

ANNEXATION OF  
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Japan Removed as an Element  
of Opposition to the Treaty.

An Agreement Entered Into Practically  
Settling All Differences.

Resident Japanese in Hawaii Will  
Have the Same Rights, Should  
the Islands be Annexed, as  
Those in the United States Under  
the Treaty With Japan  
Proclaimed in 1895.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Japan has been removed as an element in the opposition to the consummation of the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States. This result has been attained by the conclusion of an agreement between our Government and that of Japan, as represented by Minister Toru Hoshi, which, by practically settling the status of the Japanese in Hawaii, removes the only substantial difficulty that has existed between the two Governments.

The Japanese Government, for its part, announced some time ago that it no longer cared to interpose any objection to annexation of Hawaii based on principal. Since that time the correspondence between Mr. Hoshi and the State Department has been directed to a satisfactory settlement of the status of the resident Japanese in Hawaii, and this last point has now been adjusted, so far as the executive branch of our Government is capable of effecting, by a preliminary agreement being reduced to the shape of a written memorandum.

The exact basis of this agreement has not yet been made public, but the general scope of it is understood to be a recognition of the rights of Japanese in Hawaii to claim equal rights with those in the United States under the treaty with Japan proclaimed in 1895. This document, which has not been generally taken into account in the consideration of means for adjusting the questions that have arisen over the status of Japanese in Hawaii, goes into effect in July, next year, and among other things it confers upon Japanese within the territory of the United States all of the rights accorded to the citizens of the most favored nation, which, of course, carries with it rights of naturalization and the exercise of the rights of franchise.

Presuming that annexation is effected, the Japanese in Hawaii, will, in 1899, have the same rights as those in the present limits of the United States. All that remains to be fixed is the status of the Japanese during the time that must elapse between the ratification of the annexation treaty and the beginning of the operations of the Japanese treaty of 1895.

WHITE'S JOINT RESOLUTION.  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—During the discussion of the joint resolution bill in the Senate, Cullion yielded to White of California for the introduction of this joint resolution:

"Resolved, That of right it belongs wholly to the people of the Hawaiian Islands to establish and maintain their own form of Government, and that no wise interference therewith, and that any intervention in the political affairs of these islands by any other Government will be regarded as an act unfriendly to the United States.

The resolution was passed by the Senate on May 21, 1894, having been reported by Turpie of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

White asked that the resolution lie on the table.

KANSAS PACIFIC SALE.

The Subject Discussed at a Conference at the White House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Mr. Schiff and Mr. Pierce of the Union Pacific Railroad organization Committee, had a conference to-day at the White House with the President and Attorney-General Griggs. The conference lasted more than an hour, and was devoted entirely to a discussion of matters relating to the Kansas Pacific Railroad.

It is understood that the Reorganization Committee has qualified as a bidder for the road at the sale which takes place on February 15th, and that the conference to-day it was understood an effort would be made to secure a modification of the purpose of the Government to bid at the sale, at least up to the full amount of the principal of the road's indebtedness to the Government, which is about \$3,300,000.

This purpose was announced by the President in his last message to Congress, and it is stated that the President will strictly adhere to his determination and that he so informed the representatives of the Reorganization Committee. No understanding or agreement was arrived at which changes in any respect the relations of the Government to the road or to the Reorganization Committee. As the matter now stands, the sale will proceed at the time specified by the court.

VETERAN JOURNALIST DEAD.

W. T. Giles, Who Founded Many Papers, Dies at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—W. T. Giles, of Freeport, Ill., is dead at the residence of his son, W. S. Giles, in this city, after a brief illness from pneumonia. Mr. Giles was an old and well-known newspaper man, with the distinction of having established more papers than any other man in the country.

Mr. Giles was in his seventy-fifth year, and his newspaper experience began when he was 15 years of age. In the composing room of the "Ohio Patriot" at New Lisbon, Or., where he was born, in 1846 he established the "Democratic Pioneer" at Upper Sandusky, O. He went with the gold-seekers to California in 1849, and in 1851 started the "California Express" at Marysville, and a year later the "Mountain Echo" at Downieville, returning to Ohio in 1853, he established the "Wyandotte County Pioneer."

