

BIG NAVAL BATTLE FOUGHT.

BIG LOCAL COMBINE.

THE KHEDIVE.

NILE NAVIGATION.

RODJESTVENSKY'S FLEET ALMOST ANNIHILATED.

12 WARSHIPS SUNK OR CAPTURED.

TOKIO, May 29.

(Official.) Admiral Rodjestvensky's fleet is practically annihilated. 12 warships have been sunk or captured, 2 transports and 2 destroyers sunk. (Reuter.)

TOKIO, May 27.

It is reported that Admiral Rodjestvensky is off Tsu-Shima Island and that Admiral Togo has begun an engagement. (Reuter.)

LONDON, May 27.

The "Standard" learns from Shanghai that the Russian cruisers "Rion" and "Smolensk" conveyed the steamer of the volunteer fleet to Wusung. The officers declare that the Baltic fleet is in good fighting trim and that the stories of Admiral Rodjestvensky's illness are grotesque exaggerations.

The Taotai has protested at the Russian Consulate against the presence of the Volunteer steamers and asked them to leave within 24 hours. (Reuter.)

LONDON, May 27.

Reuter's Agency learns from Shanghai that the Baltic Fleet left the Saddle Islands yesterday evening. (Reuter.)

TOKIO, May 27.

Apart from the fact that Admiral Rodjestvensky's main fleet appeared in the Straits of Tsu-Shima, steaming in two columns, with the battleships starboard, and the gunboats and cruisers port, all information of to-day's historic events is either withheld or transmission refused. (Reuter.)

TOKIO, May 27.

Admiral Rodjestvensky's main fleet appeared in the Tsu-Shima Strait. It was navigating in two columns. All other details are withheld. (Havas.)

WASHINGTON, May 28.

The American Consul at Nagasaki telegraphs that the Japanese have sunk a Russian ironclad, four other warships, and a repair ship. (Havas.)

CHIFFU, May 20.

A big battle is taking place in the Korea Straits near Oshuma. (Havas.)

TOKIO, May 28.

The publication of naval news continues to be prohibited, but it is reported that four Russian warships passed the Kurile Straits westward on the 25th inst. It is surmised that they were Admiral Rodjestvensky's light cruisers. (Reuter.)

SHANGHAI, May 28.

Five Russian battleships, three cruisers, and seven destroyers were sighted off Tsu-Shima Island yesterday. (Reuter.)

CHIFFU, May 28.

The Japanese Consulate has received private advices that a large part of the Baltic Fleet was engaged by the Japanese squadron in the Korea Straits yesterday evening. (Reuter.)

WASHINGTON, May 28.

The American Consul at Nagasaki telegraphs that the Japanese sank one Russian battleship, four other warships and a repair ship in the Straits of Korea. (Reuter.)

WASHINGTON, May 28.

It is believed that the battleships "Orel" and "Borodino," three cruisers, and the repair ship have been sunk.

According to despatches to the Department of State the Japanese Government announces that the fleet engaged and held the Baltic squadron in the Straits of Korea. (Reuter.)

TOKIO, May 28.

A fog prevailed which lifted occasionally when the Baltic squadron was sighted on Saturday. There was a high wind and a rough sea. (Reuter.)

LONDON, May 28.

Reuter's Agency learns from Tsing-tang that a running fight is going on near Okoshima. All the ships of the Baltic squadron which are not engaged and the slower vessels are steaming round Japan. (Reuter.)

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

EPIDEMICS of small-pox have broken out at Besindia and Sherbin villages, in the Sherbin district.

STRAY AND OWNERLESS Dogs found in the Choubra district of Cairo at daylight-to-morrow will be poisoned by the police.

GABBARI GRAVING DOCK.—The Khedivial Company's S.S. "Minich" entered the Gabbari graving dock this morning. This is the first ship to make use of the dock since it was built.

SUEZ CANAL.—On the 25th inst. 9 vessels passed through the Canal, of which 8 were British, 1 Turkish. The receipts for the day were frs. 261,670.88, making the total from 1st inst frs. 7,116,467.90.

