ONDYKE

ER ROUTE From

AWSON CITY

ondyke Mining, Trading
, Limited, of London.

MAN, LONDON, ENG.

AIRMAN } VICTORIA
- } LOCAL
- - } BOARD.
DIRECTOR.

y eighty teams of horses, sleighs, and
ar Dewdney ex-Minister of the Inter-
h Columbia and will be accompanied
of the Corporation.
el on its own X 100 A 1 screw ocean
, leaving Victoria about the 15th Feb-

Stickeen River and continue th e jour
es of Glenora and Telegraph Creek,

to convey the party and their outfits
that is, the expedition will follow the
ding the dangerous White Horse rap-
ble date thereafter in the spring.
lter and good substantial food for the
y they leave Victoria until they reach
r the ice to break up they will have
ry ground in that vicinity. The price
d the free carriage of 400 pounds bag-

ses will be sent up the Stickeen River
ath and establish supply depots.
has been passed the expedition will
lly light and along the greater portion
me years.
at Teslin Lake, Dawson City and
urchasers at reasonable prices.
ations above mentioned is $500, one-
real at Victoria at the time of signing
paid before the sailing of the steamer

l be limited, applications should be
t must, with his application forward
of Montreal at Victoria.
members of the expedition and will re-
ts.

CESS BAGGAGE.

of personal baggage can be purchased

pared to transport passengers in their
Yukon and Teslin Lake waters.
Co's specially constructed Klondyke

nd Transport Corporation
TORIA, B.C.
y fof nearly the same name, having its
Spokane,

ISSUE OF

E

COLONIST

• EIGHT PAGES. •

the News

TS OF ALL THE

YUKON GOLD FIELDS.

s informed, you cannot do
EMI-WEEKLY COLONIST.

PER ANNUM $1.50.

For years they had terrorized the
aborhood. Noa would go to the
test extremes to avenge a real or
ied wrong, cutting out the tongues
is neighbors' cattle, laying death-
s for his fellow-men in the woods,
practicing other like cruelties.
the evening of April 7, in company
two confederates, he broke into the
of Asano, an aged Chinaman, and
ging the man out of bed beat out his
s with a stone. Hee Shee, the
keeper's wife, was choked into in-
bility and left for dead. The thieves
ransacked the place, carrying off all
valuables and hiding them away in
mountains. Noa was betrayed by a
ive and captured, but afterwards
ped and the officers had a hard time
capture him. He was tried here by
e Carter and sentenced on August
st.
rift justice has been visited upon the
s of Maui murderers. Within the
Sagta and Yoshida have been con-
d of murder in the first degree and
enced to death. The Lahaina court
broken all records on murder cases,
g disposed of three in a week's
. Sagata was charged with the mur-
f his wife and child and was caught
handed in the act. Yoshida stabbed
anese woman to death with a knife,
he evidence of his crime was just
t as conclusive as that against his
w countryman. Sagata will be
ed on the last Friday of March,

ctor Lord, of Dawson City, returned
evening from Montreal and is a
at the Dominion.
J. Walton returned from California
e direct steamer arriving Christmas

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-FIRST YEAR. VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA THURSDAY DECEMBER 30 1897. VOLUME XLI. NO. 6

MR. SIFTON'S MISSION

Secretary Alger Too Ill to Discuss Arrangements About Yukon and Alaska.

Klondyke Grievances Coming Before the Government—Relief Supplies Advertised For.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—In official circles it is said that Mr. Sifton's visit to Washington is merely one of courtesy, due to the fact that General Alger, who was coming to Ottawa, is in poor health. Whatever opinion he forms he must communicate it to his colleagues for approval as the settled policy of the government. While desirous of according the trade of the Coast cities full protection, yet the government is anxious to work harmoniously with the United States.

