WAR TO THE KNIFE.

"The Pestilential Japanese Must Be Rooted From Their Lairs"—"The Kow Shung."

Important Affidavits Calculated to Discredit the Chinese—Treaty Ports in Danger.

TIENTSIN, Aug. 2.—The Emperor of China has issued a manifesto in response to Japan's declaration of war. The manifesto declares that the Emperor accepts the war which Japan has thrust upon him and orders the Viceroy and commanders of the Imperial forces to "root these pestilential Japanese from their lairs." The Emperor throws the whole blame for the shedding of blood upon the Japanese, who he asserts are fighting in an unjust cause. The Emperor has expressed a desire to come to Tientsin in order to be near the centre of interest. Viceroy Li Hung Chang is opposed to the movement, on the ground that Tientsin does not afford suitable accommodations for His Majesty.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 2.—The Japanese have withdrawn their troops from Seoul. Thirty thousand Chinese soldiers have crossed the Corean frontier.

Although the treaty ports are exempt from hostilities during the war, the precautions taken to block the Yang Tse Kiang have rendered navigation unsafe except in broad daylight. The lights at the entrance of the river have been removed, and many torpedoes have been laid. The Chinese steamer plying between this port and Ning Po has raised the British flag and the Smith and Cass, local Chinese coasters have raised the American flag.

For some reason, not ascertainable, the Pei Yang squadron returned to Chee Foo this afternoon.

The affidavit of Captain Galsworthy and Chief officer Tamplin of the transport Kow Shung, which was sunk by the Japanese cruiser Naniwa, have been laid before the Japanese authorities. They agree in the main with the previous accounts of the affair, but give this additional detail: When the Naniwa began firing on the Kow Shung, Captain Galsworthy and several others jumped overboard. While they were swimming the Chinese aboard the Kow Shung kept firing at them. The Naniwa lowered a boat, which picked up Galsworthy and Tamplin. These officers were treated with every kindness by the Japanese. Previously, when Captain Galsworthy had attempted to follow the Naniwa or leave the ship, the Chinese generals had threatened to kill him. The Japanese boarded the Kow Shung a second time to transfer the Europeans to the Naniwa, but the Chinese prevented this.

TOKIO, Aug. 2.—The government has wired instructions to the Japanese minister in London to offer an apology to Great Britain for firing upon and sinking the Kow Shung while she was flying the British flag. The minister is also instructed to inform the government of Great Britain that the commander of the Japanese cruiser was unaware until after the fight that the Kow Shung was a British vessel. Captain Galsworthy, the commander of the Kow Shung, together with many others on board, were saved by the boats of the Japanese warship Naniwa.

LONDON, Aug. 2. — The admiralty has ordered Vice-Admiral Fremantle, who commands the British squadron on the Asiatic coast, to approach the Chinese and Japanese ports, and, while observing strict neutrality, to watch the progress of operations. Private dispatches say that Japan has closed her legation in Pekin and recalled her minister and all her consuls from China.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 2.—The presence of a Japanese troop of acrobats on the stage of the Chinese theatre last night almost precipitated a riot. The audience hissed and otherwise manifested its displeasure, and finally compelled them to leave the stage.

The alarming war news from Asia, combined with reports of severe drouths in Japan, has resulted in a general advance in the market price of rice, which is a staple article of consumption among the thousands of Chinese and Japanese on the Pacific Coast. Jap rice has risen from \$4 37½ to \$5 per 100 pounds, Chinese mixed rices from \$3 50 to \$3 75 per 100 pounds, and Hawaiian rice from \$4 50 to \$5 25 and \$5 50 per 100 pounds. Most of the so called Chinese mixed rice comes from Siam via Hongkong, a British port.

The marine insurance companies which have agencies in this city will not write any more policies for merchandise shipped from San Francisco to Japanese and Chinese ports unless a special war risk is included. It will make no difference whether the goods are shipped in American or foreign vessels, though the sentiment among the underwriters, especially those who represent foreign marine insurance companies, is that the merchandise will be safer in British bottoms and the risk on such will probably be the lightest of all. All the foreign marine insurance agencies in this city are anxiously awaiting instructions from their home offices as to the rate of war risks to be charged. Large quantities of merchandise are shipped from San Francisco to Shanghai by steamers of the Pacific Mail and Occidental and Oriental companies. This merchandise does not go direct, but is transhipped at Yokohama by a line of Japanese steamers. Merchandise going by that route will be subject to a heavy risk.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 2.—Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson, of the Southern Methodist church, who spent many years in mission work in China and Japan, says there is much reason to fear for the safety of the missionaries, both men and women, now stationed in China and Korea. The natives are always ready to visit the responsibility for trouble on the foreigners, no matter how remote they may be from the cause of trouble.

