

GEN. ROBERTS FINDS BOERS ACTIVE.

SHARP FIGHTING.

Johannesburg is Resuming Business—One Hundred Boers Captured at Gold Reef City—Pretoria Not Yet Taken.

Dispatches were received Sunday from Gen. Roberts, dated at Orange Grove, as follows:

"Johannesburg is quiet. The people are surrendering arms and ponies. Only three Boer guns were left in the fort, the Queenslanders captured, May 30, a Cresson, with 11 wagons of stores and ammunition. Commandant Botha, of Zomspanberg, his field cornet and 100 prisoners, were taken in the fighting round Johannesburg, some belonging to the foreign contingents and the Irish brigade.

"Owing to the interruption of the telegraph lines, I only received a report from Col. Sprigg that his battalion of imperial yeomanry was attacked between Kromstad and Lindley, May 29. Casualties to follow. The shops in Johannesburg are being opened and there seems to be a general feeling of relief at the peaceful occupation of the town.

A dispatch from Wimberg, dated Thursday, says:

"After considerable fighting, the Boers, with two guns and several Maxim-Nordenfeld guns, are making a plucky stand eight miles east of Senekal. Gen. Ruddle has succeeded in driving off the federals, thus permitting the re-occupation of Lindley."

The Boers, according to a dispatch from Lourenço Marques, have re-entered the northeastern territory of the Free State and are engaged with the British near Ventersburg and Harris-smith.

Lady Georgiana Curzon has cabled £17,000 to provide comforts and luxuries at Mafeking.

ANNEXED THE FREE STATE.

The Ceremony Performed in Bloemfontein, the Former Capital, on Tuesday.

Amid salutes and cheers and the singing of "God Save the Queen," the military governor, Maj. Gen. George Pret-tyman, formally proclaimed the annexation of the Free State under the designation of the Orange River colony. The ceremony was somewhat imposing and the scene in the Market square inspiring. An immense concourse had gathered and the town was gay with bunting. The balconies and windows surrounding the square were crowded with women, among them Lady Roberts and the Misses Roberts, the Countess of Airlie and Ladies Henry Ben-ck and Settrington. The troops were drawn up under command of Gen. Knox. The governor, accompanied by Gen. Kelly-Kenny and their staffs, escorted by the Welsh yeomanry, was greeted with a general salute, after which Gen. Prettyman read Lord Roberts' proclamation annexing the Orange Free State as conquered by her majesty's forces, to the queen's domains and proclaiming that the state shall henceforth be known as the Orange River colony. Lusty cheers greeted the concluding words of the proclamation and these were renewed with ever-increasing volume as Lord Acheson unfurled the royal standard and the bands struck up "God Save the Queen"; all present joining in singing the national hymn.

Largest of All Wheat Crops.

The farmers of Kansas will begin next week to harvest the largest wheat crop in the history of the State. Secretary Coburn, of the State board of agriculture, says:

"The crops this year will be the largest ever known. In 1892 Kansas had 3,860,000 bushels, an average of 18 bushels to the acre. This year the winter wheat acreage is 4,685,819, as estimated by the growers, and the average yield will be larger than that of 1892.

"If the yield per acre is the same as in 1892, the aggregate yield will be 85,000,000 bushels. The crop in general was never in better condition."

Three Stages Held Up.

A dispatch from Raymond, Cal., gives an account of a bold holdup of three Yosemite stages near there Saturday. The highway was robbed of the passengers of about \$400. The bandits were unaware of the fact that troops of the Sixth cavalry were enroute to Yosemite following one hour behind the stages.

A sergeant and one trooper, who had been sent ahead to select camping sites, showed fight, whereupon the bandits took possession of their rifles and held them prisoners until after they had robbed the stages. They then mounted their horses and fled. As soon as the cavalry came along they were notified and they started in pursuit of the robbers, who, if captured, may be severely dealt with.

MORE DEFEATS OF REBELS.

American Scouts Killed Seventeen and Captured Twenty-Three.

