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KING EDWARD'S RETURN.

H. M. King Edward left Paris on Saturday and reached London in the evening. His Majesty had a very rough crossing. It was blowing a heavy gale in the Channel, and seas frequently broke over the steamer. His Majesty bore the journey well, and did not show any ill effects of the bad passage.

MR. HALDANE AND THE ARMY.

Speaking at York on Saturday Mr. Haldane said that the British army could not be compared with that of Germany owing to the latter's extended frontier defence. The minimum cost of the German army on a similar basis to the British would reach 46½ million pounds sterling. The cost of the German fleet was continually increasing. It was hardly imaginable that any other nation could bear the burden of armament according to the German standard. The British army was, it was true, small but it was trained to accomplish what was demanded of it, and no Europeans could stand against the best British battalions.

THE UNREST IN INDIA.

All the local newspapers in India print detailed accounts of serious rioting in various places in Eastern Bengal, particularly in the Mymensingh district.

The journals comment gravely on the situation, saying that it may be the prelude to worse owing to the intense feeling between the Hindoo and Mahomedan portions of the population.

The former allege that the latter have desecrated temples, while the Mahomedans assert that the Hindoo boycott of British goods has caused a rise in prices.

Among those arrested in connection with the rioting at Rawal Pindi are five barristers, for whom bail has been refused. The mob there made havoc with the residences of the magistrate and assistant magistrate, and assaulted with sticks and stones every European they met on their way.

The workshop of a Hindoo who gave information to the authorities in connection with the recent riots at Rawal Pindi, has been wrecked by the mob, which had eventually to be dispersed by the troops.

On Friday night, the mob held another seditious meeting, and on its conclusion, marched excitedly from the city towards the European station, intent upon destruction. When ordered by the local police to disperse, they laughed insolently, and overpowered the representatives of the law. A special body of mounted police having been summoned, the order was given to charge, and after a few heads had been broken, the mob dispersed in all directions.

It has been ascertained that the riot at Rawal Pindi was not only of an anti-Government character, but was directed also against those professing the Christian faith. The missionaries have suffered heavily, their house being looted, while the mission church and mission school were both burned.

A report from Bombay states that the serious rioting at Rawal Pindi arose in the following manner:—

About a fortnight ago a large meeting of natives was held at Rawal Pindi to protest against the proposed increase in land taxes. Seditious speeches were delivered at the meeting, and the District Magistrate thereupon ordered several native barristers, who were alleged to be the ringleaders, to meet at his house, and explain their conduct, with a view to prosecuting them if their answers were unsatisfactory. The barristers appeared on Thursday, accompanied by a mob. After the interview, which the magistrate did not disclose his intentions, the mob outside marched through the civil quarter, doing the damage described. Five barristers were arrested and locked up.

In connection with recent events *Reuter's Bureau* learns from Simla that in various parts of Northern India an unquestionably increasing bitterness is apparent. It is the educated classes in particular that are hostile to Europeans, and any action impalatable to the native feeling is made an excuse for attacks on peaceful and unarmed Europeans. The movement had its origin in Bengal and has now spread over to the Punjab. The events in Lahore and Rawal Pindi are unimportant in themselves but the situation needs careful watching and every incitement to deeds of violence will be relentlessly suppressed.

The London *Daily Mail* reports from Simla: "The tone adopted by the disloyal organs of the native Press in Calcutta, waxes more and more violent, the more the harm done by that Press becomes apparent. The newspaper *Bengalee*, the proprietor of which is a Hindu and a member of the Legislative Assembly in Bengal, publishes quite incredible accusations against the British officials. The Anglo-Indian Press urgently advises the Government to take decisive measures to curb the violence of the native journals and to prevent agitators from travelling about."

LORD CROMER'S RETIREMENT.

A brilliant fête took place in the Cairo opera house on Saturday evening on the occasion of the retirement of the British Consul General Lord Cromer, who thus formally signified his approaching departure from Egypt.

On the stage was a Committee consisting of men of all nationalities, the leading British and Egyptian authorities, as well as notables of all the European nations.

The director of the Suez Canal Co., Comte de Serionne, speaking in French, expressed his regret at Lord Cromer's departure and eulogised his brilliant career. The Prime Minister, Mustapha Fehmy Pasha, also spoke in recognition of Lord Cromer's great services.

Lord Cromer replied in a long speech in which he drew a picture of the moral and economic advance of Egypt and warned the Egyptians to beware of the nationalist movement; he urged them to act on the principle "Union is strength", and bade them be of good courage. The British occupation of Egypt would continue indefinitely; the British Government had given formal assurances to that effect. No alteration could be made in the present system of Government in spite of its many defects and anomalies. He, Lord Cromer, had every confidence in the future of the country, from which he parted with a heavy heart.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

MR. ROOSEVELT AND THE PRESIDENCY.