THE TALE OF A GREEK PRIEST who refused to christen a child because its father wanted it to be named "Togo" hails from Trebizond. A compromise, we understand, was arrived at, by calling the infant "Alexandros Togo."

HOTEL BEAU RIVAGE.—The first ball of the season at this hotel will be held on Thursday next, when special trains will run up to 1.30 a.m. Dancing will commence at 10 p.m., the music being supplied by the band of the R. Berks Regiment. A small dance is to be given at the hotel every following Thursday evening during the season.

JEUNES ECONOMES DES PAUVRES.—We are requested by Mlle Claire Ricard, president of the "Œuvre des Jeunes Economes des Pauvres," to state that the annual lottery in aid of the work will be held on Saturday next, 3rd proximo, at 11 a.m., in Chalon's establishment, Cherif Pasha-street, in one of the windows of which the prizes are being shown.

ARMY OF OCCUPATION.—The following are the names of the officers, N.C.O. and private who were successful at the examination in Arabic held at Cairo in March, with the number of marks awarded:—Major E.R.O. Ludlow, Staff, 375; Major R. N. Gamble, D.S.O., 2nd Bn. Royal Berks. Regt., 397; Sergt. A. Schenbri, R.M.A., 455; Private G. Ditchburn, A.S.C. 390. The maximum number of marks obtainable was 500.

THE CAIRO CITY FIRE BRIGADE, under the command of Captain Balbi, was called out on Saturday morning to a small outbreak of fire which occurred at a shop in the Harek el dik, at the corner of Sharia el Kamel, but on their arrival it was found that their services were not required. The fire was caused by a cigarette and being thrown on a mattress, but very little damage beyond the destruction of the mattress was done. This is the 115th time the fire-brigade has been called out during the present year.

COLLEGE OF ST. FRANCOIS XAVIER.—The fête of the father superior of this college was held on Saturday and yesterday. On the former day an exhibition of limelight views and cinematograph pictures took place before a large audience, the screen being placed in the centre of the building in which the entertainment took place; in front of it the visitors were seated and behind it the boys of the college. A number of views illustrative of a pilgrimage from Jaffa to Jerusalem were first shown, and the applause with which many were greeted showed that the various groups contained the figures of many who were recognised by the audience. These were followed by some excellent cinematograph scenes, representing incidents in the life of Christ from the entry into Jerusalem to the Crucifixion and entombment, the series closing with the "Apotheosis of Jesus." Scenes of general interest followed; incidents of a house on fire, arrival of the fire-engines, rescue of occupants, etc., being vividly portrayed; the assassination of the Grand Duke Sergius; and one or two charming fairy tableaux, and finally a Cavalry review by the French President. At the close of the exhibition a presentation of flowers was made to the father superior, who acknowledged the gift in a speech of some length.

Anglo-American Nile Steamer.

AN HOTEL COMPANY.

RIVER TRANSPORT OF GOODS BETWEEN ALEXANDRIA & CAIRO

Three Sailings a Week.

Agents at Alexandria:—

THE ASSOCIATED COTTONGINNERS OF EGYPT.

A great combine of the cotton ginner of Egypt has lately been formed. We give below particulars of the company, which is entitled the Associated Cotton Ginner of Egypt, Limited. All the great ginner in Egypt have joined the combine, and it promises to be one of the most powerful industrial organisations in the country.

The whole concern was valued at double the capital as given below. Subsequently it was decided to reduce the estimate on which this was based by one half, each factory being paid by an equivalent in shares. The Egyptian Investment and Agency, Limited, intended offering 75,000 one-pound shares at a premium of one pound to their shareholders and friends.

There are other ginning factories taken over besides those mentioned below, which are only the chief concerns. Nearly all the banks are interested in the company, which is destined to occupy as high a position in ginning as the Société de Pressage et des Dépôts does in pressing. There will probably be a limited public subscription in about ten days' time.

