

# DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS.

VOL 10.

SONORA, SUTTON CO., TEXAS, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1900.

NO. 290

## TO THE LADIES

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OUR SUMMER SACRIFICE SALE

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

## HAGERLUND BROS. & CO.

### Devil's River News.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor.

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SONORA, TEXAS, July 21, 1900.

#### Chinese Statement of Cause of the Outbreak.

Washington, June 11.—An imperial decree, dated the third day of the sixth moon. (June 29) was received by telegraph today by Minister Wu from the baotai of Shanghai, transmitted on July 1 from the treasurer of Chi Li, who received it by special courier on June 30 from the board of war, who in turn received it from the privy council in Peking. The decree is as follows:

"The circumstances which led to the commencement of fighting between the Chinese and foreigners were of such a complex, confusing and unfortunate character as to be entirely unexpected.

"Our diplomatic representatives abroad, owing to their distance from the scene of action, have had no means of knowing the true state of affairs and accordingly can not lay the views of the government before the ministers of foreign affairs of the respective powers to which they are accredited. Now we take this opportunity of going fully into the matter for the information of our representatives aforesaid.

"In the first place there arose in the provinces of Chi Li and Shan Tung a band of rebellious subjects which had been in the habit of practicing boxing and fencing in their respective villages and at the same time clothing their doings with spiritualistic and strange rites. The local authorities failed to take due notice of them at the time. Accordingly the infection spread with astonishing rapidity. Within the space of a moon it seemed to make its appearance everywhere and finally reached the capital itself. Every one looked upon the movement as supernatural and strange and many joined it.

"Then there arose lawless and treacherous persons who sounded the cry of 'down with Christianity'. About the middle of the fifth moon these persons began to create disturbances without warning. Churches were burned and converts were killed. The whole city was in a ferment: a situation was created which could not be brought under control. At first the foreign powers required that foreign troops be allowed to enter the capital for the protection of the legations. The imperial government has in

view the comparative urgency of the occasion, granted the request of an extraordinary mark of courtesy beyond the requirements of international intercourse. Over 500 foreign troops were sent to Peking. This shows clearly how much care China exercises in the maintenance of friendly relations with other countries. The legations at the capital never had much to do with the people. But from the time the foreign troops entered the city the guards did not devote themselves exclusively to the protection of the respective nations. They sometimes fired their guns on top of the city's walls and sometimes patrolled the streets everywhere. There were reports of persons being hit with stray bullets. Moreover they strolled about the city without restraint, and even attempted to enter the tsung hau gate (the eastern gate of the palace grounds). They only desisted when admittance was positively forbidden. On this account both the soldiers and the people were provoked to resentment and voiced their indignation with one accord. Lawless persons then took advantage of the situation to do mischief and become bolder than ever, in burning and killing Christian converts.

"The powers thereupon attempted to reinforce the foreign troops at Peking but the reinforcements encountered resistance and defeat at the hands of the insurgents on the way and have not yet been able to proceed. The insurgents of the two provinces of Chi Li and Shan Tung had by this time effected a complete union and could not be separated. The impartial government was by no means reluctant to issue orders for the entire suppression of this insurgent element. But as the trouble was so near at hand there was a great fear that due protection might not be assured to the legations if the anarchists should be driven to extremities, thus bringing on a national calamity. There was also a fear that uprisings might occur in the provinces of Chi Li and Shan Tung at the same time with the result that both foreign missionaries and Chinese converts in both provinces might fall victims to popular fury. It was therefore absolutely necessary to consider the matter from every point of view. As a measure of precaution it was finally decided to request the foreign ministers to retire temporarily to Tien Tsin for safety. It was while the discussion of this proposition was in progress that the German minister Baron von Ketteler was assassinated by a riotous mob one morning while on his way to the tsung li yamen. The previous day the minister had written a letter appointing a time to call at the tsung li yamen. But the yamen fearing he might be molested

on the way did not consent to the appointment as suggested by the minister. Since this occurrence the anarchists assumed a more belligerent and threatening attitude, consequently it was not deemed wise to carry out the project of sending out the diplomatic corps to Tien Tsin under an escort. However, orders were issued to the troops detailed for the protection of the legations to keep stricter watch and take greater precautions against any emergency. To our surprise on the fifth day of the fifth moon (June 15) Foreign naval officers at Taku called upon Lo Jung Kwang the commanding general, and demanded the surrender of the forts, notifying him that failing to receive compliance they would at 2 o'clock next day take steps to seize the forts by force. Lo Jung Kwang being bound by the duties of his office to hold the forts, how could he yield to the demand? On the day named they actually fired upon the forts, which responded and kept up the firing all day, and then surrendered. Thus the conflict of forces began, but certainly the initiative did not come from us. Even supposing that China were not conscious of her true condition how could she take such a step as to engage in war with all the powers simultaneously and how could she, relying upon the support of anarchistic population, go into war with the powers. Our position in this matter ought to be clearly understood by all the powers.

