

By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

Europe.

ARLON, via Brussels, Aug 29.—A special to the Sun says the Prussians are making a flank movement on McMahon just as they did on Bazaine. McMahon already occupies a line from Retpel to Senay, leading on Meires, Sedan and Montmedy with the Belgium boundary in the rear. The Prussians who were marching on Paris deployed from Senay to Troyes and have changed their direction—instead of going west they are going north. Their troops around Troyes are marching in the direction of Romilly, those around Chalons in the direction of Suippes and those which were between Senay and Varennes in the direction of Retpel, by Grand Pre and Vaucouleurs, while a strong force is at Dinoberry on McMahon's left. At Senay meanwhile strong Prussian columns are advancing from Lunville and Joinville to St Dizier where the King's headquarters were yesterday reported to be. It is the manifest intention of the Prussians to destroy McMahon as they destroyed Bazaine and then turn their attention to Paris. A great battle will be fought before many days between Retpel and Montmedy. I do not believe in a dispatch from Retpel this morning which states that McMahon and Bazaine are in communication.

MADRID, Aug 27.—It is reported that the band of Carlists which appeared in Madrid was defeated and dispersed by the national troops to-day. Another band had appeared in one of the northern Provinces and troops are in hot pursuit.

The Basque Provinces are declared in a state of siege.

PASIS, Aug 29.—Carlists are swarming in the north of Spain. Reports from the frontier anticipate the approach of formidable disturbances in Spain.

A fight occurred at Liebon between French and German citizens during which many were killed.

LONDON, Aug 29.—Advices from the scene of war report the Emperor's headquarters to be at Vaucouleurs.

It is now thought the Crown Prince is moving north, and that he will encounter McMahon west of Rheims and Charnet.

It is said the French advance repulsed the Prussians at Attiz, a few miles northwest of Vaucouleurs.

McMahon is reported to be in the Ardennes forest and Bazaine between Metz and Etain.

Later dispatches say Stenmetz marched N W from Metz.

The Prussians are pursuing McMahon to prevent him from attacking the Prussian army now investing Metz.

Several German merchant vessels have taken refuge in Plymouth harbor from a French ironclad in the offing.

PARIS, Aug 29.—Official dispatches state the Prussian army continues its movement on Retpel and Metz.

The French has a story that Col Galfelle, in a reconnaissance, surprised and captured 150 Uhlans. It is reported he will be made a general for his brilliant services.

Gen Follie was deprived of command for leaving cannon at Chalons to fall into the hands of the Prussians.

LONDON, Aug 29.—A dispatch from St Mencho says that 800 of the Garde Mobile and a quantity of booty were captured there by the Prussians.

Dispatches from Paris say that upwards of 100,000 Prussians are between Charnet and Rheims. The heights near Rheims are also occupied by 120,000 Prussians.

Preparations to check the Prussian advance have been made within a circuit of 40 leagues at Paris.

LONDON, Aug 29.—A dispatch from the headquarters of King William, on Sunday, says: Yesterday there was an action between the 3d regiment of Saxon cavalry, supported by a squadron of the 18th Hussars, and six squadrons of French chasseurs, near Sommesous. Our troops were victorious. The French commander was wounded and taken prisoner.

PARIS, Aug 29.—It is believed here tonight that a tremendous battle has been raging all day, as accounts of McMahon's march have reached the troops of Prince Frederick Charles to-day.

LONDON, Aug 29.—A rumor from Corlarue from a Prussian source, that Napoleon is shut up in Metz. In the absence of positive knowledge of the Emperor's whereabouts, the statement is believed by the Germans.

NEW YORK, Aug 30.—The Word's special gives a repetition of the war news already given several times concerning the probability of Russian intervention at a not distant date.

St Petersburg papers of the 23rd formally deny that the Czar has in any way recognized the conduct of the Prussian regiments of which he is the nominal proprietor (?) and add that Russia reserves to herself most absolute freedom to act as her position requires in regard to the equilibrium of Europe.

The Solvay journals in Austria openly denounce the progress of the Teutonic race in Central Europe, and call upon Russia to make the Austrian Government understand its mission.

The approach of hostile armies to the Belgian frontier excites great apprehension in that country. The Belgian army has been put on a war footing by a strong vote, and ordered to the front. The arming of the Olvi Guard goes on rapidly.

Two special Queen's Messengers have reached London with dispatches for the Foreign Office from Brussels.

Lorivain and Antwerp are fully armed. It is reported that a column of 250,000 Prussian cavalry and artillery was yesterday marching on Epernay.

