



# Samoans Swapped.

## Partition of the Troublesome Group Between Germany and the United States.

## Tonga and Solomon Islands the Compensation Received by Great Britain.

## Boundaries of African Possessions Adjusted at Same Time—All Parties Satisfied.

By Associated Press.

Berlin, Nov. 8.—It was officially stated this morning that an agreement, subject to the approval of the United States, had been reached between Great Britain and Germany, according to which the Samoan islands, with the exception of Tutuila and the adjacent islands, will become German territory.

By virtue of the agreement the Samoa Act is repealed, and the island of Upolu, Savaii and small adjacent islands fall to Germany as free property and the island of Tutuila and subsidiary islands go to the United States. Great Britain, it is added, renounces all claims to the Samoan islands, and Germany, in turn, renounces the claim to the Tonga islands and to Savage island, in favor of Great Britain, and also two easterly islands of the Solomon group, with their insular surroundings, to Great Britain.

The consular representatives of the two powers in Samoa and the Tonga islands are to be withdrawn for the present, the German subjects are to have the same rights as British subjects in regard to the free and unimpeded enlistment of native laborers in the whole of the Solomon group in the possession of Great Britain, including Choiseul and San Isabel.

At the same time an arrangement has been arrived at between the two powers by virtue of which the so-called neutral zone in the hinterland of German Togoland and the British Gold Coast will be divided in such a manner that the boundary of the German and British territories will be formed by the Faka river up to a point where the latter cuts the ninth degree of latitude, thence north by a line to be fixed by a mixed commission. To this is appended a reservation that any future boundary line between German and British territories shall fall to Great Britain and the countries of Tendi and Chakosi in German hands, and that the boundary of the German and British territories will be formed by the Faka river up to a point where the latter cuts the ninth degree of latitude, thence north by a line to be fixed by a mixed commission.

# NO SECOND REGIMENT.

## Imperial Authorities Gratefully Acknowledge but Decline the Offer from Canada.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
Ottawa, Nov. 8.—As forehanded last week, the answer of the Imperial government to the offer of Canada to furnish a second contingent for service in South Africa is in the negative. The reply from the colonial secretary called this afternoon. It acknowledges gratefully the expression of Canada's willingness to assist, but in effect intimates that circumstances are such in the opinion of the home authorities as not to warrant further soldiers from Canada.

# ABUSE OF THE WHITE FLAG.

## Another Violation by Boers of a Law of Civilization—Invasion of Zululand Proceeding.

Durban, Natal, Nov. 5.—Gen. Schalk-burger, with 1,300 men, has arrived at Vryheid, on his way to Swaziland. It is believed he is going to Zululand.

# LAURIER IN DOUBT.

## Thinks Second Regiment Will Not Be Called For, Though Minister of Militia Has Different Impression.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
Ottawa, Nov. 7.—Dr. Borden being asked to-day if he thought a second contingent from Canada would be called for, he replied: "Well, my own personal view is that it will. I think if the Imperial authorities had not considered the matter worth considering they would have given us an answer off-hand. They are evidently canvassing the situation in South Africa, hence the delay in reaching a decision. The Premier, however, takes an altogether different view, so that it is impossible for anything authoritative to be said as yet."

# Illustration of Thorough Sympathy Between Imperial and Colonial Forces.

## Col. Tucker Acknowledges the "Send Off" Given to the R. M. A.

A letter has been received by Col. Peters, D.O.C., from Col. Tucker, Colonel Commandant of the R.M.A., thanking the local militia for the "send-off" they gave the officers and men of the R.M.A. who recently left here for England. Before leaving, the officers were presented with a loving cup for the officers' mess, at Eastney barracks, the headquarters of the R.M.A., and the men were entertained at a smoking concert at the drill hall. The letter from Col. Tucker was yesterday promulgated in the following regimental order:

# Everywhere Cheered.

## Trip of the British Columbia Volunteers From Victoria to Quebec.

Capt. Blanchard, commanding the British Columbia right half of Company A, South African contingent, wrote as follows on April, just before the pilot left the Sardinian at the mouth of the St. Lawrence:

# Capt. Blanchard Writes of the Reception and Their Departure.

"Dear Sir: On the return of my vessel and his party from Esquimaux he has informed me of the very friendly and enthusiastic 'send off' accorded them all by yourself and the officers of the First and Second Battalions Fifth Regiment Canadian Artillery, and on behalf of the officers and men of the Royal Marine Artillery, I am glad to be reciprocated by you. Occurring as it does at the present time, the incident is of especial value to illustrate the thorough sympathy that exists between the Imperial and Colonial forces, when all parts are united in the same object, and to serve Her Majesty the Queen, and to guarantee the integrity of her dominions."

