

# HERBERT'S CONFESSION.

## Says He and Gerald Sifton Killed the Old Man.

A despatch from London, Ont., says:—Gerald Sifton is behind the bars, charged with the murder of his aged father, and Walter Herbert, his self-confessed accomplice, is held for the same awful crime. Young Sifton made no resistance, and expressed confidence that everything would be all right.

Herbert is a big boy of 20 years, who was employed by Joseph Sifton as a farm hand.

During the last couple of days the pressure has been getting too strong for Herbert, and early Thursday morning he told the story of the killing of High Constable McLeod.

McLeod was interviewing Edgar Morden, who lives on the farm adjoining the Sifton place, when Herbert walked into the room. He handed his watch to the constable, with a request that should anything happen to him the timepiece be given to his grandmother. Then he broke down and told his story.

### HIRED MAN'S CONFESSION.

According to it, Gerald Sifton, had arranged with him to do away with the old man. The plan was to call the elder Sifton up into the loft, and as he came through the floor to brain him with an axe. The two were in the loft when the old man came up the ladder. At the last moment Herbert's courage failed, and he claims that he struck the old man a light blow with the side of the axe. Then he alleges Gerald Sifton, seized his father's arm and dragged him, half unconscious, up to the floor of the loft, at the same time crushing the head with repeated blows of the axe, which he snatched from his trembling accomplice. A couple of boards had been knocked from the side of the barn, and through this hole the body was thrown to the ground, 24 feet below.

**A YARN FIXED UP.**  
The bloodstained axe was placed beside the head and neighbours called in. To them the story was told that Joseph Sifton had fallen from the barn

while endeavouring to knock down some boards with the axe. The old man was still breathing, but did not regain consciousness before he died, a few hours later. Herbert seemed glad to tell his ghastly tale, and declared his willingness to repeat it in the witness-box.

**THE CULPRITS ARRESTED.**  
After he had eased his mind, he went to bed at Gerald Sifton's house where he was guarded all night by two constables. Early Monday morning Murray drove out, and Gerald Sifton and the hired man were aroused and brought to gaol.

Inspector Murray's week of hard work has disclosed much evidence which makes the case against the son very black. Three men have stated that Gerald had threatened to do away with his father rather than allow him to marry again.

**RIVAL WAS APPROACHED.**  
Martin Morden, who at one time was engaged to marry Mary McFarlane, the young woman to whom the elder Sifton was to have been married on the day of his death, was approached by Gerald, who wanted him to come out to the farm. To him the son said that it would be an easy matter to let something fall on the old man and drop him out of the way.

**LOOKS DARK FOR GERALD.**  
James Morden is said to have been offered money by Gerald Sifton to help in disposing of the father, but refused to have anything to do with him. To several neighbours Sifton is alleged to have stated that he would put the old man out of the way before he would allow him to marry again, and Edgar Morden warned Joseph Sifton of what his son had said, and the night before the wedding day got Sifton and Miss McFarlane to stay at his house. The old man left for his home at daybreak and said that he was safe then, and would have the wedding take place in the morning instead of waiting until the afternoon.

### EN ROUTE TO TIEN-TSIN.

Surviving Members of Legations Said to Have Left Peking.

A despatch from London says:—A despatch to Dalziel's news agency from Shanghai of Thursday date says General Yung-Lu's troops are reported to be escorting the surviving members of the foreign Legations at Peking to Tien-Tsin.

There were several stormy interviews between Li-Hung-Chang and the foreign Consuls at Shanghai before the Chinese decided to take this step in order to abate the wrath of the powers.

It is reported that over one-half of the people who were besieged at Peking have been either killed or wounded or have died of privation.

### ALL WERE MASSACRED.

Missionaries Who Took Refuge at Pao-Ting-Foo Killed.

Brussels, July 29.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs has received a telegram from Shanghai, dated July 28, which states that a Chinese Taotai is authority for the assertion that all of

the missionaries who have taken refuge at Pao-ting-foo have been massacred.

If the allies march on Peking, it is possible that the Peking Government will take refuge at Tsin-Au-Fu.

The Governor of Shantung has informed the British Consul that, according to an Imperial decree, the foreign Ministers were safe on July 24, and that they had been furnished with a fresh supply of food by the authorities.

