

BALFOURS BLUNDERS

The Fourteenth Parliament Has Out a Sorry Spectacle During Its First Session.

Balfour Likely to Retire and Chamberlain Resumes Leadership of the House.

London Papers on the Salisbury-Olney Correspondence-Arbitration Proposals.

London, July 20.—The fourteenth parliament of Queen Victoria will close its first session on August 14, after certain private, political and court measures shall have been disposed of. This programme, which has been decided upon by the cabinet, springs from a desire to by the Gordian knot of the difficulties in which the government finds itself, by a decisive action. The cabinet has found for an effective organization of the session than this, of which only ten real working days remain, has rarely been known in the history of any party having over one hundred members in the house of commons. The educational bill passed and the Scottish railways bill tolerably sure to be passed, completes the record of first class measures disposed of at this session. It has been deemed impossible to proceed with the deceased wife's sister bill, and the Irish land bill has no chance at this session, even if the house should enter upon all night sittings.

London, which was overwhelmingly Conservative at last election, stands amazed and disgusted at the ridiculous outcome. All this fortifies the common belief that before the next session begins A. J. Balfour will retire from the government leadership in the house of commons and take his seat among the lords, leaving Joseph Chamberlain head of the commons and the chief member of the Conservative party's destiny.

The debility that has characterized the government had put the London Radicals in high spirits, and they have already begun seriously to trim their sails for the next election. Baron Tweedmouth has announced a conference for representative politicians from all parts of the metropolis at the National Liberal Club this evening to consider a thorough re-organization of the Liberal party in London.

A painting by Alma Tadema and one by Constable have been stolen from a van en route from this city to Paddington on Wednesday. The Scotland Yard authorities believe they have been taken to New York, which they allege contains a "fence" for such property. These detectives also assert that they have positive knowledge that Gainsborough's celebrated portrait of the Duchess of Devonshire, which was out from the frame a few years ago, is now in a New York mansion, subject to return if sufficient ransom is paid. The wife of a Scotland Yard accountant for the non-recovery of stolen pictures by the alleged fact that there are many vastly rich but little cultured people in the United States, whose parlors are never invaded by picture experts.

It is announced that Rudyard Kipling is building a house in a retired part of Sussex.

Mr. Gladstone has written a gracefully worded letter to Princess Maud of Wales wishing her much happiness in her new life, and asking her to accept certain of his works. The letter dwells upon the long and pleasant association with the royal house.

Paderevski paid a secret visit to London recently to consult a spiritualist about his son, who has been cured of his long illness by the spiritualist's aid.

The decision of Lord Chief Justice Russell not to allow ladies on the bench at future sittings of the court for the trial of Dr. Jameson, the South African rebel, is well received. There have been many protests about the way in which the recent sittings of the court in this case were turned into society functions.

All the London journals this morning have comments upon the statement made by Lord Salisbury in the house of lords, and upon the correspondence between the United States and the British government upon the Venezuelan question, which he presented at the time he made his statement. The published correspondence between the two governments is in the United States.

An editorial in the Graphic says of the blue book, "It shows that it is not Lord Salisbury's fault if the negotiations for an arbitration treaty and for the settlement of the Venezuelan question have proved abortive. The attitude of the United States is uncompromising. Mr. Olney wants his own way or he will accept nothing. This is not the temper in which it is profitable to discuss such schemes for the permanent avoidance of quarrels."

The Daily News (Liberal) in its comments out Lord Salisbury's unusual concession to the democratic spirit in inviting the opinion of the country in the arbitration question. The News considers that the difference between Mr. Olney and Lord Salisbury is one of degree and not principle. "Lord Salisbury's dispatches," the Daily News adds, "are unduly fearful, and Mr. Olney's, on the other hand, are sometimes too sharp and absolute. Lord Salisbury should pluck up courage and risk something for an experiment so eminently desirable as a permanent court of arbitration."

The Chronicle (Liberal) takes the view that the Venezuelan blue book is the foundation stone of an edifice to replace war among civilized nations. "The intellectual word play between Mr. Olney and Lord Salisbury is indeed fascinating reading," says the Chronicle. "Mr. Olney produces a very strong, if indeed, it is not an unanswerable argument in reply to Lord Salisbury's fear of the multiplication of claims under the arbitration."