The Courier's special are very brief this morning. That from Merchy says the Ministers have packed up and are on the eve of departure for Tours.

LONDON, Aug 30.—The French say the district between Rheims, Mezieres, Sedan and Montmedy will be the scene of the next general action.

McMahon's extraordinary movement may have delayed the Crown Prince's movement on Paris, but it has made that advance at any time thereafter easy.

London papers are perfectly befogged as to the position of the contending armies, and the latest war telegrams have only made confusion worse confounded.

McMahon has failed to form a junction with Bazaine and now finds himself separated

ed by a wedge of two powerful Prussian armies.

A French regiment of Chasseurs d'Afrique, commanded by the Marquis de Gallie, routed two regiments of Saxon dragoons with great loss near Senay. The Saxons, however, now hold Senay and Montmedy.

PARIS, Aug 30.—Nothing has been received from the front but rumors of engagements terminating favorably for the French. Some from the front insist that a great battle was fought on Sunday and resulted in immense advantages to McMahon and Bazaine, who they say expected to meet by this time.

The army of the Crown Prince has been strongly reinforced, and there is no doubt that a most important battle will take place at once. McMahon has also received strong reinforcements, the entire 12th and 13th corps, organized here, having been sent to him.

The Tribune's London special says: Our special correspondent telegraphs from Verdun at five o'clock on Monday that no news had been received there of the great battle reported to have been fought. Many Prussians are found at Montmedy, Dun and Senay and as the sound of cannonading and musketry were heard on Sunday in that direction an engagement is believed to have taken place near Bazaine.

Five hundred Prussians attacked a railway station at Charnet which was guarded by 50 French soldiers. The fight lasted an hour during which time 7 were killed and 5 wounded. The Prussians took 28 prisoners, and burned the station.

Advices from all parts of the invaded Provinces show that the sharpshooters are becoming efficient. They capture large numbers of Prussian scouts and stragglers and repel attacks on towns and villages.

Our special correspondent telegraphing from Mezieres on Sunday, says: On my arrival here I found no troops except the garrison, but the Prince Imperial arrived during the day with an escort of Cote de Garde.

The Emperor stopped at Poitiers on the night before last and started for Leoben this morning, sending the Prince here. The Prince and escort started for another destination which I am informed is Sedan, thus proving that the Prussians have not as reported cut the railway between Mezieres and Sedan.

We start to-morrow for Montmedy.

PARIS, Aug 31.—The Monitor says positive information from Mezieres affirms that a battle occurred on Saturday. Our informant saw numbers of stragglers. No official announcement of the affair has been received. A person who arrived from Strasbourg on Friday last says one part of the town suffered much. The garrison is supplied with plenty of provisions and munitions of war, and the citizens are determined to resist to the last. The Prussians are sending street locomotives to aid in placing heavy guns before Strasbourg.

BRUSSELS, Aug 31.—Bazaine is still occupied up.

The German army has been ordered to camp as far as possible from the last battle-field on account of the sickening exhalations.

BRUSSELS, Aug 30.—The investment of Luxembourg by the Prussians, as reported yesterday, is denied.

McMahon's headquarters are at Sedan. It is still believed he will persevere in his attempt to reach Metz and Bazaine.

The Prussians entered Vaucouleurs on the heels of the retreating French.

King William's route to Paris is by the Upper Moselle and Meuse.

LONDON, Aug 30, 1.30 p.m.—The following news from the French War Office has just been received: Ninety thousand men are in the triangle formed by the lines running from Rheims, Retpel and Vaucouleurs.

Bazaine is not shut up. He has 120,000 men and McMahon has 180,000. They are awaiting two marches ahead of Prince Frederick Charles. It is hoped the latter will not come up in time. The Prussian are said to be 500,000 strong.

The Times says that on the 27th last five German detachments were captured by the French cavalry near Bazaine, Department of Ardennes. The prisoners belonged to the 4th army corps, which is now overrunning the eastern department in order to prevent communication between McMahon and Bazaine.

CARLSRUHE, Aug 30.—The Gazette of this city, has the following from Strasbourg last night: The Bishop of Strasbourg, actuated by a desire to stop the effusion of blood, undertook to bring about some sort of a truce or mediation. With this view he went to Linz, and had an interview with Major Liezenky, Chief of the Prussian Staff. He urged that the bombardment was contrary to the laws of modern warfare, and that the inhabitants had been denied leave to withdraw from the city. The Bishop obtained 24 hours' cessation of the firing in order to give the Governor time to negotiate. The Governor was invited to come out and examine the preparations which had been made by the Prussians for continuing the siege. As Major Liezenky escorted the Bishop back to the city, the flag of truce was riddled by bullets. The bombardment continued with guns of the largest calibre, and the fall of the city is merely a matter of time.