A message received by the procurator of the Belgian missions states that all the missionaries in Eastern Mongolia are safe, and will be able to resist the rebels a long time at Tohu. The message was signed by "Decartier."

### COST NEAR \$200,000,000.

Enormous Expense of the War in South Africa.

A despatch from London, says:—The supplementary estimates, necessitated by the prolongation of the war in South Africa, amount to £11,500,000, making a total of £34,500,000 voted for this purpose, and bringing the total estimates up to £76,309,153.6

# GENERAL ADVANCE BEGUN.

## Boers Still Withdrawing, Wrecking Bridges as They Go.

A despatch from London, Thursday, says:—The next few days should produce interesting developments in South Africa. Lord Roberts has again advanced, but the burghers are reported to be already moving to the north-east, with the intention of carrying out their long-announced plan of retiring to the Lydenburg mountains. Gen. Roberts was recently credited with saying, "I cannot follow them into the centre of Africa. If they choose to shut themselves up in the Lydenburg mountains, I cannot prevent them."

The Boers are now repeating the tactics they have followed ever since Bloemfontein fell that is, withdrawing safely, wrecking bridges as they go, and always distancing their pursuers.

There is a report that Gen. De Wet

hoped when he broke through the British who were hemming him in, to go southward and concentrate at Stormberg. At present, however, he is retreating northward. He was last reported to be within a few miles of the Vaal river. He was being followed, but had not been overtaken by a British force.

Nothing has been heard of Gen. Buller for several days. His whereabouts is unknown to the public.

According to a report from Maseru, Basutoland, a considerable number of Boers are still in the eastern part of the Orange River Colony. They are well equipped, have plenty of supplies, and are not thinking of surrendering.

Heavy rifle firing was heard near Ficksburg Tuesday, but no details have been received of fighting there.

# MARKETS OF THE WORLD

Prices of Cattle, Cheese, Grain, &c., in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, July 31.—Only fifty carloads of live stock were received at the western cattle yards this morning, including 1,000 sheep and lambs, 500 hogs, 800 cattle, 50 calves, and a couple of dozen milkers.

The market was a quiet one, prices were weak, and sheep considerably weaker. Hogs were unchanged.

Several loads of cattle were held over.

There was scarcely any export cattle selling, and prices, while quotably unchanged, were practically nominal.

The trade in butcher cattle was of little account, as both buyers and sellers are waiting for the market to-morrow, Friday.

Bulls, stockers, feeders, and milch cows quiet and unchanged.

Sheep were from 25 to 50c lower, and lambs were easy.

For prime hogs, scaling from 160 to 200 lbs., the top price is 61-4c; thick fat hogs, 53-8c; and light hogs, 51-4c per lb.

Following is the range of quotations:—

Cattle.	
Shippers, per cwt. . . . .	\$4.30
Butcher, choice do. . . . .	4.25
Butcher, med. to good . . . . .	3.25
Butcher, inferior. . . . .	3.00
Stockers, per cwt. . . . .	3.00
Sheep and Lambs.	
Sheep, per cwt. . . . .	3.75
Spring lambs, each . . . . .	2.50
Bucks, per cwt. . . . .	2.50

Milk and Calves.	
Cows, each. . . . .	25.00
Calves, each. . . . .	2.00

Hogs.	
Choice hogs per cwt. . . . .	6.00
Light hogs, per cwt. . . . .	5.00
Heavy hogs, per cwt. . . . .	5.12
Sows. . . . .	3.25
Stags. . . . .	2.00

Toronto, July 31.—Wheat—Quotations are as follows:—Ontario, red and white, old, outside, 70c; and new, 68c; spring, outside, 70c; Manitoba, No. 1 hard, g.t., 91c; same, Toronto and west, 88c; same, upper lake ports, 85c.

Milfeed—Scarce and steady. Bran, \$12 to \$12.50; and shorts, \$14 to \$14.50, west.

Corn—Steady. No. 1 American, yellow, 47c, on track here; and mixed at 46c.

Peas—Quiet. Car lots are quoted nominally at 60c, north and west, and 61c east.

Barley—New No. 2, 38c, outside; old, No. 2, 40c.

Rye—New rye, 49c outside, and old 51 to 52c.

Oats—Continue easy. White oats, north and west, 26 1-2c; and east, 27 1-2c.

