

The Muddle in South Africa.

LONDON, May 8.—The House of Commons was crowded with members and the press and strangers' galleries were filled with visitors to-day upon the occasion of the presentation of the colonial estimates.

Sir William Harcourt, the leader of the Opposition, reminded the Government that an inquiry had been promised with the object of ascertaining whether the British South Africa Company was in the hands of fit and proper persons to be entrusted with the administration of the affairs of the company's territory. The trial of the members of the Johannesburg Reform committee in Pretoria had disclosed important circumstances, and the Government now owed the country an authoritative statement. In the present condition of affairs he would confine his remarks to the position of the chartered company, into which inquiry was absolutely necessary because it affected the relations between Great Britain and the South African Republic and the relations between the English and Dutch in South Africa. In the light of the recent disclosures the case of Dr. Jameson had fallen directly into the background. What the Government had to consider was the matter of the instructions under which Dr. Jameson had acted. From the cipher telegrams which had been interpreted and published he declared it was obvious that the whole affair had been conducted between Johannesburg and Cape Town by the principal and responsible direction of the British South African Company.

Sir William said that the whole story was an inexplicably revolting, sordid and squalid picture of stock jobbing imperialism. He admitted that Mr. Chamberlain has been surrounded by difficulties and had shown courage and decision worthy of his position, but the question was what was the Government going to do.

Mr. Chamberlain, colonial secretary, said that the deplorable result of Jameson's raid had been to jeopardize English predominance in South Africa, and it had also delayed the concord of the two races, which was England's main policy. He was convinced, he said, that there had been faults on both sides, but until they had gotten to the bottom of the matter the Government could not properly judge the merits of the case. There had been frequent Boer invasions, he said, not merely into territory outside of the Transvaal, but also into British territory. Furthermore, the Boers have shown a great want of consideration for the rights of the Uitlanders.

Mr. Chamberlain further said that a harmonious settlement of the question of the rights of the Uitlanders had long been Mr. Rhodes's dearest object. If he could only have found a co-worker in President Kruger the results would have been beneficial in promoting the federation of the South African States, wherein local rights would have been fully regarded. Though recent events had sadly interfered with these objects their accomplishment still remained the Government's chief aim. President Kruger's refusal to come to England at the Government's request to modify the convention of 1884 had ended the prospects of a private conference upon the leading difficulties. What, then, he asked, ought to be the right step? It had been suggested that the Government ought to have sent an ultimatum to President Kruger. This would have certainly been rejected and would have led to war. The Government, he declared, could not think of resorting to war in order to enforce internal reforms in the Transvaal. This declaration was received with cries of "Hear! hear!"

Mr. Chamberlain said that he had not threatened President Kruger at all but had claimed the right to make friendly representations. President Kruger promised to consider these representations, and the Government awaited the fulfilment of his promise.

In the meantime he had asked Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape Colony, to come to England, but the request for him to come was not intended as a recall. In regard to the chartered company he said he did not dispute the authenticity of the cipher, telegrams which the Transvaal authorities have published, although there were as yet no legal proofs that they indicated complicity on the part of the directors of the company. (Hear! hear!) But, he continued, as regards the actual invasion of the Transvaal there was reason to believe that Mr. Rhodes had expressed his disapproval and had endeavored to stop the raid. Did the Opposition, he asked, demand the punishment of Mr. Rhodes? Whatever may have been Mr. Rhodes' errors he had also rendered great services, which could not be forgotten. Mr. Rhodes was now deprived of power for mischief, and the directors of the chartered company had shown their confidence in him by deferring their acceptance of his resignation.

Considering the disturbed state of Rhodesia and the influence of Mr. Rhodes in that territory he did not blame the directors for their show of confidence. (Cheers.) The Government, he said, adhered to their promise to make a searching inquiry

into the action of the chartered company, but he held that such an inquiry must not be opened until the judicial proceedings connected with the Transvaal raid were ended.