# Over Two Hundred Passengers Come from Atlin and Alaska.

The steamer Cottage City arrived at the outer wharf early yesterday morning from Alaskan ports. She had upwards of 200 passengers, a few of whom are from the interior, but the large majority comes from places on the coast, which have been practically deserted for the winter. Among the passengers who landed here were: John McKenna, formerly of the provincial police force, and now a mine owner and merchant; Capt. Wallace Langley and his brother, H. Langley, who are largely interested in Atlin properties; W. Leslie Foot, also from Atlin; J. P. Verriah, post steward of the B. & C. N. Co.; Capt. Cox, of the steamer Nora; Fred Waring from Atlin and Charles Phillips of this city, who went North at the time of the rush and remained there. Mr. McKenna is a hydraulic plant back with the Yukon. The passengers report that the Yukon is frozen solid but there had been a thaw at the lakes and the lake steamers were running. It was not expected that they would be able to do so for long.

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## German Doing Good Service With Mounted Rifles—Strongholds About Pietermaritzburg.

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Views from the Lower Tugela report splendid work on the part of the Germans below Umvol. The Mounted Rifles have mounted more assiduous than the Germans.

The preparations for the defence of Pietermaritzburg are in good shape. All the strong positions on the surrounding hills have been fortified.

There has been a great influx of Colono-venturers to Pietermaritzburg, where the public buildings and stores have been given over to them. The population of Durban has increased 25,000 by the refugees, among whom there is considerable distress.

# Invading Free State.

## Keeps the Boers Busy at Home.

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London, Nov. 9.—A special from Queenstown, dated Monday, November 6, says:

"Arrived here yesterday afternoon via De Aar, Bomedede and Stormberg. Did not see a sign of enemy's force."

"The concentration upon the frontier at De Aar and Queenstown has been completely effected without interruption. The Boers have destroyed the Vras-syl bridge, seven miles south of Norval's Pont, but they have not further advanced towards Colesburg."

"There is a general belief that the Free Staters intend to act on the defensive within the Cape Dutch show active sympathy."

"The railway within the Free State is completely wrecked. It is estimated that it will take six months to repair the damage already done in South Africa, and the army will hardly be able to use the railway any more than in 1881."

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1899.

THE WAR.

Ladysmith appears to be safe for the present and to be able to take care of itself until Gen. Buller either comes to the rescue or makes such a movement elsewhere as will counteract the operations of Gen. Joubert's force in Natal. Looking at it from a civilian's point of view, good policy seems to dictate that Gen. Buller shall try conclusions with the Boers in Natal, at least sufficiently to permit Gen. Buller to retire from Ladysmith in safety. The destruction of the railway in the Orange Free State will render a rapid advance in that direction impossible, and it is always possible that Gen. Joubert may be able to defeat Gen. White's force before Gen. Buller can accomplish much in the way of invasion. If he could do so, then the Boer army would have access to the sea, which is one of the things to be prevented. Moreover, it is highly important that we should not permit the enemy to enter any further upon our territory. As the despatches say, Gen. White cannot hold out indefinitely, which does not mean that he cannot do so for some weeks yet, but only that the end of his supplies, including ammunition, cannot be very far off. It seems highly important, therefore, that he shall be relieved without delay.

We do not attach much importance to the rumor that Gen. White is short of ammunition for the heavy guns brought up from the Powerful. Doubtless he deems it expedient to husband his supply, especially as the Boer fire is doing very little damage. Neither do we place any reliance upon the Amsterdam story of 600 of our troops being either killed or wounded a week ago. If Lord Salisbury knew of such a serious loss he would hardly have refrained from mentioning it, or at least hinting at it, at the Mansion House dinner.

The official confirmation of the reports that the Boers do not respect a flag of truce is unpleasant reading, and there will now be a general disposition to believe the very numerous and serious statements of this nature that have been made.

The arrival of troopships at the Cape, which has now fairly begun, will greatly change the face of things. The despatches say that even with his reinforcements Gen. Buller will find it difficult to drive the Boers out of Natal without great loss of life. As Napoleon once said, "One cannot make omelets with out breaking eggs," but we fancy that Gen. Buller will be strategic enough to discover a way of turning Joubert's position. Moreover, when he once regains control of the railway for the whole distance to Ladysmith, which can now only be a matter of a short time, he will be able to send forward plenty of long-range guns, and with these he can render the defence works thrown up by the Boers during the last month untenable. It is only the comparative weakness of our artillery on the spot that has prevented Gen. White from driving the enemy away.

SALISBURY'S SPEECH.

Lord Salisbury's Mansion House speech was a notable deliverance. The remarkable feature about it was the frankness and its resoluteness. No one can give the slightest excuse for misunderstanding the attitude of the British government in regard to South Africa. Lord Salisbury appreciates the gravity of the task in hand and the great responsibility which Great Britain has been forced to assume, but there is not a hint of wavering. The unpleasant duty is to be discharged. There is to be no shirking. When Great Britain has settled with the South African republics there will be no question open to cause trouble in the future.

