

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

The Empress of Japan to Sail on Monday—Meeting of Vancouver Liberals.

Fatal Explosion at Nanaimo—Mining Development—Restoration of the Coquitlam Bridge.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 2.—The robbery of chicken coops continues to be an alarming extent, many valuable collections having been lost the past two months. Yesterday morning Mr. Westzel lost eighteen fowls, all fancy breed.

By resolution the Trades and Labor Council has condemned the principle of business men sending out of their own towns for articles which might be obtained here equally well.

The Empress of Japan will sail on Monday after the arrival of the Pacific express. She will have 2,400 tons of cargo consisting of flour and cotton goods. The Utopia left Seattle on Friday with 9,000 sacks of flour and 25 tons of general merchandise, which will form part of her cargo.

The Liberals met at Vancouver to-day. All the cities and most of the municipalities were represented. Senator McInnis, Victoria, occupied the chair at the meeting. The executive met at the Grand Hotel, Victoria, on Saturday night, to decide definitely on a line of action at the forthcoming general elections.

Two men whose names are not known here, travelling around the world without money and walking across the continent from Montreal to Vancouver, left Ashcroft this morning and will arrive here to-morrow.

These Hanson, stevedore foreman, ram smuck to-day with a loaded revolver. What might have been a terrible tragedy was barely averted. Hanson, who is a peaceable, quiet man when sober, became wild and threatening after drinking freely at saloons.

WESTMINSTER. NEW WESTMINSTER, Feb. 2.—In connection with the restoration of the Coquitlam bridge, Rev. Kelly and Councillor Kearney have gone to the Capital to interview the government.

The promised very large development operations in the Cariboo and Horsefly mines are taking definite shape, and the McGill Pipe Works have started the manufacture of pipes for these mines.

The Gunningham Hardware Co. have gone into liquidation. The business is being sold as established and in running order.

NAHAIMO. NANAIMO, Feb. 2.—Coroner Davis returned his inquiry into the death of B. Belloni, the miner killed on the 25th inst. in No. 1 shaft while experimenting with a new explosive. The principal witness was James Fitzsimmons, maker of the new powder.

The explosive used was, he said, potassium chlorate mixed with sulphur, flour and potash. He had been experimenting with it for some six months. Witness owned that his knowledge of chemistry was slight, gained from his own reading and experiments.

W. McGrover, recalled, was asked what in his opinion caused the explosion to explode. He said, in reply, that he had come to the conclusion from the evidence adduced that the explosion had been caused by concussion. He thought that some of the loose powder had lodged in an irregular spot and been struck by the tamping bar. The court adjourned to take the evidence of John Duce, injured at the same time. He, however, could throw no light on the matter.

After considerable deliberation the jury returned the following verdict: "We find that Baptiste Belloni came to his death by the premature explosion of a new explosive, which was considered as an improvement to the official of the New Vancouver Coal Co."

VERNON. (From the News.) Ellis & Co. shipped on Saturday 800 sacks of flour to the Coast, being the first through shipment from the Vernon mill.

The residents of Mission Valley are awaiting their corporate charter as a municipality, which has not yet been secured. The road between Pentton and Boundary Creek is in first-class shape, with the exception of one or two short stretches, and Mr. Miller, who drives the weekly stage between these points, will shortly make two trips a week.

A. J. Sprone has purchased the stage outfit running between Pentton and Oro, Wash., from Aaron Johnson. The stage makes three round trips per week, a distance of fifty miles.

Local horsemen have decided to hold a winter race meeting on Swan lake on February 16. It has been decided to give at least \$200 in purses divided among three races; a named pace or trot, a double team pace or trot, and a free for all. A committee composed of Messrs. W. J. Armstrong, H. G. Muller, with E. McInnis as secretary, have the arrangements in charge.

J. Stevens has done considerable development work on the Comet claim, Fairview, a north-west extension of the stem-ward. The shaft is now about 20 feet on a strong four-foot level of good ore.

Upper Boundary creek settlers talk of putting another bridge over the creek. This spring the orchard of Mr. Covert, Grand Valley, will be increased by having set out another 1,000 fruit trees of different varieties.

Capt. Shortt arrived on Tuesday from the lake loaded down with packets and sacks, which reveal samples of ore from different camps in the southern country. The captain's enthusiasm when he speaks of the richness of the Boundary mountain ore is unbounded, and the firm opinion which he produced to make his belief as convincing proofs that the reports of this district's rapidly developing mineral wealth have not been a whit exaggerated. He is particularly interested in the properties in White's camp, known as the Jack of Spades, and the St. Lawrence, the latter of which is on the well known Lexington lead.

