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My stock of frames and lens are the finest quality, and my prices are very reasonable. No charge for examination.

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Lamps, burners, wicks, chimneys, globes, shades and all other lamp fixtures, at Mercer's Drug & Book Store.

Labor Day will be extensively celebrated in Shamokin. Among the orators of the day will be Ella Wheeler Wilcox, who will deliver an address to the lady clerks and textile workers. There will be representations from all the anthracite towns in the section.

The cow with the crumpled horn walked up to the fence and gazed placidly at Aunt Irene and darling little six-year-old Reginald who are spending a few weeks on the farm among papa's relatives. "Oh, mama," he chirped, "just see the bossy cow what's twisted her handle bars."

This morning's Philadelphia Inquirer contained a good likeness of Joseph Maier of Danville, who has enlisted in the marine service. He sails on the transport Grant from San Francisco for China, on August 15. He is well known in Bloomsburg, by reason of his having been employed by his brother, I. Maier, when he conducted a clothing store in this town, a few years ago.

Trade and the Flag.

The official statements of the exports from the Philippines during the calendar year 1899, made public, gives the total at \$19,256,091.

Of this the hemp exports were valued at nearly \$8,000,000 and raw sugar about the same—only one tenth of which came to the United States. The remainder was made up of copra, leaf tobacco and cigars. The exports by countries, including gold and silver, show: To China, \$6,910,498; the United States, \$4,040,255; England, \$3,701,363; Japan, \$1,983,896; and Spain, \$1,170,231.

So that China, which has no "flag" in the Philippines, got nearly \$3,000,000 more of the small trade than we did, and England almost as much. We receive at this port on a single steamer day more imports from Europe than come to us in a whole year from our wonderful new possessions. The entire value of the commerce for a year does not equal the cost of the occupation and war for a week.—New York World.

Second-Hand Wheels

At Mercer's Drug and Book Store, getting very scarce. We now have left the following only: One ladies', in good condition, at \$12.00; one Alton, new this year, \$40.00 list price, that can be bought for \$25.00. This wheel has not been run 60 miles. One Crescent tandem for \$30.00. This we regard as the best bargain we have been able to offer this year in tandems. If you want a new wheel, it will pay you to get our prices, as we will promise you a real bargain.

Girton Reunion.

On account of the Farmers' picnic being on the 9th of August, the Girton Reunion will be held in Hess' Grove, Rupert, on the following Thursday, August 16th.

S. J. JOHNSON, Sec'y.

Money to Loan.

\$1400 to loan on first mortgage on town property, at 5 per cent. and taxes. Apply to Geo. E. Elwell, Atty, Bloomsburg, Pa.

FROM CONGER DIRECT

Message Received at Washington Dated Aug. 7.

THE SITUATION MORE PRECARIOUS.

Chinese Government Insists on Legations Leaving Peking—Daily Rifle Firing—Ammunition and Provisions Falling—All Well.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Another cablegram came to the state department late yesterday from Minister Conger at Peking, the first which has come direct from the minister since June 12, the other having been received through the intermediary of the Chinese minister here, Mr. Wu. This telegram shows that the situation in the Chinese capital is of a very serious character, that the ministers are still in danger from the Chinese troops and that their supply of ammunition and provisions has been reduced to a very considerable extent. So important were the statements contained in the dispatch that a conference was held by wire between several of the officials here and the president at Canton, lasting for several hours.

The following is the cablegram from Minister Conger as received by the state department, dated Tsi-Nan Yamen, Aug. 7:

"Still besieged. Situation more precarious. Chinese government insisting upon our leaving Peking, which would be certain death. Rifle firing upon us daily by imperial troops. Have abundant courage, but little ammunition or provisions. Two progressive Yamen ministers beheaded. All connected with legation of the United States well at the present moment."

The cablegram came in the official cipher of the department. The dispatch reached the department at 4:20 p. m., but was not made public until late in the evening.

Those who were at the White House in conference with the president included Acting Secretary Adee of the state department, Secretary Root and Adjutant General Corbin. Captain Michael, the chief clerk of the state department, through whose hands the cablegram passed, was also present part of the time.

What the result of the conference was the officials declined to say. That it will stimulate the energies of the government to its utmost endeavor to press forward the advance movement toward Peking is certain, for Mr. Conger's message makes it clear that for the ministers to leave Peking would result in their death. Secretary Root did not care to make any statement when asked about the situation.