Lieut. Jons E. Stedje, of Company L, Forty-seventh volunteers, commanding a scouting party, in the southern part of Albany province, had several engagements with the insurgents, in which 17 of the enemy were killed and 23, including a captain, were captured. Six explosive bombs and a number of valuable insurgent documents fell into the hands of the Americans. The scouts burned the town of Yubi, headquarters of the rebels. Sergt. Brickley was killed during a slight engagement near Higno, province of Albany. Scouts of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-fourth regiments have captured 34 rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition in Pangasinan province.

Boers Invited to Colorado.

Gov. Thomas has given his indorsement to a gigantic proposition, having for its object the bringing of the defeated Boers to the valley of the Platte, in Colorado. The Union Pacific Land Company proposes to give 1,000,000 acres of land to be taken up under the Carey land act, on the Julesburg and Wyoming divisions. There is to be no charge for the gift, and the company will undertake to transport the Boers to Colorado, being repaid on the instalment plan after the communities are established and prosperous.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Near Reading, Pa., Obadiah Clark, a farmer, was killed by a bolt of lightning. Three new cases of the plague and one death were reported at Port Said, Egypt.

Companies A and K of the Seventh infantry, sailed from Seattle for Cape Nome.

An agitation has been started in Switzerland for annexation to the United States.

Fire in the Pitts-Kimball department store in Boston caused a loss of about \$250,000.

At Richmond, Va., Rev. Benjamin J. Kelly was consecrated Catholic Bishop of Savannah.

James Cunyard fell from a bridge at Wilkesbarre while witnessing a ball game, and was killed.

Forest fires in the Rainy river district of Canada have destroyed millions of dollars worth of lumber.

The Chicago India famine relief committee has cabled \$2,000 to Lady Curzon for the famine district.

Immigration officers at Tacoma rejected 30 out of 353 Japanese, who arrived on the steamer Glenogle.

Three sailors were killed by lightning while working in the cabin of a new boat at St. Clair, Mich.

Charles A. Nanty, aged 21, of Newark, N. J., deliberately shot his step-mother in the back of the head.

Cholera is raging in the famine camps in Bombay, India. In one district there were 1,330 deaths in seven days.

The Senate has decided to take up the Cuban extradition bill as soon as the general deficiency bill is passed.

The mills of the Republic Iron and Steel Company, at Springfield, Ill., closed Thursday for an indefinite period.

Heavy rains in Texas have caused rivers to overflow and the cotton and grain crops have been seriously hurt.

A fresh outbreak of bubonic plague has occurred at Alexandria, Egypt. The disease has appeared at Smyrna, Turkey.

Burglars blew to pieces the vault of the Bank of New Lisbon, Wis., and escaped with several thousand dollars in cash.

Warner Miller and John Mackay have bought for \$1,500,000 the Congress gold mine, 60 miles north of Phoenix, Ariz.

The next triennial meeting of the Pan-American Medical Congress will be held in Havana, beginning Dec. 26, 1900.

The Christian Church, which will educate women for pastoral work, will establish a school for pastoral helpers at Cincinnati.

Latest reports show the condition of William Rockefeller to be materially improved from the appendicitis operation of Monday.

On July 9 the people of Connellville, Pa., will vote on a proposition to bond the town for \$75,000 to construct a sewerage system.

The Suffolk county Democratic convention in New York State refused to elect Perry Belmont a delegate to the State convention.

By an explosion of dynamite in the house of William Brochm, at Forest Junction, Wis., the six members of the family were killed.

The new Northwestern elevated road, which is to provide rapid transit for the northside of Chicago, has been formally opened to the public.

At the beginning of the second month of the term of State Treasurer Barnett the cash of the State of Pennsylvania amounted to \$4,728,865.69.

Julian B. Arnold, son of Sir Edwin Arnold, has decided to fight against extradition from California to England on a charge of embezzlement.

