

NICARAGUA CANAL.

Representative Bodies Meet in Convention at San Francisco.

A MEMORIAL ADOPTED TO SECURE NEEDED LEGISLATION.

The Republican State Central Committee Announces That if Estee Does Not Overcome Budd's Plurality in the Official Count for Governor the Case Will Be Carried to the Courts on the Ground of Fraud.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15.—A convention, representative of several organizations to assist in the furtherance of the Nicaragua Canal, was held, at the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce, in the hall of the chamber this afternoon, beginning at 2 o'clock. The organizations which accepted invitations to be represented were the following-named, in addition to the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco: San Francisco Stock Exchange, Merchants' Association, Oakland Board of Trade, San Francisco Produce Exchange, Board of Trade of San Francisco, San Francisco Fruit Exchange, Builders' Exchange, Shipowners' Association, Board of Manufacturers and Employers of California, California Bankers' Association, Geographical Society of the Pacific, Traffic Association of California, the California Commercial Union, and the California American Canal Union.

Captain Chapman called the convention to order in the morning. He was promptly elected preside. Professor George Davidson was named as Vice-President and Hugh Craig and Mr. Clement as Secretaries.

A memorial for the consideration of the convention, addressed to the National Senate and House of Representatives, was presented and read. It contained an important part of the business of the gathering. The text of this memorial, which was adopted, is as follows: The Nicaragua Canal, as assembled at San Francisco, Cal., respectfully represents to your august body the imperative necessity of prompt legislation which will secure to the Government of the United States and for the benefit of its citizens as well as of the commerce of the world.

Your memorialists have full confidence that the patriotism and wisdom of our Government will embody therein such conservative provisions as will protect the interests of American commerce and secure to our country the preponderant influence in this beneficent project, to which it is entitled by reason of its geographical position and its influence in the Great Republic of the American Continent.

It is recalled the fact that both political parties have demanded favorable action on the Nicaragua Canal in their national platforms; that all Presidential candidates who have approved thereof, while most of our State Legislature have reported in favor of the project, and that the resolutions of the American people urgently request the necessary legislation at the ensuing session of Congress.

MEMORIAL FROM TACOMA. Tacoma, Nov. 15.—Congressmen John L. Wilson and W. H. Doollittle to-night addressed a large meeting at the Chamber of Commerce here, in which they were joined by a large number of prominent citizens. Much enthusiasm was manifested, resulting in the adoption of a strong memorial to Congress, in part as follows: "The Tacoma Chamber of Commerce most respectfully and urgently prays your respective branches of Congress to promptly enact such legislation as will secure to our country and favorably reported in the Fifty-third Congress by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

ADMISSION OF CHINESE.

Important Decision Relating to the Restriction Act. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15.—United States District Judge Morrow rendered an important decision to-day, defining the power of Collectors of Customs as judges of the rights of Chinese seeking admission to this country. The local Collector of Customs is limited to the duty of examining him exclusive authority to pass judgment in the cases of all Chinese seeking admission.

In the case of Tom Yum, a passenger on the steamer Gaelic, who claimed to be a native-born citizen of California, the collector claimed the right to land, Collector Wise held an investigation and decided that the Chinaman's claims to citizenship were fraudulent. He refused to allow Tom Yum to land. Habeas corpus was resorted to by the Chinese.

Judge Morrow holds that the jurisdiction of Collectors of Customs is limited to the cases of aliens, and that in cases of American citizens or persons claiming citizenship the Collector is without authority to finally or conclusively pass upon their right to come into this country. The case of Tom Yum was accordingly referred to a United States Commissioner to take evidence and pass upon the Chinaman's claims to citizenship.

FRIGHTFUL CRIME IN OHIO.

A Farmer Murdered and an Attempt Made to Burn His Body. CLEVELAND, Nov. 15.—Wm. Gletzier was murdered near Elyria last night in his barn, and the body was intended to be burned after the commission of the deed by the unknown perpetrator. The cause of the murder is unknown. Gletzier was a well-to-do farmer, and the murder has caused great excitement in the community. When the body was found the legs and arms had been burned entirely off. It is evident that a rope had been strung around his neck. There was a bullet hole over the left temple and three more in the top of the skull, as though some person had stood above him and shot into his head. Gletzier's stepson, who is said to have a bad reputation, is missing. It is believed he knows something about the murder.

