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It is stated that the secret of an electric gun, which is silent and of long range, has been purchased by the British Admiralty.

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Mr. Andrew Carnegie has offered to give \$250,000 to help Birmingham University on condition that science is given a foremost place in its curriculum.

It is understood that the delegates of Great Britain and of the United States to the Disarmament Conference will support each other in advocating a scheme of arbitration.

Lord Salisbury sees cause for anxiety in the church question, and says the archbishops and bishops deserve support in their efforts to bring the church back to a sounder condition.

School teachers in the Western States are forming anti-slang leagues. The London Globe says they should form anti-twang leagues, as it is the twang and not the slang that irritates.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading

CANADA.

Montreal is flooded with fine counterfeit bills.

Many men are deserting the British cruiser Comus at Halifax for enlistment in the U. S. navy.

In Woodstock a vote will be taken on June 9 on a by-law which provides for the erection of a new firehall.

Mr. James Powell has been appointed chief draughtsman of the motive power of the Grand Trunk Railway.

A committee has been appointed at Woodstock to look into the advisability of putting in a municipal lighting plant.

The tax rate in London, Ont., has been fixed at 23 mills, which is said to be the highest rate ever collected there.

Exports at Montreal last month were \$831,000, an increase of \$139,000 over April, 1898. Imports \$3,385,000, compared with \$2,800,000.

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BISHOP OF LONDON, MR. JOHN BURNS AND OTHERS PROTESTED TO SIR MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, THE HOME SECRETARY, AGAINST SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS.

Sir Matthew said that the Government would support municipalities in framing regulations which would hamper such newspapers.

The Board of Trade enquired into the cause of the loss of the steamer Stella, which was wrecked on the Casquet Rocks, near the Island of Alderney, on March 30, has reached a judgment that the ship was not lit to the course set, and was not navigated with seamanlike care, going at an excessive rate of speed in a fog.

And now they talk of a big railroad trust, to include all the lines between Boston and Chicago.

Watson will relieve Dewey at Manila, the latter being granted full discretion as to the time of his retirement.

The American Geographical Society will shortly present its gold medal to Sir John Murray, the celebrated naturalist.

Charles F. Stewart, banker, of Passaic, N. J., is dead, and it is thought that he died from the use of corsets in an amateur acting part.

Ex-Governor Roswell P. Flower of New York, died Friday night. For many months he had been looked upon as the leader of Wall street.

Petroleum exports from Philadelphia to foreign parts for the first three months of the year as compared with last year, shows a falling of 22,000,000 gallons.

The Chinese Legation at Washington has made a strong protest to the State Department against the extension of the Chinese Exclusion Act to Cuba.

GENERAL. Quiet prevails in Samoa.

Smallpox is spreading in Germany. It is said that Dreyfus will be taken to France at the end of June.

Hostility to the disarmament conference is being shown in Germany.

The Czar will make a tour of Siberia in July, visiting the convict prisons.

Typhoid is affecting the health of the American troops in the Philippines.

Disastrous floods have occurred in Silesia, in Germany, along the course of the Oder.

The Russian Government has decided upon exceptional measures against the Jews.

An unconfirmed report from Paris says Major Marchand has been murdered at Harrar.

The Czarins has caused the despatch of commissioners to report on the famine in Russia.

The decision as to revision in the Dreyfus case will probably be given about June 2 or 3.

Thirty lives were lost by the wreck of the Lark Sloy on Kangaroo Island, in Australasian waters.

Queensland has increased its yield of sugar by half a ton an acre, and now 82,000 acres will produce 161,000 tons.

Lucheni, assassin of the Austrian Emperor, now says he had two accomplices, but refuses to give their names.

Famine increases in eastern Russia and diseases that follow in its trail are claiming victims by the thousands.

The British-Venezuelan arbitration, which was to begin at Paris on the 24th of this month, has been postponed until June 15.

Foreign goods are to be admitted to the Sudan, duty free in September, when the railway from Cairo to Khartoum will be completed.

At Odessa, an insane customs official murdered his five sleeping children on Thursday night, and then attacked his wife, who is dying of her wounds.

There is a constant interchange of friendly letters between Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, and the Amerer of Afghanistan, and the relations between the Indian Government and the ruler of Afghanistan were never more cordial than at present.

VITROL SPREAD DESTRUCTION. Eighty Tons of Chlorate Raze a Factory—Gasometer on Fire—Loss \$200,000.

