

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The Dominion parliament was prorogued on the 18th, Lord Minto...

The Missouri Pacific Railway Co. on the 18th, filed with Secretary of State...

The commission for Gen. Adna R. Brown as major-general of volunteers...

The selection of W. W. Rockhill to be the government's special agent in China...

The appointment of Mr. Rockhill as special agent was suggested by the president...

The United States transport Havlin was ordered at Santiago, Cuba...

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MINISTER WU GIVEN A TASK.

A Crucial Test of the Good Faith of the Chinese Government Prescribed and Accepted.

Washington, July 23.—There is reason to believe that Secretary Hay has notified Minister Wu that as a condition precedent to mediation by this government to end the war in China...

Moreover, it is understood that the secretary of state has informed Minister Wu that it will be impossible for the government to make any progress in negotiations with other powers until all foreigners in Peking are similarly delivered into the custody of the animals at Taku.

This demand is the supreme test of China's good faith in appealing to the United States to intercede with the powers. Failure to deliver Mr. Conger, his associates and all other foreigners now in Peking will render abortive any efforts which may be made by this government to restore peace...

It is nothing short of delivering Mr. Conger into the hands of Admiral Remey at Taku, that he may in his own person speak for the integrity of the imperial government and tell the world the truth regarding the situation in Peking.

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MISSISSIPPI MATTERS.

NOTES OF PAST AND CURRENT EVENTS.

By J. L. POWER.

SAM H. FRYOR.

To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.

On the morning of the 29th of June the golden glory of the opening day was dimmed for all within our home when the cruel wires flashed a message from St. Joseph's hospital, in Memphis...

It was brave Sam Fryor's second surrender. And on that sweet summer morn'g a fortnight since, as once long years before, he faced the enemy, as a brave man should and laid down his arms, untarnished.

Someone, somewhere, has said that the feather whose pen is shaped to trace the lives of such good men should fall from an angel's wing. My faltering pen, I know too well, is not equal to the task that Friendship sets before it, and yet I feel that I must ask the privilege of laying a dower of affection, imperfect though it be, upon

May it not be that, to his waiting heart, faithful through all these years, there came, unknown to others, the touch of the hand that had vanished, the sound of the voice that had fallen, this making beautiful, to him, the calling breeze?

It is a consolation that crowns the grief of his loved ones to so believe, and to hope that when that fair June day unbarred their shining portals the robes of gleaming white, with radiant diadem, to lead his ransomed spirit to the land that is fairer than this.

The funeral services in honor of this beloved citizen were held in Holly Springs in the late afternoon of the last June day; and it seemed that each and every one of the many who held his friendship a precious thing was eager to show honor to the quiet form, to heap fragrant flowers above him, to twine fragrant garlands for his memory, and shed the tears of sympathy with those he left behind.

As this true knight of chivalry lay in his last long sleep, clad in his uniform, his casket trimmed with Confederate grey, he looked like a warrior taking his rest, with his martial cloak around him, and this cloak that was around him was only the dear old flag whose gleaming stars and bars on glowing crimson surface galled Sam Fryor had followed on many a fierce-fought field, and within its sacred folds—folded now, but tarnished never—he softly lies, and sweetly sleeps, forever and for aye.

A sweeter and a lovelier gentleman the spacious world cannot furnish afford than was my father's friend and comrade, Sam H. Fryor.

McComb City and Its Normal. It was this writer's great privilege to spend a few hours with the Teachers' Normal at McComb City, at the close of their four weeks' work.

On Thursday morning we gave the normal a few chapters in Mississippi history. Members of the faculty, several of the teachers, County Superintendent Lee, school trustees and others, made short congratulatory talks, and then a series of happily worded resolutions were read and adopted.

Major Varlamann, after much reflection, suggests that it is not politic to hold the proposed September convention for the selection of a new Democratic State executive committee. The suggestion is made in the interest of harmony and Democratic unity, and it is timely. The legislature, in 1902, should remedy some glaring defects in the primary election law; and the next State convention, in 1900, can retain the present committee or select a new one. In the meantime, let us have peace.

The corner-stone of the new Chamberlain Hunt Academy buildings, at Port Gibson, will be laid by the officers of the Masonic grand lodge on Wednesday, August 1st. Grand Master B. V. White will be pleased to meet, on that occasion, as many of the grand officers as can find it convenient to attend. And it is expected that the subordinate lodges, within convenient reach, will also participate.