We feel sure the result to Lord Salisbury's appeal to the country will be an overwhelming mandate to continue the negotiations."

An editorial in the Times says: "It is apparent from the somewhat tangled correspondence that the British and American governments have not reached a

common basis for an agreement though both of them are anxious for an amicable settlement. The Americans ought not to forget that they might now be Spanish subjects if the bull of Pope Alexander, the corner stone of the Venezuelan demand, were admitted to be of unimpeachable validity. We are entitled to assume that both nations will recognize the ruling power of common sense. The country should approve the moderation and firmness which the government has shown."

The Conservative Standard thinks the deliberate judgment of the nation will cordially sustain Lord Salisbury. "The blue book shows," the Standard thinks, "that there has been progress, however slow, toward a peaceful and friendly arrangement, which the best citizens of England and America earnestly desire."

The Daily Telegraph (Liberal) says: "Lord Salisbury's statement has left nothing to be desired but speedier progress in the negotiations. The tedious prolongation of this dispute is becoming absolutely intolerable. Even if we lost somewhat by arbitration it will be worth while, for the purpose of shaking the tedious incubus of the Venezuelan question from the nation's shoulders." The Morning Post (Conservative) has an editorial which says: "A perusal of the bluebook leaves the impression that Mr. Olney is less anxious for a settlement of either the questions under discussion than for a chance of putting Lord Salisbury in the wrong. It must not be forgotten that Mr. Olney represents the defeated section of the Democrats. It is just possible that the old-fashioned Democrats would be ready to retrieve their position by preparing a quarrel with Great Britain by which American national feeling would be aroused and in the conduct of which they might find an opportunity to defeat their Democratic and Republican rivals."

THOUSANDS KILLED

Turks Renew Their Massacres in the Diarbekir District of Armenia.

In One City 4,500 Persons Were Killed and the Place Pillaged.

Opinions of the London Press Upon the Venezuelan Correspondence.

London, July 18.—The Chronicle publishes a dispatch from Constantinople which asserts that massacres have occurred at Egin in the Diarbekir district of Armenia in which 4,500 persons were killed and the city was sacked. The Turkish authorities are trying to keep the report of the massacres secret, according to the Chronicle's correspondent. He also reports that in the Bitlis district, almost every village has been ruined and that a massacre is imminent at Aintab, the beginning being deferred until an order is received from the sultan's palace.

Commenting to-day upon the correspondence on the subject which the Marquis of Salisbury laid before the house of lords yesterday, the Globe expresses the opinion that the British premier has been seriously near a recognition of the Monroe doctrine. On this point the Globe says: "We must beware of weakening in the slightest degree from the position hitherto maintained by Great Britain."

The Globe also thinks the foreign office has been altogether too complacent with respect to the Venezuelan question itself and trusts there is no disposition on the part of the government to recede from the determination not to recognize the American commission.

In regard to the treaty of arbitration," continues the Globe, "our experience with the United States has been uniformly discouraging, as for instance, in the cases of the Alabama claims and the Behring Sea seal fisheries dispute." The Pall Mall Gazette says both sides in the correspondence have shown a disposition to discuss each possible situation in a conciliatory spirit, they being propelled towards a settlement by the dynamic forces of mutual good will.

The St. James Gazette expresses a fear that the negotiations have not brought the United States much nearer a settlement.

A Rome dispatch to the Times says that Marquis Vicomte Venost has accepted the foreign portfolio in the Italian cabinet. This completes the reorganization of the cabinet.

Pope Leo XIII. granted an audience to-day to Prof. Schroeder of the University of Washington.

The judicial committee of the privy council has refused Joseph Adams' petition to appeal to the privy council from a decision of the supreme court of Canada in what is known as the Toronto-Waterloo case. The committee refused to allow an appeal in the case of the township of Chatham, Ont., against the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Chamney M. Depew, of New York, went on a special train to-day to Liverpool in order to catch the Cunard line steamer Lucania, on board which vessel he will return home on account of the serious illness of Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Paris, July 18.—The government is about issuing a decree increasing the customs duties upon all foreign sugars. The decree goes into effect on August 1, concurrently with the new German sugar act, which raises the duty from 7 francs to 12½ francs upon refined sugars.