The officials had been led to believe from the more recent dispatches, which purported to emanate from Chinese sources as well as from imperial edicts, that the condition of the legation was much improved, but this dispatch shows a very different aspect of affairs.

Secretary Root stated late last night that so far as he was aware there would be no change in the president's intentions to return to Washington on the 18th inst., making this reply to a question as to whether the latest developments in Peking would necessitate his return to the capital earlier.

The word "yamen" following the name of the city Tsi-nan, at which the cablegram from Mr. Conger was put on the wires, as understood here, probably refers to the official building or residence from which it was transmitted or at which it was received by courier from Peking.

The information that United States troops were engaged in the battle at Peking established positively for the first time that, notwithstanding the difficulties which General Chaffee had encountered in debarking troops and supplies, at least a part and a considerable part of our force was in the vanguard of the forward movement. General Chaffee's dispatch to the war department covered the most satisfactory evidences that the commanders had thoroughly agreed in advance upon a plan of action and that there is every indication that this plan has been followed, as General Chaffee on Friday sent the cable saying that the attack upon the Chinese at Peking would be made on Sunday, the day when Admiral Remey and the press correspondents say the fighting occurred. General Chaffee's announcement that the present objective of the international column is Yan-tsun is interpreted by the officials at the war department to mean that this point, where river, railroad and wagon road meet, is to be made the advance base for the operations on Peking.

The engagement at Peking is understood here to be the result of a reconnoissance in force, and while Commander Tansig mentions only the Russian and Japanese troops it is apparent that other troops were engaged, because he says the loss was sustained "chiefly" by the Russians and Japanese.

The report also disproves the statements sent from Washington about the Chaffee dispatch making it appear that the Russians were sulking in their tents and would not move.

The dispatches are as follows: "Chefu, Aug. 3.—British flag reports, unofficial, engagement Peking Sunday, 3 to 10:30. Allied loss killed, wounded, 1,200, chiefly Russian, Japanese, Chinese retreating. TAUSSIG."

"Chefu, Aug. 6.—Unofficial report, believed reliable, about 10,000 allies heavily engaged Chinese at Peking daylight. REMEY."

LEGATIONS STILL IN PEKING.

Late Dispatch Fixes That Fact—Sunday's Battle Described.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—A message from the Belgian minister, dated Peking, Aug. 2, seems effectually to dispose of the rumors that the ministers have either left or are intending to leave Peking.

The Chinese minister in London, Sir Chi Chen Lofengshu, says he has received a telegram from China announcing that a long imperial edict issued on Aug. 2 authorizing the immediate and safe conveyance of all Europeans in Peking to Tien-tsin.

Several dispatches are printed giving bearish accounts of Sunday's battle. The Daily Mail's correspondent at Chefu, telegraphing Monday, says: "The fighting lasted seven hours, and the allies, when my report left, were pursuing the Chinese, but owing to the floods progress was difficult."

"Thus the Chinese will have time to reform and to recover from the effects of the battle. Only a small garrison, with 14 guns, remains at Tien-tsin, where some anxiety is felt because of a report that 35,000 Chinese are said to be moving two days' march to the southeast."

NOTIFICATION DAY.

Bryan and Stevenson Reach Indianapolis—Crowds Along the Route.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 8.—William J. Bryan of Nebraska and Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois reached this city at 7:20 o'clock last evening. They came on a special train of 12 coaches, all filled with enthusiastic Democrats.

They in Military park shortly after 2 o'clock. Messrs. Bryan and Stevenson will be duly notified of their nomination by the Democratic convention at Kansas City. Stops of some length were made at Kankakee, Ill., and Lafayette, Ind. Large crowds gathered at every station and cheered lustily whether the train stopped or not.

Ten cars of the train were occupied by members of the Cook county Democracy. The eleventh was for use of press representatives. In the last coach were Messrs. Bryan and Stevenson, their families and friends, Chairman Jones of the national committee and wife, Governor and Mrs. Thomas of Colorado, Secretary Walsh and Sergeant-at-arms Martin of the national committee and many of the leading members of that organization. Hon. Samuel A. Hatcher, Democratic candidate for governor of Illinois; Mayor Harrison of Chicago and Webster Davis, former assistant secretary of the interior, were also among the guests.

