

CABLE MESSAGES.

(REUTERS' SPECIAL.)

GENERAL KAUFFMAN RESIGNS.

REMOURED ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS ON MERV.

LONDON, March 15. General Kauffman has resigned the Governorship of Turkestan for being held responsible for the manifestations of Russian sympathy with Afghanistan prior to the war.

Uneasiness is caused by the belief that the Russians are advancing on Merv.

The money market is easy. Money is in large supply; commercial requirements small.

Consols, 96 1/2.

Australian securities are remarkably firm.

New Zealand Four and a-half per cent. quoted at 97.

The wool sales as they progress develop a weakness. The series close on the 27th.

Wheat is steady. A recent shipment of New Zealand wheat of good quality realised 48s.

OTTAWA (Canada), March 16. The Dominion Finance Minister has submitted to Parliament a new protective tariff with the object of producing a yearly increase in the revenue of two millions.

MADRID, March 15. The Spanish Cortes have dissolved.

LONDON, March 16. The quarantine is over in Astrachan except in one village.

LONDON, March 14. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has accepted the Presidency of the Melbourne International Exhibition.

Mr. Berry, Premier of Victoria, was presented to Her Majesty the Queen by Mr. Childers, Agent-General for Victoria.

LONDON, March 15. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will ask Mr. Berry, the Premier of Victoria, for further information. No definite reply will be given till the discussion on Mr. Mill's motion. It is unlikely the Government will introduce an Enabling Act without knowing Mr. Berry's subsequent policy; at the same time the Government might entertain a proposal for the reform of the Council, by making it a mixed elective and nominee body. Mr. Mill's resolution is fixed to be brought on on 1st of April.

The 'Saturday Review' says in regard to Mr. Berry's mission that fearing the system of "tacks" may be renewed, unless the Victorian constitution is altered, it approves of the proposition of a nominee Council, and thinks that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach might usefully mediate in this matter.

Mr. Berry met Earl Granville, the Earl of Derby, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Lowe at the dinner given by the Chairman of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company. Mr. Berry was anxious to be credited with moderation. A warm argument took place, Earl Granville protesting.

Mr. Berry will be present at the Prince of Wales' levee on Monday.

LONDON, March 15, evening. The Victorian Embassy has been successful. The Constitutional question has been settled.

The Ambassadors officially dined with Sir H. Hicks-Beach. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Villiers, Lord Derby, Lord Shaftesbury, and Mr. Childers were present.

Mr. Childers has accepted the Agent-Generalship of Victoria.

(SPECIAL TO THE 'AUCKLAND STAR.') LONDON, March 14. A Committee has been appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in Paris for the Sydney International Exhibition.

AUSTRALIAN.

SYDNEY, Tuesday. At a large meeting of Lambton miners it was decided to join other collieries in the vend system. The manager of the Lambton mine declines to agree to the men's decision, and the miners have therefore given a fortnight's notice.

SYDNEY, March 17. News has been received from New Guinea that six native teachers at the South-east Cape have been poisoned by the natives placing upon trees in the drinking-water.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday. The rumours of probable changes in the Ministry which have been circulating recently, are proved to be devoid of foundation.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AUCKLAND, Tuesday. Small, a contractor in the employ of Nelson Ireland, was arrested to-day on a charge of committing a rape on his own daughter, aged six years. The details are very revolting. The charge is laid by his wife.

The Mayor received a telegram from the Colonial Secretary, enclosing one from Sir M. Hicks-Beach, thanking the citizens on behalf of the Queen for their condolence to the death of the Princess Alice.

A meeting of the creditors of Mr G. W. Binney was held this afternoon, and a statement was read showing the liabilities to be £4,657; deficiency, £1,594. He attributed his failure to losses occasioned by the wreck of the steamer 'Geelong,' and losses on timber speculations. He offered 10s in the pound. Much sympathy was expressed for him by most of the creditors present, all except two being in favour of accepting the offered composition. Mr Kissing, of the Bank of New Zealand, proposes to complete an assignment of the estate for the benefit of the creditors. Two creditors present offered to guarantee 10s. The meeting was adjourned until to-morrow.

The principal money prizes won by the representatives at Nelson were as follows:—Gordon, £200; Hutchinson, £100; Oakey, £50; Taranaki, £33; Fenton,

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THE RECEPTION OF THE VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVES.

(REUTERS' SPECIAL.)

