The Leon Reporter

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LEON, - - - - - - IOWA.

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According to London Vanity Fair, Clement Scott is about to become an editor. He will, it is said, bring out a new weekly society paper in September.

A bull moose came out of the Maine woods recently and took a stroll through the streets of Bangor. Small boys threw stones at him and he trotted away.

There are 10,928 saloons in the State of Ohio and they pay a tax to the State amounting to $570,654.02. The total tax collected from these saloons last year was $1,901,891.83.

The Berlin Geographical society has elected the following named Americans honorary members: Alexander Agassiz, General A. W. Greely, U. S. A., and Morris K. Jessup, president of the American Museum of Natural History.

Should the supply of asphalt at Trinidad become exhausted, according to an expert in the use of this material, a still greater bed which underlies a vast area of ground near Fort Duchesne, Utah, may be drawn upon. The ground is now part of an Indian reservation.

Dr. Hogarth has opened up the Dicæean cave in Crete, where Zeus was nursed by the goat Amaltheo. After blasting out the limestone that blocked the entrance a cave was found full of offerings, consisting of bronze weapons, terra cotta statuettes and the like, all of Mycenaean times. A shaft 150 feet deep led to a lower stalactite cave where offerings were found finer than those in the cave above.

One tribe of Indians have arrived at that pitch of civilization that they can make contracts with the United States government. This is the Crow tribe of Montana, who have completed a system of irrigation, raise vast quantities of wheat, have a first-rate grist mill, and are building another; for years have sold farm produce of various sorts as well as cattle and horses; and now the government gives them a contract to supply the Cheyenne with flour.

The west for a long time has conducted its financial affairs without calling upon eastern banks for money. Kansas City furnishes a good idea of the enormous growth of the banks located in the west. The deposits of the national banks of that city now aggregate $50,000,000, an increase of upwards of $8,000,000 during the past twelve months. In the year 1893 the deposits of Kansas City banks were less than $16,000,000, and in 1896 they did not exceed $20,000,000.

At Halsted, Kan., an interesting series of experiments in wheat growing is being conducted. Last fall about 150 varieties of wheat, selected from all over the world, were seeded and about eighty of these were in good condition during the spring. It is desired not only to determine which of these foreign wheats will do well in Kansas and similar climates in this country, but an effort will be made to improve each variety by ingrafting and cross fertilization.

The hens of China, according to a German scientific journal, find life more real and earnest than wholly enjoyable. When not hatching out broods of their own kind, the additional and novel task of hatching fish eggs is thrust upon them. Their owners collect fish spawn, introduce it into empty egg-shells, hermetically seal them and place them under the deceived and conscientious hen. In due time the shells are removed, and the spawn, now warmed into life, is emptied into a shallow pool. Here the fish which appear are nursed and guarded till strong enough to be turned into a lake or stream, and subsequently add to the edible resources of the people. It is all right for "the people," but perhaps the hens find life a little too strenuous.

It is curious to note that the earl of Airlie met his death, not by a stray or chance bullet, but by a shower of lead sent at him through the reflection of the sun's rays on to his field glass having practically heliographed to the enemy's sharpshooters the position of a British officer of some condition. It was said at the time that Sir George Colley lost his life on the crest of Majuba hill in the same way and that the bullet which killed him drove some of the glass into the fatal wound. It is notorious that since the British officers, whom the Boer sharpshooters have special instructions to pick off, have dressed themselves down as far as possible to the appearance of ordinary soldiers the enemy have kept their eyes open for men using field glasses and have already secured numerous victims in this way.

What is the future of wounded men after they have been brought to the hospital? Out of 100 men fifteen die in hospital or on the way home. Twenty-six are permanently disabled, and, after coming home, are discharged from the army. But the other fifty-nine recover sooner or later, some being discharged almost at once. And, curiously, these recovered wounded men form the best fighting element of the army, for they learn, by experience, that being wounded is not such a bad thing as it is generally supposed.

That which we get for nothing we discard regardless of worth, and that for which we pay we value according to price, and also regardless of worth.

Is there anything grander in creation than a manly man or a womanly woman, and anything weaker than a womanish man or a mannish woman?

Blue being the color of bright skies and restful haze, why do we say when a man is sad that he is blue? Why not [illegible] a dull, lifeless color [illegible] say

THE NEWS IN IOWA

A case of smallpox has developed at Grand Mound, Clinton county. The patient is M. Mekler.