Masked robbers bound and gagged the Shelly family at Grantham, near Harrisburg, Pa., Thursday night and took all their money and valuables.

In opening the Chilean Congress the president announced a financial surplus of \$16,000,000 and said new railroads and other public works will be pushed.

The survivors of the First Pennsylvania cavalry will hold a reunion at the monument of the regiment on the Gettysburg battlefield on June 6, at 4 p. m.

The Eastman kodak works, near Rochester, N. Y., were badly injured Friday by an explosion of chemicals. Foreman Tracy was killed and several were hurt.

At the annual meeting of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, in New York, the profits of 1899 were reported as \$830,000. The directors were re-elected.

Two girls at the Washington (Pa.) seminary were sent home by the principal because they ran away to attend a dance with two students of W. & J. college.

Queen Wilhelmina has ratified the Hague peace convention. Spain has done likewise, and the admission of Germany and Great Britain is expected immediately.

The ninety-second anniversary of the birth of Jefferson Davis was celebrated in Louisville, as the closing exercises to the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

The imperial authorities have submitted to the Canadian government the name of Colonel O'Grady Haley as major general commanding the Dominion militia.

The capital of the Times Company, publishers of the Philadelphia Times, has been increased from \$100,000 to \$700,000, under the leadership of Charles F. Kindred.

Maurice Brown, colored, of Hubbard, O., who shot Alice Newman, was acquitted under an indictment for shooting with intent to kill. Brown claimed the shooting was accidental.

Under an order of the United States district court the plant of the Herring-Hall-Martin safe works, at Cincinnati, was sold to the reorganization committee of the company for \$100,000.

Columbian University, at Washington, has conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Naval Commander Richard Wainwright.

Justice Gaylor, of Brooklyn, denied the application of William F. Miller, of Franklin syndicate fame, for a rehearing, and Miller was taken to Sing Sing prison Saturday to begin his sentence of 10 years.

The Daughters of the American Revolution have sent rival representatives to the unveiling of the Lafayette monument in France, and both demand the privilege of reading an ode or putting a slab on the monument.

BOERS WOULD FIND WELCOME HERE.

DESIRABLE SETTLERS.

Resolution Presented in the House for a General Invitation on Behalf of the Nation. An Admirable Proposal.

Representative Fitzgerald, of Massachusetts, offered in the House Saturday a resolution inviting the Boers to come to this country. It recites that it is the chief glory of the Republic that it has always offered a refuge for the oppressed, and that there are millions of acres of the public domain of the United States open to settlement under the homestead act, and then extends a cordial welcome to the inhabitants of the two South African Republics to come to the United States, become citizens thereof and establish homes. The resolution directs the President to communicate the invitation to the presidents of the South African Republic and the Orange Free State.

Commissioner Bingham Hermann, of the United States general land office, gave out the following statement after the reading of the resolution to invite the Boers to locate on vacant public lands in the United States:

"The suggestion is an admirable one. The Boers are a patient and plodding people, and perhaps have accomplished more in bringing sterile soil under cultivation and in use than any other people of whom history makes a record. One-half the effort put forth by the Boers in the forbidding country of the Transvaal will produce a hundredfold more results on the public domain of the United States, where both climate and soil are far more conducive to good results in an effort at reclamation.

"In my judgment any community of the great West would esteem it a valuable acquisition if any considerable body of Boers should settle among them with a bona fide intention of making future homes."

BENCH WARRANT FOR TAYLOR.

Recent Republican Governor Accused of Goebel Murder—Sheriff in a Quandry.

The issuance of a bench warrant for the arrest of W. S. Taylor, former governor of Kentucky, was the first official notice that an indictment had been returned naming Taylor as an accessory to the murder of Goebel.

The indictment was filed and entered on record April 19. It accuses Taylor of being accessory before the fact. It charges that Taylor, on January 30, 1900, "unlawfully, wilfully and feloniously, and with intent to procure the murder of William Goebel, did conspire with Caleb Powers, F. W. Golden, John L. Powers, John Davis, Henry Youtsey, Charles Finley, W. H. Culton, and others, and did counsel, advise, encourage, aid and procure Henry Youtsey, James Howard, Berry Howard, Harlan Whittaker, Richard Combs and other persons to kill William Goebel."

