

A curious suit for damages has been brought by a tramp in Idaho against a railroad. He was injured while stealing a ride, and charged the employes with negligence because, although they knew where he was, they did not put him off the train.

The employment of women in the postal service is not an American idea. It was by no means uncommon in the old days, when postmasters kept post-houses and were persons of some consequence. In 1548 Leonard, of Taxis, appointed a woman postmaster at Braine-le-Comte, an important point in France.

Uncle Sam need have no fear of the future of his navy with such material to fall back upon as the brave boys of the school ship St. Mary's, who, under their gallant commander, safely brought their craft to Lisbon, after successfully battling with three terrific storms.

The destruction of American forests has been pitiful, accelerated lately by the cutting of commercial woods. A movement, which would make the replenishing of former growth compulsory would be one of the highest industrial value, which should be backed up both by State and national legislation, thinks the Atlanta Constitution.

An adjunct is to be established to the University of California to teach college girls the household arts. The up-to-date university training of young women, fitting them for all the duties of life, is a vast advance on the "prunes and prisms" course of the old "seminary for young ladies," with its fictitious ideals and its smattering of fashionable accomplishments.

It is time that the civilized nations of the world declared munitions of war contraband of peace. It is all very well to trade with the heathen in his blindness on the basis of one revolutionary matchlock for two tusks of ivory, but when it comes down to selling barbarians Mauser rifles and Maxim repeating guns, it is like putting dynamite into the hands of children and feeling hurt when the explosion comes.

There is no longer doubt in Europe of the primacy of American athletes. The victorious course of our amateur athletes in the world's championship games at Paris affords ample proof of their superiority. The margin of advantage was so considerable, moreover, that there was no room for a claim that at another meeting less favorable results might be attained. It is fair to assume, accordingly, that the American race is physically stronger than the Old World stock from which it sprang—no slight advantage in these days of strenuous and unremitting personal endeavor.

About two years ago the nations which dwell on the other side of the Atlantic—chiefly because they cannot escape—were viewing us with eyes by no means bedimmed with the dew of sympathy. It was deemed an act of unpardonable presumption that we should claim a place among them, and we were given to understand in many kinds of language, parliamentary and otherwise, that we were not desirable companions in the march of civilization. It may be recalled by those whose memories are not too feeble that we were described with joyous insistence as "Yankee pigs." And now what do we behold? The spectacle of the despised Yankee pig feeding the armies of the world. In this particular instance the pig comes from Chicago, and he goes abroad in the shape of pork. Verily, the world advances. There is something really inspiring in the gentle prediction of the Chicago packer that Europe would be in trouble if his city were cut off from communication with it, facetiously observes the New York Times.

TROOPS TO BE WITHDRAWN

American Proposal Concerning Chinese Trouble and the Russian Response.

FULL TEXT OF RUSSIAN DOCUMENT

Official Statement Given Out From Washington—The Proposition for the Evacuation of Peking by the Allied Forces and the Reasons Behind It—Our Government in Full Accord With Russia.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The Russian note relative to the withdrawal of Russia from China and the United States' response thereto were made public Friday by the State Department, after the cabinet had fully considered the expediency of so doing. The correspondence is unique in the history of diplomatic exchange.

The State Department has just made public the text of the Russian proposal and its response as follows:

"Telegraphic instructions sent to the representatives of the United States in Berlin, Vienna, Paris, London, Rome, Tokio and St. Petersburg.

"Department of State, Washington, August 29, 1900.

"The Russian charge d'affaires yesterday afternoon made to me an oral statement respecting Russia's purposes in China, to the following effect:

"That as already repeatedly declared, Russia has no design of territorial acquisition in China; that, equally with other powers now operating there, Russia has sought safety of legation at Peking and to help the Chinese government to repress the troubles; that, incidentally to necessary defensive measures on Russian border, Russia has occupied Niuchwang for military purposes and as soon as order is re-established, will retire troops therefrom, if action of other powers be no obstacle thereto; that the purpose for which the various governments have co-operated for relief of legations in Peking has been accomplished; that, taking the position that as the Chinese government has left Peking, there is no need for her representation to remain, Russia has directed the Russian minister to retire with his official personnel from China, that the Russian troops will likewise be withdrawn; and that when the government of China shall regain the reins of government and afford an authority with which the powers can deal and will express desires to enter into negotiations, the Russian government will also name its representative. Holding these views and purposes, Russia expresses hope that the United States will share the same opinion."