Dr. T. E. King of Eldora has something of a curiosity in the shape of an apple tree which, while loaded with fruit bears upon its branches four or five nicely developed blossoms. The tree is of the Hawes variety.

George R. Davis, city circulator of the Davenport Leader, was drowned in Rock river while trying to save the lives of several lads after an accident to the toboggan boat, in which they had just been shooting the chute. There were eleven persons in the boat, mostly carrier boys, and when it struck the water the bottom gave way, letting in enough water to capsize the boat and cast the occupants into the water. Mr. Davis endeavored to save the boys, being an expert swimmer, but he suddenly went down and did not reappear. He was an old newspaper man and was very popular in the tri-cities. He leaves a wife and two children.

Frank Peyton, a notorious burglar, has confessed at St. Louis that he and Jack Mason, another well known criminal, killed John E. Robson, a prominent contractor, in his office at Sioux City on the night of December 29, 1899. Robson was struck in the head with a hatchet as he was entering the door. Up to the time Payton was arrested in St. Louis the murder was a deep mystery. Two men, one of them Robson's partner for many years, Oscar Goodrich, were arrested, charged with the crime, and discharged. The bloody hatchet was found in the office back of a wood pile. According to Payton's reported confession, he and Mason were robbing the safe and were surprised by Robson.

Emery Wood shot and killed his father, Axon Wood, at their home in Greenfield township, Jones county, nine miles south of Anamosa. The boy was prompted in the deed by the action of his father, who held a loaded revolver in his hand and was chasing his wife about their home. Death was instantaneous, the father falling with the cocked revolver pointed at his son. No preliminary hearing as yet has been held, but the lad, who is 18 years of age, tells a straightforward story and his assertions are corroborated by the circumstances and appearances about the home; also by the people and neighbors living in the vicinity of the patricide. The father for many years has been subject to violent fits of temper, although he was not addicted to the use of intoxicants.

A most fiendish outrage has been practiced on the cows of D. Driffield, a prominent dairyman of Keokuk. Some miscreant has caused Mr. Driffield damage to the amount of $500 during the past few weeks by going into the pastures at night and slashing his cows with a machete, or similar weapon. One cow was poisoned and an attempt was made to burn the stable. Detectives have been employed and Mr. Driffield has sat up night after night in the endeavor to catch the criminal, but up to the present there is no clue. The depredations have been of all kinds. One cow had five sashes cut in her hip. Another was cut almost to pieces in another part of the body. A third had one of her hind legs broken in no fewer than six places. Mr. Driffield has now offered a reward of $100 for the arrest and conviction of the criminal.

Clarence Rich, 25 years of age, a passenger on the midnight northbound train on the C. G. W., committed suicide on the train just before reaching Oelwein, by drinking carbolic acid. He drank the liquid just after the train left Stanley and as the train was pulling into the yards he asked the conductor for a glass of milk, telling him what he had done. As soon as the train stopped the young man was removed to Patterson's hospital, but he was too far gone to receive any help, and died in three-quarters of an hour. From a long letter found on his person, written to his father at Red Wing, Minn., it appears that he was on his way home from a trip to Paris, and having been in poor health for a number of years, with no hope of improvement, he had become despondent and determined to end it all.

Worthington & Boynton, "tax ferrets," to whom was awarded the contract by the Polk county board of supervisors to look up property in Polk county on which taxes have not been paid and list them that the county may recover under the statute permitting counties to collect taxes on property concealed or not listed for a period of five years back, have completed the inspection of the county records. Their force is now engaged in entering the names and amounts due in tax books especially prepared for the purpose and in about sixty days the sending out of notices to persons they claim are delinquent will be commenced. Under the statute the county is entitled to recover all back taxes for a period of five years, with an added penalty of 50 per cent where disclosure is made of property concealed. The ferrets, who are to receive a stated per cent of all amounts recovered, have been at work on the books in the recorder's office in Polk county for five months and it is said that it has been found that about $4,000,000 in monies and credits has been concealed and that the tax will be due on it for the greater part of the five years.

John T. Kennedy of Clinton was run over and killed by the Northwestern cars east of that city. He fell off a freight train.

Fire was discovered in the cellar of George A. Holbrook's drug store at Webster City and the entire block was damaged by smoke and water. The building was owned by Senator Kamrar. Loss, $5,000; insured.