The references of the Premier to the reports of foreign interference is the sort of thing that people like to read. The whole world is informed that Great Britain will not tolerate any interference; but the additional statement is made that no nation contemplates such a thing. This talk of foreign interference emanated from people whose ideas of the manner in which international disputes are conducted are extremely hazy. For the most part they originated in the United States whence they were carried to Europe. The average United States newspaper man has very little conception of how nations conduct their affairs. He has in his mind the senate of his own country, which with a view to influence votes at an approaching election undertakes to ensure first one government and then another. He does not stop to think that if foreign nations interfered in such matters as those engaging attention in South Africa, the world would be in constant turmoil. Well-informed people never saw any reason to expect intervention, and doubtless Lord Salisbury in referring to the matter meant his observations as much for the ears of Presidents Kruger and Steyn as for any one else.

The statement as to the future of South Africa is as explicit as any one has a right to expect. It is never wise to jump before you have reached the stile, and though the stile is in sight there is some distance and considerable rough country to be covered before we get there. In the meanwhile we know the general lines on which it is proposed ultimately to deal with the South African question, and it is clear that the two republics will not be allowed to have an independent existence, but that British paramountcy will take a form that will leave no question as to its scope.

The references to Germany are calculated to create a profound impression in

Europe, for they show the existence of an Anglo-Germanic rapprochement, which means much for the preservation of peace. Especially is this true, in view of the attitude taken by Great Britain and the United States towards each other. Lord Salisbury felt able to speak in terms of congratulation and the relations between our Empire and the great Republic.

Lord Wolsley's remarks in regard to the preparedness of the army are highly satisfactory. Only a month had elapsed since Kruger sent out his ultimatum and yet the commander-in-chief was able to say that an army of 53,000 men had been mobilized and that 44,000 of them were even then on their way to the seat of war. In point of fact at the time Lord Wolsley was speaking the first troopships had already arrived at the Cape. He made the further statement that orders had gone out for the mobilization of another army division, and if a third is needed it can be promptly supplied. The value of this information is very great. It means that without any extraordinary effort and simply by trusting to the volunteer system, we can put in the field ready to go to any quarter of the globe, a complete modern army of 150,000 men, and this without calling on India and the colonies for assistance. Not only could we do this, but our navy could sweep the seas and destroy the seaports of any hostile power. This statement gives great emphasis to Lord Salisbury's remark about foreign interference not being tolerated.

THE MANSION HOUSE FUND.

The volunteer committee was able yesterday to cable to London the sum of £100 as a first contribution from the citizens of Victoria to the Mansion House fund for the widows and orphans of soldiers, who fall in the war now in progress in South Africa, and for such other purposes as are embraced in the trust upon which the fund is being contributed. We think that the people of Victoria will greatly appreciate the fact that this city has been the first in the colonies to send forward a contribution to this fund. We also think that there will be very general satisfaction felt at the proposal to have a second entertainment of a character similar to that of Thursday night. The great advantage of this means of raising contributions is that it enables every one to do a little, thereby making the fund a popular one in the strictest sense of the word. Several persons threw \$5.00 bills into the sheet in the drill hall. Their names are not known and the donors did not want them to be known. The committee have opened an account in the Bank of British Columbia into which funds can be paid by any one who so desires. The committee took this action because something of the kind seemed necessary and contributions have already been received. The Mayor has given notice that he will open funds in the several city banks for the same object. His Worship was invited by the Colonist to take the lead in the movement which led to Thursday night's concert and also by Mr. Ridge-way Wilson; but he said he had not time to attend to it. It is satisfactory that His Worship has since been able to find time to assist in giving effect to a movement which the assemblage in the drill hall showed to be an exceedingly popular one.

VICTORIA WEST.

In his speech at the meeting held in Victoria West on Thursday evening, the Rev. D. MacRae said that the newspapers were the quarter to which the people of that portion of the city must look for justice, and although he did not say so in many words, he clearly implied that in his opinion the press had not done its full duty in this particular. We think we shall have to plead guilty but this has not been because of any lack of appreciation of the right of the people across the Arm to fair play, but solely because other matters have been engrossing all the attention which the Colonist has been able to give to city matters. We shall endeavor to make amends.

One of the matters spoken of at the meeting was the desirability of providing some suitable recreation ground in that part of the city. We do not wish to commit the Colonist to any definite plan of doing this; but we have no hesitation in saying that the idea ought to receive the best consideration that can be given it. Possibly such a recreation place as would suit the residents of the western section would be sufficiently convenient for those of the northern section of the city, and it might be possible so to arrange it that a water frontage on the Arm could be obtained, which would make the pleasure ground of value to the whole city. This matter will be the better for a little examination. In this connection mention may be made of the fact that if the city is to grow, the need for pleasure grounds will become much greater than it now is, and there will be no time when the land required for such purposes can be obtained any more cheaply than now.

The residents of Victoria West deserve congratulations on the excellent spirit displayed in Thursday night's meeting, and we think we can promise them that hereafter they will have no cause to complain that their legitimate demands do not receive attention from the newspapers.