This citizens of Grahamstown were somewhat surprised on rising yesterday morning to witness the festive appearance of Brown and Albert streets, which were decorated with flags of all nations, mercantile printing, and bannercettes specially designed for the occasion. The Reception Committee appointed by Major Murray, consisting of Lieutenant Barlow (of the Engineers), Lieutenant Lawless (of the Naval Brigade), and Quartermaster T. Rawdon (of the Scottish Battalion) had evidently exerted themselves to produce a good effect. "Hang out your banners on the outward walls, the cry is Gordon comes;" and the Thames has undoubtedly shown in an unmistakable manner its appreciation of Petty Officer Gordon and his fellow-representatives' efforts to maintain the fame of the district.

Shortly after two o'clock the various Volunteer Companies rendezvoused on their private parades, and from thence proceeded to form column at the Beach-road, Grahamstown. Major Murray, who had ridden down from the Upper Thames in the forenoon, assumed command, and in the name of Auckland citizens cordially welcomed them back to the district. It was intended that the Brigade should be at the station awaiting the coming of the Champion and his comrades, but through some unforeseen accident some delay took place, and the representatives, tired of waiting at the station, proceeded to the Drill-shed, where the Champion and the Champion, amid cheers, was placed on the gun carriage and escorted through the city to the Drill-shed. Captain Le Roy then gave a general invitation for those present to breakfast at Waterman's Dining-rooms, and after doing full justice to an excellent repast, the worthy Captain, in a few remarks, congratulated Petty-officer Gordon upon becoming the Carbine Champion of New Zealand. The feeling among the Volunteers was one of pleasure, when it was known that the Belt for Carabines had been secured by a representative from the North. The rifle-competitors, although not so fortunate in securing the Belt for that description of arm, had done well, and he hoped they would take courage, and try again next year. Capt. Wildman, of the Thames Naval Brigade, on behalf of the Champion, said:—"I thank you sincerely for your congratulations. At the range Gordon was always found, and at the ball he was the first to dance and the last to leave off; but he is rather backward now. I thank you also for your kindly welcome. It speaks of a good feeling amongst brothers-in-arms; but I cannot agree with your captain with regard to the Belt being won by Auckland. Next year I want the Thames and Gordon to win, as it would be his own." The Belt and Cup were then handed round the room.—Herald

WELCOME TO THE CARBINE CHAMPION IN AUCKLAND.

The Auckland Naval Brigade, under Captain Le Roy, and a few members of the Artillery Company, mustered at the Drill-shed, Wellesley-street, at 9 a.m. yesterday, for the purpose of proceeding to the railway station, in order to welcome to the city Petty-officer Gordon, of the Thames Naval Brigade, Carbine Champion of New Zealand, and the various district representatives who have lately been competing at the rifle tournament. Captain Le Roy went out to Onehunga to meet the representatives, and in the name of Auckland citizens cordially welcomed them back to the district. It was intended that the Brigade should be at the station awaiting the coming of the Champion and his comrades, but through some unforeseen accident some delay took place, and the representatives, tired of waiting at the station, proceeded to the Drill-shed, where the Champion and the Champion, amid cheers, was placed on the gun carriage and escorted through the city to the Drill-shed. Captain Le Roy then gave a general invitation for those present to breakfast at Waterman's Dining-rooms, and after doing full justice to an excellent repast, the worthy Captain, in a few remarks, congratulated Petty-officer Gordon upon becoming the Carbine Champion of New Zealand. The feeling among the Volunteers was one of pleasure, when it was known that the Belt for Carabines had been secured by a representative from the North. The rifle-competitors, although not so fortunate in securing the Belt for that description of arm, had done well, and he hoped they would take courage, and try again next year. Capt. Wildman, of the Thames Naval Brigade, on behalf of the Champion, said:—"I thank you sincerely for your congratulations. At the range Gordon was always found, and at the ball he was the first to dance and the last to leave off; but he is rather backward now. I thank you also for your kindly welcome. It speaks of a good feeling amongst brothers-in-arms; but I cannot agree with your captain with regard to the Belt being won by Auckland. Next year I want the Thames and Gordon to win, as it would be his own." The Belt and Cup were then handed round the room.—Herald

SOUTHERN TELEGRAMS.

(PER PRESS AGENCY.)

WELLINGTON, Tuesday. The effect of the finding just come in the 'Hyderabad' inquiry case is that no blame is attributable to Captain Holmwood for the loss of