In 1856 he went to Freeport and pur-

chased the "Bulletin," of which he was editor for over twenty years. He founded a paper in Montana; the "Bugle" at Council Bluffs, Ia.; the "Dakota Herald" at Yankton, S. D.; the "County Democrat" at Dixon, Ill.; the "Monroe Gazette," Wis.; the "Illinois Monitor" of Freeport, and in 1880 the Freeport "Democrat." He retired a year ago.

Mr. Giles was a personal friend of Stephen A. Douglas and Wilbur F. Storey.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY.  
Cracker Combine, With Over Fifty Millions Capital.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—All the biscuit and cracker companies between Salt Lake City on the West, Portland, Me., on the east, St. Paul on the north and New Orleans on the south, will to-morrow morning be under one management. The name of the new corporation, which was incorporated to-day in the State of New Jersey with a capital stock of \$25,000,000 preferred and \$30,000,000 of common stock, is the National Biscuit Company.

The actual transfer of the deeds of the various plants controlled by the companies merged into the national company took place to-day, in the office of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank, in this city. Benjamin F. Crawford of Mansfield, O., was elected President; H. F. Voorhees of Chicago First Vice-President; Frank O. Lowden, Chicago, Second Vice-President; C. E. Rumsey, Pittsburg, Secretary and Treasurer of the company. It also assumes all the indebtedness of these companies.

Practically all the stockholders of the old companies subscribed for stock in the national company. The amount of money paid in stock and cash by the national company for the buildings in the various companies which have been merged into the national is exactly \$23,000,000.

The total indebtedness of the various concerns absorbed by the National Company is placed in round figures at \$2,630,000 and this, it was said to-night, would be paid off immediately.

A WOMAN'S CONFESSION.

Mrs. Edna Gordon Gives Away the Doings of Confidence Operators.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—If the sworn confession of Mrs. Edna Gordon, "Queen of Confidence Women," is not disproven—and the police confirm it—three men who have lived in luxurious houses in this city are the princes of all confidence men, chiefs of the boldest band of scoundrels that ever operated here. Her story marks them as men who, operating in a supposed petty branch of crime, have gained half a million dollars since the beginning of 1898.

Mrs. Gordon's motive in giving away the doings of the confidence gang is revenge. Last week she was evicted from her lodgings here, and she says the members of the gang promised her husband, Charles Gordon, who is now serving a term in prison at San Quentin, Cal., that they would take care of her. She says her husband is serving for a crime committed by another of the gang simply because he would not "peach."

Mrs. Gordon, in her confession, says she has been a crook for seventeen years. She tells how she began in Kansas City, and relates various swindles. From there she went to St. Louis, and from there to Chicago, where she says she was exceptionally successful.

COAST AND EASTERN RACES.

Garland Barr Wins the Stake Event.

Hermosa, George Miller, Wawona, Fashion Plate and Geyser the Other Winners.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 3.—Hermosa, George Miller, Wawona, Garland Barr, Fashion Plate and Geyser flashed first past the judges' stand this afternoon at Ingleside. Three of the winners were favorites, although Garland Barr had little margin over Wheel of Fortune in the San Rafael stake. Geyser showed that he was a horse of some class, and that it will take a good one to finish ahead of the son of Ben Ali and Hot Springs. Results:

Six furlongs, Hermosa (Narvaez), 8 to 1, won; Barstow (Ston), 11 to 1, second; Valencienne (Gray), 12 to 1, third. Time—1:17 1/2. Los Prietos, Gotobed, Ping and Hardly also ran.

Selling, seven furlongs, George Miller (Spencer), even, won; Don Fulano (C. Sloan), 2 to 1, second; Major Cook (Van Kuren), 10 to 1, third. Time—1:31 1/2. Rey Del Diablo, Torpedo, Kaiser Ludwig, Florinel and Cardwell also ran.