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THE WAR. At least five troop ships have arrived at the Cape and three of them have gone to Durban. The first class cruiser Terrible is also at Durban and some of her men with guns have gone forward to the front. This is the beginning of operations for the relief of Ladysmith. The despatch in Friday morning's Colonist saying that an advance had been ordered from Estcourt indicates that the movement to re-open communication with Gen. White began several days ago. If the bridge at Colenso is all right, Joubert will find a force of some 10,000 men with heavy artillery ready to co-operate with Gen. White, and this will wholly change the complexion of things. This excellent result ought to be reached during the week, unless something unforeseen happens. We look for early news to the effect that communication has been re-opened with Ladysmith. Yesterday morning's despatch that there had been a skirmish near Belmont indicates that a force is advancing for the relief of Kimberley. Belmont is north of the Orange river and rather more than half way between De Aar Junction and Kimberley. The despatch says that the skirmish took place about four miles east of Belmont. Judging from the map, this would be within Free State territory.

We do not see why the Associated Press correspondent should fix November 28 as the earliest date at which anything can be done for the relief of Gen. White. Gen. Lord Methuen has a very considerable force now at his disposal and he will be steadily increasing his reinforcements. The bridge over the Tuguela at Colenso was safe at last accounts and there were no Boers in the immediate vicinity. We assume that the force reported yesterday to have gone forward with guns is temporarily for the protection of this point. The same correspondent thinks it is about time that the column that was advancing on Pietermaritzburg through Zululand was heard from. That any such force is on the way is largely a matter of surmise. A report to this effect was sent out about ten days ago, but nothing confirmatory has been heard, and it seems unreasonable to suppose that an army can be marching through a thickly settled region like Zululand and nobody hear anything about it.

THE POLICE.

Those persons who read the long report of the proceedings of the police commission in yesterday's Colonist—and every voter who has not already read it ought to do so without delay—will bear us out in saying that the Colonist was hardly in demand in demanding an investigation. We did not take this matter up until we were satisfied that there was good reason for so doing. It may be remembered that at the outset we told the police commissioners that if they did not probe matters to the bottom, the Colonist would do it regardless of consequences. We are more than gratified to be relieved of the disagreeable necessity of taking the subject up. Persons with experience in municipal matters prophesied that any attempt to reform the police department was foredoomed to failure. We did not think so. We believed that the X-rays of newspaper criticism would give the necessary stimulus to healthy public opinion, and there is no body, however it may arrogate to itself exclusive powers, that can in a free community defy public opinion.

We wish to compliment Mr. Bradburn, the city solicitor, upon his manly stand for a public investigation. Mr. Bradburn knows that nothing else will satisfy the public, and he knows also that the police commissioners cannot in justice to themselves and to the department over which they preside undertake to have any other sort of an inquiry. The Mayor was good enough to say that the commissioners will hear enough about hole-in-the-corner investigations. We can tell them that the public have heard quite too much about them, and that the commissioners will hear of them whenever they are held. We do not wish to be misunderstood in this connection. Certain purely private or personal matters may properly be discussed by the commissioners with closed doors; but these are in a class by themselves. Speaking for the Colonist, and we think we can also do for the Times, we say that there is no disposition on the part of the newspapers to make public matters which in the interest of justice ought to be kept secret. The police commissioners will find the newspapers ready to co-operate with them in that regard. But there is another class of subjects which call for publicity, and these the Colonist will insist shall be made public.

The Mayor at the last meeting of the commissioners referred to something which appeared in the Colonist, stating that he did so as a matter of privilege. We hear this expression used sometimes in the City council also. We take this means of informing the various governing bodies of the city that they have no "privilege" whatever in respect to what the newspapers say about them. The assertion of this "privilege" is something which we do not propose to stand. We know and are willing to respect the "privilege of parliament," which extends to permit parliament to prohibit any reference to its proceedings; but we wish to deny in the most emphatic way that any municipal body, the city council, the police commissioners or any one else, can assert "privilege."

One of the matters discussed at the meeting of the commissioners was the conduct of Constable Clayards in the La Coste case. What transpired in this case was certainly scandalous. Officer Clayards and Sergeant Walker flatly contradicted each other on material points. The rankest kind of perjury was

committed, but what seemed most to trouble the commissioners was Clayards' insubordination. The Mayor made the extraordinary remark that it would have been better for Clayards to have refused to give evidence than to take the course he did. It would be interesting to know what this means. Does His Worship wish to be understood as saying that where an officer believes that another officer is perjuring himself and is called to give evidence in the case, it is his duty to absent himself rather than contradict a brother policeman on oath? We dispute the proposition that a policeman or any one else has a right to refuse to give evidence. If Clayards displayed animus against Walker he did wrong and deserves to be reprimanded; but even if he felt this animus he would have no right to keep off the witness stand. What the public is most concerned with is not whether Clayards conduct himself in the police court as a city policeman ought to, but whether it is to be understood that a member of the police force is to stand by and see another testify to what he knows to be false and not to tell the truth when asked about it. It may be that the commissioners did not create the impression which they intended to convey, but certainly the report of their proceeding renders the supposition possible that the gravamen of Clayards' offence was his flat contradiction of Walker, even though he may have been telling the truth in contradicting him.