PECULIAR STATE OF AFFAIRS.

A Publisher Has His Assistant Arrested for Criminal Libel. SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15.—An arrest for criminal libel here to-day brings to light a peculiar state of affairs existing in the office of the *Star*. The publisher, Louis W. Piskulich, editor and proprietor of the paper, caused the arrest of Mott Zvant, his assistant editor, and the peculiar feature of the case is that Zvant is accused of having grossly libeled Piskulich through the columns of Piskulich's own journal. Following a disagreement Zvant caused the following statement to be conspicuously inserted in the columns of the paper: "The proprietor of this paper is a flegel without any education. He was a shoemaker in Baltimore, and came here to edit a journal for himself and not to write for Piskulich in his complaint avers that a flegel is a blackguard. The publication in the editor's own paper created a lively row in local Slavonian circles, which never lacking of sensational quarrels and alleged conspiracies.

STORMS IN EUROPE.

Heavy Gales and Floods Continue in the South of England.

LOSS OF LIFE AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY INCREASING.

Thousands of Homeless People Being Fed by the Authorities—A Number of Vessels Wrecked and Many People Drowned—Chinese Advices Deny That Port Arthur Has Fallen Into the Hands of the Japanese.

Special to the RECORD-UNION.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The stormy weather and floods continue over the south part of England. The loss of life and damage to property is increasing greatly. At Bath, Somersetshire, the River Avon has reached the highest point of the century. Thousands are homeless and are being fed by the authorities. Dispatches from Dover say the gale is blowing with renewed violence. Several ships have been washed ashore. The floods in Sussex are increasing. Many houses at Windsor and Eton have been flooded.

OXFORD AND YALE.

No Foundation for the Rumor of an International Boat Race. OXFORD (England), Nov. 15.—Mr. Pittman, President of the Oxford University Rowing Club, says there is no foundation for the reports circulated in the United States that negotiations are in progress for an international eight-oared boat race between Oxford and Yale. Mr. Pittman has received no letter from the subject from Yale, nor from Robert J. Cook, the Yale coach, who is reported to be in Europe for the purpose of negotiating a match between Oxford and Yale.

PARIS, Nov. 15.—Since the heavy storm of Monday night, which did not let up in Paris and the provinces, the southwest gale has abated. No further casualties have been reported.

MARINE DISASTERS.

A British Ship Founders and Twenty Lives Lost. LONDON, Nov. 15.—The British ship *Lumore*, Captain Rhode, foundered six miles off Spurnhead, County York, yesterday. Twenty persons were lost. The *Lumore* registered 1,630 tons. She hailed from Londonderry and was owned by Thomas Dick & Co.

THREE SAILORS DROWNED.

GRAND BAY, N. Y., Nov. 15.—The small schooner *Antelope*, from Chicago, capsized off her anchorage. Three sailors were drowned. The schooner *Alert* went ashore and was probably got to pieces. The crew was rescued after a hard fight by the life-saving crew.

CHICAGO, Nov. 15.—The schooner D. S. Austin was sunk off Ludington, Mich., last night. The crew of seven were rescued by the life-saving crew. The schooner *Apprentice* Boy was also beached at Ludington. No lives lost.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

Great Britain's Offer of Intervention Resented. YOKOHAMA, Nov. 15.—Newspapers here resent Great Britain's offer of intervention, which they regard as entirely a movement in behalf of China. They add that Great Britain's influence in the East is in jeopardy by this offer, which wounds Japanese feeling.

NEWSPAPERS say the defenses of Port Arthur are reported stronger on the land side than on the sea front. Fully 100 guns are mounted on the land front. The Japanese expect if the Chinese make any defense the assault will be bloody.

COREANS JOIN THE TONG HAKS.

CHEMULPO (Corea), Nov. 15.—The Korean Government officials who have proposed to the Japanese a loan of 100,000,000 yen, which will be promulgated in 1895. Numbers of Korean soldiers sent against the Tong Haks have joined the rebels. The country south of Seoul is in a state of great turmoil.

VON HENNEKIN IN COMMAND.

TIENTSIN, Nov. 15.—The whereabouts of the Chinese army defeated at Kiai Lion China is unknown here. Colonel Von Hennekin has been given supreme command of the Chinese navy.

NEWS FROM CHINESE SOURCES.