BRUSSELS, Aug 30.—Senay is recaptured by the Prussians.

The Belgian troops left this morning for the French frontier.

LONDON, Aug 30.—Dispatches from the Prussian general headquarters, dated Sunday noon, declare that Bazaine's communications are completely cut off and that all the telegrams printed in Paris as coming from him must be manufactured.

A dispatch from Copenhagen says that two French ironclads, the Armand and Rochambeau, anchored this morning off Frederikshavn, Jutland. An attack on the Baltic fortresses is expected immediately.

Fighting has taken place between the advanced forces of the two armies on the line of the railway from Montmedy to Sedan.

BRUSSELS, Aug 30.—Mingolshelm reports the first parallel opened yesterday by the South German besieging force at 700 paces from the walls of Strasbourg. At that distance a battery of 42 heavy guns opened on the city. No reply is made by the besieged, either from the walls or citadel.

LUXEMBOURG, Aug 20.—Cannonading was heard this morning in the direction of Verdun.

LONDON, Aug 30.—A correspondent telegraphs from Luxembourg Tuesday noon that early this morning fighting took place between Aum and Esch—150 Prussians being surprised by 500 French and driven back with heavy loss on both sides.

The frontier line is strictly respected by the combatants.

There has been cannonading for five hours along the frontier.

A telegram from Carlsruhe on Tuesday says that the inhabitants who escaped from Strasbourg expect the besieged will endure a dreadful suffering. Most of the people spend the nights in cellars. Potatoes are 20 francs per pound and other things in proportion. Horse flesh is the only meat. Gen Uricke declares he will not surrender until the city is a heap of ashes. One hundred and fifty ponder are placed in position. The cathedral is but little injured.

A dispatch from Berlin to the Foreign Office says that six Prussian corps, of 24,000 men each have left from before Metz. The Crown Prince of Saxony is pushing forward with 110,000 men and the Crown Prince of Prussia with 130,000.

LONDON, Aug 30.—A special says that Austria is secretly arming, all the officers and soldiers on furlough are being recalled, and other warlike preparations are in progress. The object of this policy is unknown.

NEW YORK, Aug 30.—Gallagher's dispatch from Paris last night, says that McMahon's effective force is probably 200,000 men, the elite of France. Breaching now is in suspense, waiting the issue which soon must be fought in Ardennes or along the Meuse. Paris is fully prepared—calm and filled with patriotism. All her men and youth are ready to take up arms at once.

The Prussians are advancing on Paris by the Valleys of Aube and Marne. The Prince Royal's troops have turned north to meet McMahon. Peasants along the line are seriously annoying the invaders.

ATHENS, Aug 29.—Two French war ships yesterday entered this port with a prize loaded with coal. The Greek government immediately demanded that the French vessels should leave Greek waters.

LONDON, Aug 31.—The Belgian Government denies having assented to any foreign troops crossing any portion of her soil.

There are daily conferences at the Foreign Office between the Under-Secretary and the representatives of Russia and Austria.

It is reported that the North German Envoy at St Petersburg has been instructed to ask the Russian Government for an explanation as to the movements of troops on the Polish frontier.

PARIS, Aug 30.—Midnight.—The following is official news just promulgated by the Minister of the Interior: The march of the Prussians on Paris seems to have been arrested. McMahon continues his movements. No serious engagement yet. Uhlans are evacuated entirely by the Prussians. Railway trains go freely now as far as Rheims.

The Monitor says it has authority to-day for the story concerning armed ships sailing from American ports to prey on French commerce.

An official dispatch states that more than 20,000 carts passed into Paris on Sunday, bringing the furniture and effects of families living in the environs.

Headquarters, Department of the Ardennes, Aug 30, via Berlin.—The French position on the heights of Vaucouleurs, which was held by a body of Turcos, was taken yesterday by 2 squadrons of Prussians; the place was very strong.

The Uhlans of the Royal Guard, last night brought in 2 staff officers of McMahon's just captured.

A Prussian vessel was captured and brought into Dunkerque.

LONDON, Aug 31.—The Standard this morning says the Prussians are strong, strong Rheims while immense masses of them have passed northward. It is impossible to say whether the report that the King is moving on Paris with a heavy force is true or not.

It is equally doubtful that the French Ministers of War and Interior have removed from the capital.

