



GREAT BRITAIN IN CONFLICT WITH RUSSIA

King Edward's Men Forcibly Hold a Siding.

Czar's Commander Enters Protest and Serious Friction Follows.

While Germans Battle With Chinese Near Great Wall New Complications Arise.

LONDON, March 12, 4:30 a. m.—Friction has arisen at Tientsin between the British and the Russians over a piece of land alleged to belong to the railway company and to have been in possession of the company for some years.

According to dispatches from Tientsin the Russians assert that this land is part of their new concessions, and, therefore, Russian property. Mr. Kinder, manager of the railway, began to make a siding, but was stopped by the Russian authorities.

He appealed to Colonel MacDonald, who referred the matter to General Barrow, British chief of staff in Peking, who replied: "Carry on the siding with armed force if necessary."

Guards were put on the line by the British and the work continued.

General Wagasak, the Russian commander, protested and said the thing would not have been done if the Russians had had as many troops as the British, adding that such matters should be left to diplomacy.

Colonel MacDonald again communicated with General Barrow, who replied "Continue the siding."

General Wagasak appealed to the Russian Minister at Peking, M. de Giers.

Count von Waldsee has informed General Chaffee that the troops under his command will be disposed of as follows during the summer months: England will have 1900 men at the summer palace, a small detachment in Hunting Park and 2900 men in other places. Germany will send troops now in Peking to a village northwest of the summer palace, in the mountains, while the German troops at Paoting-Fu will be located in the mountains west of the city. Italy will draw the troops from that part of the summer palace which some of her forces now occupy. Japan and Austria will leave their troops in Peking.

Count von Waldsee says that, as by such locations of troops any and all trouble can be avoided, he sees no cause for interference.

GERMANS DEFEAT CHINESE.

Activity Near Great Wall Causes Russia to Spread Strange Reports.

BERLIN, March 12.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Count von Waldsee:

"PEKING, March 11.—In the fight west of Suling Pass we had only one slightly wounded. The Chinese left 250 dead on the field. Our cavalry, with four quick-firers, pursued the Chinese twenty miles. A battalion remains at Fenping and westward from the great wall to prevent a return of the Chinese troops."

Official circles in Berlin declare that it is impossible to judge here exactly what leads to the Chinese activity around the great wall. Russian papers are spreading reports that the movement there is engineered by General Tung Fuh Siang and Prince Tuan for the reconquest of Manchuria. It is to the interest of Russia to circulate this view. On the other hand it is believed in Berlin that the Chinese troops near the great wall have but slight power of resistance, as the reports of Colonel Ledebur's engagement seem to indicate. It is also believed that these Chinese troops are inferior to those sent against the allies before the capture of Peking.

The statement that Russia insists upon China's signature to the Manchurian convention rests upon China's authority, but Germany has no reason to suppress such information and the fact remains that the agreement has not been signed as yet.

Nothing is known as to the published report that German capitalists are negotiating with high Chinese officials for the erection of arsenals at Nanking. Wo Chang and other points, but the rumor is not believed in Berlin.

STORMING OF THE GATE.

Chinese Driven From Apparently Impregnable Position.

LONDON, March 12.—The Peking correspondent of the Morning Post, writing Saturday and giving details of the storming of a gate of the great wall by Colonel Ledebur's column, March 8, says:

"The Germans captured the Chung-shan pass between the provinces of Chihli and Shanxi after several hours' fighting. The result was brilliantly achieved by the Bavarian battalion, which marched 125 miles from Paotingfu in four days, through mountains and over difficult mule tracks."

"The Chinese held an apparently impregnable position on the wall at the highest point of the pass. They had several hundred troops and artillery of every description. The Germans attacked them with 600 infantry and two howitzers. The turning movement, over an almost impassable country, occupied seven hours and was completely successful. The Chinese fled into the province of Shanxi, leaving at least one hundred dead and four Hotchkiss guns. The victory will have an excellent moral effect, as the

MEXICO'S PRESIDENT IS DECLARED TO BE IN DYING CONDITION

Passing of the Aged Ruler May Be Followed by a Political Upheaval During the Fight for Succession.