"To this declaration our reply has been made by the following memorandum:

"The government of the United States receives with much satisfaction the reiterated statement that Russia has no designs of territorial acquisition in China, Russia has sought the safety of her legation in Peking and to help the Chinese government to repress the existing troubles. The same purposes have moved and will continue to control the government of the United States and the frank declaration of Russia in this regard are in accord with those made to the United States by the other powers. All the powers, therefore, having disclaimed any purpose to acquire any part of China, and now that adherence thereto has been renewed since relief has reached Peking, it ought not to be difficult by concurrent action through negotiations to reach an amicable settlement with China by which the treaty rights of all the powers will be secured for the future, the open door assured, the interest and property of foreign citizens conserved and full reparation made for wrongs and injuries suffered by them.

"So far as we are advised, the greater part of China is at peace, and earnestly desires to protect the life and property of all foreigners, and in several of the provinces active and successful efforts to suppress the Boxers have been taken by the viceroys, to whom we have extended encouragement through our consul and naval officers. This present good relations should be promoted for the peace of China.

"While we agree that the immediate object for which the military forces of the powers have been co-operating, viz:—the relief of the ministers at Peking—has been accomplished, there still remain the other purposes which all the powers have in common, which are referred to in the communication of the Russian charge d'affaires which were specifically enumerated in our note to the powers of July 3.

"These are to afford all possible protection everywhere in China to foreign life and property, to guard and protect all legitimate provinces of the empire and a recurrence of such disorders; and to seek a solution which may bring about permanent safety and peace in China, preserve Chinese territorial and administrative entity, to protect all rights guaranteed by treaty and international law to friendly powers and safeguard for the world, the principles of equal and impartial trade with all parts of the Chinese Empire.

"In our opinion these purposes could best be attained by the joint occupation of Peking under a definite understanding between the powers until the Chinese government shall have been re-established and shall be in a position to enter into new treaties with adequate provisions for reparation and guarantees for future protection. With the establishment and recognition of such authority, the United States would wish to withdraw its military forces from Peking, and remit to the processes of peaceful negotiation our just demands.

"We consider, however, that a continued occupation of Peking would be ineffective to produce the desired result, unless all the powers unite therein with entire harmony of purpose. Any power which determines to withdraw its troops from Peking will necessarily proceed thereafter to protect its interests in China by its own method, and we think that this would make a general withdrawal expedient. As to the time and manner of withdrawal, we think, in view of the imperfect knowledge of the military situation, resulting from the interruptions of telegraphic commanders at Peking should be instructed to confer and agree together upon the withdrawal as a concerted movement, as they agreed upon the advance.

"The result of these considerations is that unless there is such a general expression by the powers in favor of continued occupation as to modify the views expressed by the government of Russia and lead to a general agreement for continued occupation, we shall give instruction to the commander of the American forces in China to withdraw our troops from Peking after due conference with the other commanders as to the time and manner of withdrawal.

"The government of the United States is much gratified by the assurance given by Russia that the occupation of Niuchwang is for military purposes incidental to the military steps for the security of the Russian border provinces menaced by the Chinese and that as soon as order shall be re-established Russia will retire her troops from those places if the action of the other powers be not an obstacle thereto. No obstacle in this regard can arise through any action of the United States whose policy is fixed and has been repeatedly proclaimed.

"ALVEY A. ADEE,
"Acting Secretary."
"Department of State, Washington, August 29, 1900.

Endeavorers Busted.

New York, Special.—Many of the 420 Christian Endeavorers, who reached this port from Europe on the North German Lloyd steamer, are unable to proceed to their homes, by reason of lack of funds. Neither did any of the 420 have any baggage when they arrived, lacking even a change of linen. They tell harrowing stories of their experiences abroad.

Northern Mills to Reduce Wages.

Boston, Special.—A statement was sent out from Clinton that a general wage reduction in New England cotton mills is contemplated. The report could not be verified. A reduction in wages is under consideration in Fall River, but as yet no decision has been positively announced, though mills representing 1,000,000 spindles have agreed to a reduction plan. Should wages be reduced in that city, it is thought many manufacturers elsewhere may take up the wage question, but as far as can be learned here, no action has yet been decided upon.

Telegraphic Briefs.

