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FREELAND, PA., JULY 23, 1900.

Let the Owls Blink.

A Russian cruiser has been built in Cramps' shipyard, but has not been formally accepted by Russia. It is rumored that Russia has declared or is about to declare war against China. By a diplomatic fiction the United States and China, whose soldiers are killing each other diligently in China, are not at war, but are on terms of the most cordial friendliness.

Russia needs and probably intends to use the new cruiser in protecting American as well as her own interests in Chinese ports, yet some able sea lawyer, having nothing rational to occupy his mind, raises the point that the Variag may be contraband of war and that it would be an unfriendly act to permit Russia to take her from an American port for use against our amiable friends, the Boxers, the regularly enlisted murderers of China.

We are told that "diplomatic circles in Washington are gravely speculating over the outcome of this curious situation." So long as the diplomatic owls confine their activities in the matter to "grave speculation" and solemn blinking, no harm will be done, but if they go further and attempt to hinder the Russians in taking the Variag away it is to be hoped that the officials of the American government may have sufficient common sense to twist their necks, figuratively, and stop their hooting.

There is no time for pettifoggery with international law or getting into a tangle of technicalities with our friends for the sake of "courtesy" to the general enemy. In times past if Russia "gravely speculated" over the outcome of certain peculiar situations instead of sending her warships to American ports as a hint to England to keep her nose out of other people's affairs, there might have been today no United States.

It is neither necessary nor honest to do any diplomatic dodging to permit Russia to take the Variag whenever she wants to. A fig for our "friendly relations" with the lunatic government of China. If China has the impudence to invoke the international law that she herself is violating outrageously every hour and the audacity to protest against the sailing of the Variag under the Russian flag, disdainful silence should be her answer.—Phila. North American.

Popularity of Athletics.

It is an interesting evidence of the enduring popularity and importance of athletics, says an exchange, that the ancient Olympic games which delighted the Greeks should find their counterpart now in the international athletic which began in Paris recently and are still progressing. The competitors come from all parts of the world, and so the world at large is watching the outcome.

In the end the performances of the modern young men in Paris will not be much unlike those of the ancient athletes. Strength, wind and endurance, unaided by any device of modern invention, must determine the result, as they did in the original Olympic games. It would be highly interesting, if possible, to secure figures at this time showing how the athletes in Paris would compare with those of ancient Greece.

Up to date the Americans have won nearly three-fourths of the prizes, showing the best results of outdoor sports and training in the gymnasium. Truly, we can afford to be considered a money-making people if we are also a nation of athletes.

TROOPS GETTING READY

Stirring Times on Governors Island.

FIFTEENTH ABOUT TO START.

Gallant Marines Also Leave For the Front—New York Scene of Military Activity Recalling Spanish War Times—Eight Back From Cuba.

New York, July 23.—Within the last day or two movements have been set on foot here that will result in the almost immediate dispatch of several thousand troops to China, while New York has been made the rendezvous of several regiments that are in the main to take the place of troops being dispatched from various forts in the United States to China.

Two companies, E and F, of the Eighth United States regulars, which arrived from Cuba, started by rail yesterday for Fort Snelling, Minn. They comprised 240 men. They also started at the same time 130 marines, bound for the orient. Tomorrow eight companies of the Fifteenth regiment, United States infantry, which has been stationed for several months at Governor Island, will start for San Francisco, to sail from there Aug. 1 for Manila and thence to China.

The remaining companies of the Eighth regiment were delayed by a storm off Cape Hatteras and are expected to arrive here this morning and will immediately follow their comrades to Fort Snelling.

Governors Island yesterday looked like the advanced post of an army on the march. Everything was on the qui vive. The troops, smart in their new khaki uniforms and in colored shoes, were straggling about the grounds saying farewells to the girls they will soon leave behind them, chatting with friends and relatives about their departure or packing up the equipment of the regiment and furnishing up their bayonets and guns.

The men seemed more alert than they have been for months. There was an air of expectancy about them as if they were eager to be on the way to the new fighting ground of the world's armies.

Warlike Scenes.
Soldiers were to be seen at every turn. They gathered in little groups on the Battery, stood around the dock on Governors Island, passed back and forth on the General Hancock, making that craft look like an army transport, and several hundred swarmed about the masts of the Fifteenth regiment, packing up their tent equipments and helping get together the general baggage of the regiment.