While trying to save his team, John Denell, who was driving a scraper near Peosta, where the Illinois Central is widening its roadbed, lost his life. He was struck by a passing train and instantly killed.

In answer to Governor Shaw's message congratulating Minister Conger upon his deliverance, the latter has cabled the governor as follows: "Taku—Shaw, Des Moines, Iowa, U. S. A.: Thank all Iowa for congratulations. Conger."

At Okoboji a few days ago Fred Gilbert beat his own and the world's record at unknown traps, making 143 out of 150, against Elliott's 128. C. W. Budd of Des Moines won the 90 per cent cup in the shoot. Frank Parmalee of Omaha won the 80 per cent cup, and S. S. Johnson of Minneapolis won the 70 per cent cup.

Mrs. John Bosch, aged 62, a prominent citizen of Burlington, hung herself because of suffering.

Geo. Ashworth, mate on the Vernie Swain, running on the Mississippi, was shot in the leg by Engineer Wheeler of the same boat, while quarreling. Ashworth is in the hospital at Clinton and Wheeler left with the boat.

Sioux City has been refused a recount by the government census office. It is rumored that the official count will give Sioux City about 34,000 inhabitants. The people are much disappointed. The town has been claiming a population of 45,000. The census of 180 gave Sioux City a population of 37,000. That of 1895 gave it 27,000. It is admitted now that the 1890 census was padded. The Sioux City Commercial association applied through Congressman Thomas for a new count but the request has been rejected.

New interest was aroused in the $20,000 express robbery case at Burlington by the return of the detectives and express officials who had left town. They are accompanied by a number of other express men, and a work of tabulating a list of all the employes of the company, past and present, who have known anything about the combination of the car safe in which the $20,000 package was carried, is in progress. Detectives have been in Albia, Iowa, Night Clerk Mercer's former home, investigating his history.

Papers have been filed at Chariton in a $25,000 damage suit against J. M. Harrison and Joe Ballou, railroad detectives for the Q, Eli Manning, sheriff of Lucas county, and the C., B. & Q. railroad for false imprisonement and degradation of character. Charles I. Essex is the plaintiff, and the suit grew out of a trial for attempted train wrecking last March. An attempt was made to wreck the Burlington fast mail No. 8, and Essex was arrested and charged with the crime. The first trial resulted in his conviction, but he secured a new trial and was acquitted, as he was also in the federal court on the charge of obstructing the mails, and he now seeks redress in a damage suit.

William Schaedler of Iowa City, through Louis Schaedler, sues the C., R. I. & P. railway for $5,000, alleging that, through the carelessness of an engineer, he was severely injured while employed as a fireman between Malcom and Grinnell, where the track was undergoing repairs. The plaintiff charges that June 18 he was at his post, and that a passenger train approached at a high rate of speed and while flagging the train plaintiff claims he fell exhausted from sunstroke, his body lying across the tracks; that the engineer did not slacken speed, and that he was thrown from the rails by the pilot of the engine, sustaining severe injuries.

A Fort Dodge dispatch says Fort Dodge's prospects for securing a sugar beet factory were never so excellent as the present. President Theiden of the Minnesota Sugar company, whose mammoth plant is at St. Louis Park, Minn., spent last week in the city and his talks with local capitalists gave great encouragement to the promoters of the Fort Dodge beet sugar company. Mr. Theiden says that the soil of northern Iowa is ideal for the culture of the sugar beet, and so well pleased is he with the crop's prospects in Webster, Hamilton and Wright counties that he has decided that the harvest shall begin on September 20. "I have made a close examination of the beets of Webster county," said Mr. Theiden, "and the result is most gratifying. The beets here are of excellent size and shape, showing careful cultivation, and will no doubt give equally gratifying returns when their sugar analysis is made. The beets grown near Badger are especially worthy of notice. They will be shipped to St. Louis Park as soon as harvested and there converted into sugar. The growers will be more than pleased with the results." About 300 acres are in sugar beet cultivation there, and as the farmers are finding that the work of caring for the beets is far less than they at first supposed, the acreage will be increased many fold next year.