In regard to bonding through Yukon of American goods destined for Alaska, the customs department has notified the Washington authorities that so soon as reliable transportation companies are formed, which must be in the near future, the government will accept a bond from such companies for proper transportation of dutiable goods through Canadian territory. Until that time, however, the government does not consider it practicable for a Canadian officer to accompany all American goods through Canadian territory, the distance being so great. Therefore it is proposed to collect the duty at Tagish, and when the goods pass out of Canada at Cudahy the amount will be refunded by the collector there on presentation of the receipt given at Tagish.

The government was notified to-day that a deputation of Yukon miners are en route to Ottawa to protest against the present unjust mining laws. They will interview Premier Laurier and his colleagues next Wednesday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The expected conference between Secretary Alger and Minister Sifton did not take place today. Secretary Alger had overrated his strength and found that he was not sufficiently recovered to undertake the work of arranging details for the relief expeditions. The Canadian visitors are to remain in Washington for a few days, however, so that the conference is merely postponed for a short time.

Captain Brainerd has been authorized to issue to-morrow the advertisement for the supplies that are to be carried in the relief expeditions.

HIGH JINKS IN THE PEN.

Convicts at St. Vincent de Paul Unite in Defying Their Keepers.

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—(Special—The convicts at St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary are still in open revolt. Last night, for the third night running, they created pandemonium by clamorous shouts and blasphemy. Work in the shops is suspended. Acting Warden Foster, it is stated, is openly insulted by the more desperate convicts.

THE "VANDOO" HOODOOED.

Extraordinary Series of Fatalities Happen to a Yarmouth Crew.

HALIFAX, Dec. 28.—(Special)—A cable from Bermuda says the Yarmouth ship Vandoo has just put in there with the loss of her yards, and reports that on the 20th instant three of her crew were killed by the falling yards, and three others who jumped overboard in the hope of escaping injury from the fall, were all drowned. Three more were seriously injured. The day before these accidents one man was killed by falling from aloft to the deck. The Vandoo was on a voyage from Cardiff to St. John, N.B.

THE GOLDEN CACHE.

The Company Said to Have Been Deceived by Free Gold in Pockets.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 28.—(Special)—Mr. Skene the vice-president of the Golden Cache was seen to-day by a COLONIST reporter regarding the rumor that Golden Cache was being manipulated. Mr. Skene said: "The 30 day test, the result of which has just been given, is, as far as it goes a fair test. The fact of the matter is that the company have been deceived by the visible free gold which showed abundantly in pockets through the ore and apart from the visible gold the ore was low grade."

From another source it was learned that five tons of this pockety ore was put through and cleaned up some $215 a ton or one-third of what the entire 750 tons went. Without the pockety ore some $3.10 a ton was obtained.

FORTNIGHTLY TO AUSTRALIA.

The Mail Service to Be So Arranged From Vancouver and San Francisco.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—The Premier of New Zealand has cabled the Postmaster-General to-day that the New Zealand legislature having passed the mail subsidy bill, the alternate services to Vancouver and San Francisco will commence on the 8th proximo. Hitherto the steamers carrying the mails from San Francisco have sailed sometimes within a day or so of the Vancouver steamers, but under the new arrangements made by the New Zealand government the San Francisco mails must be carried at dates intermediate with those of the Vancouver mails, so that from Canada and the United States the result will be a fortnightly mail. The first mail under the new arrangements will leave Vancouver on February 10.

A VENTURE IN LUMBER.

Five Million Feet to Be Rafted from Portland to San Francisco.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28.—Within the next few months a raft containing 5,000,000 feet of lumber will be constructed in this city and towed to San Francisco by the firm of Inman and Poulson, owners of a large lumber interest here. The raft will be 356 feet long and 53 feet wide. Several rafts of piling have been towed from the Columbia river to San Francisco, but traffic in sawed lumber is a new undertaking.

PECULIAR HOMICIDE CASE.