The bench warrant commands the sheriff or other arresting officer to arrest William S. Taylor and deliver him to the jailer of Franklin county. On the back of the indictment about 50 persons are named as witnesses for the Commonwealth. The bench warrant was placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff John Suter. When asked what he would do with the warrant he said:

"What can I do with it? I would serve it if I could do it, and if Governor Mount, of Indiana, would help me, but from all accounts I guess he would not do it."

WAR'S BITTER COST.

Reitz Declares Britain Will Have to Tax the Gold Mines.

Telegrams from London quote State Secretary Reitz as follows: "The British government promised the British nation that the cost of war would be defrayed by the Boers. But as the latter will not be in a position to pay Great Britain must obtain the money from the gold mines, which will thereby be mulcted of half the net profits, whereas the Transvaal never levied a special tax on gold."

"The instigators of the war, Rhodes, Wernher, Beit and others, will suffer most. In addition the British will have to maintain a garrison of 50,000 men, the cost of which the mines will also have to pay. As soon as the British forces are withdrawn wars and rebellions will break out, not for years, but for centuries. For England this means a constant source of trouble, annoyance and bloodshed."

Rebels Near Panama.

Telegrams from Kingston, Jamaica, say: The steamer Orinoco, which arrived Sunday from Colombia, reports that on May 31, the rebels were within six miles of Panama. The government troops had prepared for action; the British consul and others had left with their families for Tobago for safety and all the Colombian soldiers had left Colon to strengthen the Panama garrison. The United States warship, Machias, was at Colon under orders to land marines if the city were threatened by the rebels. The Orinoco brings also a report that a Colombian gunboat, the Cordova, was sunk by the rebels between Carthagena and Colon.

Carthagena and Savanilla are quiet, but the country is flooded with paper money, the premium on gold being 1600 per cent.

May Lose Convention.

As the time of the convention draws near Senator Jones, chairman of the Democratic National committee, is receiving a number of vigorous complaints from the members of the National committee and other Democrats throughout the country, over the action of the hotel people in Kansas City in the matter of rates.

Many of the committeemen who write to Chairman Jones on this subject are urgently requesting that a meeting of the committee be called with a view to reconsidering its action in deciding to hold the convention in that city and to change the location of the convention from Kansas City to some other more desirable and attractive place. No action has yet been taken in the matter by Chairman Jones, though he has it under serious consideration.

The Palisades paper mills, at Hoboken, N. J., were burned Wednesday night, the loss being \$100,000.

VICTIMS ALL FARMERS.

Prominent Citizens of Washington County, Ohio, Mangled While Witnessing the Shooting of an Oil Well.

Four men were killed, four fatally injured and three crippled for life Wednesday night at Whipple, a short distance east of Marietta, O., by a premature explosion of 50 quarts of nitroglycerin, which was being used in shooting an oil well on the Kelly farm.

The well was being shot by the Humes Torpedo Company, which had lowered 50 quarts of nitroglycerin into the drilling. When the "go-devil" was sent down it did not go off, as expected, and then what is known as a "jack squib," composed of heavy iron and dynamite, with a protected fuse, was dropped into the well. It was expected that when they came together there would be the usual blast that would shoot the well, but it seems that the "jack squib" exploded first and then the crowd rushed to see the shooting of the gusher.

When the crowd arrived at the derrick, the first charge that was put down went off with terrific force, wrecking everything and blowing the men in every direction. The remains of two of these had to be picked up in pieces, and those who were fatally injured are mangled in a horrible manner.

The employees of the driller and the Marietta Glycerin Company remained at a safe distance from force of habit for some time, although they had no expectation of another explosion. None of them were hurt. They begged the others in vain not to rush up to the derrick.