Mr. Henry Labouchere, who is a bitter opponent of the British South Africa Company, described the company as a gang of shady financiers, who were running a gambling concern with the Union Jack flying over it. Cecil Rhodes, he said, had uttered deliberate falsehoods, basely deceiving Governor Robinson and had when prime minister of Cape Colony, disgraced and dishonored the high tradition that British ministers did not make money from their positions. Mr. Labouchere concluded by declaring that he regretted the decision of Mr. Chamberlain who was fettered by the Cabinet.

The debate was adjourned.

A Riot in the Conference.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, May 8.—The meeting of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church this morning was exciting. Bishop Hurst presided.

The Rev. Dr. King, of New York, presented a resolution deploring any State appropriations for sectarian purposes. The resolutions recited in strong terms that all denominations save one had declined to receive moneys for Indian schools and demanded that this "copartnership between a Church and the nation be dissolved at once."

Dr. King explained "that the House of Representatives had declined to further continue the appropriations for certain denominational Indian schools and that the Senate had insisted on their continuance. The matter was now in the hands of the Conference." Dr. King's resolution almost unanimously passed.

Morris Sharp, of Ohio, opened up the woman question by offering a resolution providing that as the woman delegates elected to this Conference had relinquished their seats, that their expenses be paid, and that their male reserves, if any, be called.

The Rev. Dr. Leonard made a fervid speech against the passage of the resolutions. These women it has been decided, he said, are legal members of this body and as such their expenses must be paid without any resolution. I hope the Conference will vote this resolution down.

Great excitement prevailed, and many delegates struggled to get the floor. An attempt to lay the resolution on the table was defeated.

The Rev. Dr. Neely, of Philadelphia, Pa., presented a substitute for the resolution asking that women delegates who had claimed the right of admission to this Conference came to the floor as visitors and their expenses should be paid by the committee.

The Rev. Dr. Earle Cranston, of Colorado, made a point of order against Dr. Neely's resolution on the ground that it stated that the four women claimed admission, when as matter of fact the question of this Conference was unquestioned.

Bishop Hurst refused to entertain the point or order, and Dr. Cranston appealed to the floor, and the Bishop decided that he had been sustained.

Then followed the greatest excitement of the Conference. A dozen men demanded attention and the delegates declared that they did not understand what they were voting on. The Rev. Dr. William M. Fry-singer, of Central Pennsylvania, said that he had appealed to the floor and that the appeal had been stated as having come from Cranston, and therefore the members had not voted intelligently. He demanded that his appeal be put.

Bishop Hurst refused to let the Conference act on the appeal, and amid the utmost confusion Dr. Fry-singer cried out:

"If I can't get justice on this floor I will resign!" He was greeted with cheers.

Bishop Hurst said that Dr. Neely had the floor to speak on his resolution.

Dr. Kynett said that Dr. Neely had no right to the floor until Dr. Fry-singer's appeal had been put.

The Bishop ruled otherwise.

Dr. Kynett, his face flushed with anger, jumped to the floor and demanded that Dr. Neely resume his seat and let the House decide whether Dr. Neely had the floor or the appeal be put.

A hundred voices backed Dr. Kynett and the Chair was compelled to put the appeal of the Rev. Dr. Fry-singer. The House sustained the Bishop and Dr. Neely tried to speak on his resolution.

Dr. Kynett demanded that both resolutions be read, and when the reading had ended Dr. Cranston made the point of order that Dr. Neely had changed the wording of his resolution.

Dr. Neely admitted that he did. Bishop Hurst said that he must restore the wording of the resolutions.

By this time everybody was excited and a dozen angry delegates in all parts of the house were vainly trying to get the floor.

During the confusion both resolutions were withdrawn and the incident closed.

The new U. S. Cruiser, Brooklyn, which made the first trial trip on Saturday gives promise of being very fast and will make not less than 22 knots.

Gov. Evans in Reply.

What he Says About Mr. Williams' Statement.