All the soldiers seemed to be in fine condition and exhilarated by the prospect of soon having a chance in the field. They were bitterly disappointed they said yesterday, because they were not sent to Cuba until after the fighting was over. The regiment, as an organization, has not yet seen service in the field, although some of its members are re-enlisted men who have seen fighting in Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines or in the west. The majority, however, is composed of recruits, whose nearest approach to a battlefield was when they went into the province of Puerto Principe, Cuba, last December to garrison it.

Some of them were asked yesterday if they did not feel a trifle nervous about going to China after the terrible experience of the Ninth regiment before Tientsin.

"Not a bit," said a sergeant. "The more we hear about the trouble the Ninth had with the 'Chinks,' the more anxious we are to get over there and take a hand in it. We don't feel revengeful or anything like that, but we feel that we should like to be there and do some of the fighting."

Colonel Moale, who commands the Fifteenth, is already on his way to China, having sailed from San Francisco a week ago. He will probably rejoin his regiment at Nagasaki or Tientsin. Lieutenant Colonel Constant Williams is now the senior officer with the regiment and will command it until Colonel Moale joins it. The next in command now is Major George A. Cornish.

To Start Tomorrow.
Three companies, commanded by Captains Cook, Mitchell and Paxton, that are now acting as garrison at the island will start for San Francisco at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning. A fourth company, under Captain Cotter, which has been stationed at Fort McPherson, Atlanta, will join these on the way to the Pacific. Other companies will be picked up or will assemble here before the Governors Island battalion starts and thus make up eight companies and more than 1,000 men before the regiment reaches San Francisco.

Colonel Williams said yesterday that his men were in excellent condition, finely equipped in every way and all eager for fight. He said that few had deserted within the last month, but they were men the regiment could well spare, and he would rather have them leave now than wait until the regiment gets to China.

The regiment has been ordered to sail for Manila, the present base of supplies of the American army in the east. This has caused some alarm in the breasts of the soldiers lest they be intended for service in the Philippines, but it is understood by the officers that they will be hurried right through to Nagasaki, which the nikado has offered as a base for the United States troops, and thence to Tientsin.

A battery from Fort Wadsworth will relieve the Fifteenth temporarily at Governors Island today. As soon as the Eleventh regiment reaches here from Porto Rico it will be stationed at the island and at other posts now occupied by the Fifteenth.

In heavy marching order and looking spruce in their uniforms of blue, 130 marines, under command of Major Randolph Dickens, left Washington yesterday afternoon over the Chesapeake and Ohio railway for San Francisco, whence they will sail for China on an army transport.

Marines Start From Washington.
Washington, July 23.—Five hundred marines, under command of Major Randolph Dickens, left Washington yesterday afternoon over the Chesapeake and Ohio railway for San Francisco, whence they will sail for China on an army transport.

FOR CONGER'S RELEASE

Rumored Demand on Mr. Wu by Secretary Hay.

AMERICA ASKED TO MEDIATE.

Formal Request From Emperor For President to Use His Good Offices With Powers For Restoration of Order Received at Washington.

Washington, July 23.—With the exception of the brief dispatch from Admiral Kempff announcing that the Newbergs were going to Nagasaki there has been nothing received in Washington from the state or navy department regarding China. This is also true of the Chinese legation, Minister Wu saying after dinner last night that he had not a word from his country. The latter continues extremely optimistic of the safety of the legations in Peking and hopes that the dispatch from Minister Conger received here Friday is but the precursor of more detailed information of a still brighter character from the Chinese capital.

Many of his callers inquired of him about the report that China had asked the United States government to exercise its good offices for his country in the present crisis, but he declined positively to make any statement on the subject.

At the Japanese legation, which has been a source of much of the news which has recently come from China, the officials also were without advice. Nothing has been heard at the legation of the report published in the American newspapers that the Japanese government is about to dispatch a second division of troops from Yokohama for Chinese territory.

When Secretary Hay received the Conger dispatch on Friday, he promptly telegraphed the fact to our ambassadors and ministers abroad, coupling it with instructions to lay it before the respective governments to which they are accredited and to urge upon them the necessity for co-operation for the relief of the foreigners in Peking. Several replies have been received at the state department in response to the secretary's dispatch, but they are withheld from publication for the present. The officials here will abate none of the efforts now making to obtain more definite news and to push forward the relief column on its way to the Chinese capital.

