hearty eating relieved at once by taking one of Carter's Little Liver Pills immediately after dinner. Don't forget this.

## Mr. Cook's Evidence

### Before the Senate Special Committee Appointed to Investigate His Charges.

### Former M. P. Says Four Years Ago He Begun Pressing for Senatorship.

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Mr. Cook's evidence was to the effect that in 1896 he started pressing for a senatorship. This was on the death of David Macpherson. He was told by Sir Richard Cartwright that he could not have the first appointment, but would get the next one. Mr. Cox was to get Macpherson's place, and he (Cook) was to get Ferguson's seat. Senator Ferguson was then dying. Mr. Cook said that Mr. Cox got the senatorship because he put up money in the election. He (Cook) was willing to wait for Ferguson's place.

The evidence of Mr. Cook went on to show that he had corresponded with Sir Richard Cartwright on the subject. He also had copies of a letter and telegrams with the late M. C. Cameron, at one time a member of the House and afterward Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories. He had returned the originals to Cameron. He said that on October 1st, 1896, he got a telegram from Cameron to meet him in Toronto at the Union depot next day. Cook did this. Cameron took from his pocket a letter which was not opened. Cameron opened it in his presence and read it. The letter was from Sir Richard Cartwright, and says "Cook ought to do something." Cameron did not give the letter to Cook. "Something Cameron said meant that Cook was to give \$10,000 for it. Cook said he refused. He would not give one cent for it. Some time afterwards Cook said that he discussed the matter with Sir Richard Cartwright and the latter said that Cameron evidently wanted money for party purposes."

Cook was the only one. Mr. Cook said, who made this suggestion to him. Afterwards he said that W. T. R. Preston told him if he would not pay \$10,000 he would not get a senatorship.

Columbia & Western.

The railway committee of the Commons this morning dealt with the bill respecting the Columbia & Western Railway company, the charter of which covers a part of the Kootenay district.

Judge Clark, of the C. P. R., said the principal provision of the bill is for increasing the bonding power of the Western portion of the line to \$35,000 per mile. It is claimed that the part already built has cost about \$40,000 per mile in construction.

The committee struck out a clause authorizing the construction of any branch lines, 30 miles long, the company might see fit to undertake on any railway which it is at any time authorized to construct and if authorized by the governor-general-in-council.

The company asked for a five year extension for the lines which it has been authorized to construct. Only one year's extension was given.

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## Pity the Poor Gzar

### Only Recently Recovered From Illness Which Threatened to Prove Fatal.

### And Now Some of His Subjects Are Planning to Kill Him.

London, March 26.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. from Paris states, on the highest authority, that a mine has been discovered beneath the palace of Emperor Nicholas at the Sarsko-Selo, 17 miles south of St. Petersburg.

Several notabilities, the dispatch further says, are implicated in the plot against His Majesty.

The Russian press was not permitted to mention the affair.

The Czar's Condition.

London, March 26.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg to Reuter's Telegram Company says that in consequence of what is believed to be the Czar's wish the minister of the interior has published instructions for the authorities of the towns and provinces recommending preventive measures against disturbances as being more effective than severe repression after disturbances have broken out.

The Birmingham Post, which is closely in touch with the minister for the culture, says news received in high quarters in London indicates that the Czar is in a very nervous state owing to the condition of the political horizon. It is said that he fears the result of the policy of his ministers in the Far East, while students' troubles and the threats against his life, of which there are more than have been published, have unnerved His Majesty. His medical advisers have insisted on a yachting cruise, but the Czar has refused to follow their advice. Those behind the scenes in Russia take a very grave view of the present agitation and think it is the beginning of more serious trouble.

The Russian authorities Mutual Aid Association, founded by the Russian Literary Society, has been mixed up in political movements and the prefect of the city has ordered its premises to be closed.

The Recent Riots.

St. Petersburg, March 26.—A circular issued by the minister of the interior blames the police for not dispersing the gatherings at the very start. It says the police must learn when and where demonstrations are planned and mass their forces through. Above all order must be restored at any cost, and the Czar must not fear to use the necessary force and severity. The ministers, the circular further says, can be called upon when firing action is necessary and the cavalry must be summoned on any occasion to clear the streets.

The closing of the Russian Society of Authors was due to a protest of the authorities, during the recent riots, issued a short time ago.

A student at the St. Petersburg University named Proskirakoff, who had been sent to two years' military service and drafted into a regiment soon to leave for