Gentlemen riders, one mile, Wawona (P. Skimmer), 8 to 1, won; Dick Behan (C. Sloan), 4 to 1, second; Vera-ter (W. R. Bink, Jr.), 10 to 1, third. Time—1:48 1/4. Atticus, Triumph and Our Climate also ran.

San Rafael stakes, \$1,000, mile and three furlongs, Garland Barr (Jones), 2 to 1, won; Judge Denny (Clawson), 4 to 1, second; Collins (Thorne), 3 to 1, third. Time—1:25. Wheel of Fortune also ran.

OREGON'S VACANT  
SENATORSHIP.

The Case of Henry W. Corbett Debated in the Senate.

Caffery Maintains That the Governor Had No Authority to Appoint.

The Major Portion of the Time in the House Consumed in the Discussion of Political Topics, the Existence of Prosperity in the Country Being the Main Question in Dispute.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—One of the features of to-day's session of the Senate was a speech by Caffery of Louisiana in support of the resolution reported by the Committee on Privileges and Elections declaring that Henry W. Corbett is not entitled to a seat in the Senate from the State of Oregon. Mr. Corbett was appointed as Senator by the Governor of Oregon after the failure of the Legislature to elect a Senator to succeed Mr. Mitchell. Caffery maintained that the Governor of a State has no authority to appoint or fill an original vacancy—a vacancy beginning with a new term—after the Legislature had failed to elect and had failed to re-elect.

The amount of money paid in stock and cash by the national company for the buildings in the various companies which have been merged into the national is exactly \$23,000,000. The total indebtedness of the various concerns absorbed by the National Company is placed in round figures at \$2,630,000 and this, it was said to-night, would be paid off immediately.

A bill repealing an Act granting American register to the steamer Claribel and others was reported and passed. Frye of Maine said that the Act had been passed under a misapprehension, as the vessels were owned by Englishmen.

The Senate's order prohibiting the importation of American fruits into that State, called upon a resolution from Davis of Minnesota, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, calling upon the Government to conform with the public interest, to transmit to the Senate the correspondence and other information bearing upon the matter in his possession or in that of the State Department. The resolution was agreed to.

In accordance with notice given, Caffery of Louisiana called up informally the resolution reported from the Committee on Privileges and Elections declaring that Hon. Henry W. Corbett is not entitled to a seat in the Senate from the State of Oregon.

Chandler of New Hampshire, who has joined in a minority report asserting the right of Mr. Corbett to a seat in the Senate, gave notice that he would call up the case informally to-morrow and press it to a vote as early as possible.

Caffery presented an extended legal argument in support of the resolution presented by the majority of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Caffery contended that the Legislature of Oregon, which met in January, 1897, was duly and properly organized under the Constitution of that State.

In response to an inquiry of Speaker as to whether a Legislature of Oregon might be organized with such power as would enable it to elect a Senator, and yet under the Constitution be unable to elect a Senator, Caffery replied that in certain circumstances such a condition might arise. "If, however," he said, "a majority of the Legislature can pass a law, a majority of the Legislature, under the Constitution of Oregon, can so organize as to elect a United States Senator. That is the proposition upon which I stand."

Caffery's contention was that a Governor of a State could not appoint to fill an original vacancy—a vacancy beginning with a new term—and where the Legislature had an opportunity to elect and had failed to do so, this point he supported by a long list of precedents and quotations from the records of the Legislature of Oregon. He contended that the Oregon Legislature, by intruding, or otherwise, failed to elect, but that the Senate of the United States could not place a premium upon such dereliction of duty on the part of a Legislature as would enable the Governor to appoint a favorite of his to a seat in the Senate.

At the conclusion of Caffery's speech, Lindsay of Kentucky gave notice that to-morrow, at the conclusion of the routine business, he would submit some remarks upon a matter personally concerning himself, and in which he thought the Senate would have some interest.

