

State Library

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY.

Vol. III—No. 69.

KINSTON, N. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1900.

Price Two Cents.

MARINES IN A TRAP.

Four Americans Killed and Seven Wounded. Surprised Near Tien Tsin. The Brooklyn Ordered From Manila to China. Looks Dark for Foreigners in Pekin.

Washington, June 25.—The navy department yesterday issued the following bulletin:

"A cablegram from Admiral Kempff, dated Che Foo, June 25, says: "In an ambush near Tien Tsin on the 21st, four of Waller's command killed and seven wounded. Names will be furnished as soon as received. Force of 2,000 going to relieve Tien Tsin today."

"KEMPF." "The secretary of the navy has ordered Admiral Remy to go with the Brooklyn to Taku and to tender to Gen. MacArthur conveyance of any army troops which the Brooklyn can carry."

Admiral Kempff's dispatch, giving the first definite news of the shedding of American blood on Chinese soil, came early yesterday morning and was turned over to Secretary Long when he arrived at the department. With Admiral Crowninshield, the secretary carried the dispatch to the white house, where, on the president's return from church, it was laid before him. The determination thereupon was reached to order Admiral Remy, in command of the Asiatic squadron, on board of the armored cruiser Brooklyn. The secretary and Admiral Crowninshield returned to the navy department, where the necessary orders were dispatched to Admiral Remy.

The effect of this transfer is to make Taku the headquarters of the Asiatic squadron. The Brooklyn is expected to sail at once, as the orders sent contemplate getting the admiral on the scene at the earliest moment.

A HUNT OF ARMY PREPARATIONS. The war branch of the government is preparing for any eventuality that may arise out of the Chinese situation. As stated by one of the highest officers of the army the scale of preparation is of a magnitude which would both interest and surprise the public. But, he added, the information would be of even greater interest and service to any foreign foe which the United States may be called upon to face within the next few weeks or months, and for that reason there is no purpose to make public the complete preparations making to meet whatever issue arises. All that the officials will say is that both the army and the navy, if the occasion arises, will give good account of themselves.

STILL UNBARY FOR CONGER'S SAFETY. While the Berlin reports as to the safety of Baron Ketteler and the legations at Pekin appear to dispose of one of the most alarming stories of the crisis, Minister Conger at Pekin is still cut off from communication here, and there is no direct and official assurance of the safety of the ministers and legations, nor is there a word of the relief force, including the Americans which sought to break through to Pekin.

DARK FOR FOREIGNERS. Desperate Situation of 5,000 of The Allied Forces. London, June 25, 3 a. m.—The position of the international forces in the section of Northern China, where 10,000 men are striving to keep a footing and to succor the legations in Pekin, appears to be in peril with every fresh dispatch. Pekin has not been heard from direct for 14 days. The last dispatch was one imploring aid. Admiral Seymour's column of 2,000 was last heard from twelve days ago. At that time it was surrounded midway between Pekin and Tien Tsin. Possibly now it has reached Pekin.

The 3,000 internationals at Tien Tsin were hard pressed and fighting for their lives on Thursday, and a relieving force of less than 1,000 had been beaten back to Taku Friday. Observers on the spot think that 100,000 men would not be too many to grasp China firmly.

Chinese runners who have arrived at Taku report that a foreign force was engaged several days ago with an overwhelming body of Chinese 40 miles west of Tien Tsin. At Shanghai it is assumed that this force was Admiral Seymour's. The powers are said to have fatally underestimated the numbers, desperation, and armament of the Chinese, who for three years have been accumulating rifles at the rate of 20,000 a month.

REPORTED CHINESE LOSSES. It was reported from Shanghai last evening that the allied forces had blown up the Taku forts and that every available man had been sent to the relief of Tien Tsin. Two thousand three hundred Chinese bodies are alleged to have been cremated at Taku and more than 4,000 Chinese are said to have been killed at Tien Tsin.

AMERICA MUST SAVE CHINA. Ex-Minister Barrett's Views as to Our Policy in the Far East. Cincinnati, June 24.—Hon. John Barrett, ex-minister to Siam, was here today. Before leaving for Cleveland he said:

"In restoring peace in China, the United States should be the principal influence to determine the future and the fate of China. It is America's influence only that can successfully solve this problem and keep China from an impending break-up. America must stand for the integrity of the Chinese empire, for we have everything to lose and nothing to gain by her partition among the European powers."