GENERAL PORFIRIO DIAZ, THE AGED PRESIDENT OF MEXICO, WHOSE FAILING HEALTH CAUSES ALARM AND FREQUENT PREDICTIONS THAT HIS DEATH IS DRAWING NEAR.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

EL PASO, March 12.—Reports from Mexico to-day indicate that the condition of President Diaz is causing considerable alarm, and it is even said that his end is not far off. The general's advanced age, 71 years, and his long continued illness, as well as the fact that the succession is being energetically discussed in all parts of Mexico, add weight to the report.

The people of Mexico are filled with forebodings as to the result should the aged ruler of the republic pass away suddenly and an effort be made by ambitious leaders to succeed him. Official and unofficial denials that the President's condition is serious continue to reach the United States from Mexico City, but the dispatches are considered as indicating merely the contrary, as they emanate from subsidized newspapers and correspondents who must maintain their

Chinese believed their fortified mountain belt impregnable."

CHINA'S PROBABLE APPEAL.

In Her Extremity, She Seeks Uncle Sam's Aid.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—There is reason to believe that China has appealed to the United States in her extremity, but whether the appeal is broader and is to other nations as well it is not possible to learn at present. Nothing has been heard from Russia since the verbal communication made by Count Cassini last week setting forth the rectitude of Russia's objects in China generally and in Manchuria in particular. Minister Wu has been almost a daily caller at the State Department, and it is evident that the Chinese are impressed by the belief that the crisis has been reached and that the destiny of Manchuria depends upon the immediate action of the powers.

QUESTION OF PUNISHMENT.

Ministers Think Six More Culprits Should Be Executed.

PEKING, March 12.—A general meeting of the foreign Ministers was held to-day at which representatives of the committees were heard. Regarding more punishment of the Chinese connected with the Boxers there is strenuous opposition against demanding any more heads, but a list containing the names of ninety-six minor officials will shortly be presented to Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang urging that they be tried for complicity in the outrages and punished when found guilty in such manner as the Chinese themselves see fit, except in the case of six men, whom the Ministers think should be executed.

VERY SERIOUS RIOTS CONTINUE IN RUSSIA

Students of Kharkoff Joined in a Street Demonstration by Thousands of Workmen.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 12.—On March 4 the city of Kharkoff (capital of Kharkoff province, 220 miles southwest of Moscow) experienced disturbances similar to those which occurred here upon that date when the Russian police brutally dispersed a gathering of 1500 male and female students who had petitioned the priests of Kazan Cathedral to celebrate services for Alexander II. It is now privately reported that several thousand workmen joined the students at Kharkoff in their street demonstrations. The authorities suspended this participation and ordered the factory gates to be closed, but too late to prevent the workmen from coming out.

RESORT TO OXYGEN TREATMENT.

During the afternoon the physicians resorted to the oxygen treatment in an endeavor to furnish relief from the constant pain and labor of breathing with which the general contended. It consisted in supplying the lungs with pure oxygen. By this means the ability of the parts of the lungs not congested and inflamed to purify the blood was greatly increased. The congested and inflamed parts are

HARRISON'S LIFE SLOWLY EBBING AWAY

Death of the Former President Hourly Expected.

General Makes Gallant Battle Against Grip of Pneumonia.

Vitality Maintained by the Use of Oxygen, and Physicians Admit the End Is Near.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 13.—At 3 o'clock this morning physicians at the bedside of General Harrison say there is no change in his condition during the last two hours. There is little apprehension, they say, that he will die for several hours at least, though they qualify this by saying it is impossible to say certainly what the next few hours may develop. General Harrison is apparently resting without pain, but remains unconscious.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 12.—General Benjamin Harrison can live but a few hours. His condition up to within a few hours of this morning (Tuesday) was encouraging, but at this time he became restless and an hour or two later Dr. Jamieson, who left the bedside for his own home, was hastily summoned by Dr. Dorsey, who has constantly been in the sick room for several days past.