WASHINGTON CITY, Aug. 2.—A cablegram announcing the arrival of the United States steamer Monocacy at Nagasaki, Japan, received by Secretary Herbert, is the only official news that has come to the government from its representatives in China and Japan, and the surmise that official dispatches are being purposely obstructed now amounts to conviction. The Monocacy was at Chemulpo, Korea, with the Baltimore, and it is supposed that she ran over to Nagasaki for coal and supplies. It is thought here that the action of Japan in officially notifying the British government of the existence of a state of war between Japan and China was precipitated by the Kow Shung incident. Had such notice preceded the sinking of the ship Japan would not have incurred liability to Great Britain and been obliged to apologize. In effect that notice is equivalent to a declaration of war, or at least it imposes the same obligations upon neutral nations. By this stroke Japan has doubtless seriously embarrassed China in her efforts to supply herself with warlike equipment in other countries. Just what the effect will be on the Chinese treaty ports cannot be foretold now. Japan has taken the ground that they are practically foreign settlements, and therefore has disclaimed any intention of interfering with them, regarding them as outside the scene of hostile operations. It is believed, however, that China will now proceed to close the more important treaty ports, beginning with Shanghai, perhaps by obstructing the entrances.

The Japanese legation to-day received an official copy of a note which on July 31 the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs addressed to the representatives of all the foreign powers in Tokio. The text of this important declaration is as follows: "The Japanese government, having exhausted every honorable means to bring about a just and lasting settlement of the differences existing between Japan and China, and those efforts having proved wholly unavailing, the undersigned has the honor, in fulfilment of the duty devolving upon him, to announce to you that a state of war exists between Japan and China."

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 2.—It is reported from a semi-official source, that the government here, desiring a prompt settlement of the Japanese-Chinese conflict, is willing to act in complete accordance with Great Britain. Should their joint efforts fail to restore peace Russia is determined not to let any power take possession of any part of Korea.

HENRY CLEWS' CIRCULAR.

Review of the Existing Situation—Impossibility of Tariff Legislation Being Completely Wrecked.

In his financial circular dated New York, July 26, Henry Clews says:

We have to report another week of unbroken dullness in Wall Street affairs. The market is entirely in the hands of a few "professionals," who seek nothing beyond fractional "turns," enough to pay for the day's salt. Naturally the strange conflict at Washington over the duty on sugar creates some interest in Sugar Trust stock; but, even in that, the transactions are comparatively nominal. The attitude of the Sugar Trust interest has subjected the whole "tariff reform" question to uncertainty; and to that extent hopes based on the prospect of the passage of the Tariff bill have been thrown into confusion. It is incredible that the conflict on this single item should be allowed to involve the defeat of the whole tariff. Each day will help to cool off the heated feeling at the capitol; the imperative pressure of public opinion for putting an end to this tariff suspense and for freeing trade from its paralysis will compel respect in both houses; the Sugar Trust may deem it prudent to show some consideration for the country and may instruct its supporters to grant concessions; and, in the worst event, the House would be likely to yield, leaving remedy to be sought in a subsequent effort to modify the terms temporarily conceded.

With all these possibilities within easy reach, the last thing to be expected is the complete defeat of the Tariff bill, and the result most probable is an early settlement which will set the new duties in operation not later than September 1st, while possibly leaving the sugar duty subject to future change. This course is so manifestly the most eligible on grounds of party policy, and so clearly the best way out of the extraordinary complications that it seems entirely probable that a few more days will bring this struggle within sight of its end. It therefore seems safe to regard this hitch in tariff legislation as only temporary and to calculate upon the new tariff taking effect at a comparatively early day, with the effects that have hitherto been expected as likely to attend the new state of things.