"On the other hand, if America allows China to be divided, the expansion of our commerce and the extent of our moral influence will be absolutely limited by the attitude and policy of European nations."

"Another interesting point is this: The United States is the only power whose leadership and dictation of policy Russia would accept."

Foreigners at Pekin Safe. Paris, June 25, 11:25 a. m.—The French consul general at Shanghai telegraphing yesterday, reported that the Chinese minister of railways and telegraphs has informed him that all foreign ministers and foreigners at Pekin were safe last Tuesday, June 19th, and were preparing to leave with the authority of the Chinese government.

PEACE MOVEMENT IN PHILIPPINES. Gen. MacArthur Replies to Native Leaders. Question of Friars. Manila, June 24—10:35 p. m.—Gen. MacArthur has given a formal answer to the Filipino leaders who last Thursday submitted to him peace proposals that had been approved earlier in the day by a meeting of representative insurgents. In his reply he assured them that all personal rights under the United States constitution, excepting trial by jury and the right to bear arms, would be guaranteed them.

The promoters of the peace movement are now engaged in reconstructing the draft of the seven clauses submitted to Gen. MacArthur in such a way as to render it acceptable to both sides.

The seventh clause, providing for the expulsion of the friars, Gen. MacArthur rejected on the ground that the settlement of this question rests with the commission headed by Judge Taft.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Crops have suffered severely in Alabama from excessive rains.

Senator Daniels, of Virginia, is talked of for the vice-presidential nomination as Bryan's running mate.

Joseph Gillespie, 21 years old, was crushed to death Sunday morning between bumpers of two freight cars at Vivian, W. Va., while acting as flagman.

A passenger train loaded with excursionists, bound for Green Bay, Wis., collided with a freight train at Depere, five miles south of Green Bay, Sunday morning. Six persons were killed, one is missing and 34 were injured.

At Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sunday, Chas. Melford, a maniac, killed James Fitzsimmons, fatally injured Joseph Drake, seriously and possibly fatally injured Mrs. Jas. Fitzsimmons, slightly injured Miss Kate Fitzsimmons, and then ended his own life.

A passenger train on the Macon branch of the Southern railway ran into a wash-out, one and a half miles north of McDonough, Ga., Saturday night and was completely wrecked. The wreck caught fire and the entire train, with the exception of the sleeper, was destroyed. Every person on the train, except the occupants of the Pullman car, perished. Not a member of the train crew escaped. Thirty-five people in all were killed.

A cyclone passed over Beaver county, O. T., formerly known as No Man's Land, Saturday night. Henry Bardwell, Steve Bird and Abe Weightman were killed and Wm. Hamberger and Paul Rhodes fatally injured. The storm swept the country for 60 miles. Thousands of cattle were stampeded and many killed and injured. Several houses were destroyed. The home of Geo. Nebb, a ranchman, was carried 200 yards, and 16 ranchmen, who had taken refuge in the house, were badly injured.

A Word More as to the Baptist Infants. Mr. Editor:—I notice that in yesterday's Free Press "A Baptized Infant" shakes a red rag at the Baptist bull and immediately jumps the fence. This was very wrong of the infant, but infants are not responsible.

The Exponent man is also in the wrong and I would enjoy seeing him get a good shaking up. He raised a question where there is none. But he can weed his own row.

What I am concerned in is this: About midway of his article the infant gratuitously slaps at the by-stander in this wise: "Now, for the benefit of the Exponents constituency, who probably do not think, the writer begs leave to say:"

Then he flirts his hand under his coat-tails in Pickwickian style and hands us out a thought, a great thought, a thoughtful thought, a wonderful, glorious, transcendental. Shade of Webster, hand us down a few more synonyms. Reader, look it up—it's huge.

"A 'thinkless' constituency will, doubtless, be greatly edified. We have seen these old Paedobaptist imitation arguments threshed until they were threadbare, but we have never run amuck of such a thought as this before."

But that is not all of the food for the thinkless. See this: "Had it and believed in it for more than fifteen hundred years before there was a Baptist church."

Now, this is thought, all thought, nothing but thought, and of the variety of which Parker dreamt.

O, Lord, why don't some of these preachers post themselves as to the history of their own church before assailing that of others.

