fair six Japanese found among the bandits were killed. This would tend to show that the Japanese are organizing the bands.

Reports received here from Tokio say that Japan has granted permission for fifty-three foreign newspaper correspondents to accompany the Japanese forces. Seventeen of these correspondents are American. The date of their departure has not been fixed.

The Tientsin correspondent of "The Standard" says that the Russians are fortifying strongly points south of Moukden. Thousands of coolies who are working day and night on the ramparts and intrenchments of Hai-Cheng, are compelled to labor without pay.

Heartrending stories are appearing in the English newspapers of the suffering of refugees from Port Arthur on the train journey to European Russia. It is bitterly cold, and there is scarcity of food and water. Several children have been suffocated under the rugs and shawls with which they were covered in attempts to keep them warm. Owing to exposure and exhaustion, an epidemic of influenza has broken out among the refugees.

U. S. GOOD WILL SOUGHT.

Higher Hopes in Russia—Hastening Work on Warships.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—The Russian government earnestly desires the conservation of the old friendship between the United States and the empire. The belief is expressed here that the two countries are now on the eve of a better understanding of the points concerning which differences existed. The campaign of recrimination which is going on in a part of the press of both countries is deprecated, and the government here specifically disavows responsibility for the utterances of some Russian newspapers against the United States, which in turn have inflamed a portion of the American press against Russia.

An official of the Foreign Office pointed out to-day the erroneous impression prevailing abroad that Russian newspapers, owing to the censorship exercised over the news, expressed only such views as are sanctioned by the authorities, whereas the newspapers editorially have the widest latitude, and frequently embarrass the government by unrestrained criticism of other countries.

The correction of the original version of the Vicksburg incident at Chemulpo has already affected Russian public opinion favorably. The report of Commander Marshall, captain of the Vicksburg, has been communicated to the Foreign Minister, Count Lamsdorff, by the United States Ambassador, Mr. McCormick, and the formal thanks of the Russian Admiralty will be tendered as soon as a detailed report is received from the captain of the Variag.

NOT CONTRABAND FOODSTUFFS CONTRABAND.

The Foreign Office says that the view held at Washington regarding foodstuffs as contraband of war agrees with the opinion here. A difficulty will be to determine the ultimate destination of such material. It might be consigned to private parties, but eventually reach the military government. The Foreign Office holds that foodstuffs shipped in large quantities are subject to suspicion.

Negotiations have been completed with France, Great Britain and Italy for the repatriation of the Russian sailors who were taken on board vessels of these countries after the Chemulpo fight. These men will be brought to Odessa under Russia's pledge not to allow them to fight during the continuance of the war.

Numerous offers have been received here from women in Germany, France, and especially England, to go to the front as nurses. Dr. Nutzer, a woman physician of Breslau, has already been enrolled for this work.

Lieutenant Newton A. McCully, U. S. N., who has obtained permission to observe the Russian fleet operations, may go to Port Arthur from London by wav of Suez, because of the present delays on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

Siberian gold miners have petitioned the government to permit the transportation of their equipment over the railroad and to discharge the railroad employes who have been drafted into the army, saying that otherwise the entire gold mining industry will be ruined.

CHINESE SPIES ARRESTED.

According to a special dispatch from Port Arthur, twenty Chinese have been arrested there for signalling to the Japanese ships from the shore with flashlights and lanterns. A warning has been issued that similar offenders will hereafter be treated as spies and shot.

Although it is denied that the present plans of the Admiralty contemplate the dispatch of either the Black Sea or Baltic fleets to the Far East, it is beyond question that both are being prepared with the greatest haste to meet any emergency. General Altvater, the artillery specialist, and Admiral Verkhosky have been inspecting the ships and crews of the Black Sea fleet.

Work on the warship is being pushed night and day. The battleship Borodino, the battleship Orel and the transport Kamtchatka are nearing completion at the Admiralty dockyards here. In the dead of night the icebound Neva is lighted for half a mile by the flare of blazing stacks, the silence broken by the din of hammers. The battleship Borodino must be taken to Cronstadt to receive her armor, and it is reported that the icebreaker Ermak will be brought from Reval to cut a channel to the arsenal there. The battleship Alexander III, at Cronstadt, is ready, and the Russian fleet recently at Djibutil, French Somaliland, is returning, so that when the spring opens Russia will have an imposing naval array in the Baltic.

About eight hundred volunteer workmen have left here to work at the dockyards of Port Arthur and Vladivostok.