All of the victims are well known residents, and the calamity has spread distress throughout the neighborhood.

Every means of relief, so far as nurses and physicians and supplies are concerned, have been furnished from Marietta and neighboring points, but nothing can prevent the death list from being less than eight killed, while the extent of the injuries of John and Henry Stallar and Walter Daniels are not yet known.

NATIONAL DEBT DECREASING.

Redemption of Bonds Reduced It Over Two Millions in May.

The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business, May 31, 1900, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$1,122,668,811, a decrease for the month of \$2,193,274, which is accounted for by the redemption of bonds.

The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest-bearing debt, \$1,026,482,990; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, \$1,181,880; debt bearing no interest, \$390,772,470. Total, \$1,418,355,340. This amount, however, does not include \$729,584,179 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash on hand.

The cash in the treasury is classified as follows: Reserve fund, gold coin and bullion, \$150,000,000; trust funds, gold, silver and United States notes, \$729,584,179; general fund, \$113,355,229; in national bank depositories, to credit of United States treasurer, \$105,226,525; to credit of disbursing officer, \$6,095,892; total, \$1,104,261,826, against which there are demand liabilities outstanding amounting to \$808,478,296, which leaves a net cash balance in the treasury of \$295,783,530.

The monthly comparative statement of the receipts and expenditures of the United States shows that during May, 1900, the receipts aggregated \$45,166,053, and the expenditures \$40,351,255, leaving a surplus for the month of \$4,814,798. The receipts from the several sources of revenue are given as follows: Customs, \$17,396,573, decrease as compared with May, 1899, \$1,000,000; internal revenue, \$23,861,226, increase, \$140,000; miscellaneous, \$3,908,153, increase, \$1,200,000.

During the last eleven months of the fiscal year the receipts exceeded the expenditures by \$63,335,000. One year ago there was a deficit for the eleven months of the fiscal year of \$104,620,000.

Postoffice Safe Blown Up.

A daring postoffice robbery was perpetrated at New Cumberland, W. Va., early Wednesday morning. The safe was completely wrecked by dynamite and the robbers secured \$812 in cash and stamps, of which \$150 belonged to Postmaster J. B. Campbell. The neighboring people paid little attention to the explosion, thinking that the boys were having their annual Decoration day celebration. The robbery was well planned and no clue was left.

SURPRISED WHILE LUNCHING.

How Capt. Roberts Was Caught by Filipinos. Is Well Treated.

Capt. Roberts, of the Thirty-fifth regiment, and his two missing companions, captured at San Miguel de Mayumo, province of Bulacan, island of Luzon, May 29, are still in the hands of the rebels, who have communicated to the Americans their intention to treat the prisoners well and in accordance with the laws of war. During Thursday night Capt. Roberts' wife, who was at San Miguel de Mayumo, received a note announcing the capture of her husband. The good treatment of the prisoners continued, and Capt. Roberts believes the rebels will exchange him and his companions.

The first report of the capture of Capt. Roberts and his companions was erroneous. The captain, with six scouts, was surprised while lunching. Three of the party were killed and four were captured, of whom one was wounded. The wounded man was liberated.

Capt. Abbott, of the Forty-second regiment, recently met 250 Ladrones and the Filipinos had eight men killed and four wounded.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The President Friday commuted to ten years the life sentence of Jefferson Harrison, of Alabama, who robbed a mail car.

Ex-Senator Camden, of West Virginia, again vigorously denies that he will become a candidate for United States senator, or that he will re-enter politics at all.

As a substitute for the House extradition bill to fit the Neely case Senator Fairbanks reported a bill which calls for extradition for any offense against the criminal laws of Cuba.

CHIEF AGUINALDO PERHAPS DEAD.

HORSE CAPTURED.

American Bullets Struck a Prominent Filipino Officer—The Man Had Aguinaldo's Private Papers and Diary.