Mr. Clement Yeager, who owns largely in these two mines, is progressively engaged in development work, and the ore, at least to inexperienced eyes, certainly looks good enough to warrant any reasonable outlay. The Jack of Spades is a copper and gold proposition, and the specimen exhibited, from the St. Lawrence contained a streak of nearly pure gold, which made the eyes of old miners glisten as they examined it. The captain has determined to give his attention in future exclusively to the mining industry.

The funeral of Luc Girouard on Sunday was the last scene in the career of a native of Nicolet County, Quebec, who had been a salaried explorer, miner and the pioneer rancher of the Okanagan country. In 1853 he came out on General Fremont's second exploring expedition, and when it had completed its work he struck south into California, where he worked for six years as a miner. Early in the sixties he reached the Okanagan country, being the first white miner on Cherry creek. After spending two years in Okanagan mission he settled on the ranch which is now embraced under the municipal limits of Vernon. Later on a dispute for the possession of the pre-emption acres with F. G. Vernon, who had acquired a claim to it, but it was amicably adjusted, and for a rift which he gave to Mr. Vernon he became owner of the property, the value of which at the present day it would be hard to determine. His honest, straightforward character commanded the respect of all who knew him, and his kindly and generous actions endeared him to any who were privileged to become his intimate friends. His funeral was the largest that ever took place in Vernon, the procession being nearly a quarter of a mile in length, while the floral tributes were exceedingly numerous.

NELESON. (From the Tribune.) The working force at the Silver King mine has been increased, but a new superintendent has not yet arrived.

Number One mine, in Anasworth district, is being worked by the Nova Scotia syndicate, of which D. W. McVicar is manager. Twenty-four men are at work and the management expect to begin running the concentrator on Monday. The output, about six tons a day, is "dry" ore, and the Pilot Bay smelter gets it all.

On January 1 the owners of the Good-enough mineral claim, in Sloona district, shipped 22 tons of ore to the smelter at Great Falls, Montana, and on the 21st Arthur Goodenough, one of the owners, drew the net returns. The galena sample 788 ounces silver and 66 per cent. lead to the ton, and the carbonates 375 ounces silver and 17 per cent. lead. After deducting freight charges from Kaslo to the smelter, the duty and the smelting charges, the 22 tons yielded the owners \$5,435 12.

About a week ago a vein carrying copper ore was discovered on the tunnel level in the Blue Bell mine, opposite Anasworth. It shows a width of over six feet between well defined walls, the ore sampling from 11 to 17 per cent. copper. A shaft will be sunk one hundred feet in order to determine the permanency of the vein, and if it is found to be permanent a copper shaft will be added to the smelter at Pilot Bay.

The shipments from Kootenay for January will aggregate in value a quarter of a million of dollars. Trail Creek is shipping at the rate of \$150,000 worth of ore a month with but two mines in active operation; Sloona is producing less tonnage than Trail Creek, but its ore sells for twice as much; Anasworth has two shipments; a low grade Blue Bell mine, opposite Anasworth, is shipping on an average one hundred tons a day to the smelter at Pilot Bay, and within a month will be shipping two hundred tons a day. Southern Kootenay is believed to be in it. Toad Mountain; is believed to be the richest of them all, is not now shipping.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. Recent municipal elections in the rural districts of the province have resulted as follows, the names of the successful candidates being officially announced in the last issue of the Gazette:

Burnaby—Noel C. Schou, reeve; councillors, Peter Byrne, Eben Shields, William McDermott, James Carter Smith and C. E. Sprout.

Matquill—Albin Hawkins, reeve; councillors, Richard Robb, M. Morrison, James Hale and John T. Willard.

Langley—P. Jackman, sr., reeve; councillors, I. McDonald, A. Brookie, T. H. Simons, D. Poppy, R. Flemming, and D. McVey.

Delta—William McKee, reeve; councillors, Stephen Hannelhoff, Thomas McNeely, T. E. Ledner, William Goudy and John McKee, jr.

Kent—St. G. Hammerley, reeve; councillors, John Birkeht, John McRae, M. J. Murphy and John Dunoon.

Sumas—John Scott, reeve; councillors, John Mueselwhite, William Porter, Alonzo Boley and Owen Maxton.

South Vancouver—George McRae, reeve; councillors, H. G. Ballston, Alexander Mitchell, Frederick A. Round and William Shannon.