THE KAZAN TO BE HOSPITAL SHIP.

The volunteer fleet steamer Kazan has been transferred to the Red Cross. The Kazan was reported at Port Arthur on February 17, when she was said to have been slightly injured in a Japanese attack.

The volunteer fleet steamer Ekaterinoslav, which was captured by the Japanese, is lying in the harbor of Sasebo, Japan. Dispatches received here say that her officers and crew are well, and deny that the Japanese are using her for transport purposes.

The volunteer fleet steamer Voronej has reached Colombo, on her way back to Odessa, where the Nijni Novgorod, of the same fleet, arrived to-day.

WARSHIPS BACK AT PORT SAID.

Four Destroyers Return—The Aurora Goes to Crete—Five Days to Repair Cruiser.

Port Said, March 2.—The Russian cruiser Aurora, recently in the Red Sea, left here this afternoon for Candia, Island of Crete.

Four of the five Russian torpedo boat destroyers which left here yesterday for Algiers have returned.

Suez, March 2.—The Russian armored cruiser Dmitri Donskoi, which applied for permission to remain here for repairs, has been allowed five days in which to complete the necessary work.

TIBET TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT.

Both Great Britain and Russia Said to Have Guaranteed This.

Paris, March 2.—The "Liberté" to-day published a dispatch from St. Petersburg saying that the British Ambassador, Sir Charles Scott, had transmitted to Foreign Minister Lamsdorff the answer of Great Britain to the Russian protest against Colonel Younghusband's expedition to Tibet, with the further announcement that Great Britain had bound herself not to menace the independence of Tibet and that Russia had given a like assurance.

JAPAN'S CAMPAIGN PLAN.

Chinnampo as Sea Base—Censorship Unrelaxed.

(Special to The New-York Tribune by French Cable.)
(Copyright, 1904: By The Tribune Association.)

London, March 2.—The news agencies and newspapers are having great difficulty in getting dispatches from Corea. Managers who have made the most elaborate arrangements for covering the field operations admit that they are receiving meagre returns for large expenditures, owing to the rigorous censorship. The experience of the Boer war is likely to be repeated with an important exception, namely, that the official bulletins are few and untrustworthy. The Japanese authorities have not admitted any naval losses, but the truth is gradually coming out that they have had several vessels and destroyers put out of action.

The dispatches printed on Thursday will contain a fresh budget of contradictions and surmises. Rumors of operations by land and sea against Vladivostok are revived, and something is made of an advance of a Japanese column from Wonsan, on the east coast of Corea, but a more plausible theory is that the bulk of the invading force is concentrating at Ping-Yang, with Chinnampo as a sea base, and that pickets have been pushed forward as far as Anju. The occupation of Wonsan by a strong force is necessary in order to prevent a Russian turning movement, but the main army will naturally follow the only good road in Corea, along the west coast from Ping-Yang to An-Tung, and will be supported by a fleet in the Corean Gulf.

There are many fresh dispatches showing a deliberate attempt on the part of the Russian press to render the war popular by persistent abuse of England, and these are filled out with deceptive announcements of numerous offers to fit out American privateers against Japan.

I. N. F.

ITO'S SON-IN-LAW'S VIEW.

To Maintain Integrity of China, with Preponderance in Corea.

Baron Suyematsu, son-in-law of Marquis Ito, the "Bismarck of Japan," and formerly Minister of Interior and Minister of Communication in the Japanese government, arrived in this city yesterday from Tokio, by way of Victoria, B. C., and Seattle.

The baron, who left Yokohama on February 10, is on his way to England, and will sail on Saturday. He declared at the Waldorf-Astoria that he is not on an official mission, but is seeking health. He is a graduate of Cambridge University, and speaks English fluently.

The baron expects the war to last at least a year, and perhaps two years. Regarding the friendly attitude of France toward Russia, Baron Suyematsu said: "Japan, with nothing more to fear from Russia, can fight any power in the East on sea, and France cannot send an army to invade Japan."

While the baron said his country would deprecate the involving of any other country in the war, he was sure that, should France enter into the conflict on the side of the Czar, at least one or two countries would help Japan.