TIENTSIN, Nov. 15.—Chinese reports from Port Arthur say the Japanese have not yet captured Tall Lion. The Chinese two forts there are still holding out, and in spite of desperate fighting the assaults have not been repulsed.

From the same source it is stated that the Japanese are far from capturing Port Arthur, whose defenses have been greatly strengthened. It is likely the place will offer a determined resistance.

It is also reported that a portion of General Sung's army has recaptured Kinkiang, and that the Japanese have been driven out of Montien, on the road to Peking. The Chinese, who afterward pursued them several miles.

REPULSED THE JAPANESE.

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The *Times* will publish a dispatch from Tien-Tsin saying that General Nieh reports that he was attacked at Malien Lung on November 10th by the Japanese, and he succeeded in repulsing them. The Chinese General adds that the Japanese made a second attack upon the position he occupied on November 14th, but it appears that the Japanese were again repulsed, and the Chinese pursued them toward Fung Wang, which place General Nieh expected to reach soon after sending his report.

The similarity between this reported defeat of the Japanese and the defeat they are said to have suffered at Motien, on the road to Peking, is apparent, and probably refers to the same engagement.

THE QUESTION OF MEDIATION.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—The Chinese Minister, accompanied by two of his staff, called on Secretary Gresham to-day. In view of the pendency of negotiations for United States mediation between China and Japan, the call occasioned much comment, although the officials and diplomats said it was without significance. Ambassador Patenotre of France, who is in the city, and the Chinese minister and his staff had a long and animated talk with him.

There is a growing belief that while Japan is anxious to accept the suggestion of the Government to accept mediation, she has let the fact be known that Japan has not received any direct proposition, nor has the latter country offered any indemnity. This in effect is a negative answer, unless China makes her offer as specific as Japan expects.

Representative Bellamy Storer of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House intends presenting to Congress when it reassembles a resolution of inquiry as to the action of the Secretary of State in suggesting to China and Japan that this country will act as mediator in the settlement of the present war.

Miners' Convention Delegates.

QUINN, Nov. 15.—The following are delegates from Plumas County to the Miners' State Convention: A. B. White, W. W. Kellogg, Colonel Day, George Standard, D. Bradan, O. D. Campbell, J. B. Sutton, E. McLaughlin, S. S. Taylor, A. Hall and J. O'Brien.

WAR AND MERCHANT SHIPS.

Battleships, Torpedo Boats and Rams for Naval Warfare.

OCEAN LINERS THE COMMERCE DESTROYERS OF THE FUTURE.

National Laws Need to Protect and Foster Our Merchant Marine—Shipbuilders in This Country Not Able to Compete With European Builders, With Material and Labor at the Present Rates.

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On the occasion of the meeting of Professional Engineers in connection with the Naval Construction of the Past Ten Years" was read by Richard M. Mead, Rear Admiral U. S. N. "If I had my way," he said, "not a single cruiser should be added to the navy until at least twenty battleships, 100 torpedo boats and 100 minesweepers were added to the fleet. The vessels least satisfactory to the practical men of our profession are the Columbia, Minneapolis, Detroit and Cincinnati. The *Minneapolis* is the only one of these vessels that is not a laughing stock. As to fighting, I doubt the superiority of the Columbia over the American liner *New York* suitably armed. Naval architects, in my opinion, is that an efficient fleet for modern warfare should be composed of the following component parts: First, armored cruisers for coast defense; second, armored ships for harbor defense; third, armored cruisers.

Of the rapid type of cruisers for commerce protection, he said, he had a better idea than the ocean liners *Lucaania* and *Campania*. These ships, in his judgment, are the commerce destroyers of the world.

In conclusion, Admiral Mead called attention to the present war between China and Japan, pointing out the fact that the United States Government had sent personnel, was defeated by Japan, with an inferior fleet but a trained personnel.

"If we are to have a policy, let us have one," he said, "and let us have a policy that will better fulfill my idea than the ocean liners *Lucaania* and *Campania*. These ships, in my judgment, are the commerce destroyers of the world.

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Brazil's New President.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov. 15.—General Prudentes Moraes, upon assuming the Presidency to-day, issued a manifesto in which he says that he recognizes the difficulties of his position, but that he counts upon the support of all friends of the Republic to assist him in overcoming them. He says that he will be guided by the education of the youth. How relevant the manifesto concludes with the statement that peace prevails both at home and abroad.

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