Maj. March, with his detachment of the Thirty-third regiment, overtook what is believed to have been Aguinaldo's party on May 19, at Lagat, about 10 miles northeast of Vigan. The Americans killed or wounded an officer, supposed to be Aguinaldo, whose body was removed by his followers.

Toward evening on May 19, Maj. March struck Aguinaldo's outpost about a mile outside of Lagat, killing four Filipinos and capturing two. From the latter he learned that Aguinaldo had camped there for the night.

Although exhausted and half starved, Maj. March's men entered Lagat on the run. They saw the insurgents scattering into the bushes or over the plateau. A thousand yards beyond the town on the mountainside the figures of 25 Filipinos, dressed in white, with their leader on a gray horse, were silhouetted against the sunset. The Americans fired a volley and saw the officer drop from his horse. His followers fled, carrying the body.

The Americans, on reaching the spot, caught the horse, which was richly saddled. Blood from a badly wounded man was on the animal and on the ground. The saddle bags contained Aguinaldo's diary and some private papers, including proclamations. One of these was addressed: "To the Civilized Nations." It protested against the American occupation of the Philippines. There were also found copies of Senator Beveridge's speech, translated into Spanish and entitled "The Death Knell of the Filipino People."

The officer shot was either Aguinaldo or his adjutant, and as the horse was richly caparisoned it is a fair presumption that it was Aguinaldo.

DO NOT LIKE THE JOB.

St. Louis Having Difficulty in Securing Deputies to Preserve Order.

An interesting feature of the present street car strike at St. Louis, Mo., is the order of the sheriff to swear in 1,000 special deputies, and the instructions ordering the swearing in of 100 additional men, making 2,500 in all, for the purpose of preserving peace and order.

To a certain extent, these orders have created consternation among men in all walks of life, as is evidenced by Sheriff Pohlman's statement that an epidemic of sickness has suddenly broken out in the city, since the draft for the posse began. Nearly every man of any position, the sheriff says, who has been summoned to serve in the posse, is scurrying about to get a physician's certificate that he is suffering from some chronic disease which unfits him for duty.

Many of those who remonstrated with the sheriff were veterans of several wars. They complained that they had already served their country and thought it an imposition to place them in the posse.

The police board has decided to arm the posse with riot guns. The weapon is a short barreled repeating shotgun about three and one-half feet long. The magazine has a capacity for six shells which may be loaded with buckshot or small shot. A conference was held Thursday between President Hawes, of the police board, former Governor William E. Stone, and Attorney General Crow to devise if possible some plan to settle the St. Louis strike before the situation became more critical. Nothing was accomplished, however.

Took Aguinaldo's Friend.

The following dispatch was received Thursday from Gen. MacArthur at Manila:

"Small surrenders continue in the department of northern Luzon. Corino, fugitive governor of Benguet, a rich and active friend of Aguinaldo, was captured Wednesday near Kabayan; important. While scouting near San Miguel de Mayumo, Luzon, May 29, Capt. Charles D. Roberts and Privates John A. McIntyre and Lyel A. Akens were captured; Sergt. John Gallen; Privates Joseph McCourt and John A. Green, killed; George Kinger wounded thigh. All of Company I, Thirty-fifth regiment."

A number of rifles have been surrendered at Cuyapo and more are expected. Gens. Grant and Funston have sent detachments in pursuit of the insurgents who rushed the town of San Miguel de Mayumo.

Fatally Tortured by Robbers.

James Finnegan, an aged and eccentric hermit living in an isolated spot in Northern Perry county, Tuesday night, was fatally tortured by masked robbers. That night a band of marauders tortured him unmercifully, heating a fire shovel red hot, burning his cheeks and other portions of his body and then assaulting him with a bludgeon, cutting his head frightfully, in an attempt to secure a large amount of money he was supposed to have in the house.

Bank Boldly Blown Up.

The savings bank at Sholdahl, 20 miles north of Des Moines, Ia., was blown up by four robbers Friday night. They secured \$1,600 and escaped after holding 50 citizens at bay with rifles while they looted the wrecked vaults. The explosion shook the town and almost tore the bank building to pieces. About 50 people rushed to the scene, unarmed.