The ex-minister continued:

"If we win, there will be no attempt at territorial aggrandizement. Should we defeat Russia in Manchuria, we do not mean to keep it for ourselves. The maintenance of the integrity of the Chinese Empire is what we aim at. So, too, in the case of Corea, with the difference that we expect some preponderance of influence there as a national safeguard. If Manchuria falls into the hands of a foreign country, Corea will soon follow, which cannot help becoming a constant menace. As to the commercial interests in Corea, it must be recognized that ours are greater than those of any other country. With regard to Manchuria, we have large commercial interests, but in common with other nations, like the United States and England. Our interests are somewhat greater, but nevertheless we are quite prepared to participate on an equal footing. We are not fighting for our interests alone, but for the common interests of all nations, especially those of the United States and Great Britain. Russia demands the neutrality of Corea. It is like a game of chess, and the other man demands the exclusive use of the board.

We always trust Americans, and wish to be good friends with them. We entreat the moral support of the American people, as we do that of all civilized nations. We ask no more. Our army and navy can combat with any single nation in the East on the sea. Now that we have virtually beaten Russia, we do not mind fighting France on sea, and I do not think she can bring an army to invade Japan. Should France interfere in this war, other nations—one or two—will come to the succor of Japan, if we cannot fight her singlehanded. Should France become involved, it will be because the treaty with Russia makes it incumbent on the countries to help each other if either is attacked by two powers. Corea, of course, is an ally of Japan. But in our eyes Corea is not worthy of consideration. We respect the sovereignty of Corea. But what is Corea, after all?"

He ridiculed the idea that Corea could be a "power" within the purview of the treaty.

"Sympathy is an important factor in modern warfare, and I mean to see to it that the sympathy of England is not alienated from us by explaining that we shall carry on the war according to the laws of civilized warfare and with a spirit of modern civilization."

BAIKAL TRAVEL SLOW.

Locomotive Goes Through Ice, and Horses Draw Cars.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—The cars on the railroad laid on the ice over Lake Baikal are now drawn by horses, a locomotive which performed this service having broken through the ice.

MOVE ON TUMEN VALLEY.

Japanese Land Far North on East Corean Coast.

St. Petersburg, March 2.—A dispatch from Vladivostok, dated to-day, says that, according to private reports there, three Japanese detachments of 800 men each recently landed at Chiung-Chan, Corea, about 130 miles north of Wonsan, with the supposed object of reaching the valley of the Tumen River and threatening Hun-Chun, Manchuria, nine miles north of the Corean boundary and about eight miles west of Vladivostok.

A fleet of ten Japanese warships was recently sighted on the horizon, off Vladivostok. They were believed to be reserve vessels, not powerful enough to blockade Vladivostok or endanger the Russian first class cruisers whose base is that port.

RUMOR OF PORT ARTHUR'S FALL.

No Confirmation of Report Circulated in Lobby of House of Commons.

London, March 2.—A rumor was circulated in the lobby of the House of Commons this afternoon that Port Arthur had fallen. The origin of the rumor could not be traced, and no confirmation whatever was obtainable.

THE ALMAZ RETURNS TO LIBAU.

Libau, March 2.—The cruiser Almaz, presented by the Czar to Viceroy Alexieff, for use as a private yacht, returned here yesterday.

The Almaz was reported to have left Brest, France, on January 8, for the Far East.

MOTHER'S DEATH KILLS.

SON SEES HER MANGLED.

Witnesses Accident from Window and Dies Within Hour.

Orange, N. J., March 2.—An aged woman from New-York, who had come to East Orange this afternoon to visit her son, who is a paralytic, was struck and killed by a train on the Lackawanna road at the Halstead-st. crossing at the east end of the Brick Church depot this evening. Her son, helpless in a chair, sat at a second story window of his home overlooking the railroad track, witnessed the accident to his mother and died within an hour.

The woman killed was Mrs. Amanda Z. Allen, wife of Henry A. Allen, of No. 1,290 Madison-ave., New-York. She came to East Orange this afternoon to visit her son, William H. Allen, of No. 22 Halstead-st., who for the last three years had been almost helpless as a result of paralysis. Her mission to her son's home this afternoon was to arrange for a family gathering at his home next week, to celebrate her eightieth birthday. The gathering was to have been held at the son's home because of his inability to attend it if held elsewhere. Mr. Allen's home is just across the railroad tracks on Halstead-st., from the east end of the depot. After the arrangements had been completed Mrs. Allen left the house and walked across Railroad-ave. to make the crossing at Halstead-st., which led to the extension of the depot platform. As she crossed the avenue she turned to wave her hand to her son, who sat watching her from a window in the second story of his home.

