

WAR IS ALMOST ENDED

Boers Destroy Their Guns and Flee--Only a Few Marauding Bands Now Oppose the British.

A despatch from London says:—The War Office has received the following from Lord Roberts, dated Nelspruit, "Out of 3,000 of the enemy who retreated toward Komatipoort as we advanced from Machadodorp, 700 have crossed into Portuguese territory. Others have deserted in various directions. The balance crossed the Komati river, are occupying the Lebombo mountain, south of the railway between Portuguese territory and the bridge. A general tumult occurred when the enemy realized the hopelessness of their cause. Long Toms and several field guns, including some captured from the British, were destroyed.

"Nothing is left of the Boer army but a few marauding bands. One of these has taken up a position in the Doornburg, north-east of Winburg, and is being watched by Kelly-Kenny. "Runde attacked the enemy on September 18 from Bronkhorstfontein, and captured one gun and 30 waggons. Knox overtook the rear guard at Klompjesdoorn. His only casualty was one wounded. Hart is moving successfully against another band near Potchefstroom. Hildyard has arrived at Creutvlei, 16 miles south-east of Utrecht, and has taken three prisoners without opposition. "Two British officers who were captured at Cypheragat recently were released on September 11, and reached Bloemfontein on the 16th."

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES

Newsy Items About Ourselves and Our Neighbors—Something of Interest From Every Quarter of the Globe.

CANADA
Canada had 48,000 immigrants last year.
Mrs. J. C. Meredith of London, Ont., is dead.
Manitoba has experienced the first frost of the season.
The Kingston District Fair has been a marked success this year.
Thos. McCaffery, manager of the Union Bank, Winnipeg, has resigned.
Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N., son-in-law of Mr. Archibald Campbell, Quebec, is dead.
The G.T.R. has revised the schedule of tolls for the Victoria Jubilee bridge.
Liabilities of the Montreal Cold Storage Company amount to \$550,000, of which \$390,000 is secured.
The steamer Lawrence, given up for lost at St. Joseph, Mich., has been sighted. She is en route to Detroit.
Mr. Thomas McCaffery, for many years manager of the Union Bank in Winnipeg, has severed his connection with that institution.
Hamilton had another destructive wind storm last night.
Fire at London yesterday damaged the Columbia handle factory.
Niagara fruit men estimate their loss by Tuesday's gale at \$1,000,000.
Albert McConnell was drowned while at work on an Ottawa river dredge.
His four physicians report that Premier Marchand, of Quebec, is improving.
Capt. Hewitt, R.A., will be the new professor of artillery at the Kingston college.
Fire at Morden, Manitoba, has destroyed the large warehouse of B. Fraser.
James Caldwell, of Port Rowan, is dead from poison, and an inquest is being held.
The salmon pack on the Pacific coast is a thousand cases less this year than last.
Lieut.-Gov. Jones opened the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition at Halifax yesterday.
Jacob Mendall is being tried at Hamilton on a charge of keeping a gaming house.
Conductor Oldfield was seriously injured in an accident in the T. H. & B. tunnel at Hamilton.
Three trolley cars collided at London yesterday, injuring two passengers and damaging the cars.
A \$5 Confederate bill was passed upon a lady at a Methodist harvest home at St. Thomas yesterday.
James McAllister, formerly of Toronto, was seriously injured by the explosion of a boiler at Vancouver, B. C.
Archdeacon Mills, bishop-elect of Ontario, will be consecrated in St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, on November 1st.
Fruit growers in the Niagara district say that the damage done by the recent storm has been greatly exaggerated.
The Great Western track will hereafter run under the Brantford & Goderich track at Brantford instead of over it.
A number of convicts working on their farm at Dorchester, N. B., have been poisoned by eating nuts they found, but only one, Richard Tate, died.
Capt. St. Bernier, at Quebec from Newfoundland, seeks a grant of \$20,000 from the Dominion Government for his proposed polar expedition.
Mrs. Mary Vert, of Hamilton, has sued the Toronto General Trusts Company, administrators of the estate of her husband, to recover \$4,300, which she claims her husband held in trust for her.
The magistrate and the sheriff at