The *American* vouches for the statement that Mr. Roosevelt in a recent private conversation emphatically declared that in no circumstances would he accept nomination for another term at the White House. The newspaper statement is not as clear as it might be, but it fits in well enough with the known facts at Washington. Simultaneously the rumour is revived that Mr. Roosevelt and his Secretary of State, Mr. Root, have quarrelled over the former's open championing of the Presidential possibilities of Mr. Taft, the Secretary for War. There is the best reason for stating that there is no truth in this report; that Mr. Root and the President remain the best of friends, personally and politically, and that both are agreed that Mr. Taft will be the best man to put forward at the Republican National Convention next summer, when the Presidential candidate of the party will be selected.

PRESIDENT CABRERA'S DANGER.

Reuter's Bureau announces from Washington that a fresh attempt has been made on the life of the President of Guatemala, Estrada Cabrera. The Guatemalan envoy in Washington has received telegraphic information for the Foreign Minister, Señ. Barnos, that a large mine was discovered on Saturday in front of the body-guard's barrack, which is about 180 ft. from the President's residence.

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MEXICO AND GUATEMALA.

Guatemala has refused the demand of Mexico for the extradition of General José Lima, accused of complicity in the murder of the ex-President of Guatemala, Señ. Barillas. The Cabinet has in consequence, had a meeting, at which, it is rumoured, the advisability of breaking off negotiations with Guatemala was discussed.

A report has reached Washington from Mexico that the Guatemalans have attacked the Mexican light-house at San Benito; two Mexicans are said to have been wounded, at the State Department and at the Guatemalan Embassy in Washington nothing is known of the occurrence.

FRANCE AND JAPAN.

In honour of the Japanese military mission which is visiting the camp at Chalons-sur-Marne, a banquet was given on Saturday at which General Nomancourt, in proposing the toast of the visitors, expressed the admiration of the French army for the scientific military achievements, the bravery, and the sacrifices of the Japanese on the fields of Manchuria. General Nishi in his reply said that he rejoiced to have had the opportunity of admiring the French artillery, the strongest in the world.

It is stated in several newspapers that negotiations have been in progress for some time between France and Japan with the object of concluding an agreement by which both countries mutually guarantee to maintain their possessions in East Asia. Such an agreement would be a kind of supplement to the British-Japanese treaty of the 30th of January 1902, which is in like manner concerned with the maintenance of the *status quo* in East Asia. The British and Russian Governments are kept *au courant* with the course of the negotiations between Paris and Tokio. The journey of Prince Fushimi to Paris is in connection with those negotiations.

SERIOUS FIRE AT BREMEN.

Another disastrous fire broke out in Bremen harbour on Saturday afternoon. A large shed containing 10,000 bales of cotton was partially destroyed. The fire brigade quarters, the Custom house, and nine departments of the firm of Günther were destroyed. Enormous damage was done by the flames which, in consequence of a strong South West gale, leapt across to the sheds and buildings in the timber harbour. Apart from the buildings gutted, 20,000 bales of cotton representing a value of £300,000 were destroyed. The fire brigade, who worked desperately with all the hoses at their command, at length got the mastery over the flames. The origin of the fire is, as yet, unknown.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE LABOUR TROUBLES.

The disputes in Lodz labour circles continue and on Saturday fresh disturbances took place, 5 people being killed.

In Sosnovice too, the various groups of labourers have been fighting, six persons being wounded on Saturday.

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO.

In native circles it is rumoured that great excitement prevails in Marakesh. The people refuse to accept Benghasi as Pasha, and are ready to employ force to obtain the retention in office of Abe Isalam the present Pasha. Benghasi left Tangier for Marakesh on Saturday with 130 men; the remainder of his company, originally 500 strong, have deserted.

A report emanating from native circles in Mazagan, and to be received with all reserve, states that the people of Marakesh have called Muley Hasiz to be Sultan. This is in connection with the nomination of Benghasi to be Pasha, which is opposed by the Marakesh populace. This report is confirmed by a *Reuter's* cable from Marakesh and it is stated further that an excited mob has liberated all the persons arrested in connection with the murder of Dr. Mauchamp and have replaced the deposed Pasha in his office. It is said that the officials have acquainted the Sultan in writing that they no longer recognise him.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Moderate easterly winds, prevalent bright, dry weather, temperature not much altered.

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