The one thing the country now impatiently waits for, as a condition precedent to a more complete restoration of confidence, is the adjournment of Congress. The continued persistence of the outward flow of gold, however, suggests one measure of protection to the public finances which should by all means receive attention before adjournment. The Treasury gold reserve is now close upon \$60,000,000, which is but 12 per cent. of its note obligations. How much farther the drain may be carried it is impossible to say; nor is there any assurance how far the banks may be disposed to help the government under these circumstances. The really serious fact is that the government has virtually ceased to receive any gold through its customs revenue.

All outgo and no income is the present condition, and such a situation should not be tolerated one day longer than is absolutely inevitable. Neglect of taking proper action is all the more culpable because the danger is easy of remedy. Congress has the power to decree that a fixed portion of the customs duties shall be paid in gold, leaving the remainder to be paid in that metal or in the paper money now legally available for that purpose. Should a law be passed requiring 75 per cent. of the duties to be liquidated in gold, the treasury would receive 100 millions per annum more gold revenue than it is now getting; which would at once build up the gold reserve and enable the government to meet the export demand without difficulty. It does seem that a remedy so simple and so entirely unobjectionable should be brought to the attention of Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury, and urged for immediate adoption.

MONTREAL MATTERS.

MONTREAL, Aug. 2.—(Special)—The S.S. Labrador passed Heath point at 7 o'clock this morning and is due at Quebec at 1 p. m., Friday. This is the fastest passage on record. She left Liverpool on July 26.

Prof. Tanner, the well-known agriculturist, arrived here yesterday from England. He says that Canadians have no reason to complain of the action of the British Department of Agriculture in scheduling Canadian cattle.

AGREEMENT REACHED.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—After the meeting of cabinet to-day four members announced, each to a different person, that an agreement had been reached by the senate and house conferers on the tariff bill. The basis of the agreement was not disclosed, but one of the most distinguished members of the cabinet said: "You can announce that the President will sign the tariff bill within ten days."

MONTREAL, Aug. 3.—A dispatch from Sherbrooke says a deaf and dumb man is under arrest there on a charge of collecting money for an alleged asylum in the Maritime Provinces. He is alleged to be one of two men who have been carrying on operations for five years.

PETERBORO, Aug. 3.—This afternoon a mill owned by W. B Kelly of Bridgeworth, was burned. Loss \$7,000. Insurance \$3,000.

BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Proceedings at the Ordinary General Meeting of the Institution Held in London.

A Very Satisfactory Report Presented—High Compliments for the Directors.

(From the Financier, London, July 12.)

An ordinary general meeting of this bank was held yesterday at the City Terminus hotel, Cannon street, under the presidency of Sir Robert Gillespie (the chairman).