MARKETS OF THE WORLD

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

THE STREET MARKET.
Toronto, Sept. 25.—Following were the sales and prices of grain on the street to-day:—Three hundred bushels of white wheat at 71c per bushel; 100 bushels of goose at 68c per bushel; 100 bushels of rye at 54c per bushel; 400 bushels of barley at from 46-1-2 to 47-1-2c per bushel; 100 bushels of new oats at 29c per bushel; Ten loads of hay were sold at from \$12.50 to \$13.50 per ton.
Wheat, white, straight, \$0.70 \$0.71
Wheat, red, straight, 0.69 1-2 0.70 1-2
Wheat, goose, 0.60 0.69
Wheat, spring, 0.70 0.71
Oats, new, 0.29 0.29 1-2
Barley, 0.46 1-2 0.47 1-2
Rye, 0.53 0.53 1-2
Peas, 1.25 1.35
Hay, per ton, 12.50 13.50
Straw, per ton, 0.00 11.00
Dressed hogs, 7.50 7.75
Butter, in lb. rolls, 0.22 0.23
Eggs, new laid, 0.15 0.16
Chickens, per pair, 0.50 0.70
Turkeys, per lb., 0.11 0.13
Ducks, each, 0.60 0.75
Potatoes, per bush., 0.40 1.00
Apples, per bbl., 7.00 9.00
Beef, hind quarters, 4.09 5.70
Beef, forequarters, 5.50 5.75
Mutton, 6.00 8.00
Lamb, spring, per lb., 0.08 0.09
Veal, carcass, 8.00 9.00

DAIRY MARKETS.
Butter—Plenty coming in to meet all demands, and values remain unchanged. Good choice dairy is plentiful. Commission houses sell to the trade as follows:—Dairy, tubs and pails, choice 18 to 19c; and second quality, at 14 to 16c; dairy prints, choice, 19 to 20c; creamery, boxes, 21 to 22c; and pounds, 22 to 23c.
Cheese—Full creamery, July and August makes, sell at 11 1-2 to 12 1-2.
DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS.
The tight delivery of dressed hogs and the short supply of long clear on this market has caused prices to jump up another fraction to-day, and still higher values are looked for. Other lines of pork products are strong. Dressed hogs, \$7.75 to \$8, on the street.
Quotations for provisions are as follows:—Dry salted shoulders, 8c; long clear, car lots, 9 1-4c; (on lots, 9 1-2c; case lots, 9 1-2c; short cut pork, \$19.50 to \$20; heavy mess, \$17-50 to \$18.
Smoked meats—Hams, heavy, 12c; medium, 13c; light, 13 1-2c; breakfast bacon, 12 1-2 to 13c; picnic hams, 10c; roll bacon, 11c; smoked backs, 13c. All meats out of pickle less than prices quoted for smoked meats.
Lard—Tierces, 9 1-4 to 9 1-2c; tubs, 9 1-2 to 9 3-4c; pails, 9 3-4 to 10c.
PRODUCE.
Eggs—Good steady run and the market fairly active and firm. Choice fresh sold at 14 to 14 1-2c; seconds at 8 to 10c.
Potatoes—Plenty coming in and market easy in tone. Dealers are buying car lots, on track here, at 30 to 33c per bag; and sell, out of store, at 40 to 45c per bag.
Field produce etc.—Lots of stock coming in, market though is steady. Turnips sell, out of store, at 25 to 30c per bag; onions sell, out of store, at 1c per lb.; apples, per bbl., sell, out of store, at 50c to \$1.
Beans—New beans are looked for on the market soon. Choice hand-picked beans are quoted at \$1.55 to \$1.60.
Honey—Dealers quote from 9 to 10c per lb. for 5, 10, or 60-lb. tins. Comb honey, sells at \$2 to \$2.25 per dozen sections.
Baled hay—Steady. No. 1 timothy, car lots, on track here, \$9.75 to \$10; two-ton lots, delivered, sell at \$10.50.
Baled straw—Car lots of good out are quoted at \$5 to \$5.50, on track.
Hops—New, 1900 crop, is now quoted at 13 to 15c. Old sell at 13 to 14c for Canada, '89's, for choice.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.
Toronto, Sept. 25.—The receipts to-day were 45 carloads of live stock, including 1,050 hogs, 700 cattle, 600 sheep and lambs, and a few calves.
Business was quiet, and practically unchanged, as far as prices were concerned, and very little doing.
We had scarcely any movement in shipping cattle, and prices were weak. The best shipping cattle is quoted at \$5 per cwt., but the best price paid here to-day was \$4.90. Only a few small deals were effected.
Only good to choice butcher cattle appears to be wanted, and this will sell at from \$4 to \$4.50, per cwt. Trade in medium and inferior cattle is dull, and values show a downward tendency.
Stockers and feeders both in light supply with a fair demand; prices unchanged.
Good milk cows are wanted. Nothing of the desired kind here to-day.
There is a fair demand for bulls, both for shipping and for the byres, at steady but unchanged prices.
Sheep and lambs, are steady at the prices quoted below. The enquiry is good.
Hogs are steady and unchanged.
A German loan of \$25,000,000 will be floated in this country.