A despatch from London, says—A fearful explosion occurred on Friday at Kurz's chemical works, St. Helen's, Lancashire, killing four persons and seriously injuring twenty. Fire broke out in the chlorate-house, and a large quantity of chlorate exploded, causing much destruction. Subsequently the boiler exploded, and the whole works were razed.

The town was strewn with debris, and most of the buildings in the place were damaged. The total loss was about \$200,000. Eighty tons of chlorate exploded. Vitriol, which streamed into the sewer, spread devastation. The gas works were badly damaged, and the gasometer, which contained 250,000 cubic feet of gas, had a hole burned in the top. The escaping gas took fire, and the flames were seen for miles.

CAR OF CATTLE ON FIRE.

Several of the Animals Burned to Death and All Injured.

A despatch from Smith's Falls, Ont., says—There was a very unusual accident on the C.P.R. on Thursday. Two trains loads of cattle from Chicago of 19 cars each were sent out here during the forenoon, bound for Montreal. Conductor Jarvis was in charge of one train, and just below Merrickville he found that one of the cars was on fire. He quickly stopped the train, and all hands set to work to jump the cattle out of the burning car. It was a difficult job, but they succeeded in doing it, and then they ran the train on to the Burritt Rapids siding, cut off the blazing car, and left it to burn up. The cattle, which were big steers from the Western ranches, were pretty wild and not very easy to manage, but they were all safely corralled in a farmer's yard, and Superintendent Superintendent notified of the occurrence. Four of the cattle died from their burns, and one other was killed out of mercy.

All the others were more or less injured, and it is thought all of them will have to be killed at Montreal. Such a thing as a car of cattle on fire was never known on this part of the C. P. R. before, and there are some peculiar complications about it. The cattle were going through in bond, and the C. P. R. are bound to deliver the number of cattle they received. This will necessitate the sending forward of the dead bodies, and the burning animals so that at the port of delivery the full number may be accounted for.

REWARD FOR THEIR CAPTURE. The Inducement Will be \$500 for Either Pare or Hudson, or \$1,000 for Both the Burglars.

A despatch from Toronto says—The provincial authorities have decided to take another important step in the efforts to recapture Pare and Holden, the Napane bank burglars and goat-breakers. A circular has been issued from the Attorney General's department, offering a substantial reward for the arrest of either or both of the runaway thieves, and it is hoped by this means that their ultimate capture will be rendered more probable.

The circular contains full descriptions of the two men and of the clothing worn by them at the time of their midnight flitting from the hospitality of Napane's night. It gives all information that might be of assistance in their identification, and offers a substantial sum for their arrest. The amounts of the proffered rewards are \$500 for either of them and \$1,000 for both.

Several thousands of copies of the circular have been printed, and forwarded to the police authorities in all centres of importance throughout Canada and the United States, to the various detective agencies, to the criminal departments, and to the various provinces and States, and, in fact, to every person or official to whom the information is likely to prove of value, or to reward an incentive to activity in the search.

HONG KONG AGAIN.

The British Authorities Have to Take Strong Measures.

A despatch from Hong Kong, says—The native opposition to the occupation by the British forces of the new territory, Kow Loon, opposite Hong Kong, has suddenly been renewed. About nine hundred men of the Hong Kong Regiment, with machine guns, are left here on Monday night, while the volunteers have been warned to be in readiness for any emergency. The British second-class gunboat Swift, accompanied by three other gunboats, is proceeding to sea under sealed orders. The warships have five hundred men on board.

The territory back of the hinterland is also disturbed, and Chinese troops have been sent there.

TWO THOUSAND BRITISH. Later—in all, 1,350 infantry soldiers, 100 artillerymen, 50 engineers and 500 marines have gone to the Kow Loon peninsula. The greatest secrecy is observed as to the plans of the British authorities, and nothing is definitely known regarding the actual destination of the troops, but it seems evident that the detachments of troops will advance on Tai-Po-Fu and Deep Bay, cut off the rebels and drive them from the ceded territory. The gun vessels engaged in the operations have been provisionally named. Troops are patrolling the European quarter of Kow Loon. It is reported that rebels from Tung-Kung invaded British territory Sunday evening and that 200 armed gangs robbed the City of Kow Loon. Hong Kong itself is quiet.

AGUINALDO AFTER PEACE.

General Otis Was to Receive the Filipino Command in on Friday.