The Chief of Police certainly did not appear in a very good light at the meeting. In dealing with the matters respecting upon him the commissioners displayed good judgment, for it will certainly be better to have a formal inquiry than that it would have been to have summoned Clayards then and there and let him tell his story. They did not know apparently just what they ought to do, at which we are not surprised, for the matter was in a sense sprung upon them. They cannot do more than act on the Mayor's proposition that there should be an early and thorough investigation, with the additional proviso suggested by Mr. Bradburn that the investigation shall be public. The citizens of Victoria will be satisfied with nothing else.

The chief of police in his report asked for two more detectives and the detectives also made a similar request. It is certainly a reasonable one. We think the present detectives do their duty well, but there is a limit to the ground that they or any two men can cover. In speaking of the numerical strength of the force, mention ought again to be made of the fact, which was brought out anew at the meeting of the commissioners, that the city is insufficiently patrolled. We think the reference in the report of the detectives to the advice said to have been given them by Mr. Bradburn should have been omitted. It is not desirable that the legal advice given city officers by the city solicitor should be made public, except by the report of the solicitor himself. If this rule were followed there would be less chance of erroneous impressions being created.

The impression which the report of the meeting leaves upon the mind of the reader is that the whole police establishment from the commission down recognizes that things have got into a very bad way, and that each member of it is disposed, if he can, to shift the blame upon someone else. The Colonist suggests that the only true way out of the difficulty is a thorough public investigation. This will put the blame where it belongs and bring about a much more healthy condition of affairs.

WHERE IT TAKES A MAN.

Any one can be a soldier when there's noth- But wear a brilliant uniform and line up for review. Any one can grasp a mucker and march proudly down the street. When an admiral crowed the present and the music's loud and sweet; But when the trumpet sounds for war, and drum and screaming die Betoken grim forebodings of the coming And amid the cannon's roaring, when you see the foe in sight, It takes a man to stand in line and face the coming fight.

When the sun is shining brightly on a cloud- less summer's day, And the waves are gently lapping in a calm and peaceful way, Any one can be a sailor and parade the quarter-deck; But when the storm king mutters and the angry billows roll, And the sails are heavily flapping, striking terror to the soul, And when the vessel tosses and the seas run moaning in confusion, It takes a man to guide the ship and waves defy.

You can live a life of pleasure if the birds sing all the day, And the skies are blue above you, melting if no gloomy shadows ever round your sunshine to dispel, And all down an avenue forever from your mind you will expel, But when sorrows overtake you, and you And obstructions rise before you as you see the heavy load, When dearest friends desert you in your keenest hour of pain, It takes a man to overcome and struggle on again.

Any one can follow blindly in the surging, sweeping throng, Pressing before a leader, rushing aimlessly along; It is easy to go forward if the rest are going, too; You can do with zealous ardor what you see the others do, But to leave the crowd behind you, and to dare to stand alone, And to face the taunts of others, and the truth and right to own, Standing unaided—save by God Almighty's hand— Taking a man of righteous honor 'gainst the foe to make a stand, —E. A. Brinsford, in Buffalo Illustrated Express.

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X Rays

The Commissioners Search Beneath Surface of Detectives' Joint Report on Gamb Interesting Excusing Opponent, Constable Involves t

City police affairs up" appear to be on the order of the day. A special meeting last evening was called upon an important subject—the conduct of the report of the department—was friendly advice or was for Bradburn that he was satisfied with any investigation it was not through, open a mouth and with all the imparting of information under a royal commission should the date, place and manner be left for subsequent consideration. In the meanwhile, the force is being increased, and Blackstock is in the place of two men, special officers O'Connell and each with considerable police work in the city. The disappearance of the constable by Johnston has the option of the regular staff. One of the new constables takes the beat from the city boundary at the Jubilee hospital, proposed to patrol Victoria greater part of the Constable's duties are ordered nightly in the from the outer wharf with a widely radiating

Mayor Redfern presiding, Commissioner Blackstock, Solicitor Bradburn and Sheppard. The meeting until after 8.30, by which the Commissioner's notification of the meeting before the commencement of the evening, attention as a matter of course, in the Colonist, and the fact that "Another matter of connection with city constable Abel's position known for weeks to charges to prefer in police direction, but you from the constable these charges before by advice gone to the with whom he had on days ago. The result with interest. "I may state in the said, "that Mr. Abel me or either of the with his charges. If he would at once have formulate them and have been investigated. If now of the Commissioner's round taking note of every story that any If any man has charged ever, he has only to and come forward with their investigation, as taken up. It is not commissioners, how looking into every situation. Chief Sheppard also formal proceedings with to the effect that the Messrs. Wood had passed the medical gone on duty. The further gratifying Constable Wood fourth ex-Sergeant Walker's Constable Blackstock happily of the constable Abel. Sergeant Red the same time would find stock, and resigning. only involved a suit for and a sergeant's unit Redgrave.