Cullion then called up the agricultural appropriation bill, the reading of which was concluded last evening. Pending the submission of certain amendments to the bill, Platt of Connecticut expressed his regret that the committee had not stricken from the bill the appropriation for the purchase and distribution of seeds. He read a letter from a number of members of a Connecticut Grange, in which the statement was made that the seeds sent out by the Agricultural Department were not good, could not be depended upon, and were of no use to the farmers or gardeners.

In reply to Platt's brief statement, Allen thought that the chief opposition to the Government's distribution of seeds came from those who themselves had seeds for sale.

Bacon of Georgia thought there ought to be a reformed distribution of seeds. He believed the department ought to purchase seeds for distribution from persons who were known to raise or produce seeds of value. In many instances the seeds purchased were neither valuable nor rare.

The reclamation of arid lands, the whole to cost \$21,500, was discussed briefly by its author and by Stewart of Nevada. It was maintained that the adoption of the amendment would be of enormous value to the Western country.

State of Tennessee was of the opinion that the present proposition was simply the first step in a larger scheme to reclaim the arid lands of the country. It was a beautiful idea, he said, but the finances of the country were not at present in such condition to enter upon the proposed scheme. In addition, he maintained, the proposition was wrong, because it looked to the reclamation of the work by the Federal Government, and ought to be done by State or industrial enterprise.

Gear of Iowa called attention to the fact that 80 per cent of the arid land was Government land, however, that the time was not opportune to enter upon the scheme proposed.

Carter of Montana took issue with some of the statements of the Senator from Tennessee (Bate). He pointed out that there was not a plot of 100 acres of Government land in this country upon which settlement had not been made, except arid lands. He depicted the results of irrigation in various parts of the world, and maintained that the Government must either cede to the States the arid lands, or take up some proper agricultural plan, and that it was the business of the Government to care for the interests of the people to the extent at least which he outlined.

Cullion proposed as a substitute for Warren's amendment, the following: "The Senate and the House of Representatives, in their joint resolution, do hereby declare that it is the business of the Government to care for the interests of the people to the extent at least which he outlined.

The Senate then, at 5:25 p. m., went into executive session. At 5:28 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE.  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The House spent the day ostensibly considering the fortification appropriation bill. In reality the major portion of the time was consumed in the discussion of political topics. The existence of prosperity in this country was again the main question of dispute. The feature of the day was the discovery by Simpson, the Kansas Populist, and the exploitation of the alleged fact that Dingley, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, wore a London made top hat. Dingley explained that the hat was made in New York. The London trade mark was placed there to please the Anglo-American population, and that he had attempted to increase the appropriations in the fortifications appropriation bill or to amend it in any respect were voted down to-day.

A bill was passed appropriating \$10,000 for a survey and report on the practicability of securing a 35-foot channel in the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River.

The House then resumed consideration of the fortification appropriation bill. The Senate's order prohibiting the importation of American fruits into that State, called upon a resolution from Davis of Minnesota, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, calling upon the Government to conform with the public interest, to transmit to the Senate the correspondence and other information bearing upon the matter in his possession or in that of the State Department. The resolution was agreed to.

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WHITE'S PROTESTS  
HAVE EFFECT.

Hamburg Authorities Permit Landing of American Fruits.

Received Instructions From Berlin to Allow Them to be Unloaded.

The Bundesrath Approves a Measure, Which It Is Said Supercedes the Decree of the Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Forbidding Importation Only Where the Fruit is Affected by the Plant Bug.

BERLIN, Feb. 3.—It is announced that the Bundesrath (Federal Council), in plenary sitting to-day, approved its committee's proposal that a decree should be issued prohibiting the importation from America of live plants and shrubs and packages containing the same.

The decree will also, within a certain measure, affect American fruits. These are to be examined by experts on their arrival, and which, if naturally infested, will be excluded. Instructions to this effect will be issued to the customs authorities.