One of the gates at the Halstead crossing was broken recently and has not been repaired. A train was approaching from New-York, and was well under control, as it was to stop at the depot. Mrs. Allen walked past the broken gate and onto the eastbound track. Seeing her danger the engineer of the westbound train partly stopped, and Mrs. Allen also stopped when the whistle was sounded. When she stopped the engineer proceeded. After a moment's hesitation Mrs. Allen started to run ahead, and was hit by the engine and thrown against a telegraph pole. Her skull was fractured and several ribs broken. She died a few minutes later. Her son, who had viewed the whole scene, was overcome and became unconscious almost immediately. He died inside of an hour.

G. C. SMYTH A SUICIDE.

Nephew of Former Recorder Shoots Himself in His Office.

George C. Smyth, forty-two years old, of No. 204 West One-hundred-and-twenty-third-st., nephew of the late Recorder Frederick Smyth, committed suicide on Tuesday night in his offices, at No. 355 Broadway. He was a partner in Cathrall & Smyth, commission dealers in cotton and worsted yarns and cotton piece goods. There is no known reason for the suicide, but it is reported by people in nearby offices that Cathrall and Smyth quarrelled frequently and had a disagreement on Tuesday.

Smyth was last seen alive on Tuesday night, when Mrs. Mary Collins, a scrubwoman, went to his office, and found him writing. Smyth told her he was going to write for some time and did not wish to be disturbed.

In the morning Mrs. Collins found Smyth's body on the floor, the head resting on a bale of yarn. The head was covered with blood. In the right hand was a revolver, from which one shot had been fired, taking effect behind Smyth's right ear.

Mr. Beals, of King, Beals & Co., later told of receiving a rambling letter from Smyth in the morning, written as if the writer's mind was upset. In it, he said, Smyth referred to business troubles and made a scathing attack on Cathrall.

W. A. WRIGHT A SUICIDE.

Books of Secretary of Big Insurance Company All Right.

Freeport, Long Island, March 2 (Special).—In spite of the denials made by members of the family, it was positively stated to-day by Judge Clowes, who is acting coroner here, that William A. Wright, the secretary of the Phenix Fire Insurance Company, caused his own death on Monday night. Judge Clowes said this afternoon:

It is positively true that Mr. Wright committed suicide. He choked himself to death with the cord from his pajamas. He was fully dressed, and no doubt did the act as soon as he retired to his room. He had thrown the rope over the hinge of a door and deliberately lifted his feet off the floor until he was unconscious. After seeing the manner in which he had committed the act I gave permission for the burial of the body. It is strictly a case of suicide.

Every effort was made at the home of Mr. Wright to deny the suicide, and Dr. John E. Hutcheson, who had been attending Mr. Wright, would tell nothing beyond the fact that he had been treating him for some time for nervous prostration, and that he died on Monday night. He would neither confirm nor deny the statement that he committed suicide.

Mr. Wright's funeral will be held on Thursday at the home of relatives, No. 458 Macon-st. The interment will be in Greenwood and will be private.

At the office of the Phœnix company, Assistant Secretary Charles F. Koster said that Mr. Wright's books were absolutely correct and that the officers of the company knew of no business troubles that could have caused the suicide.

"His health had been growing steadily worse since it began to fail last September," said Mr. Koster, "and we had tried to persuade him to take a rest. When the rush was over at the end of January he collapsed absolutely. I believe an attack of temporary insanity caused him to kill himself.

"Mr. Wright had been with the company for about twenty-eight years and had risen from office boy to secretary. He leaves two daughters, fifteen and seventeen years old. His wife died some years ago."

SCARES OFF PURSUERS.

Farmers Were Chasing Boy Said to Have Assaulted Cousin.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, N. J., March 2.—Two dozen enraged farmers chased through the mountains near Penwell for four hours Monday hunting for Vinson Kegan, fifteen years old. When they found the boy he was on the opposite side of a small creek. He brandished an old army musket in a warlike manner and announced that he would blow off the head of the first man who molested him. None of the farmers were armed and the boy escaped.

Kegan has been working for J. S. Rynerson, a farmer of Mount Lebanon. He and Mrs. Rynerson are own cousins. Mrs. Rynerson is thirty-five years old. According to her story, while Rynerson was away on Monday morning Kegan went into the kitchen where she was alone. He threw her to the floor and there was a lively struggle. Finally Mrs. Rynerson reached under the stove and got a heavy iron poker. With this she dealt Kegan a heavy blow on the head, temporarily dazing him. She then ran to a neighbor's house.