North Carolina Elections.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Aug. 4.—A special issue of The Observer from Raleigh says: "The Democrats rejoice quietly all over North Carolina. The returns show that Democratic majorities aggregate 64,678 and fusion majorities 59,553. There will be contests in several counties, there being alleged irregularities in Randolph and Harnett and smaller ones in Wilkes and Chatham. In the latter county at Congressman Atwater's precinct, the fusion stronghold, the fusionists are reported to have assailed the election officers, smashed the ballot boxes and burned the ballots. The returns show that to the senate there are elected 38 Democrats and 9 fusionists, with three seats doubtful, and to the house 59 Democrats and 13 fusionists, while 12 seats are in doubt."

Prospects Better in India.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—The viceroy of India, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, cables over yesterday's date that a very decided improvement in the crop prospects has taken place during the last ten days through the sudden and opportune renewed advance of the monsoon. Ample rain has fallen for the present agricultural requirements in Gujerat and the greater part of Rajputana and central India, and sowings are being actively prosecuted so far as the scarcity of plow bullocks permits. If the present favorable conditions continue considerable autumn crops will be secured and the tension will relax. There are now about 6,350,000 persons receiving relief.

Much Gold Received.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Reports to the bureau of the mint show that the receipts of gold at the Seattle assay office in the month of July from the Klondike amount to \$6,084,000 and from Alaska to \$296,000. At San Francisco the original receipts were \$2,159,032 from the Klondike and \$121,676 from Alaska. The total receipts of the San Francisco mint in July from all sources, including the Seattle assay office, amounted to \$13,400,000. The total receipts on the Pacific coast from the Klondike so far this season are about \$9,500,000, against \$7,680,000 at the same time last year.

Largest Apple Crop Ever Known.

CLEVELAND, Aug. 4.—The sixth annual meeting of the National Apple Shippers' association came to an end last evening, and most of the 149 delegates have departed for their homes. The next meeting will be held at Toronto the first Wednesday in August, 1901. During the three days the convention was in session letters and telegrams were received from every fruit growing section of the country, and from these it is estimated that the apple crop this year will be the largest in the history of the United States exceeding that of 1895, when 60,000,000 barrels were gathered.

Attempt to Kill the Shah.

PARIS, Aug. 3.—Muzaffer-ed-din, shah of Persia, who has been a visitor to the exposition since Saturday as the guest of France, narrowly escaped an assassin's bullet yesterday. It had been arranged that he should visit Sevres and see the national pottery works, going afterward to Versailles, and it was just after he had left the "Sovereigns' palace on his way to the Seine to go on a yacht placed at his disposal for the trip that the attempt upon his life was made.

British War Bonds.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—Subscriptions will be taken in this country for a new issue of \$10,000,000 in 3 per cent. exchequer bonds, issued for the Bank of England. The bonds are to be for three years and will be issued at 98. Subscriptions are authorized to be taken in this country by J. P. Morgan & Co. and Baring, Magoun & Co. of New York, Kidder, Peabody & Co. of Boston and Drexel & Co. of Philadelphia.

To Search for the Pole.

BERLIN, Aug. 3.—Captain Bessel-dahl of the imperial navy will start for the north pole in a fortnight. He will sail directly into the pack ice regions north of Spitzbergen and then eastward to the open sea, when he believes that he can reach the pole. He will take three years' provisions.

New York Markets.

FLOUR—State and western held its own as to price, but was not active. Minnesota patents, 44.00; western, 43.00; 42.00; winter extras, 42.00; winter patents, 42.00. WHEAT—Firm and a little higher on foreign buying, liberal acceptances and strong English cables. September, 31.15; 31.10; December, 30.85. RYE—Dull, steady, 50.50; c. l. f. New York car lots; No. 2 western, 50.00; 1. 0. 3. 0. CORN—Strong and higher on absence of predicted rains in Kansas; September, 42.00; December, 39.50. SUGAR—Dull, but steady; track, white, state, 27.50; track, white, western, 27.00. PORK—Steady; mess, 112.75; 113.00; family, 114.00. LARD—Firm; prime western steam, 11.75. BUTTER—Steady; state dairy, 14.00; cream, 13.25. CHEESE—Firm; large white, 9.00; small white, 10.00. EGGS—Steady; state and Pennsylvania, 40.00; New York, 39.00. HAY—Dull, steady; fair, 4.00; 3.50; 3.00; 2.50; 2.00. WHEAT—Dull, steady; 4.50; 4.00; 3.50; 3.00; 2.50. RAY—Steady; shipping, 50.00; good to choice, 80.00.

KRUGER TO GIVE UP.

Ready to Surrender on Satisfactory Assurances.

THE ATTACK ON MINISTER STOWE.