The republican congressional committee of the Tenth district met at Fort Dodge a few days ago to take action toward filling the vacancy on the ticket created by the appointment of Congressman Dolliver to the senate, and to provide for the nomination of a candidate for the fraction of his present term, which remains unfilled. Every county in the district was represented. After a conference a motion was carried by unanimous vote to issue a call for a convention to be held in Fort Dodge on September 25. The meeting was attended by seven prospective candidates and a number of their friends. They were Senator Garst of Carroll, Judge Connor of Crawford, Harvey Ingham of Kossuth, ex-Senator Kamrar of Hamilton, ex-Senator Ericson of Boone, Hon. M. E DeWolf of Pocahontas and Hon. M R. Wiehman of Hancock. The other avowed candidates in the district, Hon. D. C. Chase of Webster City and M. L. Brown of Palo Alto, were represented by friends. The field is so divided that no estimate of the ultimate strength of these candidates is possible. Green and Calhoun counties are likely to be contested by Garst and Connor. Humboldt and Winnebago are likely to go to candidates in the north part of the district. It is apparent that the convention will be a very interesting one and that it may be tied up in a long contest.

The democrats of the Second district met at Maquoketa and nominated Henry Vollmer of Davenport for congress.

A. S. Phinney, an Illinois Central brakeman, was perhaps fatally injured at Le Mars, although he was alive at last accounts. Phinney was at work on a construction train on the Central, when an Omaha passenger train approached. The Illinois Central train suddenly stopped preparatory to backing away, and the jerk of the sudden stop threw Phinney off a gravel car and under the wheels. Both legs were severed.

Mr. Shipley, an aged resident of Center Junction, who has been ill for some time, attempted suicide by cutting the arteries in his side. He can not recover. He was between 50 and 60 years old.

Shooting prairie chickens out of season is pretty expensive sport around West Union. Game Warden Delavan visited that city a few days ago and as a result it cost M. Parmley, Andrew Littell and James Noon, all residing at or near Sumner, $176.40 for seven chickens, with a number of other counts not p[illegible]d because the young men pleade[illegible]y.

MAY RESULT IN RUCTION.

Unity of Allies Threatened by America's New Stand.

London, Sept. 1.—In the absence of further news from China, the papers are again filled with discussions of the Russo-American proposals, which so far as may be gathered from the representations of opinions in the the various European capitals, are calculated to subject the unity of the allies to an exceedingly severe and dangerous test. In Germany especially these proposals are so diametrically opposed to Emperor William's policy that they have produced something like consternation. As the Daily News editorially remarks "Count von Waldersee was assuredly not sent to assist in restoring the empress dowager." It is recognized on all sides that Germany's decision is the pivot of the matter. Emperor William intended by dispatching Count von Waldersee to have the master hand in the Chinese settlement. Russia has taken the wind out of that officer's sails and is now posing as the friend and protector of China.

NEW MENACE TO CHINA.

Some of the Powers Have Secret Plans for Settling the Trouble.

Washington, Aug. 30.—State department officials are now convinced that the territorial integrity of China is seriously menaced by the secret plans of some of the powers whose armies are operating in the yellow empire. Two important features of the situation have just become known. The first is that the identical note addressed to the powers last week, asking for an outline of their purposes with reference to China, was occasioned by Admiral Remey's reports that some of the admirals at Taku, in conference, had agreed to hold Li Hung Chang a prisoner on board ship, denying to him the privilege of communicating with his master, the emperor. Following the report of the French admiral to this effect, made public in Paris, the state department let out the fact that it had been in possession of the news for several days, with the added information that Admiral Remey had refused to become a signatory to the agreement of the admirals. The Russian admiral also, it is stated on good authority, declined to become a party to the resolution, which was drawn and signed by the French, German, British and Italian commanders.

WILL ACT WITH RUSSIA.

Chinese Minister at Berlin Says German Troops Will Leave Peking.

London, Sept. 4.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Times says:

"Li Hung Chang has received a telegram from the Chinese minister in Berlin asserting that Germany is prepared to act in concert with Russia with a view to a settlement, and that, therefore, it is probable Germany will follow Russia and withdraw her troops from Peking.

"Two American correspondents, who left Peking Aug. 21 with a party of forty American missionaries, arrived here yesterday. The British residents at the time the Americans left were preparing in a leisurely manner to proceed to Tien Tsin. Fighting had entirely ceased, and hardly any Chinese were met en route.

"An official telegram from China Tu Fu reports that Kwei Chun, viceroy of Chuan, and the Tartar general, Sze Chuan, have both been dismissed by imperial edict, showing that the empress dowager is still guided by vindictive reactionaries."