The Victim Refuses Evidence in Gratitude for Past Favors.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—John Healy died to-day in a hospital from the effects of stab wounds inflicted by George H. Lincoln. The circumstances of the homicide are peculiar and only became known to-day. Healy had been out of work for some time. Lincoln, who is married, befriended him and the two men were the best of friends. On Christmas day Lincoln entered his home intoxicated and threatened to strike his wife. Healy pleaded for her and the woman ran into another room. When she returned, after hearing sounds of a struggle, she found Healy covered with blood. Her husband had gone to the hospital. Lincoln, who was only slightly stabbed, was arrested on his way to the hospital and brought to Healy's bedside. Healy positively denied that he had ever seen Lincoln, and he died to-day, refusing to implicate the man who had befriended him. Lincoln was remanded to await the action of the coroner's jury. He will probably be charged with homicide.

BETWEEN TWO WILLS.

A Rich American Bungled Both So That Neither May Be Valid.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Dr. Rudolph Evans, the only surviving brother of the late Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the famous American dentist, who died in Paris on November 14, arrived here yesterday with his wife and son. It is learned from reliable sources that the original will of Dr. Evans, drawn up by Mr. Arthur E. Valois, of New York, the attorney of deceased, was so badly copied by Dr. Evans, who also amended it and added several codicils, that it is very doubtful if it is legal.

It also appears that Dr. Evans made two wills, one for the United States, and another for France, which was sworn by the testator, who demands $5,000 for the translation, and having found the inferences in the two wills, he refused to deliver until both are probated here. The United States consul, however, insists that the wills be handed to him for verification. This adds to the complications.

Mr. Evans who, if his brother died intestate, is entitled to half the fortune of deceased, which after all only amounts to exactly $4,000,000, only received $10,000, therefore he is determined to fight the will.

AFFAIRS OF ROSSLAND.

British American Corporation Lays out Three Million—The Year's Shipments of All Mines.

ROSSLAND, Dec. 28.—(Special)—Mayor Scott has announced his intention of seeking re-election. H. S. Wallace is already in the field and has the support of the leading business men of the town.

The ore shipments for the past week totalled 2,702 tons. The shipments of ore for the week ending December 25, were: Le Roi 1,275; Iron Mask 15; War Eagle 45; Centre Star 45; total 1380. The total amount of ore shipped from January 1, to Dec. 25, 1897, is 72,276 tons.

The British American Corporation has purchased the Great Western. The same company has completed its deal for the Josie, paying $3,000,000. Another $300,000 deal will be closed by the same company within the next two weeks. The negotiations relate to a very well known Roseland mine.

The Curlew has been sold for $30,000.

Richard Plewman, the liquidator of the O.K. company, has taken possession of the O.K. mine and mill.

Boycotting Shipbuilders.

GLASGOW, Dec. 28.—A newspaper of this city says the Employers' Federation is considering the question of boycotting Harlan & Wolff, the shipbuilders who refused to join the federation. The federated employers propose not to deal with firms furnishing materials to Harlan & Wolff.

Smaller by Degrees.

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—(Special)—It is reported that Lieutenant-Governor Chapleau has abandoned his proposed trip to Europe and that he will accept the editorship of La Presse of this city next month.

The Halifax Station.

HALIFAX, Dec. 28.—(Special)— The naval authorities have received word of another powerful warship that is to be added to the North American squadron in the spring. Another regiment will be placed on this station this summer. It will probably be a Scotch regiment.

Halifax Heard From.

HALIFAX, Dec. 28.—It is said that Halifax may soon have a line of steamers to the Klondyke. The mission to England of Capt. Jas. Farquaharson, who left here several weeks ago, is believed to be connected with the scheme. It is said that he goes with instructions to look up suitable steamers and has authority to purchase.

Cuban Autonomy.

HAVANA, Dec. 28.—To-morrow the official Gazette will publish a decree establishing an autonomous government and administration for the island of Cuba, from January 1.

JAPAN SCENTS A WAR.

Her Navy Sent Out Fully Equipped and Ready for a Battle to Begin.

New Ministry to Be Formed to Deal Vigorously With the Chinese Situation.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A special despatch from Shanghai dated yesterday says: "It is reported that Japanese war vessels are waiting near Goto island, outside Nagasaki, fully equipped for war and only awaiting instructions. This includes the Inasthima and Fuji, two of the finest vessels in the Japanese navy, and the Chen Yuen, which was captured from China. The Japanese fleet, it is understood, is acting in close touch with the British squadron under vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, commander-in-chief of the China station.