MASSACRE BY RUSSIANS.

5,000 Chinese Clubbed or Shot to Death.

Not One Escaped Alive—Authentic Accounts of a Frightful and Barbarous Crime.
A despatch from London says:— "Authentic accounts have been received here," says the Moscow correspondent of the Standard, "of a horrible massacre at Blagovestchensk, which was undoubtedly carried out under direct orders from the Russian authorities, and which then let loose the tide of slaughter through Amoor. "The entire Chinese population of 5,000 souls was escorted out of town to a spot five miles up the Amoor, and then, being led in batches of a few hundreds to the river bank, was ordered to cross over to the Chinese side. No boats were provided, and the river is a mile wide. The Chinese were flung alive into the stream, and were stabbed or shot at the least resistance, while Russian volunteers, who lined the bank, clubbed or shot any who attempted to land. No one escaped alive. The river bank for miles was strewn with corpses."

CANADIANS COMING HOME.

500 of the First Contingent Will Take Their Discharge.

A despatch from Ottawa, Ont., says:—Five hundred of the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry now in South Africa are coming home. They have had enough of campaigning, and have elected to take their discharge at the expiration of the year of service.
The Militia Department to-day received a cablegram from Lieut.-Col. Biggar, formerly of Belleville, who is now deputy assistant adjutant-general in South Africa.
His message was dated Cape Town, September 18th, and states that five hundred of the first contingent will return to Canada immediately, the remainder having elected to stay in South Africa till the end of the war.
This means that about 350 of the Canadian infantry will be left behind. It is likely that they will be drafted into some English regiment for the remainder of their period of service.
The mounted troops from Canada will continue in South Africa until their year is up, which will be in January or February, by which time it is expected that the country will have been pacified.

PELLETIER IN CHARGE.
The officials of the Militia Department were engaged to-day in perfecting the arrangements for the despatch of the Canadian contingent from South Africa. Col. Otter and Major Buchan will remain in South Africa with the balance of the infantry, while the men who are coming home will be under the command of Major Pelletier, of Quebec, the junior major of the regiment. The contingent will come direct from Cape Town to Quebec. The men who will remain in South Africa while the war lasts will, however, return home via England, and be reviewed by the Queen.

HORSES FOR AFRICA.
A Montreal despatch says:—The steamship Cape, sailed to-day with a cargo of horses for Cape Town. The horses placed on board number 700, and are destined for use in the British army. The Canning expects to make the trip to the Cape in 25 days. This is the vessel's fifth consecutive trip to South Africa.

ALLIES CAPTURE PEITANG.
Great Losses Reported on Both Sides.
A despatch from Berlin says:—The Lokal Anzeiger's Shanghai correspondent cables that the allies to-day captured the Peitang and Luit-Tui forts with great losses.
The Tien-Tsin correspondent of the Daily Mail, referring to the attack on the Peitang and Lu-Tai forts, already captured by the allies, after heavy losses, according to advices received at Berlin, says:— "The surrender of the forts was demanded with the threat of immediate attack by the Germans and Russians in the event of refusal."
The news that Sir Claude Macdonald's removal from Peking to Tokio was arranged last April is commented upon by some London papers as indicating that the Home authorities were dissatisfied with his conduct of affairs.

500 BOER REFUGEES.
Burghers Follow Kruger and Flee the Country.
A despatch from Lorenzo Marques, says:—Five hundred Boer refugees arrived here this evening. Twenty are wounded.
KRUGER TO GO TO BRUSSELS.
Brussels, Sept. 18.—The secretary of Dr. Leyds stated to-day that Kruger intends to come direct to Brussels, which he will make his headquarters.

DESTROYED THE CITY.

And Killed 500 Boxers Who Had Sought Refuge There.

A despatch from Peking, via Taku, and Shanghai, says:—Two thousand German troops and Bengal Lancers attacked Liangshiang on the morning of September 11. The city was entered after the gate had been blown up with dynamite. There were several thousand Boxers in the place, and 500 of them were killed. The city was completely destroyed. One German was killed.
The forces that have returned to Peking say that there are many thousand Boxers and Imperial troops at Chochow, and that they have excluded civilians from the city.
The Americans are planning an expedition to go west of Peking to rescue native Christians.

THE POWERS ARE DECIDED

FULL RETRIBUTION IS TO BE EXACTED.