G. A. R. Elects Officers.

Chicago, August 31.—At yesterday's session of the G. A. R. encampment the following officers were elected: Commander-in-chief, Leo Rassieur of St. Louis; senior vice commander, E. C. Milliken of Portland, Me.; junior vice commander, Frank Seamon of Knoxville, Tenn.; surgeon general, John A. Wilkins of Delta, O.; chaplain-in-chief, Rev. A. Drahms of San Quentin, Cal. Denver was chosen as the place of holding the encampment in 1901.

Gold Medal Awarded Walter Baker & Co.

Paris, Aug. 20.—The judges at the Paris exposition have just awarded a gold medal to Walter Baker & Co., Ltd., Dorchester, Mass., U. S. A., for their preparations of cocoa and chocolate. This famous company, now the largest manufacturers of cocoa and chocolate in the world, have received the highest awards from the great international and other expositions in Europe and America. This is the third award from a Paris exposition.

The Plague at Glasgow.

Glasgow, Sept. 3.—There are now eleven cases of bubonic plague in Glasgow and the health authorities are unable to stop the spread of the disease, despite quarantine restrictions. The foreign consuls are now communicating with their governments and a quarantine probably will be established against all ships from this port.

Thousands Die From Cholera.

Bombay, Sept. 4.—Official returns show that there were 7,969 deaths from cholera in the native and British states during the week ending August 25. The number of relief workers and the number receiving gratuitous relief are increasing.

Sentenced for Robbery.

Fort Dodge, Aug. 31.—Bird McCloskey and Wm. Poyer were sentenced by Judge Weaver to one year in the penitentiary for robbing the Wonders store in Kalo. Ed McCloskey, also implicated in the burglary, was sentenced to the reform school.

Hard Fighting Near Pretoria.

London, August 29.—A special dispatch from Pretoria dated August, says: "It is stated that fighting with General Botha's commandoes was resumed this morning. The Boer lines were broken, the enemy falling back. The British casualties are reported to be considerable."

Roberts Takes Wolseley's Place.

London, Aug. 30.—The Daily Mail claims to have the highest authority that Lord Roberts has already succeeded Lord Wolseley as commander-in-chief of the British army.

The latest number of Lady Randolph Churchill Cornwallis West's guinea magazine is still even more gorgeous than ever. The previous numbers have been arrayed in sober green, while this one is resplendent in bright red morroco, and is a sumptuous specimen of bookbinding.

Many Germans think it unlucky to put a small bed in a room with only its head against the wall, as this is the way in which it is set when a dead body lies on it; the position must always be with one side pressed against a wall, which explains why so many German bedsteads are only ornamented on one side.

WHAT RUSSIA PROPOSED.

Proposition Leading to the Russo-American Agreement.

Washington, Sept. 1.—The following is the oral statement of the Russian charge d'affairs, which led to the agreement between this country and Russia regarding China:

"That, as repeatedly declared, Russia has no designs for territorial acquisition in China; that, equally with the other powers now in operation there, Russia has sought the safety of the legations at Pekin and to help the Chinese government repress the troubles; that, incidental to necessary defensive measures on the Russian border, Russia has occupied Nieu Shwang for military purposes, and as soon as order is re-established will retire the troops there from action if the other powers will be no obstacle thereto; that the purpose of the various governments in co-operating for the relief of the legations in Pekin has been accomplished; that, taking the position that as the Chinese government has left Pekin there is no need for the representatives to remain, Russia directed the Russian minister to retire with the official persons from China; that Russian troops will likewise be withdrawn; that, when the government of China shall regain the reins and go out and afford authority with which the other powers can deal, and will express a desire to enter into negotiations, the Russian government will also name its representative. Holding these views and purposes, Russia expresses the hope that the United States will share the same opinion."

POPULATION ABOUT 76,000,000.

Conservative Estimates Place It at that Figure.

Washington, Sept. 1.—A conservative estimate of the total population of the United States, based upon the twelfth census returns already reported, is 76,000,000. The census bureau has given out the population of thirty-eight cities and the District of Columbia. This includes the thirty largest cities in the country, which means that the great centers of population must necessarily be the basis for all present estimates. Results already tabulated and given to the public make a grand total of 13,824,988. In 1890 the returns of the eleventh census showed the same places had but 10,477,188 inhabitants. This is a gain of 3,347,800. The percentage of gain is therefore slightly over 24. If the rest of the country makes the same showing as have the most thickly settled portions upon which the percentage is based the population of the United States will be officially fixed at 77,651,590.

PRISONERS RELEASED.