The interview with Mr. L. J. Williams of the State board of control, in which that official spoke very plainly about the governor's action in ordering seized a sample barrel of beer shipped to him, published in The State yesterday morning created much comment in the city, and particularly in official circles.

When Governor Evans was seen he gave the following statement in regard to the matter, the essential feature of which is the announcement that any one who has had imported liquor seized can get it back by certifying that it is "for personal use" only, till the test case now pending is decided.

The governor said:

"I am very sorry that Mr. Williams seems to take so much to heart the seizure of the barrel of beer that was improperly shipped to his address at Edgely. The matter was called to my attention by the constable at Edgely, and he was instructed that the law permitted no such release. The beer was seized and is in the possession of the State, and if Mr. Williams felt that an injustice had been done him he had the same remedy as other citizens whose goods have been improperly seized. The members of the board under the law will be treated the same as other citizens. The law is no respect or of persons, and in enforcing it, I certainly have the right to expect the hearty co-operation of the State's officers, and particularly those entrusted with the administration of the law.

"The statement by Mr. Williams that at the same time the beer was at Edgely a keg of contraband liquor was shipped there to another party and seized by the constable, which was released, is without foundation. The facts are that a shipment was made by a party of a keg of whiskey to Edgely in the name of a negro. The constable reported to me, while in Edgely, the fact, and stated that he had released the same upon the statement of the real owner that it was intended for his own use, and not to evade the law. The constable was censured by me and instructed never to return whiskey shipped under such circumstances, especially as it came under the order of Judge Simonton.

"The statement that I have frequently ordered packages released is true and I am continuing to do so under the advice of the attorney general, as the order of Judge Simonton will be carried out until the test case now before him is decided. I have, as stated by him, petitioned the State board of control of which Mr. Williams is a member to release the packages in cases where I was of the opinion that the seizure could not be sustained. If the State has been deprived of valuable property, as Mr. Williams says, the responsibility is upon myself.

"So far as the arrangement is concerned, whereby, as he says, I can nullify sections 25 and 31 of the law, Mr. Williams is a party to the arrangement, and, therefore, if it be a crime, he is particeps criminis, as will appear by the following papers: "COLUMBIA, S. C., May 9, 1896. "The undersigned members of the State board of control, hereby certify that the arrangement made by Governor Evans upon the advice of the attorney general, to hold all liquors seized by the State constables for 30 days in order to save the citizens of the State from annoyance and to avoid contempt proceedings for improper seizures pending the litigation before Judge Simonton, to determine the constitutionality of the dispensary law, relative to the importation of liquors into the State and the analysis of the same, was approved by the board and was considered only a temporary expedient. (Signed) "Willie Jones, "W. A. Nicholson "COLUMBIA, S. C., May 9, 1896. "The attorney general, desiring to test the new law in the United States courts, as to its interstate commerce and analysis features, and wishing to avoid any complications by way of contempt proceedings for seizures of liquors pending the proceedings, I advise his excellency, the governor, to make the arrangement to hold liquors seized by the State by State constables for 30 days so that he could surrender any improperly taken. When turned over to the State commissioner, the only remedy provided by the act is to give bond and prosecute an action for liquor seized. This was the only purpose of the arrangement and it was understood to be temporary and was not to continue after Judge Simonton's decision.

"C. P. Townsend, "Attorney General."

"I am unaware," concluded Governor Evans, "of having placated any of my enemies by the release of seized packages. If such had been my object, I certainly would not have seized Mr. Williams' beer."—The State.

The State Hospital for the Insane is filled to its utmost capacity and the Board of Regents have a serious condition of affairs confronting them as the number of patients increases each week.

The Competitor Case.

MADRID, May 10.—It is understood that the cabinet has decided to place the case of the men captured on the filibustering American schooner Competitor, before the supreme council of the army and navy for a revision of the proceedings of the court martial held in Habana.