None but the physicians and intimate friends are admitted to the house, although there has been a constant stream of carriages with callers all day. Those at the Harrison residence are Mrs. Harrison and the little daughter, Elizabeth; Private Secretary Libbey, Drs. Jamieson, Dorsey and Hadley and a corps of trained nurses. Russell Harrison and Mrs. McKee have been advised by wire of the serious turn in the general's condition, and the former has wired that he will leave Washington at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday for Indianapolis. Mrs. McKee, however, is detained in her home at Saratoga, N. Y., through the illness of her children, it being impossible for her to leave them at this time.

When the general was taken ill, it is said, he requested his physicians to make no unnecessarily alarming statement to the public as to his condition. As the physicians have decided to heed this request it has been with the greatest difficulty that any authentic news has been obtained from the sick room up to within the last twenty-four hours. When an inquiry is made on the telephone as to the general's condition, the inquirer is promptly referred to Dr. Jamieson. The latter is now issuing hourly bulletins to the press.

CONDITION IS CRITICAL.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon Dr. Jamieson declared in his bulletin that General Harrison's condition was critical. At 2 o'clock and 4 o'clock additional bulletins were issued which simply stated that no change in the condition of the general had occurred from earlier in the afternoon. Drs. Jamieson, Hadley and Dorsey watched by the bedside, not leaving it for a moment except to retire for a short, low-voiced consultation in a corner or in an adjoining room. Mrs. Harrison still waited for the most minute symptoms of favor.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon it became apparent that General Harrison was dying, and the physicians at the bedside of the distinguished patient made no effort to conceal the real gravity of the situation. They say that it is a matter of hours only, and all hope of his recovery has been abandoned.

General Harrison continued to sink from early this morning. He was for the greater part of the time in a semi-comatose condition, and there were symptoms of approaching delirium. The signal spreading and deepening of the inflammation and congestion were the cause of the great danger that had been feared from the beginning of his illness.

Early to-night there was increased respiration, which told of the creeping congestion, and the strength of General Harrison began to diminish rapidly. At 10 o'clock he was much weaker than he had been two hours before, and from that time on the sinking rapidly continued.

Shortly after 10 o'clock to-night, with his face plainly betraying his agitation, Dr. Jamieson, the physician in charge, left the residence of General Harrison to go to his office to prepare some additional medicines which the gravity of the case demanded. When he returned he said that the condition of General Harrison was extremely critical and that it was impossible to say how long in his weakened condition the patient might be enabled to resist the deepening of the congestion.

NEWS COMES AS A SHOCK.

The news to-day that there seemed to be little if any hope for recovery came as a shock to the neighbors and friends of the general, although they knew he was a very sick man. They recalled that it was less than a week since they had seen his familiar form in the street. They seldom saw him in street cars, for he never rode in good weather. Twice, and on some occasions, a day, he walked from his home downtown and back, and of evenings he liked nothing better than to hunt up a friend and stroll over the northern part of the city.

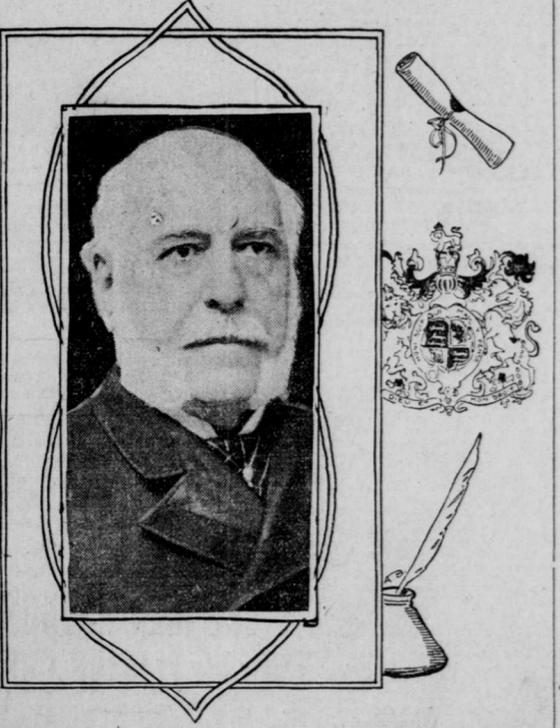
The sudden illness of the general recalled to the public that he had been seen in public more this winter than for many years, and it was remembered, too, that he never before appeared so willing to discuss subjects of general interest. On New Year's day he made a notable address at the dedication of the Columbia Club building and since that time has been conspicuously in the public mind by reason of things he has been saying in a series of articles in the North American Review.