The Peace Negotiators—Li-Hung-Chang and Prince Ching Have Been Accepted as Satisfactory.
A despatch from London says:—The Graphic learns, probably from a Government source, that the pourparlers between the powers regarding the preliminaries of the peace negotiations with China have in nowise suffered for the difference respecting the evacuation of Peking. The cordiality of the concert has not been disturbed. The following points have been agreed upon:—
First—Li-Hung-Chang will be accepted as a negotiator by all the powers. It is probable that Prince Ching will also be accepted, but the acceptances are conditional upon the production of adequate credentials by both.
Second—A central Government satisfactory to the powers must be established.
Third—The fullest retribution is to be exacted for the attacks on the Legations and the massacre of foreigners. On this latter point Russia has shown herself to be as earnest as Great Britain.
The question of where the negotiations are to be conducted is now being discussed. No communications regarding indemnities have yet passed between the powers.

THE GERMAN NOTE.

Leaders of Attacks on Foreigners Must Be Delivered Up.

A despatch from Berlin says:—The text of the telegraphic note from Germany to the powers as follows:— "The Government of the Emperor, The Governor of the Emperor hold as preliminary to entering upon diplomatic relations with the Chinese Government that those persons must be delivered up who have proved to be the original and real instigators of the attacks against foreigners which have occurred at Peking. The number of those who were merely instrumental in carrying out the outrages is too great. Wholesale executions would be contrary to the civilized conscience, and the circumstances of such a group of leaders cannot be completely ascertained, but a few whose guilt is notorious should be delivered up and punished. The representatives of the powers at Peking are in a position to give or bring forward convincing evidence. Less importance attached to the number punished than to their character as chief leaders. The Government believes it can count on the unanimity of all the Cabinets in regard to this point, inasmuch as indifference to the idea of just atonement would be equivalent to indifference to a repetition of the crime. The Government proposes, therefore, that the Cabinets concerned shall instruct their representatives at Peking to indicate these leading Chinese personages from whose guilt in instigating or perpetrating outrages all doubt is excluded."
(Signed) "VON BUBLOW."

LORD ROBERTS EXPLAINS.

The Field Marshal's Report on the Johannesburg Plot.

A despatch from London says:—The War Office has issued a lengthy report from Lord Roberts on the subject of the Johannesburg plot to overthrow the garrison and murder the British officers, and of the deportation of foreigners. After reiterating the known facts of the plot, the British commander-in-chief in South Africa says:— "Consuls of America, Germany, France, and Sweden, subjects of which nations were arrested, met and fully discussed the case with the British officials. The interview was most satisfactory. The Consuls entirely concurred with the British action, and promised every assistance."
Lord Roberts adds that he forthwith ordered the deportation of all foreigners arrested in connection with the plot for whose behaviour their respective Consuls could not vouch. Otherwise very few foreigners were deported, except employes of the Netherlands railroad, who refused to work for the British, and actively participated in the war.

HOLLAND'S INSOLENCE.

Comment on Her Offer to Send a Warship to Kruger.

A despatch from London, says:—The Standard, which is a Ministerial organ, declares that the action of Holland in offering passage on one of her warships to President Kruger is an act of intervention which might very properly be resented by those against whom it is directed. It says that if Jefferson Davis had escaped to Mexico after the war of the rebellion and England or France had offered to bring him to Europe on a warship, the Federal Government would surely have regarded such action as an insult. It adds that except on the incredible supposition that the consent of Great Britain was first obtained, the action of Holland is both provocative and insolent. It has not even the merit of courage, since there is little probability that any official resentment of a kind likely to lead to hostilities will be shown. The paper contends that there is nothing in the relations of the English and Dutch to justify this manifestation of ill-will. It concludes by saying that if the Dutch rank themselves among the enemies of Great Britain they must take the consequences. They are no longer friends of England and have no further claim upon British regard.

KRUGER ACCEPTS IT.

Will Go to Holland on a Dutch Warship Passage Free.

A despatch from The Hague, says:—The Government of the Netherlands has been notified of Mr. Kruger's acceptance of its offer to place a warship at his disposal to convey him from Lorenzo Marques to Holland.

FEEDING REFUGEES.

Lorenzo Marques Authorities Take Action.

A despatch from Lorenzo Marques, says:—The Portuguese authorities have appointed a committee to receive and feed refugees from the Transvaal. They have notified the foreign Consuls here that they will be expected to look after the subjects of their Governments.

TWO PEOPLES

Who Could Exchange Their Countries With Advantage and Profit.