A despatch from Washington says—General Otis cables the War Department that representatives of Aguinaldo are seeking terms of peace, and that the forces of the insurgents are scattering in the mountains.

Following is General Otis cable— "Manila, May 18—Adjutant-General, Washington. Representing insurgent Cabinet and Aguinaldo in mountains, two miles north of San Isidro, which place they abandoned on the 15th instant; will send in commission to-morrow to seek terms of peace. Majority of force confronting MacArthur at San Fernando has retired to Lariat, tearing up two miles of railway; this force has decreased to about twenty-five hundred. Scouting parties and detachments moving to-day in various directions, Kobb with column at Candava, on Rio Grande. Great majority of inhabitants of provinces over which troops have moved anxious for peace, supported by members of insurgent Cabinet. Aspect of affairs at present favourable.

Signed, "OTIS."

IT MAY BRING ON A WAR.

FORMER BRITISH OFFICERS ARRESTED AT JOHANNESBURG.

They are Charged With High Treason—Sudden and Violent Move by the Boers—Alleged That Conspiracy Existed for Four Months.

A despatch from Pretoria, Transvaal Republic, says—The arrest at Johannesburg early Tuesday morning of seven alleged former British officers, named Nicholls, Patterson, Tremlett, Ellis, Eries, Hooper, and Mitchell, on the charge of high treason, has caused intense excitement here. The prisoners were brought to Pretoria by special train. After they had been held in jail they were visited by the British diplomatic agent here. The arrests were effected by a detective who joined the movement, which, it is asserted, was for the purpose of enrolling men in order to cause an outbreak of rebellion.

Incriminating documents were found upon the prisoners, and it is expected that further arrests will be made.

NAMES OF THE ARRESTED. The officers arrested, who are eight in number, are Capt. Patterson, formerly of the Lancers; Col. R. F. Nicholls, Lieut. E. J. Tremlett; C. A. Ellis, lately a private detective at Johannesburg; Lieut. Johann, formerly of the Horse Artillery; Quarter-master Mitchell, former Sergeant Eries and former Sergeant F. P. Hooper. None of them has been in the employ of the British South Africa Chartered Company. It is said that the Commissioner of Police, who had the affair in hand, had been working up the case for four months. Mr. Beatty, the detective, who effected the arrests, received his instructions last week and received the necessary warrants on Monday. The Executive of the Transvaal is sitting in secret session this evening considering the arrests.

BOERS WERE WAITING FOR IT. The despatch from London, says—The Boers of Johannesburg are also probably connected with a mysterious despatch received at Johannesburg from Pretoria on May 12, saying a special train fully equipped with four artillerymen, guns and a searchlight apparatus was being held in readiness at the capital of the Transvaal. The statement was then declared to be without foundation, but Tuesday's news throws a more serious light on the movement, and it is certain there will be a great sensation in London when the news of the arrests becomes at once known.

CAPE GOVERNMENT DELIBERATING. The afternoon newspapers print special despatches from Cape Town, saying seven men have been arrested at Johannesburg and have been taken to Pretoria. The Government of Cape Colony, it further appears, is consulted by the matter secretly. The news has caused great excitement throughout South Africa.

PLOTTING FOR FOUR MONTHS. The Standard and Diggers' News, the Boer's Johannesburg organ, which publishes an edition in London, has a despatch from Pretoria which says that warrants were issued by the State Attorney and were executed at midnight. The despatch adds that a plot or rebellion is alleged to have been maturing for four months and that the accused, who are said to have been engaged by the South African League, had already enlisted 2,000 men.

RHODES SAYS HE KNOWS NOTHING. Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the former Premier of Cape Colony and resident director in South Africa of the British Chartered Company, who was recently elected President of the South African League, informs the Associated Press that he has heard nothing regarding the arrests made at Johannesburg and that he knows nothing about the reason for which they were made.

CAPE TOWN OR BLOEMFONTEIN? A despatch to the Daily Mail from Cape Town says that the meeting between President Kruger of the South African Republic and Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of Cape Colony and British High Commissioner for South Africa, regarding the grievances of the Uitlanders in the Transvaal, have culminated finally in an arrangement for a conference which will probably be held in Cape Town.

THE BUFFALO STRIKE.

Business of the Port Remains Paralyzed—Shovelers' Demands Satisfied—Other Bodies Still Out.