General Harrison was in perfect health last Wednesday and, contrary to common report, was not suffering from a cold or from illness of any sort. He was in full possession of the vitality and vigor which has characterized these later years of his life to a remarkable extent.

Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock he

APPOINTS PAUNCEFOTE A MEMBER OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF THE REALM

Edward VII Honors the British Ambassador to the United States by Selecting Him for a Post of Honor.



LORD PAUNCEFOTE (FORMERLY SIR JULIAN), BRITISH EMBASSADOR TO AMERICA, WHO HAS BEEN MADE A MEMBER OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF KING EDWARD VII.

LONDON, March 12.—Lord Pauncefote, the British Ambassador at Washington, has been appointed a member of the Privy Council.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Nothing has been heard at the British Embassy of Lord Pauncefote's appointment to the position of Privy Councillor. The Ambassador, by virtue of his position, was a member of the late Queen's council, and the appointment announced to-day is presumably a mere formality consequent upon the ascension of King Edward to the throne.

permitted to rest by means of the oxygen treatment, while the parts still unaffected work double. It was this treatment which saved the life of Rudyard Kipling when he suffered his severe illness from pneumonia.

Dr. Jamieson, in giving out the public bulletins has been conservative, and it was thought by some that General Harrison's condition was even more alarming than these bulletins would indicate. It was stated this morning that a prominent member of the Harrison family had telephoned from the residence that all hope had been abandoned.

Interest Is Widespread.

The widespread interest in the former President is shown by the hundreds of messages from all parts of the country which poured into the newspaper offices and the Harrison home during the day. There was not a State or Territory that did not make inquiry by wire, and many were the expressions hoping that there might be a turn for the better. Among the many telegrams of inquiry received to-day by Private Secretary Tibbets was the following from the White House:

"WASHINGTON, March 12.—Will you be good enough to advise me of General Harrison's condition? The President is very much pained to learn by the latest reports of the serious character of the general's illness."

"GEORGE T. CORTELYOU, Sec."

Numerous similar messages have been received. All the members of General Harrison's Cabinet have telegraphed.

D. M. Ramsdell, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, left Washington for Indianapolis to-day when he learned of the serious condition of General Harrison. The people of Indianapolis who have known the general so long were not less eager for news from the bedside than were other citizens of other cities and other States, and the newspaper offices were busy all day answering inquiries.

Two Shots to Be Fired at Twenty-Five Paces

Seconds Arrange Details of the Coming Duel Between Buffet and Deroulede.

PARIS, March 12.—The seconds of Andre Buffet in his dispute with Paul Deroulede, De Cassagnac and De Ramel, and the seconds of M. Deroulede, Maurice Baures and Dr. de Villeres, met in Paris to-day and deliberated over the proposed duel, after which the following statement was issued:

"Messieurs Baures and De Villeres agreed that M. Buffet is the offended party. The weapon chosen is the pistol. Two bullets will be exchanged, at the word of command, at twenty-five paces. The place, day and hour will be fixed later. The weapons, place and direction of the duel will be drawn for by lot."

"The undersigned undertake to call to the attention of the principals the fact that the invariable rule in affairs of honor forbids a gesture or a word being exchanged on the field between the combatants."

The statement was signed by the four seconds.

LANDING IN KOREA.

Reported Action of Russian Marines Not Believed.

BERLIN, March 12.—The statement current that 600 Russian marines with guns have been landed at Ma San Pho, on the Straits of Korea, is regarded as unfounded. In authoritative quarters here it is pointed out that the agreement between Russia and Japan pledges Russia not to land troops in Korea without notifying Japan.