This combine will be of great advantage in regard to the financial equilibrium of industrial Egypt. Often the position of up-country ginner with little capital has caused a good deal of uneasiness to the banks, but all this anxiety will be obviated by the combine, which will develop so as in course of time to gain in all the centres and will have a virtual monopoly of this business throughout Egypt.

The following are the details of the registration:—

Associated Cotton Ginner of Egypt, Limited.—Registered May 17th, by Worthington, Evans and Co., 27, Nicholas Lane, E.C. Capital, £360,000 in £1 shares. Objects: To amalgamate, continue and develop the cotton ginning factories, presses and accessories and the business connected therewith owned by Lever Egypt (1) by Messrs. Chomani, Benachi and Co.; (2) by Messrs. C.M. Salvago and Co.; (3) by Messrs. G.G. Zevradachi and Sons; (4) by Messrs. J. Planta and Co.; (5) by Messrs. Carver Bros. and Company, Limited; (6) by Messrs. V. and C. Bacos; and (7) by La Société d'Égrenage de Zagazig; with a view thereto to enter into an agreement with the Egyptian Investment and Agency, Limited, and to carry on the business of cotton ginner and presses, and any other business incidental or auxiliary thereto. The signatories are—

E.D. Carver, 24, St. Mary Axe, E.C., merchant	1
R.C. Abdy, Alexandria, merchant	500
W.C. Mackenzie, 24, St. Mary Axe, E.C., managing clerk	1
W. Leigh-Hunt, 5-6, Billiter Avenue, E.C., merchant	1
H.O. King, 50 and 51, Lime Street, E.C., secretary	1
E.F. Trone, 5-6, Billiter Avenue, E.C., accountant	1
J.M. Farrington, The Moat, Penshurst, Kent, secretary	1
W.G. Hatchett, "Kadina," Chadwell Heath, clerk	1

No initial public issue. The number of directors is not to be less than five nor more than ten. The first are: E. A. Benachi, C. de Tschudi, S. Carver, C. Bacos, R. C. Abdy, and M. Sinadino. Qualification, 500 shares. Remuneration, 10 per cent. of the net profits remaining in each year after paying 6 per cent. dividend on the Ordinary shares and placing 10 per cent. of the profits to reserve fund until such fund shall equal 25 per cent. of the Ordinary share capital. Registered office, 5 and 6, Billiter Avenue, E.C.

CREDIT FONCIER EGYPTIEN.

The forthcoming debenture issue to the extent of £5,500,000 by the Crédit Foncier Egyptien will bear interest at the rate of three per cent. The guarantee syndicate for the debenture issue has now been formed, and the scheme for taking over the Daira Sanieh Company, on the conditions given in our issue of Saturday last, will be submitted to the approval of the shareholders of the Crédit Foncier Egyptien at the extraordinary general meeting to be held in Cairo on Saturday, the 8th July.

DOG REGULATIONS.

The regulations drawn up by the Alexandria Municipality for the registration of dogs are published in yesterday's "Journal Officiel" and come into force one month after date of publication. All owners of dogs must make a declaration to the Municipality within fifteen days stating where they live and the number of dogs in their possession. Every dog registered will receive a number corresponding with the name of the possessor, which will be entered in a register for the purpose. All dogs must carry a metallic plaque bearing number. These plaques will be supplied free by the Municipality, or the owner may have his own plaque made in accordance with the Municipality's model. Dogs found in the public streets without the regulation plaque on their collar will be seized and if thought necessary by the Municipal "vet" destroyed immediately; otherwise they will be held at the disposal of the owner for five days and

ARRIVED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Khedive arrived at Constantinople at 9 a.m. yesterday and was afterwards received in audience by the Sultan at Yildiz Kiosk.

The following is the text of the Khedive's rescript addressed to Mustafa Pasha Fehmy, President of the Council of Ministers, entrusting the Agency to that Minister and afterwards to Fakhr Pasha:—

Ayant résolu, avec la grâce de Dieu, de partir pour l'étranger, Nous vous désignons pour exercer la Régence, pendant Notre absence, et diriger les affaires de Notre Gouvernement au sujet desquelles vous donneres les ordres qui vous seront dictés par votre sagesse et votre parfaite expérience.