A coal famine threatens Newfoundland.

Alfred M. Waddell, of Wilmington, N. C., has announced himself a Democratic candidate for United States Senator.

Michigan Prohibitionists have nominated a State ticket, headed by Professor F. S. Goodrich, of Albion, for governor.

Railroad commissioners of all the Southern States met at Chattanooga, Tenn., to discuss remedial freight legislation.

The thirty-second annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee will be held at Detroit, Mich., on September 26 and 27.

Tom S. Johnson, of Ohio, who arrived at New York from Europe says he will accept Mr. Bryan's invitation to stump Ohio.

Giovanni Romano, held at New York for forging a signature to a \$10 postal order at Scranton, Pa., has been discharged for lack of evidence.

George H. Ling, who saved the lives of scores of persons at the time of the Johnstown flood, fell from a train at Chicago, Ill., and was killed.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS

Gather in Raleigh, N. C.—Welcomed by the Governor.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—The Commissioners of Agriculture of the Cotton States held their opening session Wednesday, in the new auditorium of the Agricultural Department. Governor Russell welcomed the visitors on behalf of the State. He said it was always a pleasure to him to welcome any one to the State, and he especially welcomed any people or association which had for its object the betterment of the farmers, who were the basis of prosperity. The welfare of the farmer was the welfare of all. Years ago, he said, the farmers believed that cotton was king and endeavored to subject the world to the idea by the raw material, but they had learned that for cotton to be king they must manufacture it in the section in which it is grown, as they are now doing. Instead of selling it at 6 cents as then, they are now sending it out as a manufactured product worth 20 cents a pound.

Prof. H. C. White, of the University of Georgia, responded in a happy manner to the address of welcome. He stated that the association was confined to the Commissioners of Agriculture of the cotton States, not on account of sectionalism, but on account of the common interests with which these Commissioners had to deal. The Agricultural Department in many of the States had joined with the scientists to further the interests of the agriculturists. He referred to the achievements made by North Carolina and the progressive spirit which today is alive in the industrial sphere.

Among those attending were President O. B. Stevens, Commissioner of Agriculture, of Georgia; Hon. J. A. Redhead, Commissioner of Agriculture of Mississippi; Prof. H. C. White, of the University of Georgia; Secretary Royal Daniel, of Atlanta; Chancellor Hill, of the University of Georgia; Col. R. J. Redding, of the Georgia Experiment Station; Col. Robinson, of Louisiana; Commission J. W. Lee, of Alabama, and Assistant Commissioner Frank Hill, of Louisiana. At the afternoon meeting the reports of the president, O. B. Stevens, and of the Secretary, Royal Daniel, were read.

The president's report says: "If the Textile World is correct in its figures, then South Carolina stands first among the Southern States in the number of spindles; North Carolina, which we know is first in the number of mills, stands second in the number of spindles, while Georgia is the third cotton manufacturing State of the South, unless the product of her mills exceeds in value that of either of her Carolina sisters, which was the case in 1890. But what should especially please every member of this convention, is the fact that the whole South is marching on to the goal of industrial independence. For the season of 1899 and 1900, the South for the first time in its history, fixed the price of cotton. If the growth of the cotton mill industry in the South continues at its present rate, with the consequent increased consumption by the Southern mills, we may confidently expect that the South will henceforth be able to fix the price of her own great staple."

Secretary James A. Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, tonight delivered an address before the body.

Secretary Wilson said there was no agricultural product that the Department of agriculture makes greater effort to report upon accurately than the cotton crop. Detailing the organization of the organization of this service he pointed out that there were in all 17,000 regular correspondents in the cotton growing States. Largely as the result of special measures put in operation the Department was able last December to publish an estimate of the crop that has proven to be within one-tenth of 1 per cent. of the figures shown by its subsequent movement. From the Department's latest sources of information, he said, there were now in North Carolina 168 mills, 22,178 looms, 1,003,268 spindles, which consumed 380,231 bales of cotton in 1899.

The total consumption in the Southern States for the year was 1,400,026 bales. The secretary estimated that one-fifth of the crop of the Southern States is being manufactured in the South's borders. Pointing to the figures of exports of raw cotton manufactures, the secretary said:

"When we find the United States loaning money to several foreign countries, and certain lines of manufactured cotton goods being bought in the United States by dealers in Scotland, it indicates very emphatically the position now occupied by our country among the nations of the earth."