A despatch from Buffalo, says—There is practically no change in the strike situation along the docks, and the business of the port is at a standstill. An agreement was reached on Tuesday between Contractor Connors and the striking grain shovelers, by which both the men who had stood by the contractor and the strikers were to be taken into the new Grain Shovelers' Union. This practically settled all the existing trouble, as far as the grain men were concerned, but as they have pledged themselves not to return to work until the grievances of the striking freight handlers, coal heavers, ore dockmen and elevator mechanics have been remedied, there is no telling when work on the docks will be resumed. In the meantime vesselmen and shippers are losing a great deal of money. Millions of bushels of grain are held back at Chicago and Duluth, and although there are vessels to carry it to Buffalo, the vessel owners will not take the risk of having their boats tied up here for an indefinite period. Much grain and package freight is being shipped from here by the railroads, in an effort to keep the blockade down to as small proportions as possible.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

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

Toronto, May 19.—We had over forty loads of stuff on offer here this morning, and as far as business is concerned the market is practically unchanged from Tuesday last. Export cattle was in fair demand at from \$4.50 to \$4.85 for loads of choice, with a trifle better prices for selected lots. Butcher cattle was steady and unchanged at from \$4.25 to \$4.30 per cwt. for the best loads, and about ten cents more for picked lots. Trading was fair, and the quality of some of the cattle was a little better, though we had a large supply of secondary stuff.

Bulls, feeders, stockers, and milk cows are unchanged, with a good enquiry for stockers.

Sheep, spring lambs, and yearlings, are steady at the prices of Tuesday. Yearlings are in good demand at strong prices.

Hogs were in liberal supply, but a ready clearance was effected at strong but unaltered figures.

"Singers" are quoted at 43-4c; light hogs at 43-4c; and thick fat hogs sell at 41-4c per pound.

Sows fetch 3c per pound. Stags sell at 2c per pound. Following is the range of current quotations:

CATTLE. Shipping, per cwt. \$4.25 4.90 Butcher, choice, do. 4.00 4.50 Butcher, m.d. to good. 3.50 3.80 Butcher, inferior. . . 3.30 3.50

SHEEP AND LAMBS. Ewes, per cwt. . . 3.50 4.00 Yearlings, per cwt. . . 5.00 5.75 Bucks, per cwt. . . 3.40 3.25 Spring lambs, each. . . 1.50 1.75

MILKERS AND CALVES. Cows, each. . . 25.00 45.00 Calves, each. . . 2.00 6.00

HOGS. Choice hogs, per cwt. . . 4.25 4.75 Light hogs, per cwt. . . 4.00 4.37-2 Heavy hogs, per cwt. . . 3.75 4.25

Montreal, May 19.—There were about 400 head of butchers' cattle, 500 calves, 250 sheep and lambs, and 75 store hogs and piglets offered for sale at the east end abattoir to-day. The butchers were out strong and a good business was done at somewhat higher prices for all pretty good cattle, but common stock including a good many hard-looking milks and milkman's strippers were rather plentiful, and brought lower prices; really prime leaves sold at from 5 to 5 1/2 c per lb; pretty good animals at from 3 1/2 to nearly 4 1/2 c per lb; common dry cows and half-fatted steers sold at from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 c per lb; and bulls at from 3 to 4 1/2 c per lb; calves sold at from \$1 to \$10 each; shippers paid 4c per lb for good large sheep; the others sold at from 3 1/2 to nearly 5c per lb; spring lambs sold at from \$2.75 to \$4.75 each. Fat hogs are slightly higher in price; straight lots selling at from 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 c per lb; store hogs sold at from \$5 to \$6 each, and young pigs at from \$1.25 to \$2.50 each.

Chicago, May 19.—Cattle unchanged. Hogs—Fair to choice, \$3.85 to \$4; heavy packers, \$3.60 to \$3.82 1/2; mixed, \$3.70 to \$3.90; butchers, \$3.75 to \$3.95; lights, \$3.65 to \$3.90. Receipts—Cattle, 1,500; sheep, 11,000.

East Buffalo, May 19.—Cattle—The offering were 22 loads of Canadian steers, which were sold at private terms, and one load of native mixed butchers cows and calves; they were cleaned up at steady unchanged prices. Calves were in light supply, demand and steady. Choice to extra, \$6.50 to \$6.75; good to choice, \$6 to \$6.50. Sheep and lambs—22 loads on sale; good sheep were steady, but common grades were easy; \$3.25 to \$3.50. Hogs—Trade was in fair position with 17 loads on sale; there was a rather slow demand; 5c higher; heavy, \$4.10 to \$4.12 1/2; mixed, \$4.10; Yorkers, \$4.05 to \$4.10; 1/2s, \$4.05; roughs, \$3.45 to \$3.55; stags, \$2.75 to \$3.