"The above is a statement of the wrongs we have suffered and how China was driven to the unfortunate position from which she could not escape.

"Our several ministers will make known accurately and in detail the contents of this decree and the policy of China to the ministers of foreign affairs in their respective countries and assure them that military authorities are still strictly enjoined to afford protection to the legations as heretofore to the utmost of their power. As for the anarchists, they will be severely dealt with as circumstances permit.

"The several ministers will continue in the discharge of duties to their offices as heretofore without hesitation or doubt. This telegraphic decree to be transmitted for their information. Repeat this."

Children often cry, not from pain but from hunger, although fed abundantly. The trouble arises from inanition; their food is not assimilated, but devoured by worms. A few doses of WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE will destroy the worms, when the children will begin to thrive at once. Price, 25 cents at J. Lewenthal's, druggist.

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#### The Canning Camery.

One of the new features of the A. and M. college which attracted much interest during the congress was the canning factory, some of the products of which were accorded the highest praise. The canneries were established with a dual purpose, to instruct the cadets in an industrial branch of work and to show the people of Texas what could be done with their surplus fruit crops.

The canning factory was established this year and began operations on June 9. Prof. Price says the total cost of the plant was \$361. He started on a modest scale, because, he says, most of the canning factories in Texas have proved unsuccessful because they began with a great deal of cost machinery and with a big expense account, and had to make their experiments and buy their experiences at a great expense. This little factory has thus far put up 4600 cans of peaches and 8000 cans will be put up before the close of the season. Prof. Price says an accurate account has been kept of all expenditures, not total cost of the peaches is 11 cents per can. This includes the cost of growing and gathering the fruit, the cost of peeling and canning them, and also the cost of the cans. The cans are bought in Baltimore, Md., and cost 2 1/2 each delivered at the college. The canneries is in charge of an experienced man, who has been brought here for one season it is the intention of the management to operate it with cadet labor entirely. Even now all the work is being done by cadets, with the exception of the processing and general direction. Prof. Price has made inquiry as to the market price of the peaches and says the merchants at Bryan told him they could use the entire pack at 23 cents a can. It is not intended to sell the product, however.

The plant here comprises boilers for cooking beans, tomatoes, etc., and boilers for peaches. The cost of an outfit for canning peaches exclusively would be much lower than the figure above mentioned. The cadets are paid 12 1/2 cents an hour for their work, the standard scale. Labor can be procured outside for 10 cents an hour, so that it would be possible for a private enterprise to make even a better showing than that made here. When Prof. Price gets into the new building he intends to go into the manufacture of jellies. The peach peeling, he says, will make a finer jelly than the flesh of the fruit, because the peeling contains more sugar, and coloring matter as well. The peach stones are marketable at 5 cents to \$1 a bushel for planting. He also intends installing an outfit for the manufacture of pickles, and also a fruit evaporator.

Moore's Pills are a guaranteed cure for all forms of Malaria, Ague, Chills and Fever, Swamp Fever, Malarial Fever, Bilious Fever, Jaundice, Biliousness, fetid breath and a tired listless feeling. They cure Rheumatism and the lassitude following blood poison produced from malarial poisoning. No Quinine. No Arsenic, Acids or Iron. Do not ruin your stomach or teeth. Entirely tasteless. Price, 50c per box. Dr. C. C. Moore Co., No. 310 North Main Street, St. Louis, Mo. or at J. Lewenthal druggist.

Self preservation is one of the first laws of nature and one's first impulse on being struck is to strike back. Someone has said that cattle have been dying in South Dakota for want of water and here is what the Sioux Stock Journal says of him: "There is a bright lot of chumps East, and not very far East, either. The most of those chumps dont know straight up. They will tell a lie about this country on three years' time when the truth is bringing spot cash. The latest is in relation to the dry spell just past, in which they say cattle died for want of water. This is a flat-head bare-faced lie on the narrow gauge plan. There never has been a case of animal suffering for water on this range during the present year."