Boer Leader Expressed Sorrow For the Act and Claimed It Was a Mistake—Lord Roberts Reports the Surrender of Harrismitth.

PRETORIA, Aug. 8.—It is stated positively that President Kruger is willing and anxious to surrender, provided a satisfactory promise is given as to his ultimate destination.

Additional details regarding the attack on the train bearing Mr. Stowe show that 27 bullets traversed his compartment. Mr. Sharp, an American accompanying Mr. Stowe, was shot through the foot. Theron, whom Mr. Stowe hastily sought expressed sorrow for the act, maintaining that it was due to a mistake. The Boers pushed Mr. Stowe's carriage back on the line.

Lord Roberts has forwarded to the war office the following report under date of Aug. 6:

"Harrismitth surrendered on Aug. 4. The neighboring country seems to be quiet. Kitchener is with the force south of the Vaal river. He was joined yesterday by a strong detachment of Brabant's horse and the Canadian regiment.

"The Boers attacked the garrison at Elands river on the morning of Aug. 4. Information was sent to Carrington, who was on his way to Elands river. Ian Hamilton, who reached Rustenburg yesterday, reported hearing heavy firing in the direction of Elands river. Today the firing seems more distant, which looks as if the Elands river garrison had been relieved and was retiring toward Zeerust."

DE WET SURROUNDED.

Boers in a Trap Near Heitersberg—Baden-Powell Wounded.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—A special dispatch from Pretoria, dated Saturday, says: "General Christian De Wet is completely surrounded near Heitersberg, and it is impossible for his forces to escape through the strong British cordon.

"The Boers say they will make a stand at Machadodorp. They are short of ammunition and food. General Hamilton by the rapidity of his movements prevents reinforcements reaching Commandant General Botha.

The Lourenco Marques correspondent of The Daily Express, writing Saturday, says:

"Transvaal advices declare that General Baden-Powell was wounded during a recent engagement at Rustenburg, when the Boers, according to their account, took some prisoners and captured 324 wagons."

Attack on Schreiner.

CAPE TOWN, Aug. 8.—The speech of ex-Attorney General Solomon in the Cape parliament, explaining his course during the war and his support of the measures proposed by the Sprigg ministry, is universally praised. Even the Ons Land, the Dutch newspaper, admits that he justified his attitude by being consistent throughout. The Ons Land has another attack on ex-Prime Minister Schreiner, who, it says, has betrayed himself and his party.

Raiding Boers Punished.

KROONSTADT, Aug. 8.—Commandant Theron, who commanded the Boer flying patrol that derailed and burned last week near Honigspruit the train carrying United States Consul Stowe and flying the stars and stripes, has suffered a loss of three killed and ten severely wounded in a rear guard action near Kroonstadt with the Malta mounted infantry. The British sustained no losses. Mr. Steyn is seriously ill.

Motor Boats on the Dead Sea.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—"The Dead sea, which for thousands of years has been a forsaken solitude in the midst of a desert, on whose waves no rudder has been seen for centuries," says United States Consul Winter, at Annaberg, in a letter to the state department, "is to have a line of motor boats in the future. Owing to the continued increase in traffic and the influx of tourists a shorter route is to be found between Jerusalem and Kerak, the ancient capital of the Land of Moab. The first steamer, built at 100 feet long and already has begun the voyage to Palestine. An order has been given for the building of a second steamer."

Towne Finally Declines.

DULUTH, Aug. 8.—In a letter to P. M. Ringdahl, chairman, and the members of the committee of notification of candidate for vice president of the People's party, Charles A. Towne has declined the nomination tendered him by the Populist national convention at Sioux Falls. The letter is of considerable length and sets forth fully Mr. Towne's views in regard to the nomination. It is believed the Populist committee empowered to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Towne's withdrawal will immediately endorse Adlai E. Stevenson for vice president on the ticket with William J. Bryan.

British War Loan Quickly Taken.

NEW YORK, Aug. 8.—The entire British war loan of \$50,000,000 could easily be obtained in America. It was authoritatively announced yesterday by J. P. Morgan & Co. and Baring, Magoun & Co. that subscriptions to the new British war loan of \$10,000,000 had been closed. Inquiry at those offices showed that before the subscriptions closed in London applications had already been received in America for more than the entire amount of the loan.

Poisoned His Father at Thirteen.

FRESNO, Cal., Aug. 6.—Fred Hines, 13 years old, has confessed that he poisoned his father, who is lying dangerously ill at the county hospital. The boy said that his father treated him cruelly and had refused to allow him to drive his team. He concluded to kill him. He and his younger brother bought the poison, which Fred put in his father's coffee.