Southern Yarn Mills.

Charlotte, N. C., Special.—Dr. J. H. McAden, president of the Southern Cotton Spinners' association, left Wednesday night for Philadelphia, in company with a committee consisting of George B. Hiss, Charlotte; and Messrs. A. P. Ryce, Mount Holly; A. C. Miller, Shelby; J. P. Leak, Rockingham; W. C. Heath, Monroe, and R. S. Reinhardt, Lincoln. They go to Philadelphia in response to a request from the commission men of that city to confer as to the present condition of the yarn market. Three of the committee, Messrs. W. C. Heath, J. P. Heath, J. P. Leak, and R. S. Reinhardt, formed the special committee that was appointed to consult with the Southern yarn spinners.

A COAL FAMINE.

American Coal to go to Europe in Large Quantities.

HESTER'S LATEST COTTON REPORT

Showing the Production and Consumption of Cotton in the Southern States the Past Year.

London, By Cable.—American coal operators and their agents are apparently swarming to England and rumors of many important deals filled the air during the past week. W. P. Rend, of Chicago, is here on his way to Paris. He is hopeful of supplying both the French and Russian navies with steam coal from West Virginia. Mr. Rend had a long interview with the Russian consul.

E. M. Hopkins, of Philadelphia, has closed a contract for 100,000 tons of Pennsylvania run of mine coal for immediate delivery at Mediterranean ports. Mr. Hopkins said to a representative of the Associated Press:

"English consumers are not familiar with American unscreened coal, but continental dealers are. Therefore I am selling to them. I do not anticipate trouble in securing charters."

President Cassat, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, has gone to Paris on the same business, while the presence of Robert Pitcairn, superintendent of the Pennsylvania's Pittsburg division, goes to Scotland on a visit to Andrew Carnegie early next week, and it has been said that there is on foot a scheme to provide the Pennsylvania coal syndicate with trans-Atlantic transportation. Mr. Pitcairn said to a representative of the Associated Press:

"My visit to Mr. Carnegie is not exactly upon the errand suggested. I am not quite sure how long the present coal famine or the existing conditions in England will continue. My personal idea is that American mine owners are apt to find a better market in the Mediterranean, or Black Sea ports, than any country where England herself will be a competitor. Under fair conditions I believe the United States can supply England's former customers on the continent with fair profit."

Hester's Cotton Report.

New Orleans Special.—The totals of Secretary Hester's annual report of the cotton crop of the United States were promulgated Saturday. They show receipts of cotton at all United States ports for the year of 6,743,764 bales against 8,575,426 last year; overland to Northern mills 1,161,189 against 1,345,623. Southern consumption taken direct from interior of the cotton belt 1,540,863 against 1,353,791, making the crop of the United States for 1899-1900 amount to 9,436,416 bales against 11,274,840 last year and 11,199,994 the year before. Mr. Hester has made his usual investigation into the consumption of every cotton mill in the South, including woolen mills that have used cotton, and the results show a total of 1,597,112 bales, but of this 56,249 bales were taken from ports included in port receipts. This total shows that the mills of the South have used up 197,713 bales more than during 1898-'99, against a consumption by the North of 2,300,000. He makes the actual cotton crop of Texas, including Indian Territory, 2,590,512, or say, 964,579 bales less than last year. His report on the cotton crop for the different States shows that in thousands of bales:

North Carolina raised 561; South Carolina 921; Georgia 1,309; Alabama 1,044; Florida 50; Mississippi 1,230; Louisiana 625; Arkansas 759; Tennessee 358, and Texas 2,591.

McKinley's Departure Delayed.

Washington Special.—President McKinley's departure for Canton has not been fixed. He had hoped to be able to leave this week, largely on account of the condition of Mrs. McKinley's health, but the important character of the Chinese negotiations necessitates his presence here, at least until the present crisis is passed.

Shafter Denies Report.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The War Department has received a telegram from General Shafter, at San Francisco, saying that he has carefully investigated the statements that have been made relative to the treatment accorded the late Captain Crenshaw, of the Twenty-ninth infantry. Says the general: "There is not the slightest foundation of fact in the newspaper articles in which it is claimed that he had not received proper treatment, while on shipboard and at the hospital at the Presidio. It is shown on the contrary that his case received special care and attention. Report by mail to-day."