CROWDS CHEERED THE QUEEN.

Her Majesty Enthusiastically Received in London—Visited the Home of Her Girlhood.

A despatch from London says—Queen Victoria arrived in London on Monday, from Windsor, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of York and her suite, and drove to Kensington Palace, the party occupying a number of open, four-horse landaus, with postillions in blue and white, red-coated outriders, escorted by a detachment of the Horse Guards. Enthusiastic people lined the route to the palace, where Her Majesty visited the old apartments which she occupied as a young girl, which have been renovated preparatory to opening the palace to the public.

On the arrival of her Majesty at Paddington Railroad station she noticed on the platform a shaggy Irish terrier named "Tim," which collects contributions for the widows and orphans of the railroad. The Queen had "Tim" brought to her by the conductor of the train, and after patting the terrier on the head she dropped a piece of gold into the metal box hanging about the dog's neck.

THOUSANDS PRAYED FOR RAIN.

Long-Continued Drought Working Hard in Roumania.

A despatch from Bucharest, Roumania, says—On account of the long-continued drought, prayers for rain were said in every town and village, in Roumania on Friday. At Braila, on the Lower Danube, the chief port of the country, all business was suspended, and a procession of thousands marched to the fields of dying wheat where supplications were offered for three hours, ladies, peasants, and gypsies kneeling and praying for relief from the merciless heat of the sun.

TWELVE MONTHS MARRIED.

COLBORT OLIVIER MURDERS HIS WIFE AT SOREL, QUE.

The Pair Had Not Lived Happily Together and Had Several Times Been Separated.

A despatch from Montreal says—A horrible murder was committed at Sorel, on the St. Lawrence, a short distance below Montreal, about noon on Thursday. Colbort Olivier had a quarrel with his wife and killed her. After committing the crime he called at the Roman Catholic presbytery and told the priest in attendance of the crime. He then surrendered himself to the police. The chief of police had the coroner notified, and then Olivier's house was visited. The door was found locked, but it was easily forced. On the floor of the back room the body of Mrs. Olivier, nee Adeleine Pelouquin, was found in a half-naked condition, and partly covered by an old Union Jack. On the right temple a deep but narrow wound was discovered. In her right hand had been placed rather clumsily a pair of large scissors.

The house in which the murder was committed is a small frame building, 15 feet square, and divided into two rooms. The front room was used as a store, and the back room, where the body was found, was used as a bedroom, kitchen, and general living room. Evidently there had been a struggle before the woman was killed, for Olivier himself has wounds and scratches on his face. There were also scratches and small wounds on the body of the murdered woman.

MARRIED A YEAR AGO. Olivier is a pensioner of the United States army, having served in the civil war. He was married to the murdered woman only a year ago, she being his second wife. They did not get along well together, and within two weeks after their marriage they separated. Their differences were patched up, but within the year they have been reunited and separated three times. One of these reconciliations took place two days ago.

Olivier, the murderer, is said by those who are intimate with him to be a man with a terrible temper, and it is reported that his first wife used to at times sleep with a revolver under her pillow, so afraid was she of being ill-used by him. It would appear that the murderer's first movement after committing the deed, which happened shortly before 11 o'clock, was flight, and that the scissors were placed in the murdered woman's hand to indicate suicide.

BIG GERMAN LINER ON FIRE.

The Fire Was Discovered Just After Leaving New York Harbour.

A despatch from New York, says—The fire was discovered in the hold of the North German Lloyd mail steamer Barbarossa just as she was passing the Narrows on Thursday morning, outward bound. "Ship on fire; want immediate assistance," was run aloft, which was flashed to the city by the marine observers. Captain Richter put the vessel about and made for port.

On rounding the battery it was necessary to slacken speed and hug the New York shore, because of the number of craft on the river. As soon as she neared the ferry slips a Christopher street ferry boat slipped out, and the Barbarossa had to dodge this, and also a cattle ship. Then appeared the United States mail boat, and an L. E. lighter. The Barbarossa struck the lighter and sustained a bent prow. This threw her into the slips, the side of