"Japan will certainly oppose a permanent occupation by Russia of Port Arthur. The sudden dissolution of the Japanese diet was due to the war spirit. It is expected that the Japanese fleet will attempt to prevent the landing of reinforcements from Odessa for the protection of the Russian trans-Asiatic railway in Manchuria.

"LONDON, Dec. 29.—A despatch to the Times from Kobe, Japan, says the dissolution of the diet has greatly angered the political parties. It is probable that the Marquis Ito, former premier, and Count Okuma, a former foreign minister, will form a coalition ministry with a vigorous foreign policy. The military party is eager for action. Extraordinary activity prevails at the military and naval departments and warships are assembling at Nagasaki.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—The Japanese minister has not yet been advised of the resignation of the entire cabinet and he feels that though the resignations may have been tendered, the emperor will not accept them until it becomes apparent that an entirely new cabinet under Marquis Ito can be formed. Ito has been in private life much of the time since his notable achievement during the Chinese-Japanese war and it is not believed he is ready to return to the cabinet. He is strong, however, with all parties and has people behind him so that he may again assume the premiership if the emergencies demand it.

The Yokohama despatch refers to Marquis Saigo as the present premier, which is said at the legation to be an inaccuracy, as Marquis Matsugato has been premier up to this time, with Marquis Saigo as minister of marine. The reference in the despatch to the public sentiment in Japan for a strong ministry, capable of coping with the situation in the East, is one of the first intimations direct from Japan that she may take a hand in the controversy centering in China. While he has received no official advices as to the purposes of his government, Mr. Hoshi expresses the personal conviction that Japan will not be quick to enter into the controversy, but will maintain an independent and neutral attitude for the present, at least.

VIENNA, Dec. 28.—The News Wiener publishes an interview with Sir Charles Dilke, who is considered a high authority on foreign affairs. He says that the situation in Eastern Asia is very threatening and that he knows for certain that Japan is making warlike preparations with great activity. That country seems to project an attack on China or Korea. Sir Charles declares that he has no faith in Japan's pacific professions. He reminded the interviewer that Great Britain occupied Port Hamilton in 1885 and 1887, and said that the British need a naval station in North China.

ODESSA, Dec. 28.—It is reported that two first-class cruisers, with a large number of extra marines, have been ordered to join the Russian squadron in Chinese waters.

THE RELIEF ARRANGEMENTS.

Canada Will Permit the Passage of the United States Military Party.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Upon the advice of the Canadians now here it appears likely that Skaway will be chosen instead of Dyea as the terminal point of the relief expeditions. The reason for this choice is said to be the fact that Skaway has wharves at which ships can discharge cargoes directly, while at Dyea there are nothing but lighters to land the goods. Mr. Sifton said to-night that he hoped to conclude his visit within the next two days, and there was no doubt that the two governments could make arrangements which would be mutually beneficial in extending relief to the Klondykers.

The minister's attention was called to reports that Canada might not be willing to co-operate in the use of the military arrangement of the government as provided by the bill which recently became law. He said, however, that he apprehended no difficulty in that direction, as the only purpose of the two governments was to effect the relief in the most feasible way possible.

There appears to be no desire on the part of the Canadian officials to interpose any technical obstacles to the execution of relief measures, and for this reason it is expected a satisfactory arrangement will be reached within the next two days.

Great Fire in Norfolk.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Fire broke out last evening in the dry goods store of Jermyn & Perry, High street, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. The local fire engine collapsed and the flames spread rapidly, soon destroying a number of the adjoining business houses. The total damage is estimated at £100,000.

SOMETHING BIG COMING.