But let's see that long, whopper-jawed sentence about a seeming strangeness: "It must seem strange, yes passing strange." Verily, brother Infant, I agree with you. It does. You remember the yarn about the old brother who never held family prayer because he didn't know how. His pastor wrote off one for him to memorize and use, but the old fellow posted it at the head of the bed and just before retiring would kneel and point to the prayer and say: "Oh! Lord, them's my sentiments."

As to the passing strangeness O, infant, "them's my sentiments."

In conclusion let me spring a great thought: "What's the matter with the Baptist Infant?"

"He's — all — right!"

ONE OF THE THOUGHTLESS.

The Best Prescription For Chills and Fever is a bottle of Gayer's Tonic. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

Use HICKS' CAPUDINE Headache Cure

For Migraine, Pain, Heat or Nervous Debility. LITTLE, LITTLE, INC.

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A PUBLIC DEBATE

At Edwards' School House on the Amendment. The Amendment Comes Out Ahead.

Reported for THE FREE PRESS. There was a public debate on the constitutional amendment among the farmers and neighbors in Woodington township at Edwards' school house Saturday night. There was a large neighborhood gathering to hear the amendment discussed, and doubtless good was done for the cause of White Supremacy.

Mess. Kenyon Baker, Dick King and Jacky Vause spoke against the amendment, and Mess. Curtis Loftin and Felix Loftin spoke in favor of the measure.

Mess. H. E. Shaw and Emmet Wooten, passing, called in, and Mr. Shaw was called out and spoke in behalf of the measure.

The feature of the occasion was the comments of Mr. Curtis Loftin. He said he had Scripture for his position, and that it was the parable of the talents. Said he: "It is apparent the man with the ten talents represented the white man; the man with the five talents the white man in the Republican party, and the one with one talent represented the negro. For 35 years the negro has been intrusted with the one talent; he has buried it, and has been a dismal failure in the exercise of his trust. Now the day of reckoning is come. The Good Book says that the one talent shall be taken from the one-talent man and given, not to the man with five talents, but to the man with ten talents. So it is with the conditions today. The one talent (the right to vote and hold office) is to be taken from the negro and given to the white man, represented by the ten talents, and not to the white Republicans, represented by the five-talent men."

There were many good hits made by the supporters of White Supremacy, driving their opponents into the last hole. They tried to hide their opposition behind the "1908" clause, saying that boys would be disfranchised. They were told that they could not be disfranchised; that boys were not allowed to vote any more than women, and it was an insult to the white boys in Lenoir county to say that they could not learn to read and write in eight years. If the white men who fear that the boys ever will be hurt by this amendment, will consult the white women in their neighborhood they will engage to teach the sons of parents who are too poor to send them to a free school so they may vote under the amendment.

LAGRANGE ITEMS. FREE PRESS BUREAU, LAGRANGE, June 25, 1900.

Prof. Joseph Kinsey, of Wilson, is visiting here.

Mr. Edwin Wooten has returned home from Mt. Olive.

Mr. W. P. Kornegay, of Mt. Olive, is visiting at Mr. S. I. Wooten's.

The LaGrange baseball team will play the Kinston team, at Kinston, on July 2.

Mr. A. B. Newland has been appointed master of transportation of the A. & N. C. railroad.

Miss Carrie Wooten has returned from Washington, D. C., where she had been attending school.

Mrs. Gunter, after spending some time visiting her sister, Mrs. T. R. Rouse, returned to Wilson today.

A chapter of orphans from Oxford will give an entertainment at the High School at night on July 10th. "He that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord."

Mr. David G. Turner, in attempting to get off the mail train Monday afternoon, fell, and four or five car wheels passed over his shoe-heel, without injury, however, to his foot. It was an exciting moment to the many spectators.

Mr. Charlie Sutton, while returning home from here Saturday night, was shot in the hip. Dr. Hadley probed for the ball, but failed to find it. The shooting happened near the cemetery while he was in company with others, and is supposed to have been accidental.

Saluting the Deck. The poop or raised after deck of a ship over which floated the national flag was considered to be always pervaded by the presence of the sovereign. As the worshiper of whatever rank removes his hat upon entering the church so from the admiral to the powder monkey every member of the ship's company as he set foot upon the poop "saluted the deck," the invisible presence. But since in steamers there is often no lee side the custom in them has completely died out.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A Tough Joint. The boarder who was carving the roast beef at the request of the landlady laid down the knife and fork and took a short rest.