A dispatch from Habana says that Captain General Weyler is angry because of the attitude of the United States, and that he will resign unless the sentences are executed. The dispatch adds that the conduct of the American consul general is very irritating to loyal Spaniards. He shows himself everywhere, and his talk is menacing.

The Imparcial's Habana correspondent says that a man who was tried by court martial on the charge of piracy admitted to the court that the American police made it a point to vanish where a filibustering expedition was departing from Key West.

Doomed to Death.

MADRID, May 9.—A dispatch from Habana says, that the five prisoners captured on the schooner Competitor have been sentenced to death. The men sentenced to death are: Alfredo LaBorde, born in New Orleans; Owen Milton, of Kansas; William Kiolea, an Englishman and Elias Bedia and Theodore De la Maza, both Cubans.

English Action.

MADRID, May 10.—Prime Minister Canovas del Castillo informed a meeting of the Conservative deputies and senators last evening that it would be impossible for the government to introduce reform in Cuba until the situation in the island resumes its normal condition.

The British consul at Habana has cabled to Queen Regent Christina asking her to pardon William Kiolea, the Englishman who was mate on the schooner Competitor.

More Arms and Men.

PHILADELPHIA, May 10.—From information received here tonight, it is likely that the alleged filibustering steamship Laurada, took a cargo of arms and ammunition and a party of men aboard off Astoria, L. I. After outwitting the Spanish spies in New York bay last night, the Laurada slipped up the Long Island coast and have to off Astoria. Here, it is said, three tugs put aboard of the steamship early this morning 500 tons of arms and 1,500 tons of ammunition.

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Oct. 16—v.



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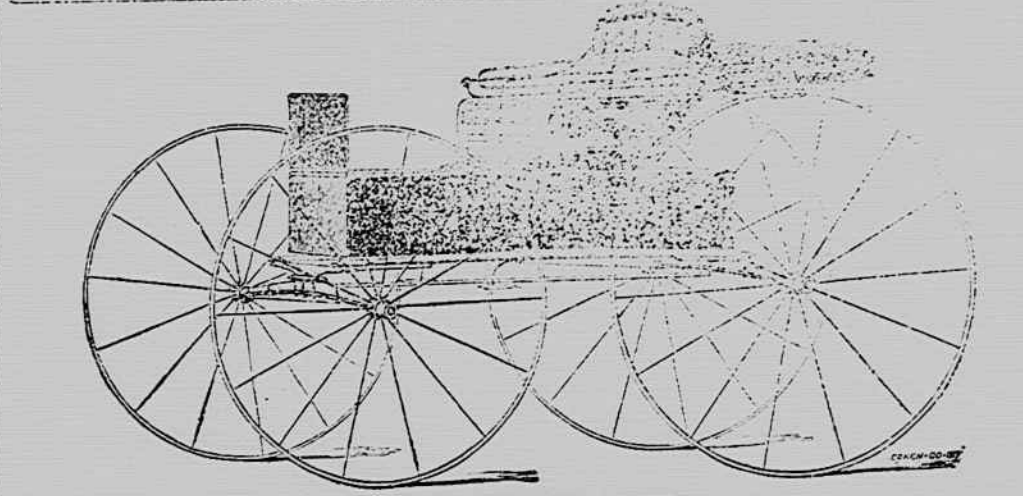
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|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
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| Banana, | Orange Phosphate, |
| Blood Orange, | Raspberry Phosphate, |
| Cherry Ripe, | Wild Cherry Phosphate, |
| Pineapple, | Grape Phosphate, and others. |
| Plum, | Ice Cream Soda, |
| Quince, | Milk Shake, |
| Red Messina Orange, | Egg Phosphate, |
| Red Currant, | Egg Lemonade, |
| Tati Frutti, | Lemonade, |
| Peach, Chocolate, Lemon, | Lime, |
| Vanilla, Ginger, Raspberry, | Coca Cola, Wine Cocoa. |
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Dec. 4