Klondyke Scheme on a Mammoth Scale by American and British Capitalists.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—J. Bruce Ismael, of the White Star Line, announced yesterday that H. M. Kersey, the American agent of the line, decided two months ago to resign and would cease to represent the company on Friday. Mr. Kersey will be associated with a syndicate of American and British capitalists in the Klondyke scheme on an unprecedented scale.

KNOCKOUT BY MINISTERS.

Those of Buffalo Secure a Decision Against Glove Contests.

BUFFALO, Dec. 28. — Justice John Woodward this afternoon gave his decision in the proceedings instituted by Rev. Byron H. Stauffer and other ministers to stop glove contests in this city. The decision is a victory for the ministers so far as it sustains their contention that the tickets for local prize fighting were sold without actual regard to club membership. An appeal will be taken from Justice Woodward's decision.

DYEA TOWNSITE.

Claim of Healy and Wilson Thrown Out by United States Commissioner.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—A decision of much importance has been made by Commissioner Herman, of the general land office, affecting the town of Dyea, Alaska. The townsite is claimed by Healy and Wilson under the general law allowing 160 acres in Alaska for manufacturing and trading purposes. These parties claim to have made their location long prior to any adverse rights. The commissioner rejected the application for a patent on a number of grounds, and says that the survey of the claim was not regularly made. He says that a new survey is therefore necessitated, and that the case will come up on its merits.

AGAINST DURRANT.

California Supreme Court Unanimously Against His Counsel's Contention.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The supreme court after having heard the matter argued in chambers to-day, denied the application of the attorneys for W. H. T. Durrant, the condemned murderer of Blanche Lamont, for a writ of probable cause. It was contended by Durrant's counsel that Judge Bahr erred in having fixed the date for the execution of their client within less than sixty days after the date upon which he was re-committed to the custody of the wardens of San Quentin prison. The supreme court, however, after hearing the points relied upon for reversal, denied the petition unanimously.

FITZSIMMONS IN THE RING.

By His Wife's Permission He Will Meet Any First-Class Fighter Offering.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Martin Julian today made the following signed statement: "Fitzsimmons will defend his right to the title of champion. Mrs. Fitzsimmons has released him from his promise of retirement." Referring to the conditions on which Fitzsimmons will fight Corbett and McCoy, Julian's statement says:

"The conditions are as follows: Let Corbett beat a man like Maher or Choynski and establish his right as a member of Bob's class; let McCoy beat his way up to a commanding position and come along with his challenge afterwards; but first McCoy must fight a fit opponent at the middleweight limit, and not at catch weights."

The statement concludes as follows: "I am not going to allow Mr. Fitzsimmons to accept offers from inferior men. When the proper time comes Fitzsimmons will meet them all one after the other in the same ring."

RUSSIA'S SEIZURE IN KOREA

In Violation of Her Treaty With Japan—Appropriated the Revenues.

TACOMA, Dec. 28.—A copy of the peculiar and remarkable contract under which Russia seized the Korean finances and customs and thereby forced out McLeavy Brown, the representative of English interests recently, and which so offended England that the British Pacific squadron has been despatched to Chemulpo, near Seoul, the capital of Korea, has been received here.

Translation reveals the fact that Russia not only seized the finances and customs of Korea, but proposed to hold forever the same, notwithstanding that in her treaty with Japan, after the China-Japanese war, she specifically agreed to join with Japan in maintaining the independence of Korea, and not to do any act that would jeopardize Japan's influence there.

Japan has thus far observed the Russo-Japanese treaty regarding Korea, but in the above contract Russia has not only offended Japan, but aroused England. McLeavy Brown, however, refused to accept his dismissal and returned his discharge to the Emperor of Korea. He appealed to the British consul and the latter reported the situation to England.

BANK DIRECTORS EXONERATED.

Union Bank Charges Withdrawn Because of Verdict in Commercial Cases.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., Dec. 28. — When the case against the directors of the defunct Union Bank of Newfoundland, charged with conspiracy to defraud was called to-day before Justice Sir David Chalmers, the crown prosecutor withdrew the indictment because the jury had already acquitted the directors of the Commercial Bank, who were arraigned on the same charge.

