

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

LONDON, May 20.—The official celebration of the queen's birthday, which occurs on Sunday, took place today throughout the country and empire in general. On the parade grounds of the horse guards, there was the usual ceremony of trooping the colors, witnessed by a large crowd of distinguished people, including the Prince and Princess of Wales; Prince Charles of Denmark and Commander-in-chief Lord Wolseley. The attractiveness of the ceremony was marred by rain. The queen was born May 24, 1819.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Perhaps inspired by the frequent references in Congress and the newspapers to the probability of Japanese competition in the future with our own manufactures, the statistical bureau of the State department some time ago called upon United States Minister Dunn at Tokio to report upon "the prospects of competition by American manufacturers for contracts in the Japanese empire."

NEW YORK, May 20.—A special to the Herald from London says:

It is learned on the highest authority that the Armenian question is about to enter a new phase. At this moment a movement is on foot here, in Paris and in Brussels in favor of a reconciliation of the Armenians with Turkey. There is every reason to believe this movement has been started with the consent of the sultan. His majesty has been vividly impressed by the regrettable state of affairs in Anatolia created by the sad events of the past year. It is necessary, however, that the well intentioned section of Armenians should come forward honestly and endeavor to forget the past and boldly make an appeal to the personal sentiments of the sultan, in other words, grasp the hand which is already as good as tendered.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 20.—The striking firemen of the Armour Packing plant who went out on May 6th for increased wages and fewer hours, compromised their differences today, lifted the boycott against the company's meats and will return to work tomorrow. A thousand or more employees of the different departments of the plant, who were laid off because of lack of work, will be reinstated. The firemen get an increase of 1½ per cent an hour for eight hours, practically all they demanded.

PARIS, Texas, May 20.—The shanty boat murder case in which Silas Lee and Hickman Freeman are charged with killing Ed. T. Casady, Jeff Maddox and Pauline Aplegate of Red River, near Arthur City on the night of November 18, 1894, was ended yesterday afternoon, the jury finding both men guilty.

MOSCOW, May 21.—[Copyrighted 1898 by the Associated Press]—The czar and czarina made their triumphal entrance into this city this afternoon, amid the thunder of the batteries of artillery, the clanging of countless bells and a chorus of a vast multitude of loyal Russians and equally enthusiastic visitors from all parts of the world. Probably never in the history of nations has there been such an assemblage. Possibly the scene may

never be repeated in its grand intimacy.

At 1 o'clock in anticipation of the coming of the czar, the entire route from Petrovsky palace, about three miles on the road to St. Petersburg, to Kremlin, was packed with people. The route to be followed by the procession had been guarded by troops and police on foot and horseback, until the road may be said to have been lined by thickness after thickness of blood and iron. The weather was delightfully fine, a great relief after the bitterly cold and damp experience the past few days. The sunshine put everybody in good humor.

The signal for the commencement of the day's festivities was a salute of nine guns from a battery outside the city. This was followed by the dull booming of the big bell of the cathedral of the Assumption and the assembling of the troops at the various mustering points. Then countless high dignitaries of the empire and foreign countries began to gather at Petrovsky palace to take places in the gala equipages or escort on horseback the carriages of their imperial majesties. The grand dukes and grand duchesses, princes and princesses, Asiatic potentates, innumerable representatives of every country under the sun, assembled here to do honor to the czar of Russia, the ruler of a mighty empire which half circles the globe.

Generals with staffs, aide de camps riding at breakneck speed, orderlies galloping furiously, were seen everywhere.

At 2:30 p. m. there was a further thundering of cannon, this time from the direction of the Petrovsky palace. It was a signal that the czar had started on his journey to Kremlin.

COFFEYVILLE, Kan., May 21.—A gas explosion this morning wrecked two two-story brick buildings in the center of the city, causing the instant death of one man, and fatal injury of two other persons, and wounding thirteen.

David Carter was killed by a falling wall.

NEW YORK, May 21.—A special to the Herald from Berlin says:

The sultan is suffering from continual nervous attacks. The Kurds have cleared the garrison of Sivas. They are terrorizing South Anatolia and are preparing further massacres.

PERRY, O. T., May 22.—A cloud-burst occurred in this part of the territory last night, eight to twelve inches of rain falling. Residences and business buildings on high level ground were flooded, while houses along Cow creek were washed away. The Santa Fe railroad tracks for a long distance are under water. News of great damage comes from the country, but owing to the creeks being so high, nothing definite is obtainable.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., May 23.—The strike situation is practically unchanged. Cars are in operation on all lines, but the boycott and fears of violence prevents them being patronized. No attempt has been made to run cars Sundays since the street railway employees struck, but the company now

announces that it will start cars next Sunday as usual. The entire police force will be on duty as serious disturbances are expected from sympathizers with the strikers.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—At last the United States secret service authorities have struck a lead to the source from which have come the thousands of almost perfect imitation half dollars circulated throughout the Pacific coast. It is believed that the counterfeiters which absolutely defy detection except when under a powerful magnifying glass in the hands of a clever expert, were made by Chinese in their native land and brought to this country last summer by the members of the troupe of Chinese actors who come to America to perform at the Atlanta exposition. Almost the entire troupe is now in this city, having been filing engagements in the Chinatown theaters since returning from the east.

It is estimated that 20,000 of the unauthorized coins have been disposed of by the Chinese and that "Little Peter," the Chinese of recent race track job notoriety, was back of the scheme. However, the ten thousand dollars that has been realized has not been clear profit, as the counterfeiters contain almost the same amount of pure silver as do the regularly minted half dollars, but the extremely low price of silver bullion gave the counterfeiters a good profit.

NEW YORK, May 23.—The Herald's special cable from Havana says: One thousand insurgents raided the vicinity of Hojo Colorado, between Havana and Quanaia, setting fire to cane fields and tobacco plantations, and driving off stock. Citizens are fleeing to this city.

An insurgent force entrenched in the town of Bues, on the road to Guanajay, was surprised and driven out by Spanish troops last evening after a hot skirmish. The rebel loss was six killed, the bodies being abandoned in the flight.

CANDIA, Island of Crete, May 23.—Since May 17, the garrison of Vamou, consisting of 1,300 men, have been besieged by 2,000 insurgents who occupy strong positions. Troops left Kalivas on Thursday to attempt to relieve the besieged soldiers. The relieving force was attacked and compelled to return after suffering a heavy loss. The troops at Vamou have only sufficient food to last a couple of days.

DENVER, Colo., May 23.—The trans-missouri committee has effected a compromise between the Southern Pacific and the Missouri River lines, under which the Southern Pacific agrees to withdraw its individual rates into Utah on shipments by water from New York to San Francisco and join the Missouri River lines, on their tariff from points on the river to Utah. The percentage of the Southern Pacific under the new agreement will be somewhat better than before the rate cutting commenced. The traffic managers of the Colorado-California railroads have decided to apply the Colorado common points commodity rate from the Missouri river to the Pacific coast. This will be a great advantage to Denver.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—United States Minister Denby at Peking, reporting upon the trade of China for