North Cowichan—S. Horace Davis, reeve; councillors, Frank Lloyd, Thomas A. Wood, John N. Evans and Angus McKinnon.

Spallumcheen—John Hammill, reeve; councillors, Augustus Schubert, jr., D. MacIntosh, James Lockton and D. G. Cumming.

HAWAIIAN MATTERS. WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Mr. Loring Thurston, Hawaiian minister, when seen by a United Press representative and informed of the reported arrest of Queen Liliuokalani for complicity in the latest abortive Wilcox insurrection, expressed no particular surprise, but said he had no advice from his government about the matter. Such a contingency was not mentioned in the mail from Honolulu read by Mr. Thurston since the outbreak; but one of the Honolulu newspapers had a significant paragraph stating that on the day hostilities began the ex-Queen had gone to the residence of Sam Nowlin, at Pearl Harbor, about fifteen miles away. As Nowlin was the principal lieutenant of Wilcox it is presumed that Liliuokalani knew the plans of the revolutionists and had gone to Nowlin's house to be out of harm's way when the fighting began. Speaking of the ex-Queen, Mr. Thurston said that he was confident that his government would not have caused her arrest unless it had ample evidence of her complicity in the Wilcox-Novelin plot. His belief in this regard came from the knowledge that the ex-Queen had been given every freedom and had been made to understand that she was not to be restricted so long as she did not interfere with the peace and good order of the republic. To his government the ex-Queen had been given every freedom and had been made to understand that she was not to be restricted so long as she did not interfere with the peace and good order of the republic. To his government the ex-Queen had been given every freedom and had been made to understand that she was not to be restricted so long as she did not interfere with the peace and good order of the republic.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Imperial Government's Tribute to the Character and Services of Sir John Thompson.

Penitentiary Inspector Moylan Superannuated—Dropped Dead in Church—Return of Ministers.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—Lord Ripon, the Colonial Secretary, has written Lord Aberdeen on behalf of the Imperial government expressive of the sense of loss the Empire has sustained through the death of Sir John Thompson. Lord Ripon says: "The deceased statesman while a strenuous supporter of the rights and a profound believer in the future of Canada, was at the same time a loyal and eloquent advocate of everything that tended to the unity of the Empire to which at the recent arbitration at Paris, and on other occasions he had rendered valuable service. With his personal character your cordiality, of course, much more familiar to my eyes, but it is with a sincere admiration with which I enjoyed impressed me with his genial temper and kindness of heart, his unassuming modesty, his candor and straightforward character, and his ability in maintaining his convictions. The dispatch will appear in full in the Canada Gazette to-morrow.

An order in council appointing Mr. Douglas Stewart, formerly private secretary to Sir John Thompson, Inspector of Penitentiaries (in succession to Mr. Moylan, superannuated), has been passed. It is admitted generally that the government have made an admirable choice.

Hon. Messrs. Costigan and Foster have returned to the city. John Nevay, a French-Canadian aged 60, dropped dead in the Roman Catholic cathedral this morning.

OTTAWA, Feb. 2.—The Ministers returned from Western Ontario report splendid feeling in favor of the government. Hon. Mr. Ives returned to-day to proceed to the Eastern Townships. Hon. Mr. Daly has gone West to address meetings in Central Ontario.

Everything portends elections the first week in April. Thomas J. Waters, of the Customs department, has advised E. B. Oler, C. C., and will endeavor to make a strong defence against the charges against him.

TORONTO TOPICS. TORONTO, Feb. 1.—(Special.)—The North Victoria Conservatives have nominated Sam Hughes for the Commons.

At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Toronto University a petition to the Lieutenant Governor in Council to appoint a commission to investigate the affairs of the university was discussed. The talk here is that a plan has been settled for the fall returning to the Conservative ministry in Japan asking to be re-elected to the office of the former caretaker, and the absence of the divines ready to call the Irish members mercenaries. This action is to be taken upon the ground that it is now stated that the Rev. Mr. Carthy, the Irish leader, accepted a check for \$2,000 from Lord Tweedmouth, but the motion will not likely be insisted upon inasmuch as even the Tories condemn the system.

UNGENEROUS ATTACKS OF THE "TIMES" upon the Irish members personally. The real fight in the debate on the address will be over the government's anti-landlord resolution, and it is understood that Mr. Balfour intends to demand that the government should make a statement on the subject of the country is entitled to know exactly what it is, since the government have already stated that they have decided to bring it forward. Now that Sir Charles Dilke has announced on his original proposition, Mr. Balfour has a motion to lay the resolution upon the table there is the possibility of an immediate dissolution. The adverse attitude of these gentlemen, together with that of the Redmondites, and the absence of the divines mentioned would defeat the government, but the other amendments to the address are not likely to result in successful divisions.