Official Mining Maps at THE COLONIST

SEIZED THE GENERAL.

A Fresh and Serious Manifestation of Germany's Intention With Regard to China.

The Commandant of Kiao-Chou Made Prisoner While on a Diplomatic Mission.

Interesting advices from both Japan and China, touching upon the German plan of acquisition in the Orient and the relative action of the other European powers, were received yesterday upon the arrival of the Northern Pacific steamship Victoria, fourteen days from Yokohama. By these it is learned that an actual collision between German bluejackets and Chinese infantry occurred on the 9th instant, some four miles from Kiaochow city, forty miles distant from the seaport of the same name.

The Chinese soldiery formed the personal bodyguard of General Chang Kiao-yuen, commandant of the forces at Kiao-chou, who was, at the time, on his way to protest to the German admiral against the seizure of Kiao-chou. He had been instructed from Peking to state that China regarded the occupation of Kiao-chou as unjustifiable and contrary to international law; that she would never consent to the Germans remaining on her territory; and that she would regard as an unfriendly act the recognition by the Treaty Powers of any annexation of territory by Germany without China's acquiescence.

The start had hardly been made when the advancing party of German bluejackets was met, and the foreigners fired three effective volleys at the commandant's bodyguard, four of whom were killed. General Chang was forthwith made prisoner and taken on board the German flagship, where he still remains, being refused permission even to send dispatches to his camp at Wanch-'un, eight miles from Kiao-chou City.

The imprisonment of the commandant is taken at Peking to be tantamount to a declaration by Germany that she will press her claims to territory to the utmost limit, even at the risk of further and immediate complications. With reference to the progress of negotiations between the German minister and the resident government, a despatch from Peking, dated December 13, says:

"It seems that the former will not be satisfied without obtaining possession of a port in China in any case. The Russian, French and English ministers are understood to be about to act jointly in objection to the possession of Kiao-chow by the Germans. It is now believed that Germany will probably have to be content with a port in Southern China. The possession of Kiao-chou is hardly expected to become permanent at this time."

On the same date a report was current that the Germans had taken possession of Kiao-chou city, and that British warships have seized Komon, in the Canton district, and landed there a number of bluejackets. This report had not been confirmed as yet when the Victoria sailed. In Tientsin it is understood that the negotiations between China and Germany with reference to the Kiao-chou affair will probably result in the arbitration of Russia and in the permanent possession of the port of Shangsha, in Fokien, by Germany.

"It is reported," says the China Gazette of November 26, "that as soon as the telegram announcing the hurried retreat of the Chinese braves from Kiao-chou forts and the unopposed landing of the German bluejackets, Li Ping-heng, the governor, who had not taken his departure from Tsi-nan-fu, telegraphed to the Tsung-li Yamen for instructions, asking permission to send a large number of soldiers to surround the Germans, recapture the forts, and punish the general, Chang Kao-yuen, for his cowardice and incompetence in surrendering the forts without firing a shot. Li was evidently in a very excited state, and Tsi-non-fu was in a wild state of excitement, orders being sent in all directions to the provincial camps and mandarins. But on the 17th inst. an imperial order was received enjoining Li to curb his ardor, and at his peril to take no steps against the Germans without explicit commands from Peking. He was further ordered to endeavor by every means in his power to settle this serious business amicably, and to yield to all just demands of the German admiral. This afternoon a summary of the German demands preferred in Peking by their able minister, Baron von Heyking, reached us. They are stiff; indeed, almost impossible, and we do not wonder at the Chinese government hesitating before accepting them. The conditions are as follow:

"1st. The immediate payment of indemnity to the families of the two murdered Roman Catholic missionaries of Taels 600,000.

"2nd. The immediate rebuilding of the destroyed mission premises and full compensation for all damages.

"3rd. The condign punishment of all the mandarins inculpated in the outrage.

"4th. The searching out and execution of the actual murderers.

"5th. The full payment of the expenses of the naval expedition to Kiaochow and of the landing and maintenance of the occupying forces.