Flour—Quiet and steady. Holders ask \$3 for 90 per cent. patent, in buyers' bags, middle freights, and exporters bid \$2.85. Special brands sell locally from 10 to 20c above these figures.

Milwaukee, July 31.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 76 to 76 1-2c; No. 2, 74 3-4c. Rye—No. 1, 56c. Barley—No. 2, 47 to 48c; sample, 40 to 46c.

Duluth, July 31.—Wheat—No. 1 hard cash, 79 5-8c; August, 79 3-4c; September, 79c; December, 79 1-8c; No. 1 Northern, 77 5-8c; August, 77 3-4c.

Chicago, July 31.—Wheat sagged for a time to-day, but recovered on talk of cash sales. September closing 1 1-8c over yesterday. Corn closed a shade and oats 3-8c lower. Provisions at the close were 2 1-2 to 1 1-2c depressed. Estimated to-morrow:—Wheat, 205 cars; corn, 390 cars; oats, 145 cars; hogs, 23,000 head.

Buffalo, July 31.—Spring wheat—No. 1 hard, spot, earloads, 85 5-8c; No. 1 hard, round lots, 84 1-8c; No. 1 Northern, spot, 3 1-8c. Winter wheat—No. 2 red, 80c bid; No. 3 red, 78c asked. Corn—Dull; No. 2 yellow, 43 1-2c; No. 3 yellow, 43 1-4c; No. 4 do., 44 1-2c; No. 2 corn, 43c; No. 3 corn, 42 3-4c. Oats Firm; No. 2 white, 28 3-8c; No. 3 do., 28 1-4c; No. 4 do., 27 1-2c; No. 2 mixed, 26 1-2c; No. 3 mixed, 26c. Rye—Nothing doing. Flour—Dull and easy.

Chicago, July 31.—Flaxseed—Closed;—North-West and South-West, cash, \$1.50; August, \$1.40, \$1.44 1-2 asked; September, \$1.38 bid; October, \$1.31 1-2 bid.

### MISSIONARIES KILLED.

Four More Murdered in the Province of Shansi.

A despatch from London, Saturday, says:—The Daily Express has the following from Shanghai:—

"Four more British missionaries have been murdered in the Province of Shansi. News from native Christian sources says that for eight days a general massacre of foreigners has been in progress in the Provinces of Honan and Shansi."

# BRITISH AT MIDDELBURG

## Lord Roberts Tells of a Terrible Night on the Veldt.

A despatch from London, says:—The War Office has received this despatch from Lord Roberts:—

"French and Hutton continued their pursuit on July 25. The former crossed Oliphant's, Olifant's river, and from the high ground on the east bank he could see Middelburg, and the enemy retiring in great disorder.

"The main road north was blocked for several miles with horsemen and waggons. The enemy's rear was then seven miles north. The mounted forces were still west of the river.

"Night was closing in, the rain was falling in torrents, and so it was impossible to follow. The night was terrible. In addition to the rain a strong east wind made the bivouac most uncomfortable.

"One officer, I regret to say, died of exposure, and the mortality among the mules and oxen was great. The men made light of hardships, and were in famous spirits when I saw them yesterday.

"Hunter has occupied Fourieburg, and so far as I know, did not suffer loss. He found Mrs. Steyn, wife of

the ex-President, and several of our men whom De Wet had captured at different times, and whom he was unable to send to Machadodorp.

"The enemy in the Bethlehem hills are now closing in. Basutoland is closed to them. Harrismith is the only line open; and it will not be easy for them to reach there with guns and waggons.

"Broadwood is still watching Christian De Wet, who has taken up a position on high hills near Reitzburg, about seven miles south of the Vaal.

"P. De Wet, a younger brother of Christian, surrendered at Kroonstad yesterday.

"Barron reports from Krugersdorp that he has reconnoitred the railway to Bank station, where the train was wrecked on July 19, and been enabled to replenish his supplies.

"Methuen's column, which reached the Krugersdorp-Potchefstroom railway, is now moving on Potchefstroom.

"Buller reports that the railway was opened to Heidelberg yesterday giving us through communication to Natal."

### FIRED AT THE OFFICER

Policeman Returned the Fire and Assailed Fied, Leaving Traces of Blood.