Plague Appears in London.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—The marine hospital service has received the following telegram from Passed Assistant Surgeon Thomas announcing the outbreak of the bubonic plague in London: "There have been four cases of plague and two deaths from plague in London. Diagnosis confirmed by bacteriological examination. Do not think there will be further spread."

I. W. Hartman & Son. I. W. Hartman & Son.

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Where Do You Trade? Why Don't Your Friends Come, Too? DO YOU PATRONIZE THESE SALES? If Not, Why Not?

Special Sale at Special Low Prices. TWO DAYS ONLY, Thurs., Aug. 9, Fri., Aug. 10.

400 yards Plaid and Stripe White Goods. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 10 and 12c a yard to 7 1/2c a yard. 10 dozen black and colored ink. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 5 to 2c bottle. 5 dozen Ladies' Summer Corsets. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 29c to 25c. 200 yards Colored Taffeta Ribbon, 3 1/2 ins. wide. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 19c to 12 1/2c a yard. 20 gross Horn Hair Pins. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 5c to 3 1/2c a dozen. 600 yards Dress Ginghams, light and dark colors. Reduced for Thursday and Friday Sale from 8 and 9c, down to 49c.

If it's in Our Store, the Quality is Good, If You Buy it Here, the Price is Lowest.

I. W. HARTMAN & SON, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

SNAILS OVERRUN A CITY.

Inhabitants of Indiana Town Organize Night Hunts and Kill the Pests with Salt. A plague of snails, or slugs, as the afflicted people call them, lately struck Jeffersville, Ind., in full force, and instances are cited where persons have been compelled to move. Their first appearance was after the flood of February, 1884, but they have never been so bad as at present. The pests are not exactly like a snail, but resemble them in some respects. They have no shells and are night raiders, says the New York World.

At no place in the city where the flood water failed to reach has one of the slugs been seen, but in the most fashionable quarters the pests are numerous. In size they range from one to six inches in length, being from a quarter to an inch in diameter. It is not until ten o'clock at night that the snails come out of their hiding places, under houses, and slug hunting parties have become fashionable.

Armed with a lamp and a cup of salt, the people hunt for the pest, and when a slug is found its days are numbered, for the smallest particle of salt means death. The more salt the quicker the work.

They leave behind a slimy track, that furnishes a clew to their movements. In some places fine carpets have been ruined, the slimy trail eating like acid. One of the most peculiar characteristics of the slugs is their ability to get their large bodies through a small space. They flatten out almost as thin as a knife blade, allowing them to crawl through a good-sized door crack.

Not Particular. "My son, I know a girl who would be a good match for you! But what qualities would you require if you were going to marry?" "The girl must be pretty." "What else?" "She must be musical." "Is that all?" "Is that all? She must be rich!" "Then she'd be crazy if she married you!" "Oh, well, I don't object to her being crazy!"—Lustige Blaetter.

Left Them in Dreamland. "Oh, mamma!" exclaimed a bright little miss of three one morning, "I dreamed I had such a cute little pony and cart!" "And what did you do with them, dear?" asked her mother. "Oh," was the reply, "I left them in dreamland."

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership association, known as the Bloomsburg Store Company, "limited," was, by a vote of the majority, in number and value of interest, dissolved on the first day of August, 1900. All persons having claims against the said Store Company, "limited," will present the same to W. J. Hehl, at their office, 100 North Second Street, at the Court House, in Bloomsburg, Pa., on or before the 15th day of August, 1900, to perform the duties of his appointment, and when and where all parties interested in said estate must appear, or be forever debarred from coming in on said fund.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

ESTATE OF EDWARD W. STEADMAN, DECEASED. The undersigned auditor, appointed by the Orphans' Court of Columbia County, Pa., to pass upon the exceptions filed to the first and final account of Norman A. Hehl and I. K. Stewart, executors of the estate of Edward W. Steadman, deceased, and to distribute the balance of said estate in hands of said executors, do hereby certify that the said account is correct and that the said executors are entitled to the balance of said estate in hands of said executors, and that the said executors are entitled to the balance of said estate in hands of said executors, and that the said executors are entitled to the balance of said estate in hands of said executors.

SCROFULA

thin blood, weak lungs and paleness. You have them in hot weather as well as in cold. SCOTT'S EMULSION cures them in summer as in winter. It is creamy looking and pleasant tasting.