Li Hung Chang visited the Credit Lyonnais Bank to-day. The distinguished Chinese statesman said that China intended to place a great loan soon, and desired to treat directly with the banks.

QUEEN VICTORIA CONSENTS To Act as Arbitrator in a Boundary Dispute.

New York, July 20.—A dispatch to the Herald from Valparaiso says: "The foreign minister at Santiago has received an important dispatch from the Queen Victoria in London stating that Queen Victoria consents to act as arbitrator in the boundary dispute between Chile and Argentina."

do it with much less. I would invariably attack the Spaniards after manuvering their columns into cul-de-sacs, and I would take an important town. The supplies captured there would assist in the capture of the next one, and so on until I would be able to storm Havana with its fully equipped army of 100,000 men and fifty pieces of artillery.

SOLDIERS FOR CUBA

Heavy Reinforcements of Spanish Arms to be Sent to Cuba in the Early Fall.

Relations Between U. S. and Spain Now Said to be on a Satisfactory Footing.

Spanish Mothers Object to Their Sons Being Sent Off to the War in Cuba.

New York, July 18.—In an interview to-day Senator Baidassano Topet, Spanish consul-general, said that reinforcements of Spanish arms are to be sent to Cuba next August and September to supply vacancies caused by death and wounds. There are fifty-six battalion lines in Spain, each of which would send two companies of 250 men each, making 28,000 men. Spain's ten battalions of sharpshooters would also contribute a like quota of two companies each. Canary Island's two battalions and three battalions in Beleris Islands would contribute the same, making 7,500 more or over 35,000 in all.

London, July 18.—A dispatch from Madrid says the relations between Spain and the United States are on a satisfactory footing. The dispatch adds that no final decision has been taken in the case of the American captured on board the filibustering schooner Competitor. It is further reported that the United States will recognize Capt. General Weyler's regulations requiring the registration of foreigners before he will at low them the privileges of the foreign citizenship only so far as they don't clash with the English-American treaty of 1877.

Madrid, July 18.—The mothers of a number of soldiers who are about to start from Saragossa for Cuba, have made a protest to the government against their sons being taken away. The government authorities ascribe the protests to the influence of agents of the Cuban filibusters and are determined to prosecute any such persons as they may find.

Havana, July 18.—Passengers from San Cristobal reached this city to-day and report having heard heavy cannonading and musketry firing, yesterday, which proceeded, apparently, from north of the mountains. It is believed an engagement was in progress between "Fuentes" command and the insurgents under Nunez. The latter were most recently reported having passed the Los Pinos farm, in the province of Pinar del Rio. Protected by Bandra, Jose Miro succeeded in landing his expedition in the district of Santiago. The insurgents plundered and partially burned the village of Cabesin, in the province of Matanzas. The town of San Hilario de Guama, founded in 1693, was also attacked and twelve houses burnt.

ANOTHER BIG BATTLE

Maceo Again Defeats a Spanish Army—General Inclan Taken Prisoner.

Insurgent Leader Says With Arms He Can Conquer Cuba in Two Months.

Key West, July 20.—The Spaniards under Gen. Suarez Inclan have sustained a crushing defeat at the hands of the insurgents under Antonio Maceo. Not only was Inclan's column defeated with heavy loss, but it is currently reported in Havana that the Spanish general was captured and is now held a prisoner by Maceo.

The battle is said to have occurred on July 15, near Maceo's stronghold in Pinar del Rio. For the last two weeks the rebels have been very aggressive, and small parties have repeatedly attacked the procha, causing the Spaniards much annoyance. Inclan was ordered to drive back these detached bands of Cubans, and for this purpose took with him 2,000 men.

Maceo seems to have expected such a movement and arranged to ambush the Spaniards. He stationed a large force in a favorable spot, and ordered his detached bands to draw Inclan into the trap. The Spaniards followed the insurgents' skirmishes incautiously, and fell into the ambush. Then the Cubans opened fire from all sides, which threw the Spaniards into confusion.

While the Spaniards were thus beset, the Cubans charged and completely routed their foes. Inclan made a desperate effort to rally his demoralized forces, but was surrounded by the Cubans and compelled to surrender.