After allowing Kegan to escape in the Penwell Mountain the farmers returned to Mount Lebanon, got a warrant for Kegan's arrest, and with Constable Thomas Blane at their head started out anew. When darkness set in they learned that Kegan was at the home of C. W. Able, his brother-in-law, at Woodglen, a village five miles away. They reached Able's house at midnight on Monday. Some Woodglen people had heard of the assault and attempted to capture Kegan, but he had frightened them off with his musket. Able was taken into confidence, and he succeeded in getting Kegan off to bed. In this manner the constable and his deputies came upon the boy unawares, overpowered and handcuffed him. There was an intense feeling against the boy and some talk of lynching him. At a hearing yesterday he was held for the action of the grand jury.

HERNANDEZ SUMMONED BY CASTRO.

Venezuelan Minister Going to Caracas for Conference with President.

Washington, March 2.—General Hernandez, the Venezuelan Minister to this country, has received a brief communication from his Foreign Office, informing him that President Castro desires him to return home for a conference "on certain matters which it is easier to talk about than to write about." The minister expects to leave Washington shortly.

EXONERATED FOR KILLING SAILOR.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Annapolis, Md., March 2.—Both the naval jury of inquest and the coroner's jury exonerated Quartermaster Harry Snowden, of the torpedo boat destroyer McDonough, from blame for the death of Yeoman R. P. Matthews, who was killed by a blow from Snowden's fist. It was shown that the blow was struck in a friendly scuffle and there was no anger between them. Snowden is much depressed.

TITLE TO CANAL GOOD.

NO FURTHER DELAY.

Payment May Be Made and Transfer Effected in Thirty Days.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 2.—All that now exists of the Panama Canal, including the title and physical effects of the French company, the canal zone and the partially completed canal will be in the possession of the United States and will have been paid for within thirty days, according to the present expectation of the President and the Attorney General.

Panama needs funds in its treasury, and $2,000,000 will be promptly paid over to start the new republic on the road to prosperity, while $8,000,000 will be invested in United States bonds purchased for the republic, to provide for a rainy day. In this way only one-fifth of the purchase price will leave this country for the present. The Attorney General has advised the President that the title of the Panama Canal Company is satisfactory, and that ample authority to make the necessary payments is given by the Spooner amendment, so that no time will be lost in completing the transaction.

After a conference with the President on this subject to-day the Attorney General made the following statement:

I have advised the President that he is authorized to pay at once to the Republic of Panama the $10,000,000 stipulated for by the treaty, the ratification of which has just been exchanged. Also, that he is authorized to pay the New Panama Canal Company the $40,000,000 which under the agreement between the United States and that company we are to pay for its property, and have notified the canal company that we are ready to close the transaction. The details in connection with the transfer of the canal company's property should not require more than thirty days.

The President feels that sufficient time has already been occupied in securing the ratification of the Panama treaty and that there is no occasion for further delay. He hopes to infuse his own earnestness and energy into the Panama Commission, and believes that the excavation of the big ditch will soon be in progress on a large scale. He has well defined views on the sort of legislation necessary for the control of the canal zone, and his opinions are in harmony with those of the Republican leaders in Congress, so that no material delay can occur. The general policy which will be followed in drafting the Panama Civil bill will be that outlined in these dispatches this morning.

NO BAR TO THE TRANSFER.

Denial at Paris of Agreement Between Colombia and Company.

Paris, March 2.—It was asserted positively today by one of the highest officials of the Panama Canal Company that, contrary to the statement emanating from New-Orleans, no arrangement has been made or projected between the company and the Republic of Colombia in connection with the suits now pending before the French courts.

The official added that there was absolutely no difficulty in the way of an immediate conclusion of the negotiations for the transfer of the concession to the United States.

It is understood here that General Reyes, of Colombia, who is on his way to Rome, is favorable to a settlement with Panama.

The officials of the United States Embassy share the view of the officers of the canal company, that there is nothing now in the way of the actual transferrence of the concession and the company's property. At recent conferences between Ambassador Porter and M. Bo, president of the canal company, the president pointed out that two suits are now pending, one involving Colombia's right to hold shares and the other the general question of the company's right to transfer its concession to the United States. M. Bo was inclined to believe that one, and perhaps both suits, might be protracted for several months.