"6th. Exemplary compensation generally for the insult to the German flag.

"These demands created the greatest consternation in the Tsungli Yamen, the ministers of which were fluttering about with the most abject appeals for aid from every foreign legation. But we fear they met with very little sympathy. The Tsungli Yamen's reply to the German minister was that if the German naval force was first withdrawn they would consider the minister's demands, but until the forts were yielded up and re-occupied by their former garrison the Yamen could not listen to any question of settlement. The effect of the German minister's reply has not yet reached us, but we can imagine very easily what it will be."

"The seizure of Kiaochou by the Germans is creating a tremendous flutter in the dove-cotes at the capital, says the China Gazette. Telegraphic communication with Kiaochou is reported to be cut off and the telegraph office at Kiaochow 'castle' has been taken possession of by the Germans. According to some Nanking correspondence in the native papers, the Viceroy Liu Kung-yi, has received secret instructions by telegraph from Peking to take immediate measures for the defence of the forts within his sphere of jurisdiction, in accordance with which he has sent a General Liu to take over command of the Woosung forts, and has sent strong reinforcement to the garrison there. On November 19 and 20 the Tsungli Yamen and Peiyang trade superintendent wired the viceroy word that serious complications between Germany and China had arisen in Shantung, and that further attacks by German or other foreign forces might be anticipated. He was therefore to make every preparation along the Namyang coasts to meet hostilities should any ensue. On the 18th the viceroy received a telegram from Li Ping-heng, ex-Governor of Shantung, asking that an able officer might be sent up north to assist him in the grave crisis which had arisen. Liu had determined that Liu Kuang-tsai, the best general he had, should go; but in view of the subsequent telegrams from the Tsungli Yamen and the trade superintendent, he decided that General Liu could not be spared, and up to the present no other officer of sufficient experience and skill has been selected."

As to Great Britain's intentions in the crisis that has arisen, the Nishi Nishi says England will seize Port Hamilton, in addition to demanding a lease of Talien-wan from the Chinese government. The present movements of the British fleet are uncertain, but instructions had been received on the flagship Centurion, at Hongkong, to begin no work that would detain the flagship in port for more than forty-eight hours, and her bunkers were to be kept full of coal. Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Buller is expected to hoist his flag on the Centurion at Hongkong this month, returning to England, however, in January, when Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Hobart Seymour, K.C.B., assumes command of the China squadron.

Hongkong papers make extended reference to a rumor that France, Germany and Russia have arrived at an agreement to cut up the Chinese empire and appropriate ports. Britain appears to have been entirely overlooked.

As to affairs in Korea, it is announced that the government at Seoul have applied to the French minister for assistance in engaging an adviser in industrial matters at a salary of 6,000 yen per annum. At the same time M. Alexieff, the new adviser to the Korean government, is said to be insisting upon the engagement of a number of Russian officials for over 300 government offices in various districts of the country as superintendents of local financial affairs.

THE PANAMA CANAL

Company Hope That the United States Will Eventually Accept Their Scheme.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Panama canal company to-day a report was read holding out the prospect of some definite scheme being submitted toward the end of next year. The report mentions the United States Nicaraguan commission and promises full facilities and a hearty welcome to the commissioners when they visit the Panama works. It expresses the conviction that the United States congress and people will eventually accept the Panama scheme.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.

French Government Anxious to Keep the Trans-Atlantic Steamers Away From Them.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—It is estimated that the time of the passage of the vessels of the Compagnie Generale Trans-Atlantique, plying between Havre and New York, will be lengthened by three hours by the action of the company in agreeing to the request of M. Boucher, minister of commerce and industry, that the steamers of that line shall not cross the banks of Newfoundland during the fishing season, which extends from April to November. M. Hanotaux, minister of foreign affairs, will try to arrange for the holding of an international congress to procure a similar undertaking for all the foreign steamship companies.

VENEZUELA FORGIVES ALL.