If the Turks could be persuaded to change places with the Portuguese it would probably benefit both races, for the latter—who still retain much of their old-time enterprise—are greatly restricted by being confined to one corner of the peninsula, while the former have neither initiative nor inducement to take full advantage of the splendid position—political, geographical and physical—of their own territories, but they could, as agriculturalists and laborers, exploit Portugal in ways which the present occupants, of that country do not care to do. If the Boers could, as a body, exchange their farms for similar ones in Arizona, New Mexico or Texas, and let the British Government have an equal number of settlers from there to occupy the Boer states, it would be a good thing for all parties. The burghers would have opportunity of developing their better qualities under the republican form of rule, as their desire, and the Americans would find, under British jurisdiction in South Africa, a security for life and property such as is claimed to be lacking in their existing environment.

FEEDING RACKS.

Where scantling and board are not obtainable a good rack may be made of poles. Corner and center posts three feet long, to which are pinned side rails three in number. A foot from the ground put in cleats and a bottom of poles.

A CLEANLY HEN.

A little girl staying in the country for the first time saw a hen scratching in the garden.
"Oh, mother," she exclaimed, "there's a hen wiping her boots! Do look!"

Peculiar Chinese Ideas.

Even when he has mixed for years with Europeans, no Chinaman will lift a finger to save a drowning man, white or yellow. If Chinamen in a boat see a man drowning near them they row off as quickly as they can, for even to make a show of rescuing a fellow-creature would offend the "river god." Within recent years certain Chinese boatmen who had been in European employment for years at Shanghai calmly watched the Spanish Consul there drown, and then they made haste to the Consulate to tell his colleagues that he was drowned, and to ask for a reward for the information.

When rescued from the water themselves they heap abuse on their deliverers, for the river god, robbed of them for a time, will have a terrible revenge afterward. In the case of one of the awful floods, such as destroy thousands of lives in China, they do nothing but throw thousands of flaring fireworks into the raging waters. They even set adrift rafts with fires burning upon them, with the object of propitiating the river "joss." When such a flood sweeps them and their wooden houses away they make no effort to escape. Quite recently a British naval officer, who fished a number of such unfortunate out of the water, had to tie them down on the deck of his steamer, lest they should jump into the water again. Then they set to reviling him, and asking "Has not the river god taken our home, only to be cheated of ourselves? How dare the foreign demon interfere with our 'joss-pidgin'?"

When such a disaster occurs it is the result of a huge water snake having been offended and having then eaten a great chunk out of some embankment. It must be propitiated with a live pig or some other animal. There are millions of streams, pools and caves all over the country that harbor monstrous dragons and snakes that must have sacrifice offered to them constantly.

There is no form of robbery at which Chinamen are so expert as "damaging." And Europeans have to guard against this form of blackmail night and day. Even when the meanest coolie is slightly injured by a European the whole native population, which taunts criminals being starved to death in a cage in the public streets, cries for damages. They deliberately throw themselves under the wheels of the vehicles of white people. And they set adrift on the rivers very old and rotten junks, that the steamers of the foreigner may run them down. They have speculative lawyers, who live entirely by this sort of case, and if the matter go to the Courts the white man is put to endless trouble and expense. A merchant who has been 20 years in Canton declares that he has some 200 damage-getting actions in all brought against him, and has seen cases of shamming that have astounded European doctors.

As for the damaged junks, the foreign demon's pilot does not even beat a gong perpetually, or burn bits of paper, to frighten away the evil spirits that interfere with the steering gear, so he must pay.

The learned native doctor who attends the Chinaman sells to his patients plasters which they can put on anywhere they like, for the plaster will, of itself, infallibly move to the spot where the pain is. His patients must never wash, or they will become fishes when dead.

Many strange things have been said about the Chinese anticipating certain European customs and inventions, and it is a fact that for thousands of years the Chinese medics have employed massage, a "kneading-stick," with a sort of V at one end of it being commonly supplied to patients that they can prod themselves with over. The phrase, "A hair from the dog that bit you," is illustrated in the Flowery Land, for all dog bites must be bound up with fur from the animal that inflicted the wound. One of the reasons given to our Government by the authorities at Peking against steamers being run on a certain mighty river was that the monkeys that bordered the stream were so numerous and savage that they would infallibly seize and wreck the big boats and kill the British officers on board. Perhaps the only invention regarded with any favor by the Chinese Government was the galvanic battery, as to which the Imperial Chancellor delightedly exclaimed: "What a capital thing for examining accused persons!"

The terrible hurricane which wrought wholesale destruction in Porto Rico, in August 1899, was longer lived than any storms hitherto reported. It lasted from August 3rd till August 21st, within which time it travelled between four thousand and five thousand miles.

As the result of twenty-years experiments at Rothamsted, it is shown that in the winter months more than half of the amount of rain that falls penetrates into the soil, and becomes available for the supply of springs; while in the summer only one-quarter of the rainfall is absorbed by the soil.