Many British Captured by Boers Return Starving.

London, Sept. 1—The folllowing dispatch has been received at the war office from Lord Roberts:

"Belfast, Aug. 31.—About 1,800 British prisoners released at Nooit Gedacht have reached French and Pole-Carew. They are badly clothed and some are said to be half starved. Ambulances are out picking up many of the sick and weakly ones. The captured officers are reported to have been taken to Barberton. Some of them escaped, including the Earl of Leitrim and Viscount Ennismore. The prisoners report that Kruger, Steyn, Botha, Lucas Meyer and Schelkburger left Nooit Gedacht August 29 for Nelspruit. The Boers seem to be scattering."

BRITAIN IS DISPLEASED.

Evidences of Opposition to the Russo-American Chinese Program.

London, Sept. 1.—The newspapers appear to be perplexed at the Americo-Russian accord to secure the prompt evacuation of Peking. They point out how completely this upsets preconceived notions of the groupings of the powers on the Chinese question and the concensus of London's editorial opinion is that the proposals are antagonistic to British interests and that the allies should remain in Peking until the Chinese government is re-established and the ringleaders of the present uprising are punished.

MANCHURIA NOW RUSSIA'S.

And There Is No Intention to Surrender the Province.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 2.—Official dispatches confirm the report of the occupation of Tsi-Tsi-Kar, which leaves only Mukden to be captured in order to place the whole of Manchuria in Russian possession. Apparently there is no intention to relax that hold. General Kouropatkin, the Russian minister of war, has just ordered two batteries of Krupp guns to protect the Manchurian railway. Eight new batteries of quick firers will be distributed among the four new Siberian army corps.

British Guarantees in China.

London, Sept. 3.—According to reports from Shanghai, Great Britain has furnished the viceroys of Nankin and Hankow with strong guarantees against the reported intention of the dowager empress to supersede them on account of their alleged pro-foreign tendencies. The guarantees are also said to include opposition to all attempts to dismember China. The imperial court, it is reported, remains at Tai Yun Fu, capital of Shan Si, afraid to move owing to the stories of Chinese troops ravaging the country far and wide, and even murdering imperial officials who have been trying to join the fugitive imperial court. The dispatches further assert that the German legation will be established at Shanghai.

Yellow Fever at Havana.

Washington, Aug. 30.—The surgeon general of the marine hospital service received a telegram from the chief quarantine officer of Cuba, at Havana, stating that during the month of August, up to the 26th, there have been 204 cases of yellow fever reported at Havana and thirty-four deaths. Many of the cases are very mild.

Oregon Sent to Wu Sung.

Shanghia, Sept. 2.—It is announced here that the United States battleship Oregon and four German battleships have been ordered to Wu Sung.

Four-fifths of the residents of London never enter a church.

Russians never drink tea out of cups and saucers. It is served to them in a "stakan," a glass tumbler in a silver holder.

"She isn't a very expert stenographer," said one young woman, "and yet the political orator for whom she takes dictation has raised her salary three times this year." "Yes," answered the other. "She isn't expert, but she is clever. She told me about it. She always giggles out loud when she comes to any portion of a speech that he obviously intends to be funny."

NEEDS ALL TROOPS.

Reinforcements Still Leaving England for Lord Roberts' Army.

London, Sept. 4.—A dispatch from Pretoria says most of the burghers are said to have retired eastward toward the Barberton mountains. There, if they endeavor to make a stand, they should be hemmed in by the British army, which has at least 40,000 troops available, and compelled to surrender. But the probability is that the majority of them will disperse to their own homes, perhaps with the hope of again joining the commandoes if they see a fair chance.

A minority of the fighting burghers, with Kruger himself and with Louis Botha, Lucas Meyer and other officers, have gone to Lydenburg, and in this wild and broken country resistance may be prolonged for some time longer.

Meanwhile Boer bands are in the field in several other portions of the disputed territory. There has been fighting between Theron's commando and the British to the south of Johannesburg, but the censorship has not permitted the particulars to be made known.

Delarey and Groebler are also at large in the western Transvaal and De Wet has now worked his way back to the center of the Orange Free state. His present following is small, but his name and reputation may gather adherents around him.

Finally at Ladybrand, between Bloemfontein and the Basutoland frontier, a burgher force has appeared on the hills and threatens the British garrison of the town.