It is said in Havana that Spaniards were pursued almost to the trenches and lost more than 300 men killed and wounded. There were fourteen officers among the killed.

The Cubans here say that Maceo will hold Inclan as a hostage for the lives of prominent insurgent officers who have been captured by the Spaniards. One of these is Capote. If this rebel leader is shot by the Spaniards, it is thought Inclan will meet the same fate at the hands of Maceo.

New York, July 20.—The World this morning publishes the following correspondence from the head of the committee of Gen. Antonio Maceo, at Tomas de San Jose, Pinar del Rio, June 26:

"The want of a few cartridges and a few cannon," said Gen. Antonio Maceo, "is all that make our government use nature's rocks instead of bricks and mortar for a White House." Asked how many and what arms and ammunition he needed to guarantee to win the war in, say, two months, he said:

"I could do it with 20,000 cheap Remington rifles of small calibre, 1,500,000 cartridges, ten cannon and 100,000 rounds of artillery ammunition. I might

do it with much less. I would invariably attack the Spaniards after manuvering their columns into cul-de-sacs, and I would take an important town. The supplies captured there would assist in the capture of the next one, and so on until I would be able to storm Havana with its fully equipped army of 100,000 men and fifty pieces of artillery.

In addition to our 60,000 armed men we have fully 20,000 more men armed with only machetes and revolvers, thus giving us a probable total of 80,000 revolutionists in the field."

Maceo estimates that the Cubans have seven cartridges to each soldier. Havana, July 20.—The persons arrested in a house in San Rafael street Thursday, when the police were searching the place for munitions of war, have been formerly accused of conspiracy.

A RAILROAD ROBBED

Great Northern Swindled by Smooth Rogues of Large Sums of Money.

The Gang Was Aided by Railway Employees Running From Spokane to Seattle.

Seattle, July 20.—By a smooth gang of rogues, of which a number of railroad men were members, the Great Northern railway has been robbed systematically for a period covering at least a year past, of a sum of money estimated at from \$2,000 at the lowest to \$5,000 at a reasonable estimate. The gang worked through the train men running from Seattle to Spokane. Over this portion of the road men have been carried for the nominal fare of \$7.50, while the regular rate to Spokane is \$15.30. But not a dollar of the money ever found its way into the coffers of the company. It was taken by the ringleaders the gang in Seattle and divided among the trainmen who were in on the deal.

That the company was being robbed regularly by its employees and others outside the service came to the knowledge of the officials of the road about June 1 of this year. Detectives were at once employed to ferret out the conspiracy, and within six weeks confessions had been obtained from the ringleaders of the gang, and from a number of men who had been carried over the road by paying to the bootleggers \$7.50. The gang was primarily composed of gamblers, "con" men and variety theatre employees and hangers-on. The general public was not taken into the scheme. The class of people who travel from town to town on the Sound circuit of variety theatres and men who for various reasons had to keep moving, profited by the operations of the gang.

The head of the gang was A. C. Edwards, who was arrested this morning. He is now in the county jail in default of bail. Edwards is a son of a United States Commissioner Edwards, of Alaska, who was appointed from Spokane by President Cleveland. Edwards is a well known character both in Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma. He was formerly editor of the Spokane Daily Sun, a sensational sheet. He was arrested many times in Spokane, charged with libel and slander. At Seattle he conducted a job printing office. Mrs. Edwards has the appearance of being a lady of refinement and education. It is not believed that she had any knowledge of her husband's doings.

FROM THE CAPITAL

No Wholesale Dismissal of Public Officials—Those Queen's Counsel.

Ottawa, July 20.—Politically the capital is dead to-day. Tharte and Scott are the only members in town. The building of the story of the wholesale dismissal of public works officials, and says not a single man has been let out except a number of workmen employed to make improvements around the buildings. They were put on by the late government during the election in order to get their votes.

Senator McInnes is expected to arrive from the west to-morrow.

Premier Laurier is expected back from Quebec on Tuesday. He will speak for Tharte at St. John's and I believe on Saturday.

The Free Press has the following: It is understood that Sir Oliver Mowat is not disposed to see the legal profession made ridiculous by a number of persons, unfit alike for their personality and status at the bar, sporting the position of Q.C. The list recently presented to the governor-general is to be revised and wisely so.