This announcement, which is made by an official agency, appears to indicate a measure distinct from the decree issued on Tuesday by Dr. Miquel, the Prussian Minister of Finance, prohibiting the importation of any kind of American fresh fruit, but it is difficult to ascertain the exact details. The Bundesrath's measure, it is pointed out, is far less stringent than the measures at present enforced in individual States of the American Union.

The Associated Press learns that the Hamburg authorities to-day permitted the unloading of supplies from the United States, owing to instructions received from Berlin, the result of the protests of United States Ambassador White against Dr. Miquel's decree.

The Associated Press ascertains that the Bundesrath supercedes with its authority Dr. Miquel's decree, which was ill-advised in its rigor and suddenness, and which, naturally, provoked the protests of United States Ambassador White. Its decision forbids the importation only where the fruit is affected by aspidiotous pernicious or other insects, and which, in the result, has done enormous damage in the United States.

The Bundesrath's decree applies to the whole of Germany, and makes matters momentarily better, but it is believed that its future interpretation will largely correspond with Dr. Miquel's decree. Parties interested here hear that the United States will resort to reprisals.

Following are last year's fresh fruit imports in hundredweights: America, 206,000; Austro-Hungarian, 167,000; Dutch, 801,000; Belgian, 540,000; Italian, 303,000.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—The Berlin correspondent of the "Times" says: "Customs officials at Emmerich, Rhineish Prussia, received telegraphic instructions on January 30th from Dr. Miquel, the Prussian Minister of Finance, to stop the importation of fresh fruit from America. The Hamburg Senate issued a similar order on the following day. Protests against the latter have received from the Hamburg Senate permission, firstly, for further export of consignments to England, and, secondly, for consignments of American apples that have already reached Germany to be delivered to those to whom they are addressed."

"The subject occupied the attention of the Bundesrath to-day (Thursday), when it was decided that importation of fresh fruit is only forbidden when the same is discovered to contain the plant bug. The prohibition does not extend to dried fruits; but the importation of windfalls, packing material and plants is altogether forbidden."

"The general indignation aroused is due perhaps less to the commercial losses that might ensue, inasmuch as American fruit bears a relatively smaller proportion to the total fruit import, than to the feeling that the Government has been influenced by agrarian pressure."

DETAILS OF THE DECREE.  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—A brief cablegram from Ambassador White at Berlin that came to the Department of State last evening conveyed the only official information so far received as to the decree of exclusion of American fruit from Prussia. This cablegram was so meager that a request was sent to Mr. White for further details. While it is not positively known, it is supposed that the decree applies only to Prussia, and not to all Germany, a considerable limitation. Whether or not it also applies to Canadian fruit is a matter of speculation.

The German Ambassador was a visitor at the State Department to-day, and spent some time with the officials. After talking with Secretary Sherman and Assistant Secretary Day, the Ambassador was half an hour in close consultation with Mr. Wasson, the special Commissioner for the United States in the negotiations of reciprocity agreement. The Ambassador had no news from Berlin direct as to the last decree, which threatens to kill all hope for the negotiation of any kind of a reciprocity treaty or agreement with the terms of the present tariff Act, so far as Germany is concerned.

It is gathered that the basis of the decree, or rather the reason officially sent out by the Prussian Government for the exclusion, is that some shipments of American apples, coming from California, have been discovered to be infested with the disease known as San Jose scale, but just how German ap-

ple endangered, even if this fact should be established, is not made plain.

One of the standing complaints against American dried fruit, the trade in which with Germany has assumed enormous proportions, is again brought to official notice by a report that comes to the State Department from United States Consul General John C. Sturgis, and is to-day made public in the daily consular reports. He transmits a notice issued by the Chief of Police of Stuttgart to the effect that most of the samples of American apples, or dried apples, taken from the local retailers show the addition of arsenic in the form of quantities of 0.3 grams to the kilogram, and warning all dealers that they will be punished and their goods confiscated if further sales of such goods are made.