Diplomatic and Trade Relations With Great Britain Cordially Renewed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Mail advices from Caracas, Venezuela, report that the official reception by the government of Venezuela of Mr. William Henry Doveton Haggart, accredited as minister resident of the British government to Venezuela, took place at Caracas on December 11. The resumption of diplomatic relations means a resumption of commercial add trade relations between England and Venezuela. Pledges of mutual confidence were exchanged between Minister Haggart and President Crespo and there is every indication that the former friendship that existed between the two countries has once more been fairly established. At 4 p.m. the carriage of the President, which had been sent for Mr. Haggart, arrived at the federal palace, and the minister was driven between a double line of troops, who saluted his arrival, while the national band played "God Save the Queen."

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THE RACE FOR AFRICA.

Natives Rejoice at British Success in Competition With the French.

LAGOS, West Coast of Africa, Dec. 28.—Ilesha and Berehars, important Benin towns, have been occupied by the Lagos Hausas. The inhabitants are enthusiastic over the presence of the British flag, as they feared an attack from French native troops who are endeavoring to force themselves on the Barrilla country and are devastating it.

C.P.R. PROFITS.

An Increase of More Than Two Millions for the Year.

MONTREAL, Dec. 28—(Special)—In November, 1897, the gross earnings of the C.P.R. were $2,540,451; working expenses, $1,350,718; net profits, $1,189,733. In November, 1896, the net profits were $862,143.

For the eleven months ending November 30, 1897, the figures are: Gross earnings, $21,726,792; working expenses, $12,476,471; net profits, $9,250,321. For the eleven months ending November 30, 1896, there were net profits of $7,183,146. The increase in net profits over the same period last year is, therefore, for November $327,584; and from January 1 to November 30, $2,067,172.

VICTORIA ERA BALL.

The Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen Entertain Lavishly in Toronto.

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—The great Victoria Era Ball, with which the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen mark the termination of their six weeks' stay in Toronto, came off to-night at the armories and proved a very brilliant and successful affair. Three thousand guests were invited and there were but few absentees. The pervading idea of the ball was the presentation of the progress of the Empire, which was done by arranging groups of dancers in Victoria costumes representing literature and music, science and inventions, art, and sports and amusements. The Aberdeens leave for Ottawa December 30.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Semi-Official Investigation of the School System—Mild Weather in the Territories.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 28.—(Special)—C. H. Beauchene, one of the editors of La Patrie, Montreal, is here. Mr. Beauchene is in the West for the purpose of looking into the educational system of Manitoba in the interest of the Laurier government, and after a short stay in the province will proceed into the Territories.

The weather all the way from the Rocky Mountains to Winnipeg has been exceptionally mild to-day. The lowest registered by the thermometer all along the line was zero, while at Medicine Hat yesterday the mercury went up to 73 degrees above.

There is great demand here for dogs for the Yukon. Agents are now securing them at the Indian posts on Lake Winnipeg.

Col. Ruttan, city engineer, left to-day for Montreal. He will visit a number of the cities for the purpose of inspecting methods of disposing of garbage, with a view to obtaining information for the guidance of the city fathers in adopting a system here.

INDIAN REBELS HUMBLED.

British Report That the Disorderly Tribesmen Have Had Enough of Fighting.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A despatch from Peshawur says: "The British columns have returned from Khyber Pass, after punishing, with slight opposition, the Kakka-Khels in the Bazaar valley. Military operations on the frontier are now concluded. Every Afridi and Orakzai village has been visited.

It now appears that the enemy's losses have been more severe than was at first believed and out of all proportion to their possible fighting strength. Their trade with our centres for the necessaries of life has been closed and their autumn tillage prevented. The submission of the Orakzais is now completed. Many hitherto unknown strategetical frontier routes have been surveyed and mapped out.

The vaunted prestige of the Afridis has been lowered and their punishment has paved the way for the permanent settlement of the country. It is firmly believed that, cut off from India, and threatened with a re-invasion of their country in the spring, they will now submit. It is also expected that internal friction resulting from the operations will prove almost as severe a punishment as the operations themselves.