The State board of election commissioners will meet about the 15th of August for the appointment of three election commissioners for the several counties. The board consists of the governor, secretary of State and attorney-general. Commissioners must be freeholders and electors. They shall not all be of the same political party or men of different political parties can be conveniently had in the counties.

The National guardsmen for 1900 has been indefinitely postponed. A short State appropriation, and shorter crops, are responsible for the very sensible conclusion reached by Adjutant-General Henry.

The Albany Law Journal refers to the opinion of Chief Justice Whitehead in the election judiciary case as "both able and exhaustive, showing pains taking research and conscientious care."

The trustee of the A. and M. College will take \$2,000 per acre for the college lands—23,000—If sold in a body. These lands are of better quality, and these favorably located than the 4,000 College land, which were sold for \$4.35 per acre, or \$95,800 for the whole.

Several Mississippi cities and towns are disappointed in the census figures, and the charge is made that Supervisor Mollison isn't good at counting. Jones gets something less than 10,000, and Vicksburg less than 10,000. The State tax assessors' enumeration of population, it is possible that some of the suburban children are included in the assessors' enumeration; the Federal enumerators being restricted to corporation limits.

And while his life belonged so largely to the great multitude that needed him, he never for one moment permitted outside interests to mar the sweet perfection of his life at home—a life

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THE MISSISSIPPI GIRL.

By W. E. FABOR.

Read by the author at the reception to the Mississippi River, Denver, Colo., June 28, 1900.

I've seen the maid of many zones, The stately and the cold; The gracious, the impulsive ones, The coy, the over bold; But go I East or go I West Where'er our flag unfurls The crown of beauty seems to rest Upon our Southern girls.

Her good St. Anthony had met Some of these charming girls, With cheeks of rose and eyes of jet, And fair heads crowned with curls, Could he have run away from fate Or shunned such tempting bliss? Or for a moment hesitate Such loveliness to kiss?

I mind one Mississippi girl In Jackson's flower-crowned town Who would have set his head awire And called the good Saint down. The soldiers who would give him, Remember with tender long, The fairly form and charming face, That greeted the Banquet night.

Each Mississippi girl declares She has the beauty, fondly, Only where sunny Southern airs And Summer hours abound; Her smiles are winsome as her ways, Are languorous and calm; As if his held but happy days Of rosemary and balm.

And now she comes to show "fair boys" Her beauty and her bloom, Suggestive of enchanted joys, That in her heart find room. Such whiteness of snow-laden cheeks, Should touch our snow-laden hearts, And draw within our tempting arms Some victims of Love's darts.

Could I turn back the clock of time Some forty years or more, I'd sing of lovely tender rhymes The Mississippi's shore; We'd fondle and I would go, To find a prettier pair; And who would win for real or was Some Mississippi girl?

Well, bless their bright and bonnie faces, Bless often, and stay long; Our mountain slopes are just the place—Where South and North should throng The martial notes of marching birds, And on each Southern tongue; While our lips suggest the words By love's melody sung.

Our Snow-laden is fair to see, But greater sweetness lies Within the ones that bloom so free, 'Tis South and Southern girls; We sing the tributes that belong To beauty in repose, And crowd with Colorado song The Mississippi's shore.

Simpson Assessment. The really assessment of Simpson for 1900 falls out \$87,992.99—an increase of \$17,062.99 on the preceding assessment, 1899. And the Westville News takes occasion to suggest that had the tax-collector been given at their true value—\$40 or more per acre, instead of from \$20 to \$30—the increase would have been much greater.

The Yaguis have been pretty well scattered and broken up into small bands, and are not seriously troublesome at present. Several batches of prisoners have been sent to Guadalupe, Irapuato and other places with the view of making useful citizens out of them.

The general plan followed strictly the policy of the government in dealing with them, which is to give them every reasonable inducement to return to their farms or get them employment elsewhere without being any more severely than absolutely necessary.

The Yaguis are really superior people. The large companies operating in Sonora say they make the best workmen, but there are turbulent spirits among them, who, whenever they can get a fight, are ready to make trouble.

The last rising before the present one was expected to end the difficulty between the government and the Indians, and very generous concessions were made by the government; but the Indians had kept their part of the arrangement less than two years when they were persuaded, just after an extensive fiesta, to take up arms again.

The Yaguis are splendid fighters, and, of course, know the country well and have, in some cases, subdued the troops, doing damage. The whole affair has been nothing but a series of guerrilla skirmishes.