All this seems to show that even if the regular operations of the campaign are soon to be brought to a close no considerable number of Lord Roberts' army can yet be allowed to leave South Africa. It was hoped by the ministers that troops might be streaming home before the beginning of the general election in October. This is not now likely and this fact may, after all, throw back the appeal to the country to a later date.

Re-enforcements are still going out to Roberts, who has lost over 40,000 men by death, wounds and sickness and has several thousand more in hospitals at the present time.

It is significant that the imperial authorities have asked the Canadian government to allow a portion of the colonial contingent, whose period of service expires this month, to remain in South Africa some time longer.

13 KILLED; 30 INJURED.

Philadelphia, Sept. 3.—Thirteen persons killed and over thirty others injured is the appalling record of a collision between an excursion train and a milk train on the Bethlehem branch of the Philadelphia & Reading road twenty miles north of here. The wrecked train consistel of ten day coaches and was the first section of a large excursion made up of people from Bethlehem and surrounding towns to Atlantic City. This section carried only those persons who lived in Bethlehem and Allentown, and left the union depot in Bethlehem at 6:05 a. m., exactly thirty-five minutes behind the milk train. The latter train consisted of two milk cars and two passenger coaches and had stopped at every station on the road from Bethlehem enroute to Philadelphia. At 6:45 the milk train drew up at the milk platform at Hatfield, and in less than two minutes the special excursion train, running at the rate of thirty-five miles an hour, crashed into the rear of the milk train. The locomotive plowed through the two passenger coaches and crushed them as if they were egg shells. The milk car immediately in front was also badly wrecked.

To Repeal Goebel Law.

Frankfort, Sept. 3.—Representative Holland has introduced a bill in the house to repeal the Goebel election law and to enact a new one. It provides a state board of three, two to be appointed by the controlling authority of the two leading parties, the third to be appointed by the secretary of state, until after 1902, and then to be elected by the legislature. The third member to have no vote except in case of a tie. County boards of three are provided similarly, the third member appointed by the state board. Election officers are to be equally divided between parties. The bill is said to meet the views of Governor Beckham.

A Surprise to Europe.

London, August 31.—The Russo-American "surprise," as it is called, is the chief feature of the morning papers. While Russia's part in the proposal is regarded with considerable suspicion, it is generally recognized that the flight of the empress dowager renders the situation extremely difficult, and, therefore, that it might be wise to adopt the Russo-American program as the best solution of the problem. At the same time a very strong feeling is displayed in favor of a more vigorous line of policy.

The Trouble at Amoy.

Hong Kong, Sept. 3.—About 50,000 Chinese are reported to have started for Amoy on account of the landing of foreign troops there. The British consul at Amoy has issued a proclamation, in Chinese, re-assuring the people that they will be protected by the local authorities. The staffs of the Chinese newspapers at Canton have been released, but the papers will probably resume publication. Their suppression has produced a bad impression on the Cantonese.

Strength of Troops in China.

Washington, Sept. 2.—It is given out that the total number of troops of the allied forces now in China numbers 173,000. Of this number 7,000 are Americans, 12,000 English, 16,000 Germans, 65,000 French, 50,000 Russians, 21,000 Japanese, 2,000 Italians and 170 Austrians. The field armament consists of a total of 311 guns and thirty-six machine guns. It is not thought that the force in China will be greatly enlarged, the authorities deeming the number now there capable of carrying through all the plans of the powers.

In receiving some Americans the other day King Oscar of Sweden said: "I welcome you as Americans, and therefore fellows monarchs."

A beauty specialists is recommending her patients to eat a finely-grated carrot before breakfast each morning to improve the complexion.

A mosquito bite caused blood-poisoning to J. P. Clove, aged sixty-two, of Toronto, Ontario, and two weeks after being bitten he fell dead.

It takes 5,000 bees to weigh a pound, but when the insects come in fresh from the fields and flowers, freighted with honey, they weigh nearly thrice as much.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL

Des Moines, September 3, 1900.

The middle-of-the-road populists held a convention at the court house on the 28th, but owing to the small attendance no ticket was placed in the field. The state central committee was authorized to nominate a ticket and after the adoption of resolutions the conference adjourned.

The Fidelity and Casualty company of New York was formerly authorized to do personal accident and employers' liability business in this state. The management of the company did not see fit to comply with the requests of the auditor of state, and its certificate of authority, which expired March 1, 1900, has not been renewed; therefore this company now has no authority to legally transact any kind of business within the borders of this state. The auditor's office is now in receipt of information to the effect that the company is now endeavoring to illegally place its policies with citizens of Iowa direct from the home office by correspondence, thus evading the requirements of the Iowa laws.