BRUSSELS, Aug 31.—The King of Prussia has sent the following to the Queen: Vaucouleurs, Aug 30.—The Crown Prince has been in action with the 4th, 12th and 21st corps and the 14th Bavarians. McMahon was beaten and driven beyond the Meuse. Twelve guns, some thousand prisoners and a quantity of material of war captured.

The following dispatch has no date. It was filed at Brussels: The French defeated the Prussians. Fighting is going on at Attigny. McMahon is or seem to be retreating on the defensive, north.

LONDON, Aug 31.—The Prussians, conceiving that McMahon sought to gain the frontier, advanced in three corps. The Crown Prince, south of Nancy, marched via Commercy, Bar-le-Duc, St Dizier and Vitry.

The 4th army, under the Prince Royal of Saxony, keeping north of Pont-a-Mousson, marched towards Charnet, at the same time observing Metz, while Steinmetz, reinforced, proceeded through Verdun to Rheims, his right sweeping the Belgian frontier in hope of meeting McMahon. This German advance covers all the country from around Metz to Aube, rendering it impossible for McMahon to reach Metz.

Dispatches from Carignan say cannonading was heard south of that place all day yesterday and late into the night. The result is unknown.

The Emperor has certainly left Carignan for Sedan.

Midnight.—A special correspondent writes from Berlin on the 29th that three reserve armies, consisting chiefly of landwehr but partly of new troops, are forming—one at Cologne, a second at Berlin and a third, under the Duke of Mecklenburg, at Hamburg in the Palatinates.

The Times, striving to disentangle the news from the sea of war, says McMahon seeks to get back again towards Paris. On Saturday morning he was at Senay, on Sunday, according to French reports, he re-entered Vaucouleurs and Retpel. Belgian accounts report him on Tuesday at Sedan with the Prince Imperial and hourly expecting the Emperor. They had advanced forward on leaving the Emperor whose illness prevented him from traveling rapidly.

Some Germans say the French were sure of victory at the opening of the campaign that they made no arrangements to save their baggage in case of retreat and hence they have been compelled to abandon large quantities.

LONDON, Sept 1.—A Vienna telegram denies that Bazaine was ever caged at Metz.

Another battle is reported at Attigny on the 30th ult. No particulars.

BRUSSELS, Sept 1.—Telegrams from the seat of war, particularly those from Beaumont, giving details of late battles, require verification.

LONDON, Sept 1.—3 p.m.—Rumors are rife of McMahon having crossed the Meuse at Senay and pushing for Montmedy. He has

800 guns. A collision between him and Frederick Charles was expected.

PARIS, Sept 1.—The Publicist says there was no fighting yesterday—the Government, however, has good news. McMahon and his march have been underestimated. Bazaine has won several small engagements, but forbids correspondents to give the names of the places where they occurred.

The Ministry told Tiers immediately. It is said that 200,000 Prussians have been killed and wounded since the war began, and this half a million of names are expended daily.

LONDON, Aug 31.—It was reported this morning that the Emperor is seriously ill at Sedan. His condition excites great alarm.

The Times says McMahon is endeavoring to retreat to Bouillon, having failed in his attempt to relieve Bazaine at Metz.

The Tribune's special correspondent telegraphs from Berlin this evening that the advance guard of the twelfth corps yesterday successfully engaged the troops of the fifth French corps at Noval.

Reliable accounts put McMahon in a fog from Mezieres to Sedan, which has brought his left wing on the railroad from Mezieres to Elpel and extending his left wing towards Longwy.

The Herald, cable special, says an engagement took place yesterday between a strong force of Prussians and the advance guard of McMahon's army.

A hard fight, the French fell back and the Prussians took possession of Carignan on the railroad from Sedan to Thionville, battering the rails.

To-day fighting was renewed on the same line of railroad at Longwy, the Prussians were on the Belgian frontier.

BRUSSELS, Aug 31, 9 a.m.—The Herald's cable special says that a fearful battle was fought yesterday and to-day between the Prussians and the Crown Prince and Prince Frederick Charles and the French under McMahon. Yesterday morning McMahon commenced a general movement towards Montmedy. He was attacked near Beaumont and driven back after an obstinate resistance towards the Belgian frontier.

The Prussians now occupy the line of railroad and have captured a large amount of camp stores. They drove the French from their position after fighting last night.

This morning the battle was resumed and continued all day. During the night a large number of French regulars came up, but they failed to turn the victory.

The Prussians were also reinforced in large numbers and attacked the French in overwhelming force during their retreat to Sedan with the remnants of their army. The loss is fearful, and no correct estimate can be formed as yet.