Up to a late hour last night nothing had been heard from Major General Chaffee, who is to command the American forces in China and whose arrival at Nagasaki is hourly expected.

Conger's Release Demanded.
A rumor obtained circulation late last night that Secretary Hay had notified Minister Wu that his government, in view of the assurances received from the Chinese authorities of the safety of our legation in Peking, would expect the Chinese government to deliver Mr. Conger and his staff safe into the hands of Admiral Remy within a period limited to the time necessary for the journey from the capital to the seaboard.

Mr. Hay's argument, according to the story in circulation, was that the Chinese government could give no better evidence of its good intentions, which the secretary impressed upon Mr. Wu, had not been questioned by the state department, than by the speedy establishment of the good offices which it had asked for from the United States.

At the hour at which the report obtained circulation it was impossible either to ascertain the source from which it had sprung or control its accuracy. In one quarter where inquiries were made it was stated that Minister Wu was himself the originator of the plan to convey Minister Conger, his family and the staff of the legation to the coast.

The report published yesterday that an appeal had been received by the United States government from China is confirmed by dispatches from both Washington and Canton, where President McKinley is stopping.

What exactly is the character of the message is not definitely known. Washington reports that the Chinese government has appealed to the United States "to mediate with the other powers to bring about the restoration of order and the removal of regular diplomatic relations." Secretary Hay, however, has given out no information on the subject. A telegram from Canton states that the appeal was made to the president personally.

No reply has yet been made, but pursuant to its policy of acting upon the ground that the Chinese government has been safe, Yuan Shi Kai, according to one dispatch, now declares that "the authorities are devising means for the rescue and protection of the legations."

Other advices represented the same official as wiring the British consul at Chifu that the legations had been attacked, but were safe on July 11.

Assurances of the safety of the foreign envoys were also given in London by attaches of the Chinese legation there. Sir Hildyard Macartney even went to the length of declaring that a message might be expected at any moment from Sir Claude Macdonald and other ministers in Peking—that, in a word, the cipher dispatch from Mr. Conger was the first of a series. A similar communication was made to the French government.

In this connection it is to be noted that a Shanghai correspondent, in a special dispatch published in this morning's Herald, puts the date at which Mr. Conger's message was written as June 30. Washington officials, on the other hand, still maintain that the message was entirely reliable and left Peking on July 18.

The story that the dowager empress is removing the court to Hsien-fu, far away in the interior, is revived with much circumstantial detail.

A provisional government has been established at Tientsin and a proclamation issued by the allies that they are not warring on China. A full list of the American casualties at Tientsin is published this morning.

TOWNE WON'T WITHDRAW.

Populists to Keep Him on Their Ticket With Bryan.

Lincoln, Neb., July 23.—The Populists say that Towne will not withdraw as the vice presidential candidate of that party.

The official announcement has not yet been made, but it probably will be as soon as the national committee meets, some time during the week. When Towne left here ten days ago, he was very frank in his statement that he did not wish to remain as a candidate, but was willing to abide by the judgment of the party leaders.

At that time Chairman Jones was strongly of the opinion that Towne was taking the right course, and in this opinion he was backed up by the other members of the executive committee here. Mr. Towne said he would do what Mr. Bryan said. Mr. Bryan would not say, and it was finally determined to await the state conventions of the fusion Populists and the middle of the road Populists. The sentiment in the former was strongly against substituting Stevenson for Towne, and the attendance at the latter demonstrated an alarming anti-fusion strength.

The fact was laid before the Democratic national committee that if Towne was withdrawn and Stevenson substituted Bryan might lose the 30 electoral votes represented by Nebraska, Kansas and the two Dakotas. In each of these the Populists are numerically stronger than the Democrats, and the disaffection here the substitution of an old line Democrat and the one time running mate of Grover Cleveland promised to be of such proportions as to endanger the electoral ticket. The Democrats have finally acknowledged the force of the arguments, and as a result they have expressed a willingness to refer the entire matter to the Populists, with power to act and to do in each state as they advise.

In Nebraska there are four Populists, three Democrats and a Silver Republican on the fusion electoral ticket. They were not instructed, but four will be for Towne and four for Stevenson. A similar division will be agreed upon in the other states.