A despatch from Port Dalhousie, says:—The friends of the convicted dynamiters seem determined to have their revenge, and canal officials here are constantly on the watch to prevent injury to the locks. What appears to have been another organized attempt to do mischief took place early on Saturday morning, but was fortunately unsuccessful, owing to the care of the guards. A little after midnight on Friday night Peter Mathieson, lock-tender at lock 18, saw a man endeavoring to pass down the canal to the point where it crosses over the Grand Trunk tunnel. This spot is the most open to the designs of miscreants of any on the canal. Mathieson ordered the stranger off, and his actions in response were so suspicious that the man at the lock followed him until he took refuge in a quarry near by and was lost to sight. A short while after, about 1 o'clock in the morning, Patrolman Gunn of the Dominion police, on duty farther down at the west end near the tunnel, saw two men coming up towards him. He called on them to halt. Instead of doing so, one of them shouted to his companion, "Give it to him," meaning Gunn. The officer was standing in the light where he was an easy mark, and two shots from a revolver were fired at him in rapid succession. Gunn fired

one shot in reply, and the men bolted at daylight near the spot where the strangers were when Gunn discharged his revolver, some marks of blood were found, so that he evidently hit one of them. A close watch was kept during the night, but no further attempt was made to reach the canal. The lock tenders and their assistants have all been sworn in as special constables, but, unfortunately, they have not been armed, and even the Dominion police only carry revolvers. It is thought here that long chances are being run in leaving unarmed men to do battle with desperadoes. Chief McKinnon favors the arming of the lock tenders with rifles, which could be kept in the lock houses for an emergency.

Yesterday afternoon two boxes containing 50 pounds each of dynamite were found on the canal wharf at the foot of Pitt street. It is thought the explosive material was put off the steam barge Iona that passed up yesterday, but on this point there is no certainty. The boxes bore no address or evidence as to where they were from, and the police were notified and removed the dangerous stuff to the police station. In view of the policing of the Cornwall Canal the discovery of the dynamite was a source of lively speculation here to day.

Over \$63,000,000 has been expended for famine relief in India during the last two years.

# THE KING OF ITALY SLAIN.

## Shot Through the Heart While Stepping Into His Carriage—The Murderer an Anarchist.

A despatch from Monza, Italy, says:—King Humbert has been assassinated. He was shot here last evening by a man named Angelo Bressi, and died in a few minutes.

The King had been attending a distribution of prizes in connection with a gymnastic competition. He had just entered his carriage, with his aide-de-camp, amid the cheers of the crowd, when he was struck by three revolver shots fired in quick succession.

One pierced the heart of his Majesty, who fell back and expired in a few minutes.

The assassin was immediately arrested, and was with some difficulty saved from the fury of the populace.

He gave his name as Angelo Bressi, describing himself of Prato, in Tuscany.

### CONSTERNATION AT ROME.

The news of the terrible event did not arrive in Rome until after midnight. Signor Saracco, the Premier, immediately summoned a meeting of the Cabinet, and the Ministers started at the earliest possible moment for Monza. The Prince and Princess of Naples are on board the Yela yacht in the Levant.

### CAREER OF THE KING.

Humbert I. Umberto Primo, King of Italy, was born in 1844, and succeeded his father, the great King Victor Emmanuel, in 1878. While Crown Prince he distinguished himself by the active part he took in the noble move-

ment for the establishment of a united Italy. He shared with Garibaldi the triumph of the reorganization of the kingdom of the two Sicilies. Prince Humbert served with distinction in the war of 1866 against the Austrians. He displayed much personal bravery in the moment of disaster at the battle of Custoza, in which the Italian forces were defeated. Consequently he was a popular sovereign with all patriotic Italians.

In 1868 he further cemented his popularity by marrying his cousin, the Princess Margherita, daughter of the late Duke of Genoa. His queen is well known as a most accomplished artist, and also for the rare sweetness of her disposition. The royal silver wedding was celebrated at Rome with much pomp in April, 1893.

### ATTEMPT TWENTY YEARS AGO.

The last and fatal attempt on the King's life was not the first which he had experienced. In 1878, shortly after his coronation, he was attacked by a would-be assassin named Giovanni Passanante, who made a determined attempt to end his life with a pinard.

### THE KING'S SUCCESSOR.

The heir apparent to the throne of Italy is Victor Emmanuel, Prince of Naples, the eldest son of King Humbert, and born in 1869. He was married in October, 1896, to Princess Helen of Montenegro.