Premier Laurier and Madame Laurier have taken Major Chaplain's house on O'Connor street for the month of July and August.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Saturday's Proceedings at the Milwaukee Conference.

Milwaukee, Wis., July 20.—Saturday was junior day at the Baptist convention. The afternoon meeting was the only joint session, the morning being given to department rallies, and the whole programme consisted of junior work. The children were all there—departmental children in general and Wa-Tha-Wa in particular, the little Indian girl who stood before the vast audience and sang in her own tongue prettily yesterday. The department rallies this morning were all successful. Rev. S. C. Wallace, of Toronto, presided at Summerfield church, J. W. Conley, of St. Paul, led at Plymouth church. Rev. Charles Ness, of Baltimore, presided at the First Baptist church.

EXTRAORDINARY PRECAUTIONS.

How Queen Victoria is Guarded When She Travels.

London, July 20.—Extraordinary orders have been issued in anticipation of the journey of Queen Victoria from Windsor Castle to London to-morrow to attend the wedding of her grand-daughter, Princess Maud of Wales. Special watchmen will be stationed at intervals every 20 yards all along the line of railroad from Windsor to London. Paddington, while the royal train is en route.

THE MALVERN FIRE

Particulars of the Almost Total Destruction of the Little Arkansas Town.

Chicago Car Barns Burned—Order Restored in Cleveland—American News.

Little Rock, Ark., July 20.—Malvern Ark., at the junction of the Hot Springs railway, was almost entirely wiped out by Saturday's fire. Malvern was a city of about 6000 inhabitants, the business portion of the place being clustered around the railroad station. All this section was destroyed, only three business houses remaining. The total loss is variously estimated at from \$200,000 to \$400,000, only a small portion of which is covered by insurance. The burned buildings include the railroad depot, two hotels and a bank. The fire was without doubt a plot to destroy the town. The blaze broke out about midnight in three different places, and there was no apparatus to fight the fire itself out. Six negroes are under arrest charged with starting the fire, and the people of the town are in such a state of excitement that there is strong probability that the incendiaries will be summarily dealt with.

The report that a negro was lynched this morning proves erroneous. No one was lynched actually, but a white tramp came near forfeiting his life in an endeavor to filch money from the excited citizens. He remarked in a crowd that for a consideration of \$300 he would reveal the identity of the firebugs. He was promptly arrested with the remark that he would divulge the information at a more reasonable figure. Somebody procured a rope, and the crowd seized the tramp, and proceeded to force him up to force the information from him, but he then protested that he knew nothing about the crime, and begged piteously for his life. He and his pal were then locked up. Every tramp or suspicious character found around town was locked up. Four men, two white men and two negroes, are believed to have been implicated in the crime, and it seems they went about their work in a systematic manner. The fire was first started in a cottage in the suburbs of Malvern at 1 o'clock last night. The blaze spread rapidly, and the whole town was in flames. When the fire had burned itself out, the only business house left standing was that occupied by Berger's store. Every effort is being made to apprehend the incendiaries, and if positive evidence against any of the men under arrest can be secured there is hardly any doubt that they will be lynched, if an even more horrible punishment is not meted out to them.

The principal losses are: F. Adams, \$50,000, fully insured; Hughes & McRay, \$25,000, partly insured; W. L. Cooper & Bro., \$15,000, insured; H. H. Butler, \$30,000, insurance \$5000; H. Barnett, \$3500, no insurance; W. Duffy, \$10,000, no insurance; L. M. & S. railroad depot, \$1000; R. Clary, \$4500, insurance \$500; A. N. Druff, \$3000, insurance; Bank of Malvern, \$4000, partly insured; J. T. Chamberlain, \$5000, partly insured.

Chicago, July 20.—The car barns of the Chicago city railway company, on Cottage Grove avenue near Thirty-Ninth street, were burned on Saturday night. The barns were 150 feet long, 400 feet deep and occupied three-fourths of a square. The company lost 554 cars, 190 of them being grip cars. Not a car was saved. The loss is estimated at \$500,000. The building and contents were insured for \$311,000. Fifteen horses were burned to death.