The Secretary and Manager (Mr. S. Cameron Alexander) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, you are doubtless aware that at this meeting—our meeting in July—we do not present to you either a report or statement of accounts, for this very good reason that we have not received the accounts from the branches. So soon as they are to hand and are put into shape and audited, they will, as usual, be sent round to every shareholder. In the meantime our object in meeting you to-day is to declare a dividend for the half-year ending June 30, and we are enabled to arrive at that decision because we have received telegraphic information as to the result of the half-year; and while, gentlemen, you will doubtless be prepared for me to state that the profits which have been made are not as large as they have been for the last few years, yet I believe you will concur with me in stating and feeling that, under the peculiar and harassing circumstances of the past half-year, it is satisfactory that we are able to maintain the usual dividend at this time of year, and the bonus, and to carry forward a considerable sum of money for next half-year. (Applause.) We do not propose to devote to the reserve fund any portion of the balance that we carry forward, but we hold it in abeyance to see what we can do at the end of the present year. I think, gentlemen, the figures, as I said before, will be satisfactory to you, when you consider the peculiarly depressing circumstances of trade, and more particularly of banking interests, in the great continent of America. I, gentlemen—and I hope you will not think me very egotistical when I say this—have been connected with Canada and the American trade for a number of years—I can look back to nearly sixty years gentlemen—and I never remember any such depression as that which we have gone through, or even anything approaching it; and I think that that being borne in mind we may well be satisfied with the result of this half year, which I will now lay before you. The profit which we have in hand applicable to a dividend is £31,020, 18s. 2d., and the dividend, which is equivalent to 4 per cent. for the half-year, absorbs £24,000, leaving a balance of £7,020 18s. 2d. to be carried forward. Well, gentlemen, the condition which I have referred to has necessarily involved very great anxiety to us, unusually positive instructions to carry out a certain system, and also the working of our business upon a very conservative line, and I think it is only due to our officers, with one or two exceptions—I will put that in a parenthesis—to say that they have loyally and very properly carried out the wishes and instructions of the court, and had it not been for that, and had we not contracted our business and increased our reserves very largely, our position might have been very different to what it is to-day. I hope, gentlemen, you will feel and sympathise with us for the very anxious times we have passed through, and that you will regard it as a successful issue that we have arrived at. I am sorry to read day by day in the newspapers that there is such a disturbance and such a disturbing element existing in the United States of America. What will be the result of the present condition of things it is difficult for me to say, but although we must not speak politics here, I must say, thank God that we are not a democracy. (Hear, hear.) But let us hope that with a firm hand these troubles will be overcome, that the people will settle down again, and that there will be no conflict between labor and capital, which is the destruction of commerce. Then I think we shall see a revival in trade and a better feeling, and less want of confidence existing throughout the great continent of America. This disturbed state of things has most seriously affected Canada. While I say that, gentlemen, let me also express my pride and my pleasure that Canada has gone through this trial so triumphantly that her banks have all stood firm and that her securities at the present time, I believe, stand the highest in the market. (Hear, hear.) With these observations I will ask you to allow me to propose the following resolution, promising, first of all, that I shall be most happy, to the best of my ability, to reply to any questions shareholders may like to put to me. The resolution is: "That a dividend be paid on the paid up capital of the bank at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and bonus of 1 per cent., free of income tax, for the half-year ended June 30 last, payable on or after the 14th inst." I have forgotten one point which may interest you, and that is with regard to floods. These floods have undoubtedly been very serious, but the effect of them, and the damage done, have been greatly exaggerated. To give you some idea, however, of what the floods have been, I may tell you that in our branch at Portland, on the ground floor, the men were up to their waists in water; the counters were covered with three or four inches of water, and we were obliged to vacate the premises; but by a letter received this morning I am glad to say that the flood has subsided more quickly than was anticipated, and that in the course of a short time they expect to be in the premises again.

Mr. James Anderson seconded the resolution, which was at once put and carried unanimously.

Mr. H. J. Gardiner moved that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the chairman and directors of the bank for their care in conducting the business during the last half year. It was not often that he attended these meetings, but he was bound to say he very much appreciated the cautious policy which had been adopted over a series of years, and he wished, as an individual proprietor, to express a hope that the directors would continue on the same lines in the future, namely, of strengthening the reserves and carrying out a cautious policy, which had given such security to the bank. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Henry Wark, in seconding the resolution, said he had lived in British Columbia nearly all his life and knew a great deal about the bank officials in that part of the world, and he was able to say that this bank's business could not be in better hands than those who had the management of affairs there. It was true that there had been great floods there, which had resulted in considerable damage, but he did not think those floods would affect this bank very much. The shareholders had great reason to tender their united thanks to the chairman for the statement he had made and to the directors for their able conduct of the business. (Hear, hear.)

The vote was accorded with acclamation.

The Chairman, in reply, said: I am sure we all appreciate very greatly the remarks of the honorable shareholders who have just spoken. I, on behalf of the directors, accept the thanks of the meeting with a great deal of pleasure, and I may say we feel it a compliment to have your confidence. We do all we can to advance the interests of the bank, and I hope that, with health and strength, I may be able to continue for some few more years to give my best attention, solicitude, and care to the interests of the bank. (Hear, hear.) I am only echoing the sentiments of my colleagues, I am sure, when I thank you all greatly.

The proceedings then terminated.

MINING AND AGRICULTURE.

TO THE EDITOR:—In the issue of 17th July of the COLONIST, there appeared a letter from me under the heading of "Mining and Agriculture," wherein I pointed out the advantages of having a bureau of mines and mining, and I would now respectfully ask your attention to some further remarks on the beneficial effects, which would, I think, result from this bureau being established.