#### Telephotography in War.

Wireless telegraphy, the heliograph and the balloon, find their most important military application in reconnaissance work. With these aids and accessories it would appear that there is today very little excuse for a leader of troops not knowing the position of the enemy, or the configuration of the ground on a prospective battlefield, as has often been the case in South Africa. Science and invention together, however, have added still another aid, one that promises to be of immense value namely, the telephoto lens.

Telephotography is the art of taking, by a special and variable long focus telescopic lens, optically adjusted to the lens of a good photographic camera, photographs of objects at a long distance off as if the operator were comparatively close to them. Consequently, an object five or ten miles away, which by ordinary photography would cover on the photograph a space an inch square, can be made to cover, by telephotography, a space sixteen, thirty-two or sixty-four inches square, depending on the magnifying power of the lens and the size of the camera used. The advantage of this is apparent from the telephotograph of an enemy's position gives a commanding officer a bird's eye view of the ground of the enemy's forces and their position, of his trenches and gun emplacements, all accurately drawn to scale and on a sheet of size convenient for study and reference. The range of such a lens is practically unlimited, and useful photographs are readily obtained at a distance beyond gun range; moreover, balloons can be utilized for obtaining views from above the surface of the earth.

The telephoto-lens was invented about ten years ago, and placed on the market by Dallmeyer, in England, Duboscq in France and Meitner in Germany. Experiments with light instruments were made by the intelligence department in England as early as 1892, but the climatic conditions and the fact that the telephoto camera was then in its infancy, and consequently very defective, caused it to be condemned by the war office at the time. Experiments were continued however, and improvements gradually increased its practical use. In the Chino-Japanese war of 1894 it was used for the first time in actual warfare, and one of the Japanese officers obtained some excellent telephotographs of the naval battle off the Yulu River. One of these of the large Chinese man-of-war Tiejien, taken at a distance of over two miles presents a fine view of the effects of the projectiles.

The uses to which the valuable adjunct could be put to are numerous. The navy, for example, could use it to obtain photographs of foreign coast defenses, from beyond the three mile limit. The land army by taking a series of photographs of the enemy's line at different times during the day, would find this a valuable means, not only of locating his positions, but also of discovering fresh intrenchments that may have been thrown up during the night.

The British war office is said to have sent but one small telephoto camera to South Africa and that is attached to a bicycle. Of course this instrument can give no useful results. Large cameras and powerful lenses should be used, either on commanding points or in balloons. Had such a series of photographs been taken on the Tugela and the Mudders river, of all the Boer positions and copies distributed to the commanders, the confusion of orders, misdirection of advance, misunderstanding of the topography and position of trenches so common in this campaign would have been avoided, at least to a certain extent.

The subject is of such importance that it would seem to recommend itself for study by our army and the interest in the subject is increased by the fact that such photographs would furnish invaluable data for history and military science.

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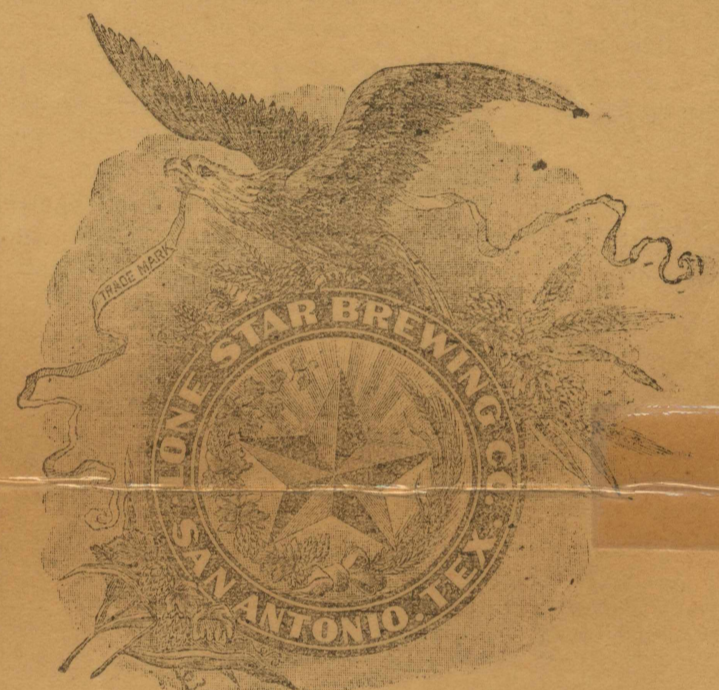
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