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 Approved: **ALEX YOUNG,**  
 Minister of the Interior  
 Honolulu, November 9, 1899.

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**TURKEY IS WILLING TO PAY**  
 SOME TIME BEFORE THE CASH IS FORTHCOMING.  
 The Porte issues an order for the rebuilding of the Annex to Theological School in Constantinople.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—It can be stated on authority that the negotiations respecting the American missionary claims are progressing in the most satisfactory manner in the view of the Government. The State Department has received from Lloyd Griscom, the United States Charge d'Affaires at Constantinople, a cablegram announcing that the Porte has undertaken to meet all of the engagements made with the United States Minister regarding the payment of the claims set up on account of the destruction of the American mission property in Turkey. It is not stated when the payments will be paid, and it is surmised that owing to the many obligations of greater magnitude pressing upon the Porte, some time may yet elapse before the money is actually in hand.

The charge also confirmed the press reports as to the publication by the Porte of an order authorizing the rebuilding of the destroyed missions at Harpoot and Harsam and the construction of an annex to the Robert College, the great American theological school in Constantinople. This action of the Turkish authorities is regarded of an importance far exceeding the mere payment of \$30,000 on account of property destroyed by a mob. It amounts to a recognition of the rights of our missionaries to build their schools in Turkey and insures them against what they regarded as a gradual but absolute exclusion from the domains of the Sultan.

On the whole the officials here regard Griscom's cable as marking the safe passage of what might have been regarded as a critical point in the negotiations, and feel confident that in addition to this notable concession the United States will secure all of its just claims.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 24.—The Porte has received telegrams from the Turkish Minister at Washington, Ali Ferrouh Bey, pointing out the bad impression created in the United States by the non-payment of the indemnity due and announcing the determination of the American Government to insist upon a prompt settlement of the claims.

**POISONING IN PEKIN CITY**  
 KWANG HSU IS BEING SLOWLY DONE TO DEATH.

Rioting Throughout China—Murderers of Dr. Brooks Convicted But Not Sentenced—Japanese Fleet Assembles.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 24.—Rev. George E. Whitman of Swatow, Rev. Dr. Lowry from Peking, and others arriving by today's steamer, declare the general belief throughout China to be that Emperor Kwang Hsu is being slowly and deliberately poisoned by the Emperor's harem, preparations for his demise being already completed. Meanwhile the inability of the imperial powers to curb wild rioting throughout the empire, and more particularly near Taku, the gateway to Peking, has led to the increased powers to send their war ships there and land marines, presaging a general conflict. All the English papers of the coast cities regard the situation as more serious than it has been for many years. The Russo-Japanese complications being completely obscured. The trial of the murderers of Rev. Dr. Brooks began February 25th, and the following days, at Chinanfu, in the presence of C. W. Campbell of H. B. M. S. consular service. The trial was conducted by the Provincial Judge in a large hall of the Hofang Chu, where important cases are taken. On minor points the evidence was very contradictory, but the more important points came out clearly. The six men principally concerned captured Mr. Brooks at Chang Chien, and in spite of the fact that the evidence was very contradictory, carried him away. They do not seem to have killed their prisoner until he attempted to escape. Five of the gang were members of the Taitao Hui, a secret organization of great local influence, and their connection with it seems to have terrorized the villagers, who did not try to interfere. Only four men were implicated in the death. A conviction was recorded, but the sentence is not yet to hand. As a result of the trial the disorganization of the harem has been ordered. From Kam Shan, Chiu Chow district, comes the news of an explosion in a powder magazine on the 24th ultimo, which over 300 houses were destroyed, thirty persons lost their lives, and sixty-seven were more or less injured. Fortunately a large number of the populace had gone from their homes to see a procession in a neighboring place, or the consequences would have been far more disastrous. The shock was felt for over 100 li.

Japan's much talked of naval maneuvers commenced on the 7th instant. Commanders Tsunoda and Hataka have made the Matsushima and Asama their flagships. The invading squadron is formed of the Fujii, Asama, Kasagi, Chinyen, Matsushima, Ise, Hashidate, Hishima, Akitsushima, Chiyoda, Tekachino, Yaeyama, Miyako, Yamato, Toyohashi, Chinchu, Chinpun and several torpedo boats. Over fifty war ships are taking part in the maneuvers, which were to continue from the 15th to the 20th inst., the review of the squadron being held by the Emperor.

**HAWAII UP TO DATE.**  
 Automobiles and Other Modern Con- trivances for the Islands.

CHICAGO, April 19.—The Chronicle says: The inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands evidently have determined to keep pace with their fellow citizens in the United States, for within the last ten days \$50,000 worth of automobiles have been shipped to them. A Chicago firm built the vehicles, which includes large cabs, small cabs, delivery wagons and T cars, each accompanied by an exhaustive treatise on the art of guiding and managing an automobile. The importing habit has been growing on the Hawaiians for the last three months, and Chicago manufacturers have shipped within this period fully \$500,000 worth of merchandise. Chief among the articles are steel rails, passenger elevators and equipments, boilers and pumps, the latter for use on the plantations. One of these pumps, with its accessories, cost \$25,000; two others more than \$25,000 each.

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