From the North to the South of British Columbia it has been proved that there are minerals, both precious and base. Let it be recognised that the Province has the out-put of the mines to pay for the product of the soil.

It should never be forgotten the minerals of the province are its strongest and most extensive resources; giving encouragement to agriculture and railways; and to assist in the development of these mineral resources, a bureau of mining would do much good, for,

It would be to the interest of the miner to give all information to the bureau.

It would be to the interest of the Government to have all information at the bureau.

It would be to the interest of the investor to get all information from the bureau.

It would be an antidote to pure speculation in mines, and give confidence to people investing in mining.

Especially would it be most valuable, for while mining has been carried on in the province since 1858, it is now—to quote Mr. Rithet—"entering on its manhood," and beginning with a reliable source of information would mean a great deal for its future.

It is not, however, to the precious minerals alone that attention should be called—iron, copper, coal, etc., are of inestimable value, and will be the main factors to further progressive and lucrative industries. Nature seems to have placed the minerals of the province in the best position for their future use; for while the precious metals are distributed all over the country, iron and copper on the coast are easy of shipment, after smelting, with the fluxes available and fuel to hand, or for rolling mills. Added to this, the favorable position the coast shows for shipbuilding. The iron, copper and coal in the interior, point to a development of that portion of the province, where necessarily a great amount of mechanical work will be essential for the manufacturing industries that will be needful.

A country like British Columbia, with great mineral resources, should recognise that these resources are the most tangible which she has, for while her forests may be destroyed by fire and her fisheries may fluctuate, the primary fundamental wealth of the province, the mines, are *in esse*, and the others *in posse*.

British Columbia should recognise that after a depression it is time to show that here in this province, with a government giving every encouragement and information to people, these people will find they can invest their money with confidence.

By having good laws you are able to influence the best people to come and interest themselves in the country, and capital is what is required.

So far, I have alluded principally to the beneficial effects that a bureau of mining would have on mining, but it would have an effect also in other fields.

It is not denied that the discovery of the precious minerals and the opening up of the mines were paramount in leading to the agricultural and manufacturing industries of Australia, California, Montana, and the same opening up of mines will have the same effect in South Africa.

In connection with the recent surveys the bureau would be of great assistance to the government in laying out holdings in the vicinity of the mines which are suitable for agricultural purposes; and there are many valleys in proximity to the mining regions which would be well worth cultivation were the market close at hand. This would lead to larger spheres of agriculture, and the railways noting this, would extend their communications, and so eventually cause it to be unnecessary to import such a large amount of our food supply.

In connection with this it may be noted that Sir William Van Horne is quoted as expressing his opinion to the effect that there is more than a probability of an early railway construction era in this province, and a complete and accurate knowledge of the mining resources, such as would be available at the Bureau of Mining, would be a most useful adjunct in assisting such enterprise. Yours truly,

W. R. GRAHAME.

Victoria, B.C., July 31, 1894.

FATAL ASCENT.

ANDERSON, Ind., Aug. 2—At 5 o'clock last evening Miss Tillie Sabern made a balloon ascension from Ironwood Park. When she cut loose the parachute failed to open until within a hundred feet of the earth and the sudden jerk when it spread broke her hold and she fell to the ground and was dead when picked up. Her neck was broken, the spine badly crushed and every limb broken. The girl was but 17 years of age. Her home was in Richmond, Ind., where her mother last night pleaded with her not to attempt the ascension. It was her first trip and her death was witnessed by a brother and cousin. The girl was well known at Richmond.

NEWFOUNDLAND POLITICS.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., Aug. 2.—The legislature began its annual session here to-day. The principal measure that will engross the attention of the law makers will be to enact statutes providing for a series of public works in order that the unemployed now clamoring for work may become satisfied and not follow after the strange god of "Coxeyism" now threatening.

TERRIBLY FATAL.

VIENNA, Aug. 2.—A doctor of the Galician town of Caleszcyky reports that sometimes people who attend funerals of persons who died of cholera are attacked with pains on their way home, lie down and die in a few hours. The town is isolated. All the shops and factories are closed. The rich have fled, while the working people walk the streets in a starving condition, take the disease and die.

THE KOREAN QUESTION.

Japan Determined to Contest the Suzerainty of the Hermit Kingdom With China.