San Francisco, July 20.—Little Tottie Cooper was stolen by her father, Riey A. Cooper, Friday evening, while she was playing with her cousin on Seventh street, near Natoma. Cooper is a Seattle contractor. He and his wife did not life happily together, and a short time ago he left her, taking with him his boy seven years of age. Mrs. Cooper never claims that he left her without money. She alleges that he threatened her life, and she secured a warrant for his arrest. He has successfully evaded the officers but managed three weeks ago to steal from the mother his 5-year-old daughter, and now he has secured possession of the older one, and the mother is broken-hearted. The mother reported the affair at the police station and the police are now looking for Cooper.

Charles King, an Americanized Chinaman, was thrown from a step-ladder and fatally hurt by a gang of hoodlums early on Saturday. King was washing windows when the party, who had been drinking all night, threw him to the pavement, fracturing his skull. His assailants escaped and have not yet been arrested, although the police say they know at least one member of the gang.

Cleveland, O., July 20.—Mayor McKisson this morning ordered the Cleveland Grays, the crack militia company of the city, to the Brown Hoisting Works, where rioting has been of almost daily occurrence for some time. Five companies of militia are now guarding the works, and will be reinforced by all the reserve police in the city. The mayor stated that from now on order would be preserved, even if it shall be necessary for the militia to open fire. The non-union men were escorted out of the works at noon with out serious trouble, the strikers and sympathizers being apparently overawed by the big force of military and police. The police charged on a crowd yelling "Seabs" at the non-union men and took some of the persons into custody.

LI HUNG CHANG'S VISIT.

To be Entertained by the United States Government.

Washington, July 20.—Li Hung Chang will be given a reception by the government officials in Washington City as elaborate as that extended to the Princess Eulalia of Spain in the summer of 1893. The visit of the Chinese viceroy has been the subject of active correspondence between Secretary Olney and the Chinese legation, and their plans have now been perfected. Li Hung Chang had expected to arrive in Washington City the last of this month, but has now postponed his visit because of the absence of the president at Gray Gables. Secretary Olney was asked to name the time when the president would probably return to the White House, so that Li might be informed and arrange to be here about the same time. Mr. Olney communicated with the president, and received the answer that he would not leave Gray Gables until October unless some emergency arose requiring his presence earlier in Washington City. October was a little too late for the Chinese diplomat, as he wishes to reach the Pacific coast en route home about that time, but he did not desire to pass through the United States without being received by the president. Mr. Cleveland thereupon compromised matters, and instructed Mr. Olney to make all arrangements for Li Hung Chang's reception here on September 18, when he is now expected to reach Washington City.

While in Washington City Li Hung Chang will be under the special care of First Assistant Secretary of State Rockwell, who lived in China for years as one of the secretaries of the legation, and who is the only official under the department who speaks Chinese fluently. Li Hung Chang will be quartered in Washington City at a hotel, and while there is no appropriation to pay for the entertainment of foreigners, no matter how distinguished, it is not improbable that the contingent fund of the department may be drawn upon to help entertain Li Hung Chang and his big suite. It is now settled that the president will give a dinner in honor of the distinguished visitor, to which all the diplomats and prominent officials will be invited. Li Hung Chang will probably give a dinner in return. Secretary Olney will also give a dinner in honor of the statesman from China. It is probable that the United States cavalry at Fort Myer will be ordered out on the day of his arrival to escort him to his quarters, and a detail of army or naval officers will be assigned to be with him during his stay in the United States. Li Hung Chang, it is understood, brings with him important communications from his government to the president. These are said to consist of a long message of thanks from the emperor for the services of this government during the Chinese-Japanese war, together with expressions of goodwill for the prosperity of this country. The question what to do with Li's coffin, which he brings along, is exciting the thoughtful consideration of the department. It is possible the state department will undertake to be its custodian while the eminent statesman remains in Washington City. Li Hung Chang's visit promises to excite the liveliest interest in official and diplomatic circles, and may result in the early return to town of the diplomatic colony.

mer of 1893. The visit of the Chinese viceroy has been the subject of active correspondence between Secretary Olney and the Chinese legation, and their plans have now been perfected. Li Hung Chang had expected to arrive in Washington City the last of this month, but has now postponed his visit because of the absence of the president at Gray Gables. Secretary Olney was asked to name the time when the president would probably return to the White House, so that Li might be informed and arrange to be here about the same time. Mr. Olney communicated with the president, and received the answer that he would not leave Gray Gables until October unless some emergency arose requiring his presence earlier in Washington City. October was a little too late for the Chinese diplomat, as he wishes to reach the Pacific coast en route home about that time, but he did not desire to pass through the United States without being received by the president. Mr. Cleveland thereupon compromised matters, and instructed Mr. Olney to make all arrangements for Li Hung Chang's reception here on September 18, when he is now expected to reach Washington City.