As for one statement, the Commissioner's letter, Commissioner sought information, ed that he had not his resignation would the board. Was this of Police has existing by the commission to "I notified him," re "You did, yourself, "Yes, your worship, "I told him it was that asked for his resignation if he resigns, salary in lieu of one he said he wouldn't if it is in the opinion of the force are no observed the Mayor, right to dismiss with charges against that Commissioner McMillan would perhaps meet if ex-Sergeant Walker

# X Rays on the Police

## Commissioners Conclude to Search Beneath Troubled Surface of City Force.

## Detectives' Joint Protest and Report on Gambling Raises Interesting Question.

## Excusing Opposition to Sergeant, Constable Claryds Involves the Chief.

City police affairs "on the ground up" appear to be on the eve of investigation. The police commissioners at a special meeting last evening virtually decided upon an inquiry into the official conduct of the department—while they had the friendly advice or warning of City Solicitor Bradburn that the public will not be satisfied with any investigation that is not thorough, open and conducted under oath and with all the facilities for the imparting of information that are available under a royal commission. Such an investigation it was finally agreed by the commissioners should be held, although the date, place and methods of procedure are left for subsequent arrangement.

In the meanwhile the already insufficient force is being practically reduced instead of increased, Constables Wood and Blackstock having assumed duty in the place of two members dismissed, but special officers Cameron and Johnston, such with considerable experience in police work in the city, having been "laid off" in disappointment of the understanding by Johnston that he was to have the option of the first vacancy on the regular staff.

One of the new constables, Mr. Wood, takes the beat north of Douglas street to the city boundary at the other side of the Jubilee hospital; the other is supposed to patrol Victoria West and the western part of the North Ward, while Constable Carter maintains law and order nightly in the James Bay district—from the outer end of Cross street, with a widely radiating area.

Mayor Reidern presided at last night's meeting. Commissioner Brydon and City Solicitor Bradburn and Chief of Police Sheppard. The meeting did not open until after 8:30, by reason of the fact that Commissioners' Clerk Page (like the newspaper men) had received no notification of the date.

Before proceeding to the listed business of the evening, the Mayor directed attention, as a matter of privilege, to an item in the Colonist which contained the following paragraph:

"Another matter claiming attention in connection with city police affairs is the resignation of Constable Abel's position. He has been known for weeks to have important charges to prefer in connection with police direction, but has not written to the commissioners to present these charges before that body, he has advised only by reason of the fact with whom he had an interview several days ago. The result will be looked for with interest."

"I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant, HENRY W. SHEPPARD, Chief of City Police."

THE DETECTIVES' DUTIES. With reference to the request contained in his report, for two additional detectives, the Mayor enquired of Chief Sheppard:

"Do the detectives do the same work as the other regular constables?"

"I would say no, replied the Chief. "A detective has carte blanche. He can go everywhere. How could he be expected to maintain a beat, when he's never to have any of the duties of any part of the city, detecting or preventing a crime?"

"That's not what I mean," pursued the Mayor. "When a detective comes across an offender or witnesses any violation of the law, does he arrest the offender or the constable?"

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no charges had been preferred against him, his communication being received and filed.

The Mayor suggested that the ex-Sergeant be notified that it was not a necessary precedent to dismiss charges preferred—prefer the commission had power to dismiss at its pleasure.

"He knows that," said Commissioner McKicking. "How would it be to put it that in dismissing him from the force, the commissioners merely exercised their right to dismiss?" asked the Mayor.

"I presume he knows that, too," said Commissioner McKicking. "Well, then, how shall we reply?" said the Mayor. "That we are not bound to have charges before us to order a dismissal?"

"But if we decline to give any reasons," said Commissioner Brydon. "Here City Solicitor Bradburn interposed a word of friendly caution. It is not proper, he said, to reply to ex-Sergeant Walker that no charges had been preferred, when it was admitted that officers in connection with his conduct had come to the notice of the commissioners and led to his dismissal.

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gambling that had been referred to in the report of the 23rd of September.

"There was no illegal gambling outside of the several clubs, but since then some having been entirely taken up with other affairs of a more serious nature, being unable to give proper attention to this work, we are not in a position to say what has been done in that time."

In this connection we might mention a game which has been running openly in the Savoy, and which we have endeavored to suppress some months ago, and to this end consulted the city solicitor, Mr. Bradburn, who after giving careful consideration, gave it as his opinion that the game, as played, was lawful, a fact which was communicated to His Worship the Mayor at that time. Should your honorable body so wish, we will take action against these people again.

Referring to a particular case mentioned by Commissioner Brydon, we would submit that we visited the place alluded to, and found a room which was used for that purpose, but could find no instruments of gaming therein. We might also state that, so far as we know, they were not aware that we had come to the notice of the commissioners and led to his dismissal.