The Canadian Press association has elected the following officers: L. W. Shannon, president; J. A. Cooper, secretary-treasurer; and E. A. Johnson, assistant secretary-treasurer. Mayor Kennedy is still ill.

MONTREAL MATTERS. MONTREAL, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The fire commissioners' inquiry into the recent McChanos' Institute fire was concluded this morning. The inquiry was conducted by the court of the Queen's Bench on a charge of arson. Bail was refused.

Rev. J. B. Silcox of Emmanuel Congregational church has resigned, but will not be reasons. He was formerly a minister in Winnipeg, and was a graduate of the Montreal Congregational College.

C. F. B. Shugart, vice-president of the C.P.R., said to-day: "During the first three weeks of this year our returns show a decrease of \$75,000 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. We are experiencing the effects of the depression in the United States, but business will revive; I do not despair."

The rumors of the Mail-Empire newspaper consolidation which have been circulated during the past week were confirmed to-night by a notice of dismissal given to every member of the Empire staff.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S CRISIS. ST. JOHN'S, Feb. 1.—Newfoundland's provisional cabinet, headed by D. J. Greene, after being in office but little more than a month resigned to-day. The resigning ministers advised Governor O'Brien to ask ex-Premier Whiteway to form a cabinet. Sir William Whiteway this afternoon consented to resume the premiership and will endeavor to have his cabinet ready to-morrow. It is understood that he will re-install in office as many as possible of those who, like himself, suffered political penalties at the hands of the courts. A majority of the Whitewayites oppose Newfoundland entering the Canadian confederation, and a royal commission is likely to be appointed to inquire into the political situation. The trial of Balfour would involve some well known London men, who will join with the failure of the authorities to bring the abductor to justice.

Michael Dwyer has just arrived at Rat Portage from Ratay river, bringing a portion of the election returns increasing Oomen's majority to 267, with prospects of a still larger increase.

CABLE LETTER.

The Queen's Speech Submitted for Her Majesty's Approval—Government's Hands Somewhat Tied.

Excitement Over an Attempt to Remove a Judge—Affairs in Africa.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—The cabinet have held three meetings this week with the result of finishing the Queen's speech. The document was taken to Osborne to-day by the Marquis of Ripon, secretary of state for the colonies, and Lord Carrington, the lord chamberlain of the Queen's household, for the purpose of obtaining the approval of Her Majesty thereto. It is now known that the ministers have decided that if the ministry must fall it will fall fighting; consequently the speech will contain references to all the reforms of which the ministerial party approves, without regard to whether or not they are likely to pass during the coming session. Even though

THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SURVIVE the debate on the address in reply to the Queen's speech, it is absolutely certain that they will not be able to pass anything more than the Welsh church bills and the Irish land measure in the course of one session. Under these circumstances the supporters of the government adhere to their resolve to oppose the payment of salaries to members of parliament, registration reform and the unification of London, must content themselves with the government's approval of their pet schemes; but with what grace they will so remain to be seen. The main question now is how the government will fare during the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne. If the Redmondites adhere to their resolve to oppose the government it is quite likely that the ministry will be defeated. The Liberal absentees include Mr. Florence O'Driscoll, member for South Monaghan, who is in Australia; Mr. Alfred Webb, member for West Waterford, who is in India, and W. Randall Cremer, member for the Baginbun division of Shoreditch, who is in America. Besides these, there are two others who are confined to their beds by illness and it is not at all likely that any one of them can occupy his seat at the opening of parliament on Tuesday. Before the beginning of the debate on the address the Conservatives threaten to move to expunge the resolution censuring the London Times for calling the Irish members mercenaries. This action is to be taken upon the ground that it is now stated that the Rev. Mr. Carthy, the Irish leader, accepted a check for \$2,000 from Lord Tweedmouth, but the motion will not likely be insisted upon inasmuch as even the Tories condemn the system.

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MEXICAN MUSTANG

INFLUENZA

for Man and Beast!