While in Washington City Li Hung Chang will be under the special care of First Assistant Secretary of State Rockwell, who lived in China for years as one of the secretaries of the legation, and who is the only official under the department who speaks Chinese fluently. Li Hung Chang will be quartered in Washington City at a hotel, and while there is no appropriation to pay for the entertainment of foreigners, no matter how distinguished, it is not improbable that the contingent fund of the department may be drawn upon to help entertain Li Hung Chang and his big suite. It is now settled that the president will give a dinner in honor of the distinguished visitor, to which all the diplomats and prominent officials will be invited. Li Hung Chang will probably give a dinner in return. Secretary Olney will also give a dinner in honor of the statesman from China. It is probable that the United States cavalry at Fort Myer will be ordered out on the day of his arrival to escort him to his quarters, and a detail of army or naval officers will be assigned to be with him during his stay in the United States. Li Hung Chang, it is understood, brings with him important communications from his government to the president. These are said to consist of a long message of thanks from the emperor for the services of this government during the Chinese-Japanese war, together with expressions of goodwill for the prosperity of this country. The question what to do with Li's coffin, which he brings along, is exciting the thoughtful consideration of the department. It is possible the state department will undertake to be its custodian while the eminent statesman remains in Washington City. Li Hung Chang's visit promises to excite the liveliest interest in official and diplomatic circles, and may result in the early return to town of the diplomatic colony.

FOR THE TEA TRADE

The Southern Railroads Unite in a Fight to Monopolize the Business.

Freight Rates on Tea to be Reduced to a Little More Than One-half.

San Francisco, July 20.—For the purpose of diverting the great bulk of the tea trade from the Suez route and the Sound ports to San Francisco, and with the idea of making this city the great centre for the whole country in so far as the traffic in this commodity is concerned, the Southern Pacific company and its connections, the Union Pacific alone excepted, to-day joined in a movement which is calculated to seriously disturb the trade conditions which have for years past enabled New York to monopolize the tea trade of the United States.

Freight rates on tea will in a few days be reduced to a little more than one-half of what they are to-day. Rates that are now \$1.50 for 100 pounds, will be reduced to \$1, and the prevailing less than carload rates of \$3 per 100 pounds, will be reduced to just one-half that amount, thus effecting a reduction which ranges from 33½ to 50 per cent. Such a slashing of rates on tea shipments has never been known before in the history of the tea trade in San Francisco, and local tea jobbers are highly elated over what promises to be the impetus for a rapid growth of the commercial importance of the city.

The lines that have joined in the low tea rates are the Southern Pacific company, Rio Grande Western, Colorado & Rio Grande, Colorado Midland, Burlington & Missouri River, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, Missouri Pacific, the Southern Pacific company's Atlantic system via New Orleans, the Atlantic & Santa Fe railroads.

In connection with the several lines mentioned, the Southern Pacific company to-day issued a special rate on tea from all California terminals to all points in the territory extending from Colorado to Chicago, and points common therewith, and from Wisconsin to New Orleans. The low rates will take effect July 25.

No secret is made of the fact that the low rates on tea have been made for the purpose of cutting into the business of the northern lines as usual, to afford San Francisco jobbers an opportunity to extend their trade.

The usual meeting of Pioneer Lodge, No. 1010, R.A.O.B., will be held at the Coach and Horses hotel. Esquimaux road on Tuesday evening. The Grand Primo, of the Grand Lodge of England, will be present and will explain the new secret work of the order which passed the Grand Lodge of England. Brothers will be guided by this notice as the secretary has not had time to inform them through the post.

ROYAL Baking Powder has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.