The Leading Power in the Orient—Her Motives Chivalrous and Disinterested.

(From the Overland China Mail, June 21.)

The Peninsular Kingdom of Korea now seems once more to be the theatre of rather stirring events, and there is every likelihood of a revival of the long-standing and ever-recurring struggle over the rights to exercise suzerainty over that country. China has practically assumed those rights for centuries, but now the Japanese, we hear, are determined to contest the position and to bring the Hermit Kingdom under the vassalage of Dai Nippon. The Japanese, it must be remembered, have established a considerable trade with Korea, which gives them a pretext for taking a hand in the politics of the country in which they fear to see Russia securing a foodhold. In view of the present aspect of affairs, the zeal of the British Admiral and fleet in endeavoring to rescue the stranded ship Drumeltan near Nagasaki, will be well rewarded by their being within easy reach of the scene of the conflict now going on.

The Japanese government has authorized the press to announce that, in view of the growing disquiet in Korea, it has been decided to send troops to that country to afford protection to the Japanese Legation, consulates, and residents. Writing on this subject, the Nichi Nichi Shimbun says:—"The government having decided to despatch troops to Korea, the bank of the Han river will feel, in a few days, the tramp of our advancing arms. We hear that Chinese troops also are about to enter the peninsula kingdom. May our well disciplined army soon return home, bringing with it peace and honour. The object of sending troops to Korea is primarily to protect our countrymen there, and no sinister motive is entertained against that country. Hence it goes without saying that, so soon as order shall have been restored in the peninsula, the Japanese and Chinese troops, in accordance with the Tientsin convention, will sail home simultaneously. We sincerely hope that the step just taken by the Japanese and Chinese governments may stop at the restoration of the *status quo ante*. Should anything happen, however, to imperil the independence of Korea, it would be incumbent upon Japan, in pursuance of her long standing policy, to defend the peninsular kingdom against such a danger. In case of necessity a congress of the powers interested might be convened to establish Korea's position as a neutral state, and thereby to prevent her being placed under the protection of any one power. Of the states interested in Korea, Japan and China alone have at present conventional agreements about that country.

"We entertain the hope that the present affair may be satisfactorily ended by amicable arrangement between the two empires, without leading to complications with any third power. Such being the object of sending troops to Korea, and such the policy Japan pursues toward that country, our military and naval officers in command of the forces in the peninsula are bound to make peace the principal object of their actions. In case they are asked to undertake the subjugation of the rebels, they should be brave and prompt in the discharge of their duties. But in undertaking such a task they ought to remember that, excepting the leaders, all the insurgents should be treated leniently; that, apart from cases where prompt action is necessary, the conduct of affairs should be left, as far as possible, to the discretion of the Korean government, and that they should endeavor to avoid collisions with the troops of any other foreign country taking part in putting down the insurrection. With respect to matters such as may seem to be fraught with important and far reaching consequences, the commanders of the Japanese forces should exercise all possible care, so that, on the one hand, Japan's disinterested and chivalrous motives may be appreciated by Korea and by all other countries, and on the other, her position as the leading power in the Orient may be maintained. In such a manner alone will it be possible to carry out consistently the policy decided upon by our government. Should any power attempt to execute an aggressive design, the simple course for Japan would be to assist Korea and prevent the consummation of such an object. In this respect, Japan will not hesitate to fight with any power. It is of course impossible to lay down a hard-and-fast line of conduct in matters relating to foreign countries. We have ventured to offer the above suggestions in view of this empire's general policy, which does not aim at aggrandisement in Korea. But it is far from our intention to hamper the actions of officers sent there."

(From the Overland China Mail, June 27.)