One patient only remains at the smallpox hospital in this city and unless the unexpected happens the hospital will be closed next week. About seventy cases have been cared for at the hospital, all of whom have recovered. Not a single death has occurred from the disease since it first appeared in the city last winter.

With receipts amounting almost to $50,000, and with the prospects good for a surplus of nearly $20,000, the state fair has come to a close. In the forty-six years in which annual state exhibitions have been given in Iowa, the magnificent success that has attended the exposition just closed has been without precedent. President R. J. Johnson of Humboldt, head of the state board of agriculture, says he believes the surplus will be nearly $20,000, after all expenses have been paid. This will mean a much larger net profit than last year, when the surplus was $16,398.74. With a large surplus in the treasury, it is the unanimous sentiment of the directors that improvements at the grounds should be made, and that in so far as possible, permanent buildings, such as will be creditable to the state, should be erected. One of the most potent causes for the success of the exhibition this year in a financial way has been the flawless weather for the past week. Good management and excellent attractions, however, have had much to do with it.

In an opinion filed in the Iowa vs. Day controversy, Judge Prouty holds that the amendment to the collateral inheritance tax law is retroactive and that it cures the defects in the original law. The opinion not only decided that the state is entitled to the recovery of the inheritance tax in the Day estate, but sets at rest all doubts as to the validity of its claim to other taxes.

Will the state claim possession of the $30,000 surplus which the state fair management now has on hand? The management is worrying a little about it. This is due to the ambiguity of the new agricultural department law. Under it all the bills of the fair have to go through the hands of the state executive council like other bills, and while the law says the state shall have no interest or responsibility in the state fair the directors incline to the belief that the money on hand may be claimed for the benefit of the state treasury, while no debts would be assumed by the state. "The law is very ambiguous," said Director M. J. Wragg. "We discussed the matter a little and while we hope that we will not be interfered with in the improvements we will plan, still there may be some difficulty about whether that surplus belongs to us or to the state."

The board of control has awarded the contract for a year's supply of flour for the state institutions. Of the large number of bidders four only were successful, and it is particularly gratifying that these are all Iowa firms. The Mystic Milling company of Sioux City was awarded the contract for furnishing 300 barrels of flour for the College for the Blind at Vinton. The Marshalltown Roller Mills 600 barrels for the Iowa Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown. The Centennial Mill company of Avoca secured the School for the Deaf at Council Bluffs, the Institution for Feeble Minded Children at Glenwood, the Hospital for the Insane at Clarinda and the Industrial School for Girls at Mitchellville, aggregating 2,985 barrels. Shannon & Mott of Des Moines secured the award for the Hospital at Mt. Pleasant, the penitentiary at Fort Madison, the Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport, the penitentiary at Anamosa, the Industrial School at Eldora and the Hospital at Independence. The amount required for these institutions is 6,200 barrels. The price at which the awards were made was not given out by the board, but it will aggregate from $34,000 to $40,000.

Will Oppose Germany.

Shanghai, Sept. 4.—Two French priests reached Kiao Chou from the far interior, escorted the whole way by Chinese soldiers furnished by Governor Shan Tang. They assert the latter has 20,000 troops beyond Kiao Chou, disposed apparently with a view to opposing any attempt at German expansion.

Transvaal Now British Territory.

London, Sept. 4.—Under date of Belfast, Sept. 1, Lord Roberts reports: "Have today issued, under his majesty's warrant of July 4, a proclamation announcing that the Transvaal will henceforth form part of her majesty's dominions."

Arthur Sewall Stricken.

Bath, Me., Sept. 4.—Arthur Sewell, democratic candidate for vice president in 1896, was seized with an attack of apoplexy at his summer home, Small Point. Mr. Sewell's chances for recovery are slight.

Insanity has for years been increasing in Ireland. A medical commission declares that the increase of insanity and melancholia is due to the excessive use of strong tea.

In the Uuited States Army recruits for the cavalry are rejected if they weigh over 165 pounds each, while for the infantry or artillery a man is acceptable who does not weigh over 190 pounds.

The Chinese are very thrifty; they permit very little to go to waste. Many of the Bibles so freely given to them by the missionaries are used by the ingenious and irreverent Mongolians to make [illegible]