General Porter, however, was satisfied that even if the suits are continued they do not constitute a menace to the United States. If this view prevails at Washington it is expected that the details of the transfer will soon be arranged through the canal company's representative there.

Inventories of the company's property were made when the Canal Commission fixed the price at $40,000,000. These and practically all the property, except the archives and some maps, are already in the United States, so it is expected that the formalities of transfer will not take much time.

TWO BANKS CLOSE DOORS.

Many Farmers Lose Because of Alleged Defalcation.

Oswego, N. Y., March 2.—The Farmers' Exchange Bank at Cleveland, N. Y., and the Parish Exchange Bank at Parish, Oswego County, both operated by Potter & Marsden, have suspended business. The Farmers' Exchange Bank was established in 1882, and capitalized at $10,000. According to a recent statement, it owed depositors $31,000. The Parish Bank was established in 1892. It is not believed that it did a large business.

It is reported here that the embarrassment of the two banks was caused by a defalcation. The man responsible is said to have fled. The liabilities of the Parish bank are estimated at $25,000 and its assets at $5,000.

Investigation showed that the failure of the banks was more serious than was at first supposed. Besides several thousand dollars missing, it is charged that Niles, the cashier of the Parish bank, who is said to have disappeared, cashed many checks in Syracuse. The Cleveland bank had $30,000 on deposit and the Parish bank $11,000. The latter had lent $5,000. Many farmers are losers, and $3,300 town money was on deposit in the Parish bank.

"DEAD" MAN ARRIVES HOME.

Pittsburger Returns from Long Wanderings After Body Was Identified as His.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Pittsburg, March 2.—After travelling over China, Siberia and South Africa, Adolph Gerl returned to his home, No. 1,632 Perry-st., Allegheny, to-day, though last August a body in a New-York morgue was identified as his. One pleasant morning last August he was sent by the Best Manufacturing Company, in this city, to make a bank deposit. He went to the bank and made the deposit. This was the last heard of him until he walked into his home yesterday.

Detectives were engaged and then he was forgotten. The house in Perry-st. was closed, and the heartbroken wife and children went to friends. Two weeks ago a tramp arrived in New-Orleans; later a letter came announcing the arrival of the missing man. Gerl is in perfect health, but his mind is blank as to his wanderings. He said tonight that he had been in China and Siberia.

ZEELAND TO STOP AT SOUTHAMPTON.

The Zeeland, scheduled to sail from New-York on March 26, at 10:30 a. m., will call at Southampton on her way to Antwerp to land first and second class passengers. The rates of passage to Southampton or Antwerp are: First class, $65; second class, $42 50. The advanced summer rates will take effect on April 1.

LIMA CONTRACT FOR LARGE LOAN.

Lima, March 2.—Proof of the financial progress made by Peru is furnished by the fact that the city of Lima yesterday contracted with local banks for a loan of $1,500,000 at 94, at 8 per cent.

MAY NOT GET POSTOFFICE

New-York Representatives Fail to Agree on $2,000,000 Appropriation.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 2.—Through failure to agree among themselves, the New-York delegation in the House has apparently lost all chance of securing the $2,000,000 amendment to the Sundry Civil bill which was to provide for the purchase of the Pennsylvania Railroad site for the New-York postoffice. Up to the time the delegation appeared before the Committee on Appropriations to-day the prospects were exceptionally bright for a favorable recommendation, but when it became apparent that, despite the caucus action, there was a lack of unanimity in the delegation, those prospects were quickly dissipated, and it now seems improbable that the amendment introduced will be incorporated in the Sundry Civil bill by the House at least. Before the hearing it was supposed that every member of the delegation would earnestly support the proposition, and by securing favorable consideration provide for New-York the much needed increase in postal facilities. When Representatives Douglas and Dunwell, by favoring an appropriation at some future time "for the erection of a magnificent building in the business centre of the city," indirectly opposed the appropriation now asked, Chairman Hemenway remarked that as such a difference of opinion existed it would be "well to go slow."

Representative Sulzer offered the $2,000,000 amendment. He explained that this site had been selected by the commission, consisting of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Postmaster General and the Attorney General, which had been authorized by Congress to make the selection. He declared that the people of New-York heartily approved the proposed purchase, as it would result in a comparatively short time in the relief they justly demanded. Mr. Sulzer pointed out that New-York City was the greatest distributing centre for mail in the country, and that better facilities would not only be of material advantage there, but would vastly benefit the country at large. He also urged the acceptance of the proposition made by the New-York Central Railroad, carrying a fifty year lease by the government at an annual rental of not to exceed $90,000. Mr. Sulzer lamented the fact that, although New-York had the largest delegation in Congress, people were beginning to realize that it was unable to "secure an appropriation of a paltry $2,000,000."