The Prince Imperial is said to be in Belgium. He had been seen at the frontier.

LONDON, Aug 31.—Public meetings are being held in Prussia to sustain the Government in the prosecution of the war to a end and to discourage all attempts at a premature treaty.

LONDON, Sept 1.—This said that McMahon disobeyed the Emperor's orders to detach 30,000 troops to protect the Prince Imperial.

The siege of Strasbourg continues, with great slaughter from the bombardment. The garrison made successful sorties on Tuesday night, driving the Prussians back a number of times.

A large body of the Garde Mobile passed the Rhine near Bittgen, on the telegraph, and retired.

It is reported that an army corps entered France from Baden.

Unter-Bismarck Sept 1.—Severe fighting is reported between Carignan and Donk. The Prussians entered Carignan at 4 o'clock yesterday.

NEW YORK, Sept 1.—The World's London correspondent telegraphs that we hear of serious outbreaks in various parts of Southern France and Brittany, against persons suspected of German sympathy. The peasantry of Compiègne, Lorraine and Alsace are rushing upon the line of Prussian communication.

Capt. Von Polnow was captured by a body of sharpshooters near Vitry and has not been heard of since.

It is said that Col Dapin, famous as commander of guerrillas in Mexico, is organizing a corps of French sharpshooters in Lorraine.

CROIXES, Sept 1.—A New York special says a private dispatch from Brussels says fighting has been going on for 4 days between McMahon and Prince Charles, both armies working for position. The conflict has been between detached corps and the fighting is said to have been desperate.

The Prussians have captured 3 eagles, 4 mitrailleuses, and several thousand prisoners, while the French have captured 4 pieces of artillery, including the famous Tubingen battery.

There was a fresh engagement this morning six miles from the Belgian frontier between the command of Froelich and the Prussians under Von Werder. It is believed here that they will involve both armies in a decisive battle, and aid of reinforcements is expected.

A dispatch from London at midnight says McMahon was utterly routed, after 2 days' battle and is falling back on Paris.

LONDON, Sept 1.—The Independent telegraphs from Brussels of yesterday says McMahon, while on the heights of Beaumont, on Tuesday, advancing to Montmedy, was attacked by Germans and flung back with dreadful carnage. The region of country is now absolutely demoralized. This corresponds with the Prussian accounts of the action near Beaumont as reported last evening. No additional details of the defeat of McMahon have yet been received.

NEW YORK, Aug 31.—Private dispatches from French sources report McMahon by his tactics has outdone in separating his opponents and that he will continue the battle to-day with most confident hope of success.

PARIS, Aug 31.—The French army will assist in the defence of their country should it be necessary. There will be a most day around Paris to check the advance of the Prussians. This will likely cause a scarcity of water in Paris for a few days. The Publicist says McMahon is entirely free in his movements and in perfect communication with Bazaine and the Prussians are in the departments of Seine and Aube and are overrunning the environs of Troyes and Langres, cutting telegraphs and destroying the railways.

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Hay—\$9 to \$12 per ton.

Potatoes—Range from \$1.25 to \$1.50, according to quality and weight.

Specials from the East say that the impression prevails strongly that breadstuffs that reach Europe, will be at a low change in price, either in New York or Liverpool quotations.

Mr Seward, being anxious for rest and receiving an almost unlimited number of invitations, declined to decline nearly all. He has declined an invitation from the Chinese merchants to consult with them and accept their hospitality, and also another from the Chinese Committee to go through the Chinese quarter of the city in search of nuisances. He was not able to visit H M S Zouave today, which was ending with General Schofield and Admiral Winham this afternoon.

The mystery connected with the death of the girl Annie McHenry, beginning to clear up. She has been traced from her father's house to San Francisco by way of Martinez. She applied for work at an intelligence office before going to the hotel, and it is thought she was insane from inflammation of the brain and died from natural causes. Thus far no one is found to have been in her company during her trip.

H B M S Chanticleer, sailed for Panama to-day.

San Francisco, Sept 1.—Cleared—Bark Tidal Wave Port Madison.

Arrived—Bark Eureka, Seattle; bk Powhatan, Bellington Bay; bk Russian Port, Gambier, Pease, Seattle; bk Gen Coff, Seattle; bk Jenny Pitt, Freeport; bk Brantley, Oskana; Radiant, New York, with 200000 lbs of wool.

San Francisco, Aug 30.—No arrivals or clearances.

Flour—No sales.

Wheat—200000 lbs good