Langley & Co., Wholesale Agents for British Columbia.

board the steamer Athenian on his return to Cape Colony. In the meantime, the Delagoa Bay question becomes acute. Germany recently notified England that the Kaiser's government would not allow her to acquire the bay and the surrounding territory. Portugal has already agreed to sell the bay to Mr. Rhodes, or to the Cape Colony, or to the British government, but is willing to sell it to a company formed of Dutch and German capitalists. It is rumored that the Rothschilds and Mr. Rhodes are projecting a

TREMENDOUS SOUTH AFRICAN SCHEME, which will require a capital of many millions of pounds. The scheme is said to include the combination of all the gold mines in Witwatersrand under the control of one company.

The weather during the week has been severe throughout England. Only one mail has been able to leave Calcutta for London, and many rural postmen have been snowed up and chilled into insensibility. The cold in London has been much more severe than had been experienced for many years and the hungry unemployed workers have suffered greatly.

Dispatches from Rome state upon Vatican authority that the Pope is now making arrangements to assign special facilities to the apostolic delegates at Washington, making a sort of ecumenical tribunal to adjudicate the differences of Catholics and deal with priests and bishops as regards ecumenical discipline.

Princesses Victoria and Maude of Wales are to return to society, from which they have been absent for more than a year. They will be present at a reception given by the Countess of Spencer at Casa di Capri, February 4. The time of the Princess of Wales' return home is still indefinite. She has not been in England since she left the court to go before the death of the Czar Alexander. It is expected that the Czar Nicholas and the Czarina will visit England in June. They will reside in Buckingham Palace during their stay as the guests of the Queen. Her Majesty will be accompanied by a magnificent State functions which will be given in their honor.

MEXICO AND GUATEMALA. CITY OF MEXICO, Feb. 2.—Mexico is still sending troops to the frontier. General Diaz may be handicapped by his cabinet on account of finances, but Guatemala still stands on her original proposition. Mexico has so far apparently ignored clause 4 of the treaty of 1852, calling for arbitration, consequently Guatemala and other members of the Central American confederation and American republics ignore the treaty of 1857. Guatemala has between 10,000 and 12,000 troops on the frontier. The opinion seems to prevail among foreign legations here that unless Guatemala recedes there will be a declaration of war.

Don Joaquin Castellanos, Salvadorean minister to Mexico, continues to deny that the Central American alliance has been formed. Rumors were current last night that he had been declared, but these replies are indignantly denied by the official organs. On the contrary, these organs say, a telegram from Mexico received on the 27th inst. practically conceding all the points in dispute. Three thousand troops are concentrated at the Acaapulco town, close to the Guatemalan line, and more are massed at Comitán.

Guatemala, Feb. 2.—It is safe to state now that there will be no collusion between the several Central American states against Mexico. Last October a meeting was held at which representatives were present from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, but no definite steps have been taken here to formulate such an alliance. Over fifty arrests have been made within the past few days of persons, among them, it is said, several military officials accused of conspiracy against the government.

BACK FROM ALASKA. SEATTLE, Feb. 2.—Steamer Mexico, Capt. Carroll, arrived from Alaska yesterday. She brought down a small lot of freight and a few passengers, and on her arrival at San Francisco will be tied up. On the down trip she met the City of Topeka, which had been put on the run regularly, at Wrangell and transferred crews, the regular crew going on the Topeka and the extra crew bringing the Mexico back.

Judge Warren Truitt was a passenger on the boat, and will probably remain here several days. He is accompanied by a party who have been surveying the boundary line between Canada and Alaska; Frank Glasco, and Edward Holden, who has been mining on the Yukon for several years, were also passengers.

A trail will probably be made soon by the Canadian government from Taku inlet, about fifteen miles south of Juneau City, to the head of the Yukon river. Miners throughout Alaska are very much elated over the prospect of the road being built.

Reports state that the halibut fishing season is beginning well, and several good catches have already been made. The residents of Juneau and vicinity are much exulted over the present rate war that is being waged between the Pacific Coast Steamship Company and the Chilkat and are fearful that it will be the means of bringing a large number of worthless fellows to that country who will become a burden upon the community.

WINNIPEG WIRINGS. WINNIPEG, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The official announcement is made in the Manitoba Gazette of the opening of the legislature on Thursday, February 14. It is expected the session will be very short.

A Steele named Johnson, employed by the C.P.R. at Rat Portage, was found by the section foreman frozen to death this morning.

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BUCKINGHAM, Feb. 1.—Gibbs, Travolta & McLaren's ornamental works on the Du-Laitre were burned last night.

WINDSOR, Feb. 1.—Rev. A. Howie, of Cotnam, near Essex, died of pneumonia in the lock. The toe was frozen and then amputated.