BRAVE BOERS TO GET OFFER OF AMNESTY

Great Britain Amends Proposed Terms of Surrender.

Cape Rebels Only Are to Be Punished by Disfranchisement.

If the Republican Forces Lay Down Arms They Will Receive a Crown Colony.

LONDON, March 12.—The Daily News this morning makes the following important statement: "We understand that the Government has greatly amended the unconditional surrender reply. We believe Lord Kitchener has been authorized to offer amnesty to both the Boers and the Boer leaders except where treachery is clearly proved. Cape rebels only are to be punished by disfranchisement. Loans are to be granted to the Boers for rebuilding and stocking their farms; and finally the Government will offer to establish some kind of civil government as soon as the commandos have surrendered. Its form will probably be that of a crown colony, but with the important concession which Sir Alfred Milner advises, namely, a council including Boers of position, like General Botha, General Lucas Meyer and Mr. Schalkburger."

Botha Waiting for Dewet.

There is no further news regarding the peace negotiations at Pretoria, except a report that General Botha is waiting for the return of General Dewet to the north before coming to a decision. According to the Bloemfontein correspondent of the Times, there are as many as eight separate military commands in Orange River Colony, and two villages have been declared seats of government by the rebels.

"Progress must remain arrested," says the correspondent, "until the twenty-seven columns now in the colony or General Botha's action in the Transvaal clears up the military situation."

It was rumored on the Stock Exchange yesterday that the Government would issue a war loan of £50,000,000.

Mr. Balfour, replying to a question in the House of Commons yesterday, repeated his statement that the Government declined at present to furnish any information regarding the negotiations with General Botha.

Kruger to Ignore Surrender.

A special from Rouxville, Orange River Colony, says: General Bruce Hamilton arrived here to-day and found Rouxville completely deserted. The houses were open and many of them contained no furniture. The column on its way here destroyed the grain.

A Brussels special says: Dr. Leyds announces that Mr. Kruger will ignore the surrender negotiations between General Botha and Lord Kitchener.

Dewet Near Brandfort.

A dispatch from General Kitchener, dated Pretoria, March 12, says General Dewet is north of Brandfort, Orange River Colony. Continuous rains have interfered with the movements of the troops in Cape Colony. Two bands of Boers are being hunted among the hills by troops under Goringe, De Lisle, Grenfell and Henniker.

A Bloemfontein special says: Colonel Pilcher's column has cleared the country of Boers between this place and the Orange River. The column has arrived here, bringing thirty-three prisoners and 3000 horses.

A special from Calcutta says: The Government is preparing for the possible arrival of 5000 Boer prisoners, who will be located in batches of a thousand.

Retirement of Colville.

In the House of Commons last evening the debate continued on the motion offered Monday by Charles Mackinnon Douglas, Liberal, calling for an inquiry regarding the retirement of Major General Colville, who was sent home from South Africa by Lord Roberts for alleged inefficiency on the field.

General Colville's friends contended that he had never been heard by a competent tribunal. Those opposed to him, among them Winston Spencer Churchill, assert that he had been properly dealt with. Churchill exclaimed: "I shall pin my faith to Lord Roberts. A more damaging case than that of Sanna's Post, as described by the Secretary for War, was scarcely ever put forward."

Mr. Balfour, the Government leader, objected to Parliament constituting itself "an amateur court to deal with military and strategic questions." He declared that the commander in chief was the only adequate and proper judge in such questions.

The motion of Douglas was rejected by a vote of 262 to 148.

PUNITIVE EXPEDITION BATTLES WITH TRIBESMEN

Fierce Fight on the Oasis of Toant in Which French and Algerians Lose Heavily.

ALGIERS, March 12.—A dispatch has been received here from General Severe announcing that another engagement has been fought between the French punitive expedition, consisting of French and Algerian troops, and the Moroccan Berbers, in the district of Timimoun, oasis of Toant, in which the tribesmen were dispersed with great loss.

The French expedition lost two French officers and twenty-three men, including four Frenchmen killed, and had many others wounded.