Holding for an Advance. Houston, Tex., July 23.—The Post prints reports from various points in Texas showing that 2,000,000 pounds of wool are being held in that State because the growers refuse to accept current prices, and there is as much wool on hand at unopened points and on ranches. The growers have held a conference at Lampasas and agreed to hold the entire clip indefinitely. They have come to the conclusion that there is a shortage, and that the manufacturers will come to their terms rather than import.

Remains of Americans Fallen in Mexico to be Brought Home. Houston, Tex., July 23.—Col. J. W. Scully, of the quartermaster's department, U. S. A., has gone to Mexico to disinter and bring back for burial in the San Antonio government cemetery the bones of American soldiers who fell in the battle of Buena Vista, fought near Saltillo, Mexico, in 1848, between the Americans under Gen. Zachary Taylor and the Mexicans under Santa Anna. The remains of about seven hundred Americans lie where they were buried on the battlefield.

CUT IN TWAIN AMIDSHIPS.

The Bark Emblemton Ran Down In the Irish Channel—Eleven Men Supposed to be Drowned.

London, July 23.—A dense fog hung over the Irish channel Saturday morning, and the Cunard line steamer Emblemton, en route from New York for Liverpool, struck the Liverpool bank Hamilton, about four miles from New Zealand, amidships, cutting her in twain.

The Emblemton sank immediately. Seven of the crew were rescued, but it is believed the other 11 members of the ship's company, including the captain, were drowned.

The Campania had her bows stove in, but arrived safely at Liverpool five and a half hours late.

The Campania was little injured, but had a narrow escape from a serious disaster. The fog had delayed her passage since Friday noon, and a tender went out from Queenstown four miles, as Capt. Walker would not take the liner near shore.

At Tuskier light the fog was becoming denser every moment. When the Campania was about thirty miles northeast of the light a phantom ship rose suddenly, without warning, directly across her bows. Thirty seconds later the phantom had become a solid sailing vessel into which the liner crashed, her steel fore-foot going through the Emblemton like the clean cut of a scythe, and dividing her just about the mainmast. The forward half sank instantly. The stern swung viciously round, and the mast and yards, for a moment, tore at the Campania. A lump of wreckage came down on her decks. Then the stern of the bark also disappeared, and the face of the sea was littered with splintered timbers, boxes, barrels—the whole upper work and lighter cargo, the dockhouses and such things. Then there was nothing left.

From the instant the phantom came into view from the bridge of the Campania until the last vestige of the vessel vanished only sixty or eighty seconds had elapsed.

According to the Emblemton's survivors, for nearly half an hour before the collision the captain and first officer were below at breakfast, and, although the fog whistled of a large steamer could be heard every minute, the bark never shifted her course.

When, at 8:25 a. m., the second officer, to use his own phrase, "heard the roar of a steamer's bows," he shouted down to the captain, who rushed on deck, but was too late to give an order.

The Campania was under one-third steam. The captain, first officer and pilot were on the bridge. The engines were instantly reversed and the helm put hard down. No precaution was omitted. Some of her passengers had even grumbled at what they called superfluous caution.

After the crash and the sudden crash the boats were quickly got out. There were no signs of panic, the crew were everywhere at their stations, the best discipline was maintained, the bulletins were closed and everything possible was done to save life.

Some of the Campania's plates were torn by the collision; her forepeak faded with water; her foremast was broken shot off, and her steel rigging torn and twisted.

The passengers held a meeting adopted resolutions of thanks to the captain and crew, and subscribed £200 for the relief of the survivors and the families of the lost.

THE YAQUI INDIAN UPRISING.

The Indians Scattered and Not Troublesome—Mild Policy of the Mexican Government.

City of Mexico, July 22.—Gen. Luis Torres, governor of Sonora, and emissaries-in-charge of the forces against the Yaquis, has come to this city to make a detailed report of the progress of the campaign to President Diaz and Minister of War Kels. From an interview with him it is gathered that the Yaquis have been pretty well scattered and broken up into small bands, and are not seriously troublesome at present.

Several batches of prisoners have been sent to Guadalupe, Irapuato and other places with the view of making useful citizens out of them.

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THE FIGHT AT TIEN TSIN.

It Came Within an Ace of Being a Disastrous Defeat for the Allies.

Due to Apparent Lack of Cohesion. The Attack Made Under Adverse Conditions, but With the Utmost Gallantry on the Part of the Americans and Japanese—The Casualties.