Après votre départ, Hussein Fakhr Pasha, Ministre des Travaux publics et de l'Instruction publique, dirigera, pendant votre absence, conjointement avec ses collègues les Ministres restant en Egypte, les affaires de notre Gouvernement et revêtira de sa signature les ordres motivés par leurs délibérations.

Nous vous adressons, en conséquence, le présent Rescrit pour lui donner la suite qu'il comporte.

ABBAS HILMI.

EGYPTIAN ARMY.

Captain J.P.V. Hawley, Royal Artillery, having reported his arrival in Egypt from England, is taken on the strength of the Egyptian Army from 6th May, 1905, with the rank of Bimbashi. Captain Hawley is posted to the Artillery.

El Bimbashi Hon. C. James, Assistant Financial Secretary, is struck off the strength of the Egyptian Army from 6th May, 1905.

El Bimbashi H.F.E. Lewin, Artillery, is appointed Assistant Financial Secretary.

Three months' leave has been granted to El Kaimaski Hawker Bey, officer commanding Camel Corps, Khartoum.

Four months' leave of absence has been granted to El Bimbashi Hon. W. A. Trefazio, Aide-de-Camp to H.E. the Siridar.

El Kaimaski Stockwell Bey, officer commanding 3rd Battalion, left Khartoum on the 15th May and will resume his duties on the 14th August.

El Bimbashi Bethell, Artillery, Khartoum, has been accorded three months' leave.

DEATH OF MRS. BALBI.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mrs. Eileen Balbi, the wife of Major H. A. Balbi, R.M.A., who died at Malta on Saturday week (20th May) after a brief illness. The funeral, which was strictly private, took place yesterday week. Mrs. Balbi was the daughter of Fleet Surgeon McDermott, R.N. She had only left Alexandria with the Royal Malta Artillery, which her husband commanded, a few weeks ago, and during her residence in Egypt had made a large number of friends, to whom the sad news of her untimely end will come as a great shock, as the deceased left Egypt in apparently the best of health. The following sympathetic notice is extracted from the "Malta Chronicle":—

"The death of Mrs. Balbi has brought a heavy weight of grief, not only upon Major Balbi, but upon a large number of the inhabitants of Malta, to whom the deceased lady was well-known and by whom she was greatly respected."

"In Egypt too many will learn with astonishment and sorrow that Mrs. Balbi, who had helped to make the long days in a foreign land pass with less weariness to the English and Maltese community there, and who lent herself willingly to the forwarding of good works of a permanent nature, is no more."

"It is yet but a short time since Major and Mrs. Balbi returned to Malta along with the contingent of the R.M.A. which had done duty there. There was nothing to cause the fear that her days would so quickly end. Still there is gloom now where her presence brought brightness."

"The recentness of the deceased lady's return to this island, her comparative youth, the shortness of her illness, have all combined to impress her friends and acquaintances, and to awake a deep sympathy with those who now most mourn her loss."

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The Messageries Maritimes S.S. "Equateur," from Marseilles, passed the Straits of Messina on Saturday at noon and is due here tomorrow.

The S.S. "City of Oxford" left on Saturday for Malta and Liverpool.

ESBEKIEH GARDENS.

By kind permission of Col. C. J. Markham and officers, the band of the 1st Batt. King's Royal Rifle will perform the following programme of music at the Esbekieh Gardens tomorrow (Tuesday), commencing at 5 p.m.

1. Marche Espagnole—Bogno Torres-Revis.
 2. Overture—La Sicile-Artier.
 3. Three Dances—Nail Geyse—German.
 4. Cornet Solo—Dix Post—Chaffier.
 - (Recess—5. Tyrol.)
 6. Intermezzo—Revue de Bal—Chaffier.
 7. Polka—The Chiffon—Chaffier.
 8. Value—Wesley March—Stevens.
 9. Descriptive March—Ode—Ode—Thorpe.
- (A. Beckwith—Dance—Thorpe.)