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port," said Commissioner McKicking. "He, too, held that the tone of the report was not what it should be, while he observed that if the police force generally, the detectives department, was lacking perhaps in what it should be, it might possibly be that the men were not sufficiently such as to be made by the commission was to blame to a degree not giving the department sufficient direct oversight, for without close attention and pains to be discharged by its members, we will take action against these people again."

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prosecution, I being the constable on No. 11 Chatham street by the woman Lacoste. In the course of my examination by Mr. Higgins, I was asked certain questions, which I answered, and which were taken down. That my evidence told against the Sergeant of Police was not my fault, but only stated facts.

I have been a member of the police force for four years and seven months, without complaint having been preferred against me, and I have discharged my duties faithfully.

I sat in the court and heard Sergt. Walker make statements which I knew to be untrue, and when I was placed in a position to do so, I can be shown by other witnesses besides myself that the woman Lacoste has not resided in Victoria for two years, and has not occupied any other house on Chatham street, as sworn to by Sergt. Walker. He was also untrue when he swore that he had never been inside that house, when I knew for a fact that he had been there on several occasions.

I was unfortunate in having been called No. 11 Chatham street by the woman Lacoste in the middle of the night, and she told me (as she alleged) that she was a widow, and that she was the wife of a man who had been killed in the war.

Commissioner McKicking pointed out that such a resolution could have no more force than the law itself, which is not sufficient to be made in Victoria was not so much resolutions or notices in the books, as enforcement of the common law. And if the law was not being enforced, it would be of no use, it was the duty of the police force—not the commissioners—to "nose out" the law.

He for one was quite satisfied, and he knew what he was talking about to do our duty, and night after night that day after day, and night after night, being badly broken, not in white gamings alone, but among the Chinese in the streets, and in the houses, and in the public places, and in the private and public inquires, criminals wanted in other cities, and various other matters, but we can always refer with pride to the high compliment of the Supreme Court for our creditable work.

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Inasmuch as he had brought into the case, as he thought a little unfairly, the city solicitor claimed the privilege of explaining his position. It was time that he had been asked to do so at the present time ago, but it had been an opinion not demanded of him in his professional relationship to the city.

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From the Window.

Says It Was Not Took Him Hospital. ... Bings and Powers ...

Ladies' Work For Hospital.

Monthly Meeting of the Women's Auxiliary Held on Tuesday. ... Arrangements for the Charity Ball and Children's Cinderella.

GEN. HUTTON SPEAKS OUT.

Some Plain Language Respecting Canada's Duty Towards the Empire. ... At the farwell demonstration of the Canadian Regiment for Africa at Quebec.

PROVINCIAL NEWS

KAMLOOPS. The inquest touching the death of John Bergland was concluded this morning. ... GREENWOOD. At the adjourned meeting of the council held Wednesday.

THE STATE ELECTIONS.

Were Held Yesterday but Results Blocked on Their Westward Way. ... ELECTIONS. Elections were held yesterday in twelve states of the American Union.

LOCAL NEWS.

SIR CHARLES IN WINNIPEG. Has a Great Reception at the First of His Series of Meetings in Manitoba. ... APPEAL REFUSED. In the Full court yesterday the application of Mr. Frank Higgins for leave to appeal against the decision of the police magistrate.

For Widows and Orphans.

Concert This Evening in Aid of the Mansion House Fund. ... GRAND PROGRAMME OF PATRIOTIC MUSIC AND RECITATIONS at the Drill Hall.

OLD DEAD.

Capt. J. K. Oswald, the Webster House, passed last week, and the third-story window of his injuries at sea. Deceased was a 50, Oswald, and his long illness.

COUNTY RAILWAY.

The purchase of County railway was by the payment to W. Mitchell and W. 90, less \$134,000, the 90, and \$25,000 on account.

IRISH POEM.

October 9, 1900. To death, is dead. To Ireland was set, when given of Blake how snowed that brokeed then wolves set freed with weeping. Speech for loathing. Scarce blacken God's dishonored curses and with shame. A witness new draws legs, apace with jaws. Strike, England, and Swinburne, in London.

YACHTSMEN DISAGREE.

Seawanhaka Club Refuse to Vary Conditions of Their Deed of Gift. ... Montreal, Nov. 8.—There is a difficulty between the Seawanhaka Yacht Club and the Royal St. Lawrence club over the deed of gift.

RUBBER TIRE COMBINE.

Promised That Results Will Be to Lower Prices. ... New York, Nov. 9.—The announcement was made to-day that the Rubber Goods Co. had purchased a majority of the capital stock of the Hartford Rubber Works Co., the Indianapolis Rubber Co., the Peoria Rubber and Mfg. Co., the American Rubber Co., and the Rubber Manufacturing plant of the Indiana Bicycle Co.

EMPEROR'S GOOD SENSE.