Two of the robbers with rifles kept the crowd back until all the money in sight had been secured. Then the gang backed off into the darkness and escaped.

Shot Daughter's Sutor.

Charles Stevens, 24 years old, was fatally shot by William Moorman, aged 49, at Barton, Ind. The cause of the shooting was a feud of several years' standing brought about by the attentions of Stevens to Moorman's daughter against the father's wishes. Moorman ordered the young man from his premises several times.

INSURGENTS ACTIVE.

Marines of Seven Nations Were Landed at Tien Tsin—Besieged Missionaries Reported Safe.

Telegrams from Tien Tsin, China, dated Thursday, say: Heavy fighting has taken place between the imperial troops and the Boxers at Lai-Shin-Hi-Sien, but the result is not known. Railway traffic with Peking has been resumed. The foreign settlement is sufficiently protected by the American and Japanese troops, which have been landed, consequently the excitement has abated. The Chinese refuse to allow the Russian troops to pass the Taku forts.

The Chinese government issued an edict prohibiting the Boxers organization under penalty of death. The edict, which was signed by the emperor, was couched in equivocal terms and promulgated really more as an excuse than in condemnation of the movement.

American, British, Japanese, German, Italian, Russian and French marines, to the number of 120 each, have been ordered to guard their respective legations at Peking, but the viceroy will not allow them to proceed hence to Peking on the railway without the authority of the Chinese foreign office. One hundred and eight Americans, with a machine gun and a field gun, landed Tuesday night amidst great enthusiasm on the part of the residents.

Three thousand Chinese troops from Lu Tai are expected, en route to Fang Tai. There is a disposition to believe that the Boxers will disperse before the foreign troops are ready to act. Tien Tsin is in no danger.

The foreign men-of-war have arrived five Russian warships and two Russian gunboats; one French warship; two British warships, and one Italian warship. They are all landing men.

The rescue party of Freshmen and Germans returned from Chang-Hien-Tien. They confirm the report that the besieged Belgians are now safe at Peking. They found several thousand Boxers about the ruins of Lu-Kow-Chiao and Chang Hsin Tien stations. The bridges have been damaged and the rolling stock destroyed. At both places the damage done is considerably greater than at Fang-Tai.

A COOK'S DEADLY SCHEME.

Baited Provisions With Poison—Twelve Bofies Discovered as a Result.

Harburger & Matson have the contract for building a section of the new Paint Creek Railroad through the wild country 40 miles southeast of Montgomery, W. Va. Near the center of the works, a big storehouse was occupied for keeping the provender. The storehouse was robbed one day while the men were at work. This was repeated several times and the manager in charge saw that he must either put a watchman on both day and night or have his stores exhausted before the work was completed.

A brilliant idea struck the negro cook. Without saying anything to the employer he placed a couple of boxes of rat poison on a lot of meat and mixed it well into a couple of bags of flour and placed them near the door from which the marauders had previously taken their plunder. Within a few days the storehouse was robbed again and the cook told the foreman the robbers had got the poisoned meat and flour. The foreman sent a party of searchers into the surrounding country to find the poisoned stuff, but was unsuccessful.

A mountain hunter named Addison was attracted last week by a flock of buzzards, and went to the spot over which they circled. He found four dead men lying on the ground. Inside a cave nearby he found eight more and a lot of flour, bacon and other provender. The 12 men were all members of one family, brothers and cousins. As yet the officers have taken no hand in the matter. They had been dead several days when discovered.

Epidemic of Black Cancer.

An epidemic of black cancer rash prevails at West Derby, a suburb of Newport, Vt. Three deaths have occurred within a week, and in each instance the victim had been ill but two days when fatal symptoms appeared. They had to be buried immediately.

About 50 houses have been quarantined, the schools have been closed and everything possible is being done to prevent further spread of the plague.

RUSSIA MENACES CHINA.

Has 1