The arrival here on the 15th inst. of the Haeting enabled us (N.-C. Daily News) to get some particulars of the recent dispatch of Chinese troops to Korea. Three vessels, the Toonan, Haeting and Haean, were detailed for the service, but their destination was kept a secret, for some of them cleared for Newchwang, to which port, however, they never went. The Haeting left Shanghai on the 3rd instant with orders to proceed to Tongku and embark troops for Kirin. However, when she got to Tongku she was ordered to proceed to Shanhaikuan, and as she approached Tongku she met the Toonan going out. The Toonan took on board some 800 infantry and 80 horses, and these with the followers amounted to about 1,000. The Haean took about 500 and the Haeting about 700, but some 5,000 men in all are reported to have been dispatched. The destination of the vessels was a place called Asan Anch, an anchorage in the Gulf of Prince Jerome, and at the limit of the surveys that have been made by foreigners. It is situated in lat. 37 N. and long. 126 48 E, and is about thirty miles south of Chemulpo. The Haeting left Shanhaikuan on Sunday, and on reaching her destination found the Haean, the Toonan and a Chinese man-of-war, as convoy, at anchor. The vessels could not proceed further than this, so the troops had to be landed in boats and were sent away in sampans to Hungchow, a place some fifteen miles further up, the landing place being some hundred miles from where the rebels were said to be in force, they having got possession of two provinces. The rebels were said to be some 30,000 strong, and a Chinese officer who had returned from the camp reported that there were a large number of Japanese soldiers where the rebels were, having apparently been sent to protect the Japanese merchants and other Japanese residents.

The information at present available concerning the present state of affairs in Korea, says the N. C. Daily News of June 23, indicates the taking up of a very bold front on the part of the Japanese, whose forces at the time of latest advices were separated from the Chinese troops by a distance of only forty-five miles. On Wednesday, the 13th instant, the Japanese soldiers were landed at Chemulpo, whilst the harbor and adjacent islands were strongly fortified. The troops numbered 1,040 infantry, in full marching order, equipped with the Browser rifle, and supplied with 150 rounds of ammunition per man. They were subject to the strictest discipline, and appeared to be an exceedingly serviceable body of men. They were billeted upon the Japanese residents in Chemulpo, and were warned by their officers to behave themselves, remember their duty to their country, and that they had to protect their nationals. This good advice was certainly acted upon, and so quietly did they conduct themselves, that departure at 4 o'clock one morning for Seoul was not discovered until some time afterwards. The march to Seoul, a distance of 27 miles, tried the men severely, as the weather was very hot and not suited to the heavy equipment of the soldiers. The march to Seoul was conducted as if operations were being carried on in a hostile country, the road being commanded at various points by howitzers and Gatling guns. In Seoul the troops were billeted upon the Japanese residents, and the marines who had preceded them returned to Chemulpo. The Chinese meanwhile were engaged about forty-five miles away dispersing the rebels, whom they are said to have crushed. Everything was being managed with the greatest secrecy, and, to say the least, the impression prevalent in Seoul was that the Japanese troops having come to the country, some very strong reasons would have to be adduced to get them to withdraw.

THE RAILWAY UNION.

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—There are those who say that the future of the American Railway Union as a factor in the labor field is hanging in the balance. This is denied by President Debs and his associates, who declare that the union is here to stay. At 10 o'clock this morning President Debs called to order at the Revere house a special meeting of delegates from districts affected by the strike. The hall was well filled and the opening proceedings were conducted with closed doors. About the hall and outside were several hundred representatives of labor organizations interested in the outcome. Before the delegates went into convention it was said that the proceedings would last all day and might run over into Friday. Different delegates who were spoken to said that there was no intention of calling the strike off, but that some of the roads were showing signs of weakness and it was necessary to bolster the men up. The convention, they said, would have absolute legislative power to decide on further methods. This was in line with a statement made earlier by President Debs, who said:

"In this convention we are going to commence cementing together all the workingmen in America in one grand body, so that if we ever have cause to strike again we will not have to beg labor leaders who have sold out their souls to corporations to assist us, but we will all be together, and if necessary can paralyze every industry in the country at the same moment, and then let them put us all in jail together. We will elect a president of these United States who will have manhood and honesty enough to see fair play; we will elect governors who will call out the state militia to protect laboring men when they are in the right and shoot down law breakers; we will elect judges who will be fair-minded, honorable and above price, and to whom laboring men can appeal for justice with a surety of getting it. I do not say that there are not pure and honest judges on the bench, for there are, but I do say that there are men to-day on the federal bench who sold body and soul to corporations, and who signed bills and decrees drawn by the roads themselves and simply brought to these judges for signing."

SARNIA, Aug. 3.—A terrific fire broke out on the premises of the Canadian Oil Co., consuming the barrelling houses, agitators, tank, bleacher and several hundred barrels of oil.