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LATEST NEWS FROM AFRICA

British Losses in Recent Engagements.

BOERS GATHERING IN FORCE NEAR PICKSBURG.

Roberts Providing Huts for Thirty Thousand Men.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

LONDON, June 20.—Casualties made public by the War Office, including a long list of missing, show the British losses in engagements hitherto not reported.

In an attack on a construction train at Leeuw Spruit, June 14th, three were killed, five wounded and sixty captured.

Another list shows nine wounded and eleven missing in action at Vredfort June 7th, no previous mention of which has been made.

The Daily Mail points out that it is quite possible that the wires have again been cut in Lord Roberts' rear, as no despatch later than June 18th has been received.

The Boers are gathering in force in front of General Buller, near Picksburg. His force stretches for eight miles. As some parts of the line are weakly held the British fear that the Boers may break through the outposts. Skirmishes are of daily occurrence.

The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing June 16, says:

Roberts is getting huts for thirty thousand men and arranging re-transport for part of his army although his plans are not to take effect immediately.

PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY

At Monday's session of the General Assembly at Halifax, the appointment of Rev. E. A. McCurdy to the agency of the eastern section of the church was confirmed. A request from the Synod of the Maritime Provinces asking that an annuity of \$250 be paid during life to Mrs. Morrison, widow of the late agent, was granted. A lively discussion occurred over home mission work. Overtures from the synod of British Columbia, the Presbytery of Algoma and a memorial from the home mission committee, western section, asked that it should be a law that students in theology, either during the course or after graduation, should be required to spend one year in home mission work before being eligible to a call from a congregation. There is great scarcity of home missionaries in New Ontario, the Northwest and British Columbia.

It was stated that the men who are physically able to do pioneer work in those fields are few. Dr. Robertson made the somewhat startling statement that in the western field there were 150,000 English-speaking people without any religious services. Principal Grant opposed the adoption of the proposal contained in the two overtures. It would be practically adding a year to the student's college course. He contended this to be unfair and unwise. There was urgent need of home missionaries, but the effect of this plan would be to direct the attention of young men from the Christian ministry to professions that offer richer prizes. The overtures were referred to a committee. Ottawa was chosen as the meeting place of the General Assembly next year. The report of the committee on changes in the constitution of Queen's University was presented. The principal change sought is the placing of the theological faculty under a separate board, so that as regards the arts course the university may become undenominational. The committee is to report to next assembly. An animated debate took place on a petition presented by the Presbytery of Halifax asking authority from the Assembly to give discretionary power to the missionary students in Labrador to constitute as a session the elders in that vicinity and dispense with the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper. The request was unusual, but the circumstances also were unusual, as there was no ordained missionary available for the purpose. The speakers in favor of the petition held that the laws of the church should be interpreted in a sufficiently flexible way to meet such unusual conditions. The matter was referred to a committee.

RUSSIAN FORCE ATTACKS PEKIN.

It Arrived in the Nick of Time

FOR THE ATTACK ON THE LEGATIONS HAD BEEN RENEWED.

The French Minister Reported to Have Been Killed.

[SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER.]

LONDON, June 20.—The Russian relieving force arrived outside of Pekin this morning, says the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express, and immediately began to attack the city on two sides, employing numerous artillery. The force apparently arrived in the nick of time, for the Chinese assert that the attack upon the legations had been successfully renewed.

On the night of June 16 Chinese troops attacked the legations and set on fire five European buildings. Nothing definite is known as to the result, except that the Chinese were disappointed, although other reports, utterly discredited by foreigners here, are to the effect that the Chinese, infuriated by the destruction of Taku, have since massacred all the foreigners in Pekin.

A modified version of these rumors received at Berlin is that the French as well as German minister has been killed.

LONDON, June 20.—The Chinese situation is apparently unchanged. All sorts of rumors are current in Shanghai, but no really fresh news is forthcoming.

The Express correspondent mentions reports that the Emperor is dead and that the Empress is preparing for flight. Japan is said to be mobilizing 25,000 troops for transportation. The whole fleet of the Japanese Merchants Shipping Company has been chartered.

Conflicting reports are published with regard to Seymour's relief column. A News message from Shanghai says the force has not yet returned to Tien Tsin but is still surrounded by hostile forces in the middle of an arid plain, while the Times mentions a report that the British flag was flying on Monday over the south gate of Pekin and this was presumed to indicate the arrival of the expedition.

BATTLE NEAR PANAMA.

Two Hundred Government troops Reported Killed.

KINGSTON, Ja., June 13.—The royal mail steamer Don, which arrived here today from Colon, Columbia, brings news of an important battle fought on Friday last, about ten miles out-side of Panama.

According to this information the insurgent forces were victorious and some 200 of the government troops were killed. It is inferred that Panama may already be in possession of the rebels.

The latter are strongly entrenched at San Joaquin, near Santa Maria, and all the government troops at Baraquilla had been despatched to Santa Maria when the Don left Colon.

BRAVE FATHER O'LEARY.

He is Now at Pretoria Serving His Regiment.

OTTAWA, June 18.—Captain Ecclestone, Chief of the Canadian Postal Service at Cape Town, writing to a friend in the Post Office Department here, says that Father O'Leary, Catholic Chaplain with the First Contingent, is at Pretoria. He was laid up at Bloemfontein. The doctors said they never saw a man so close to death and pull through.

Captain Ecclestone says that before Father O'Leary left Bloemfontein for the front, Lady Roberts, wife of the Commander-in-Chief, urged him to stay away from the firing-line. "I can't stay away somehow," he replied, and although he is still far from being strong, he is at Pretoria and serving his regiment.

THE ATHLETIC MEET.—The one-mile bicycle (novice), the 40-lb. gun drill and the test-pitching competition will not count points for the trophy.



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Liberal-Conservative Convention.

A meeting of the delegates of the different polls of the second Electoral District will be held in the B. I. S. Hall, Charlottetown, on Tuesday, 26th June, at 1 o'clock, for nominating candidates, etc.

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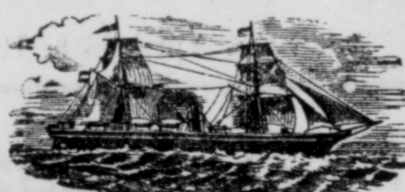
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Charlottetown, June 19th, 1900.

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