This complaint was made to the Department of State about two years ago, the German Consul General in Cologne asserting in his notice that the "arsenic was present in the apples because the Americans dry the fruit on zinc trays instead of wooden bars, as we do." Immediately one of the most enterprising of our Consuls in Germany visited an agricultural exhibition in Cologne, asserting in his notice that the "arsenic was present in the apples because the Americans dry the fruit on zinc trays instead of wooden bars, as we do."

During the afternoon further advices were received from Ambassador White as to the nature of the decree, it would seem that the full details are not yet obtainable in Berlin, but it is expected that the Ambassador will cable the entire decree as soon as he can obtain possession of it. The important facts that were established by the last advices were:

First, that the decree of exclusion uses the word "American" as descriptive of the place of origin of the fruit, which would seem to include Canadian fruit, without question; second, that the decree, instead of applying only to fresh fruit, as was at first supposed, includes in the prohibition all dried fruits from America.

State Department officials have not yet recovered from their surprise at the method adopted by the German Government in accomplishing its object in this matter, and an undoubted correspondence to follow will set this out very clearly. The objection to the course pursued is threefold. In the first place, it is said to be entirely without the slightest warning or precedent, and discourteous toward the Ambassador at Berlin, to make the decree and put it into effect without the slightest warning to him. In the second place, by making the decree take effect at once, and stopping all fruit in transit, a great injustice is done to shippers, who thus, without warning, are made to lose heavily on their capital invested in the fruits.

Third, the decree is condemned in that it makes no provision for the admission of fruit of absolute purity; permits no demonstration of origin or healthful condition and, in fact, condemns all fruit, good or bad alike. These considerations are to be strongly urged upon the German Government as reasons why it should either revoke or modify the decree on the lines indicated, before any more radical action is taken.

RAILWAY TO THE YUKON.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT ASKED TO SANCTION A BILL For the Construction of a Road From Glenora to Teslin Lake.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—The Canadian Parliament, which met to-day, will be asked to sanction without delay a Government bill for the construction of a railway from Glenora to Telegraph Creek, on the Stickeen River, to Teslin Lake, a distance of 137 miles. The road, which is to be completed by November, will be the first railway making for the Klondike.

Between Telegraph Creek and Teslin Lake the Government of British Columbia has built a wagon road over which transportation companies will run stages and pack carts. The Stickeen, from Wrangell northward, flows thirty miles through United States territory, but the free navigation of the river was conceded to Canada by the treaty of 1871, and the bonding arrangements entered into by the United States Government and the Government of Canada will permit goods to be shipped from Vancouver and Victoria via Wrangell without breaking bulk. There is uninterrupted navigation from Teslin Lake to Dawson City, a distance of 600 miles, from May 15th to November 15th. The Teslin or Hootaniqua River flows out of Teslin Lake and, on being joined by the Big Victoria, is known as the Lewes. At Fort Selkirk the Lewes is joined by the Pelly and the two form the Yukon.

This route has been selected by the Canadian Government as the shortest and best route to the gold fields. The route is 1,550 miles long. It is an all-water route, except for the 155 miles of wagon road between Glenora and Teslin Lake.

When the railroad over that section is finished it will be possible to reach Dawson from the Big Victoria in a week, with no greater amount of discomfort than is experienced on a voyage across the Atlantic.

Rates on the railway will be regulated by the Dominion Government and will be reduced 25 per cent, at the end of three years. The Canadian Parliament will not grant a charter to any competing railway from any point on the international boundary for a period of five years. The contract provides that the contractors shall keep the existing wagon road in good repair until such time as the railway shall be running and afford every facility for the transportation of passengers and freight.

Mr. Sifton, the Canadian Minister of the Interior, spent some weeks last year in the Northwest Territory and selected the route via Wrangell, Glenora and Teslin because in his judgment it is the easiest of the lot and also because from Teslin Lake and even from Glenora it traverses a country known to be full of rich placer diggings.

Los Angeles Citizen Dead.  
LOS ANGELES, Feb. 3.—Peter Fleming, Superintendent of the Consolidated Water Company of this city, died at midnight last night of Bright's disease. He was an early settler, and has been prominent in water development work in Southern California.