Advice to German Officers Not to Enter Service Against the British. ... Berlin, Nov. 9.—As a result of instructions from the Emperor, a military order has been issued to commanders of districts, in which His Majesty expresses the wish that no Prussian officers will be granted leave to go to South Africa.

CANADIAN FELL AT GLENCOCK.

Kingston, Nov. 8.—James O'Rourke, a former Kingstonian, was killed in a charge at Glenock, Natal. He was one of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. His brother resides here.

JOHN BRIGHT'S BROTHER.

London, Nov. 8.—Mr. Jacob Bright, brother of the famous John Bright, the firm of Jno. Bright & Bro., Richdale, is dead. He was 61 years of age.

FOR LOW-GRADE ORES.

New Smelter at Grand Forks Within a Few Months—Rail Connection with Republic. ... Grand Forks, Nov. 8.—Grand Forks has secured a second smelter. The deal was closed to-day with Jay P. Graves, general manager of the Granby smelter, and John A. Manly, who donate a free site of twenty acres to E. T. Bradford, general manager of the Southern Smelting Co., of Denver, Col., and Harry Gager, M. E. The latter will organize a company with a capital of \$500,000 for the treatment of sulphide ores.

FAME'S PATHWAY.

Lord Salisbury when asked by a London reporter the other day if he was very busy replied: "I always am. But, by the way, do you know whom I think the busiest and hardest working man in the world? It is the present Bishop of Osnabrück." ... Rev. Dr. J. M. Thoburn, Methodist Episcopal missionary of India and Malaya, is now making his annual visit to this country.

ADDED MYSTERY.

Since the disappearance some time ago of the steamer Dundee, the mystery is deepened. ... Dundee, Nov. 8.—The Dundee, a steamer of the Dundee & Arrol Co., which was reported to have been wrecked on the coast of South America, has been sighted in the harbor of Dundee.

THE BOER ROUT AT COLENSO.

Kaffir Runner Says "Men Women" Killed On Hill Top. ... London, Nov. 8.—Further reports of the Grobiersloof affair on Friday, when a force sent by Gen. White from Ladysmith to relieve the Boers, were received.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT.

London, Nov. 7.—The Berlin correspondent of the Daily Mail says it is practically certain that the Emperor and the young princess will accompany the Emperor William in his Majesty's forthcoming visit to England.

PLANNED FOR THE BOERS.

European Generals Prescribed the Tactics to Meet the Boer Advance. ... London, Nov. 8.—The Standard's correspondent at Luxemburg gives further details of the Boer plan of campaign, which was drawn up, he asserts, by "a general of European reputation." He says: "Dr. Leyds obtained from several generals in Germany and Belgium, as well as in Holland, a series of highly interesting plans, although there is no reason to believe that the general whose plan was selected ever imagined that it would be put into execution."

PLATFORM BUOY.

One Moored in Esquimaux Harbor by Capt. Walburn of the Quadra. ... An official notice to mariners says: A small platform buoy with a lattice work cone on top has been moored in 11 fathoms water close to and northward of the rock eastward of Patterson point, Esquimaux harbor, by Capt. Walburn of the D.C.S. Quadra.

FROM KRUENSDORF TO LICHTENBERG.

From Swatland to Pietersburg; From Pietersburg to Johannesburg; From Johannesburg to Kimberley; From Kimberley to Cape Town; From Cape Town to Port Elizabeth; From Port Elizabeth to East London; From East London to Durban; From Durban to Natal.

SILAS—WHAT HE'S GRUMBLING ABOUT?

Ye've got a good crop, an' their prices is good too. ... Silas—What he's grumbling about? Ye've got a good crop, an' their prices is good too. I know that, but if I sell my crop now the prices is bound to go up, an' if I hold in an' wait for higher prices, they will surely go lower. Either way I can't help but lose.—New York Journal.

QUEBEC CONSERVATIVES.

Montreal, Nov. 6.—La Patrie says La Comte, chief justice of Quebec, will resign in order to take the Conservatorship of the province in the coming federal campaign.

REBELS ATTACK AMERICANS.

Two Hundred Resolutely Charge a Troop of Cavalry but Are Driven Off—A Trooper Drowned. ... Manila, Nov. 7.—A force of about two hundred insurgents attacked the Fourth Cavalry last night, making three futile charges and losing three men. The Americans lost none.

MODDER RIVER BRIDGE.

Capetown, Nov. 8.—(3:15 a. m.)—Advices from Orange River say that it is reported that the Boers have destroyed one of the piers of Modder river bridge, and it is necessary to curb the Boers in the Hopetown that an attack will be made on the Orange River camp.

CONGRESSMAN FOR MAINE.

Portland, Me., Nov. 6.—Amos T. Allen (Republican) has been elected congressman for the present term to succeed Thomas B. Reed, by a majority of 4,650.

PHOENIX.

Roderick McDonald, a chopper in the employ of the Brandon and Golden Crown company, had a close call on Monday last by a tree falling on him. While falling a log struck him on the head, but he was not seriously injured.

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