NEW COMPANY FORMED.

The possibilities of the development of Nile navigation are immense, and there appears to be a good opening for the new Bus-Bost Company (Compagnie des Bateaux-Omnibus) which has just been founded. The objects of the new company are the transport of persons, goods, cattle, etc., by waterway in Egypt and all other enterprises subsidiary thereto. The company declares that it recognises retrospectively the concession granted to Messrs. Ad. Cattani & Co. by the Egyptian Government for the construction of pontoons on the two banks of the Nile between Old Cairo and Rod el Farag, and of the conventions made by the same firm with Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son (Egypt), Limited, and the Anglo-American Nile Steamers and Hotel Company, Limited. The capital is L.E. 10,000 in 2,500 shares of L.E. 4 each. It has already been subscribed and the following persons have taken up the under-mentioned amount of shares:—

Messrs. Ad. Cattani & Co., 1,800, Ad. Cattani, 100, Gustave Cattani, 100, Alfred Menasse, 100, Paolo Finzi, 100, Paul Orzi, 100, Robert S. Rolo, 100, André Suarès, 100. These gentlemen will form the board of directors.

A PROSPEROUS COMPANY.

To-morrow the annual general meeting of the Anglo-American Nile Steamers and Hotels Company will be held at Cairo, when a very satisfactory statement of this company's progress will be placed before the shareholders.

We understand that £35,000 six per cent. dividends are to be redeemed, and besides a dividend of eight per cent. on the year's working a bonus of one per cent. will be given, making a total of nine per cent.

The company has been so successful this year that all the preliminary expenses, which amounted to nearly £5,000, are to be written off, and £10,000 will be placed to the reserve, bringing the reserve fund up to about £12,000, and leaving about £2,700 to be carried forward to the profit and loss account for next year.

THE SUEZ CANAL COMPANY.

At the meeting of the council of the Suez Canal Company held on the 22nd inst., the dividend on the ordinary shares for the year 1904 was fixed at 141fr. (£5 12s. 9d.) net, free of taxes, equivalent to a little more than 28 per cent. on the 500fr. shares. Mr. T.W. Hughes, the managing director of the Harrison Line, of Liverpool, was at the same time nominated as a British administrator in the place of Mr. J.B. Westray, who has resigned.

It is believed that the transit dues will be reduced from 5fr. 50c. to 7fr. 75c. from January 1 next, in consequence of the increase in the receipts.

The dividends for 1904 to be distributed by the company include the following:—On shares "de jouissance," fr. 117.447; and on founder's shares, fr. 66.57, both net.

THE LOCUST VISITATION.

Mr. Machell left Cairo last Thursday and proceeded to Maghagha, where the larger flights of locusts have been observed, in order to personally inspect this part of the country and to find out if any damage had been done, and to what extent the locusts had laid eggs. He found, however, that although a considerable number of locusts had alighted in these spots, they had almost entirely disappeared, and that very few eggs had been laid.

Owing to the prevalence of N. to N.E. winds there is very little fear of a recurrence of the plague from which the country suffered last year.

THE PLAGUE.

Eight cases of plague have been notified in Egypt since the 1st inst., viz., 2 at Mit Ghamra, 2 at Matruh, 2 at Port Said, and 1 at Alexandria. One death from plague was reported yesterday from Damanhour and also 1 from Menouf. There are now eight cases under treatment.

SUSPECTED PLAGUE ON SHIP.

The English steamer "Van Colquhoun," which left Bombay on the 12th inst., arrived at Suez on Friday last with a case of suspected plague aboard. Dr. Vay states that on examination he found that the patient was suffering from a bubo in the left femoral region. There was no doctor on board the vessel but the captain informed Dr. Vay that the patient, who is an Indian, fell ill four days after leaving Bombay, and that for three days his temperature was 40° to 40.5° Cent., after which he gradually improved, and his condition is now satisfactory. After disinfection the vessel was allowed to proceed through the canal in quarantine.

CATTLE PLAGUE.

During the week ending 27th inst., three