A woman 97 years old rides a bicycle in Dubuque, Ia.

BRITAIN'S FLEET  
TO BE REINFORCED.

Will Have a Powerful Naval Force in the Far East.

Three Squadrons Ordered to be Ready to Sail for China Waters.

Should Russia Hoist Her Flag Over the Ports at Port Arthur, the British Admiral Has Orders to Raise the Union Jack Over Chusan, and the Japanese Will Ascend the Yang Tse Kiang.

SHANGHAI, Feb. 3.—The "China Gazette" says the British Indian, Australian and Pacific squadrons have been ordered to be ready to reinforce the fleet in the Far East, thus giving the British Admiral a fleet capable of coping with "any combination opposing British policy."

The meanwhile, adds the "China Gazette," the British claims in the Yang Tse Kiang will be supported by a strong squadron stationed at Chusan, to which place two other warships are en route. In the event of Russia hoisting her flag over the ports at Port Arthur, the British Admiral has been ordered to raise her flag at Chusan, and the Japanese will ascend the Yang Tse Kiang as soon as the river rises.

About 7,500 Russian artillery and cavalry and quantities of stores and munitions have arrived at Kirin, the capital of the Manchurian province of Kirin.

GREAT BRITAIN HAS NOT BACKED DOWN.  
LONDON, Feb. 3.—On incontrovertible authority the Associated Press learns that Great Britain has not backed down on the question of making Tallen Wan a free port. The Marquis of Salisbury, Mr. Curzon, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Foreign Office, the Russian Ambassador and the Chinese Minister each said yesterday in conversation that they had not heard of any such suggestion.

The opening of Tallen Wan, it is pointed out, was never made a condition in any sine qua non sense in connection with China. The preliminary negotiations on that subject, the opening of Tallen Wan, was "sketched" in neutral interest, and Great Britain suggesting it as one condition favoring a speedy completion of the loan. She never demanded it, and therefore in no sense can be said to have backed down, if the desire was not persisted in.

The Tallen Wan question is, however, without other circumstances, conditions of the loan, still negotiating.

The heat of the Russian press on the subject is in no sense shown by the Russian Government in its communications which have reached the Foreign Office. Though Russia has not tested and means to continue to protest in the stoutest manner against Tallen Wan being opened by British influence, she will not carry her protest to the making it a census bill. Further, it is by no means Russia's intention to close China to other nations, or to obtain concessions from Russia by China.

The irritation in Great Britain and the disappointment in the United States over the so-called backing down of the Marquis of Salisbury is, therefore, not justified. Great Britain is acting strenuously in favor of free ports in China, and hopes shortly to have the moral support of the United States in this policy. If events should push Great Britain from this position at the prospect of defeat therein, she will ask for the support of Washington.

THE MURDERER EXECUTED.  
BERLIN, Feb. 3.—It was announced here in a dispatch from Kiaochow that the murderer of Schultz, the sentry who was killed while on duty at Tsimso, had been executed after trial by a Chinese court.

PASSENGER RATE WAR.

One to be Inaugurated Between Denver and Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—The Atchison and Rock Island roads gave notice to-day to Chairman Caldwell of the Passenger Association that beginning next Sunday they would reduce the first-class passenger rate between Chicago and Denver \$5, the cut to be operative in both directions.

The announcement to the Chairman was the sequence of a conference held this morning between the General Passenger Agents of the Northwestern, Burlington, Atchison and the Rock Island and over the fast trains which the two former lines have announced between Chicago and Denver. The Atchison and the Rock Island having longer routes to Denver than the other two roads, cannot meet the fast time made by the Northwestern and the Burlington, except at great expense and inconvenience. They therefore asked that an extra fare be charged on the new fast trains, and that they be used as "limited" trains. To this request the Burlington and the Northwestern refused to accede, saying that the business would not warrant them in charging more than the regular fare.