New York, July 22.—The Evening World publishes the following from its Tien Tsin correspondent, under date of the 19th, July 19, via Shanghai, July 21:

"The attack on the native city of Tien Tsin, on July 19, resulted in the narrowest escape from what seemed, up to midnight, would be a terrible disaster for the allies. The Russians, swinging north, and the other allies south, at daybreak, the Russians were to take the forts near the native city wall, and other allies the city itself.

Made a Dash Promise. Gen. Fukuokima, the Japanese commander, promised that the Japanese engineers, after three hours' shell fire on all guns, would cross the bridge over the most before the wall and, blowing up the great south gate, make the breach for the infantry to enter. Upon this depended everything. Gen. Fukuokima had not scouted the ground over which the charge on the bridge had to be made.

Chinese Strategy. The Chinese destroyed the bridge and flooded the land around it. The allies' shell fire in vain subdued the Chinese rifle fire from the loop-holed wall, which was 20 feet high, with a moat 20 feet in depth around it.

An outer wall, of mud, made it impossible for the infantry and marines coming on the field to reply to the Chinese fire. They lost 50 men in ten minutes, then rushed back from the mud wall, which they had reached.

British Hastened Forward. Gen. Dowdall, the British commander, hastened forward with a fragmentary instead of an integral British line.

The American marines and the Welsh fusiliers, together, under command of Waller, were on the extreme left. Then the British marines and the French advanced with the Japanese along the road toward the gate in the mud wall.

Dowdall's plan for the Americans to support the Japanese was not made clear to Col. Liscum of the Ninth United States Infantry.

It was a mistake for the British commander to lay the blame for the blunder and sacrifice of life on Liscum, but Dowdall's chief-of-staff was heard to say when Liscum moved: "Get in down the road anywhere, quickly."

Col. Liscum hurriedly led his men through the gate in as open order as possible. They were immediately under fire.

Into a Col de Sac. The staff saw them pass over the bridge leading to a field which proved to be a col de sac.

Before the two battalions of Americans, numbering 426 men, could extend themselves, they were subjected, besides the fire from the loopholes in the forts, to a fierce fire from the embrasures in a line of fortified mud houses on their flank.

Three thousand rifles probably, were turned on them with an accuracy which amazed every officer among the allies.

Blue Shirts a Mark. The blue shirts of the American troops made them distinct marks, where the khaki uniforms of the other allies could not be seen. Col. Liscum, ending his men, walked up and down the line, not even ducking his head while the bullets fell around.

The Americans charged into the flank fire with rushes. The ground over which they charged was marshy and lined with ditches.

It was evidently Col. Liscum's intention to rush the houses from which the fire was coming, and thus get a position for flanking the wall.

At 12:40 the line had just reached the shore of the canal, and 20 yards separated them from the houses, when the color bearer fell.

Col. Liscum picked up the colors, and stood looking around apparently for a ford.

"Better get down or they'll hit you," shouted Maj. Regan.

Col. Liscum's Latest Words. "I guess not," was Liscum's reply. The next instant a sharpshooter's bullet went through the colonel's abdomen.

"I've got it," he said, as he fell. "Get at them if you can, the dying officer said, and added as his last words: "Don't retreat, boys; keep on firing."

Worked in the Dark.

Though acting conjointly, neither Dowdall nor Fukuokima knew each other's whereabouts. Under cover of the darkness the men of the Ninth crept back from their dangerous position bearing their wounded. They executed this movement with a loss of one man killed. The casualties were 21 men and 5 officers out of 426.

The Marines' Losses. The marines lost 30, including Capt. Davis, who was shot through the heart while talking to Col. Meade on the night of July 19.

It was decided to withdraw, when news came that the Chinese were evacuating. The Russians were not so successful as hoped during the day, and the total loss of the allies was 200.

Japanese Losses Severe. The Japanese losses were severe. The Japanese were most gallant in the fight. Put for the Americans stopping the flank fire the Japanese loss would have been much heavier.

The French, Japanese, American and British entered the city at two o'clock on the morning of July 19. Their entry was unopposed.

Old Glory at Half-Mast. The American flag at half-mast was hoisted over the south gate. The walls were strewn with the corpses of Chinese soldiers killed by the shell fire which caused their flight.

None, apparently, was hit by bullets, the damage being done by ignited shells.

Rated a Terrible Row. There is a terrible row over the burning of the town. Several foreign officers are reported lost.

The tired soldiers remained on the walls. The natives went looting through the Chinese town. The bank and the arsenal were heavy sufferers.

No Immediate Advance on Peking. An advance movement on Peking is not contemplated soon.