It quickly cures

Cuts, Burns, Corns, Bruises, Chilblains, Bunions, Cracks between the Toes, Scalds, Piles, Swellings, Ulcers, Sift Joints, Old Sores, Inflammation of all kinds, Lane Back, Pimples, Rheumatism, Pustules, Caked Breasts, Eruptions, Dissected Tendons, Contracted Muscles, And all Lameness and Soreness.

FALL OF WEI HAI WEI

China's Stronghold Captured by the Japanese—Retreat of the Defenders.

Purchase of Large Quantities of War Material—Prospects of Peace Before End of Winter.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—The Central News correspondent in Tokio telegraphs the following despatch from Marshal Oyama received under to-day's date from Taiten Wan: "All the land forts at Wei-Hai-Wei have been taken. The enemy retreated beyond Fung Linchi. The Chinese warships were not captured and are still firing at us. I am inquiring as to the losses on both sides and am examining the prisoners and spoils. The Japanese torpedo boats have been sunk and an ironclad disabled. No foreigner has been hurt. Wei-Hai-Wei is quiet. The Chinese bolted when the actual assault was made. It is stated that their loss was 2,000 men. Lullungtan, an island near the city, on which the workshops and some forts are, is still in the hands of the Chinese. All the Europeans in the city escaped unhurt."

The Daily News says that the commandant at Wei-Hai-Wei is Peter Nielson, a Norwegian naval officer, 31 years old. The Central News correspondent in Tokio forwards the following dispatch received from the third Japanese army, possessed of Paoliyao. The warships simultaneously bombarded the Paoliyao forts. The sixth division began to advance at 2 o'clock in the morning and at 9 o'clock had taken possession of the command of most of the enemy's line of defenses. Advancing behind Mount Ku they completely captured the Paoliyao forts. By 12:30 o'clock the squadron signalled that they held possession of the forts. The Chinese fleet were inside Lullungtan island, and conjointly with the Wangtso fort were firing at our ships and troops. Our squadron is blocking both entrances and the fighting continues. At 4 o'clock the Japanese had apparently occupied the important point of Westchuan.

The Times has the following from Hongkong: "General Fung is about to march from Wang Tung against the Chinese. The Chinese Viceroy Chang in the defence of Nanjing. General Fung fought against the French at Anam."

The Standard will say to-morrow: "It is reported that China has bought war material from Krupp to the value of \$300,000. Part of the material is said to be already aboard two steamers, and two other steamers will follow with the remainder. The arms are to be paid double rates."

A Japanese official in London said in an interview to-day that he did not expect that Feking would be reached this winter. The object of the Japanese, he said, was not to capture Peking, but only to reap the fruits of their victories. He thought that if the terms of the Chinese peace envoys were reasonable, peace could be concluded before the end of the winter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The appointment of Count Ito and Viscount Matsui as representatives of Japan to treat with the Chinese peace envoys was made known to the officials of the Japanese legation through an official cable. The negotiations will take place at Hiroshima. It is definitely settled that Mr. Foster will not be allowed to attend the sittings of the peace commission.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—The Globe publishes a despatch from Hiroshima giving the official dispatches describing the capture of the forts at Wei Hai Wei, and a despatch from Chefoo also furnishing details of the engagement. The exploding shells in the forts which were blown up killed a large number of the Chinese defenders of these works. The Japanese cruisers Nanwa, Akitsushima and Katsura, bombarded the eastern forts for hours, but neither these nor the city of Wei-Hai-Wei had been occupied by the Japanese up to the date of the dispatch of February 2. The Chinese authorities at Chefoo are arresting and beheading the soldiers who ran away from Wei Hai Wei. The extreme cold weather prevents further operations at Wei Hai Wei at present.

TOKYO, Feb. 2.—The Japanese chamber will resolve unanimously to approve all the war expenditures regardless of amount or date.

THE LAST OF THE BUFFALOES. CHEYENNE, Wyo., Feb. 2.—The only band of buffaloes in existence, outside of the Yellowstone Park, is on the Red desert, northwest of Rapid City. There are probably sixty or seventy five head in the band. A bill for the protection of these animals has been introduced in the house. Violations of the law will be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than three or more than ten years.

SEBIOUS CASUALTY. KASLO, B. C., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—A big snowslide occurred at the Noble Five mine to-day. It is reported James Gillis is missing and Jap McKinnon badly injured. It is also reported that several horses were buried in the slide. Further particulars are not obtainable to-night. It has been snowing heavily for the past twenty-four hours.

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