Acting National Chairman Edmiston of the Populists said last night that, while it was true that there was no hope of electing Towne, yet good politics and good faith demanded his retention on the ticket. There was a principle involved that demanded recognition, and the matter of office was entirely secondary. The Populists were just as strong and enthusiastic for Bryan, he added, as the Democrats, but they wanted representation and recognition, and with such simple means at hand to meet the situation it would be foolish for the Democrats to run the danger of sacrificing electoral votes for Bryan.

BASEBALL SCORES.

Results of Yesterday's Games in the Different Leagues.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

No games played.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

At Chicago—Chicago, 5; Cleveland, 5.

At Milwaukee—Milwaukee, 6; Buffalo, 7.

At Detroit—Detroit, 6; Minneapolis, 4.

At Kansas City—Kansas City, 2; Indianapolis, 15.

EASTERN LEAGUE.

At Montreal—Montreal, 9; Rochester, 9.

At Syracuse—Syracuse, 5; Hartford, 4.

At Providence—Providence, 9; Springfield, 10.

Soldiers Who Died in Mexico.

Houston, July 23.—Colonel J. W. Sully 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 1847, between the Americans under General Zachary Taylor and the Mexicans under Santa Anna.

The remains of about 700 Americans lie where they were buried on the battlefield. A new railroad will go square across this spot, and this has caused the American government to act.

Yaguas Well Satisfied.

City of Mexico, July 23.—General Luis Torres, governor of Sonora and commander in chief of the forces against the Yaguas, has come to this city to make a detailed report of the progress of the campaign to President Diaz and Minister of War Reis. From an interview with him it is gathered that the Yaguas have been pretty well scattered and broken up into small bodies and are not so seriously troublesome at present. Several batches of prisoners have been sent to Guadalajara and other places with the view of making useful citizens out of them.

Campania Sinks a Bark.

London, July 23.—A dense fog hung over the Irish channel when the Cunard line steamship Campana, en route for Liverpool from New York, struck the Liverpool bark Enblishon, bound for New Zealand, amidships, cutting her in two. The Enblishon 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 Campana had her bows stove in, but arrived safely at Liverpool.

Firebug Loose in Paterson.

Paterson, N. J., July 23.—A firebug turned this town upside down last night. He started seven fires in rapid succession, causing great confusion in the fire department. The apparatus were out, and they seemed to be driving in every direction, while the streets were thronged with excited persons running hither and thither as the different alarms were sent in. Police Chief Graul and Fire Chief Stagg say the same person caused four fires on Friday evening.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES.

The Crucible Steel Company of America was incorporated at Trenton Saturday with an authorized capital stock of \$50,000,000.

A letter has been received by the director of the mint from the United States assay office at Seattle reporting that during the first 11 days of the present month gold arrivals there from Alaska amounted to \$4,400,000. Several millions are reported to be in transit.

Count Boni de Castellane, who married Miss Anna Gould of New York, fought a duel with swords on Saturday with Count Orlovski in the outskirts of Paris. In the first assault Count Orlovski was wounded in the thorax, and the duel was stopped by the doctors. The cause of the duel was a newspaper article reciting a quarrel between the two.

RAILROAD TIMETABLES

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.

May 27, 1900.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

LEAVE FREELAND.

6 12 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

7 40 a m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Scranton.

8 18 a m for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Ashland, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

9 30 a m for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin and Pottsville.

11 45 a m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points west.

1 30 p m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

4 42 p m for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin and Pottsville, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

6 34 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points west.

7 29 p m for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin.

ARRIVE AT FREELAND.

7 40 a m from Weatherly, Pottsville, Ashland, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City and Hazleton.

9 17 a m from Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin.

9 30 a m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

11 45 a m from Pottsville, Shamokin, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City and Hazleton.

12 50 p m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk and Weatherly.

4 42 p m from New York, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

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7 29 p m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

For further information inquire of Ticket Agent, W. H. LUBB, General Superintendent, 20 Cortland Street, New York City.

CHAS. S. LINDENBAUM, Passenger Agent, 20 Cortland Street, New York City.

J. T. KEITH, Division Superintendent, Hazleton, Pa.

THE DELAWARE, SUSQUEHANNA AND SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD.

Time table in effect April 18, 1897.

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