"The spirit is willing," he remarked, "but the flesh is strong."

Books. Books are sweet, unapproaching companions to the miserable, and if they cannot bring us to enjoy life they will at least teach us to endure it.—Vicar of Wakefield.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

At Greensboro Monday night Ab. Alston shot and fatally wounded Lula Carr. Both colored. Alston escaped.

The Coast Line has let a contract for the erection of additional machine shops at South Rocky Mount, to cost \$18,000.

The Republican club of Upward, N. C., has passed ringing resolutions declaring in favor of the amendment and white supremacy and against nigger-rule and boss-rule.

Greenville Reflector: Another robbery occurred Saturday night at Mildred, between Bethel and Tarboro. The store of Mr. Marion Cobb was broken into and what cash was left in the money drawer, and a quantity of goods stolen.

Senator Marion Butler is sending out a circular as Populist State chairman, which he says is the most important of the campaign. It calls on the Populists to see that every man in their party is registered, and to give all aid to that end.

The Democrats have organized White Supremacy clubs in all the counties of North Carolina save ten. The purpose was to have one in each township, making some 1,400 clubs, but there will be more, as in Dare county, with only five townships, there are nine, and in Bertie, with nine townships, there are twenty clubs.

Rev. H. C. Williams, a negro preacher, of Waynesville, in a sermon at Asheville Sunday declared that the negro is not fit to vote and that it is best to take the ballot from him. A negro mob went to the house where Williams was staying after the service. Three went in and threatened him with death if he did not leave at once. The police dispersed the mob and have Williams and wife under protection.

Newbern Journal: A very unfortunate occurrence, resulting in the death of a boy, took place near Maple Cypress Sunday. Mrs. William Gaskins went to visit Mrs. Thomas White, taking with her her son about 7 years of age. Mrs. Gaskins has a boy of about the same age. While their mothers were talking the boys went into another room and soon afterwards the report of a pistol was heard. The Gaskins boy was found lying across a bed with a bullet in his head and death resulted from the wound. The boys had gotten hold of the weapon in some way while playing, with the fatal result to young Gaskins.

By the bursting of a cylinder head of an ammonia pump Monday morning three white workmen are lying at St. Peter's Hospital at Charlotte in a very serious condition. A negro was also badly burned. The pump was sent to Charlotte from Salisbury to the Mecklenburg Iron Works for repairs, and it seems that some ammonia got into the cylinder through a leak in the casing. When the cylinder was heated gas generated, resulting in a terrific explosion. It was heard all over the western portion of the city. Fragments of iron varying from the smallest size to pieces of 30 pounds in weight, flew with terrific force in every direction.

Oxford Ledger: Will any man of Anglo-Saxon descent, allow himself to be fooled and led by the pie-bunting, nigger-loving falsifying, federal office-holder, or job-promised Republicans? Stop and think a moment. There is not a white man in this county against the amendment who has not already had a job, or expects one or has been promised one by the Republicans. Every white man who comes to you and asks you to vote against the amendment, will be a man who has been bought with a price. Would you believe anything a white man told you who thinks a negro equally as good as himself? The man who says that the amendment will disfranchise any white man knows it will not and only says it to mislead the ignorant.

Envoys Say War Will Go On. New York, June 24.—The Boer envoys, A. Fischer, C. H. Wessels and A. D. W. Wolmarans, at the Manhattan Hotel tonight, said they were engaged in the preparation of a statement covering the situation in South Africa and the result of their visit to this country. It will be probably completed and ready by tomorrow night.

Mr. Fischer, speaking for himself and his colleagues, said: "Our visit to this country has been successful from the point of view that we have ascertained that the great bulk of the American people sympathize with the Boers in their struggle against the armed forces of Great Britain. This fact was plainly demonstrated from the sentiment displayed at all the meetings that we attended, both jointly and separately."

"As to the present conditions in South Africa, the surmises which were entertained by us have happened. The war is not yet over by any means, nor does the taking of a few capital towns by the vast British army mean surrender."

There will be a farwell demonstration in Cooper Union Tuesday night in honor of the envoys.

To Cure a Cold in One Day This Laxative Broom Quinine Tonic, all druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Gayer's signature is on each box. 50c.

NEED EACH OTHER.



Mark Hanna: "Put it in, swallow it, pour it in. You need us, and we need you enough."—Kansas City Times.