Senator Depew made a strong argument in favor of both sides. He contended that increased postal facilities were absolutely essential at the earliest possible moment, and pointed out that within the last ten years two cities of imposing size have been built within the boundaries of Manhattan—one west of Central Park and one north of the Bronx. He referred to the fact that the United States was rapidly becoming a great exporting nation, and that much of the mail necessary to transact that enormous business passed through New-York City, indicating the absolute necessity for rapid handling. The Senator feared that the size, wealth and importance of the metropolis had been a handicap rather than an aid in securing government appropriations for needed improvements and pointed out that New-York had repeatedly been sidetracked while smaller cities had secured what they asked.

Representatives Douglas and Dunwell opposed the appropriation for $2,000,000 for the site, which would necessarily be supplemented by $5,000,000 more for the erection of a building thereon. This led to an exchange of personalities between Mr. Douglas and Mr. Sulzer, and resulted in a suggestion from Chairman Hemenway that it would be well to settle their differences outside the committee room. Representatives Scudder, Harrison, Wilson, Shober and Goldfogle spoke in favor of the amendment, and the hearing adjourned with the conviction forced on those present that the division of opinion in the delegation had practically killed the $2,000,000 appropriation so far as the House was concerned, although Senator Depew still hopes to secure the amendment in the Senate.

HEALTH OF THE ISTHMUS.

Dr. Spratling Says the Chief Danger Is from Mosquitoes.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, March 2.—An interesting report on the health conditions along the canal strip is being prepared in the office of the Surgeon General of the Navy. It is based on the facts found to exist there by Dr. L. W. Spratling, brigade surgeon under General Elliott, commandant of the marines, who has just returned from the isthmus. Dr. Spratling was on the canal strip from January 3 until his return North a few days ago, and made a close study of all the circumstances that are likely to make for health or disease in the ranks of the workmen when they begin digging the big ditch.

"On the whole, I found the conditions much better than I had expected," said Dr. Spratling. "Nearly all the strip, except at the ocean ends, is on high ground, and during all the time the marines have been there not a single death has occurred from yellow fever, malaria or any other disease peculiar to the isthmus. The main danger there is found in the mosquitoes. There are millions upon millions of them. I should say that every known breed of the pest is there, including the yellow fever and malaria conveying kinds. The first thing we must do when we take charge is to get rid of the mosquitoes, or, at least, do away with as many of them as possible. This can be done by draining off the marshy places, where they breed, within, say, two or three miles of the canal works, and by abolishing the rain water barrel drinking receptacles that are now in use by the natives. About all the workmen now employed by the Panama Canal Company are Jamaica blacks, and as they do not take any care of themselves whatever, they die very quickly when attacked by malaria and yellow fever. The marines there drink nothing but distilled or sterilized water, and as that is the main way of preserving one's health down there, they have not suffered any more from climatic influences than they would in the warm parts of the United States.

"At present there are about four hundred men employed by the Panama Canal Company at Culebra, to preserve their concession. These are all blacks, and they are paid anywhere from 25 cents to $1 in Colombian money. When I was down there our silver dollar was worth $2 20 Colombian, so you may imagine that conditions of labor are not very good on the isthmus. There are no more workmen in sight down there just at present, so when we start to work we will be obliged to import our labor. Drs. Carpenter, Orvis, Angeny and Marcour are still on the strip, and will remain with the marines for the present. I have talked with white men who have lived for years along the line of the canal, and they tell me that they do not suffer from the fevers if they only take care of themselves."

CAUSE OF CAMEROON REVOLT.

Undue Severity on Part of German Official Leads to His Murder.

Berlin, March 2.—The rising of native troops in the Cross and Nsassanang rivers region of German Cameroon, Equatorial West Africa, resulting in several factories of the Northwest Company being burned down and four Germans killed, was caused by the eccentric conduct of Count von Pückler, and was directly due to the theft of a lantern from the company. Von Pückler, who was the government's District Commissioner, sent a letter to Herr Schöller, president of the company here, regarding the stolen lantern, saying that he intended to make the property of white men respected by burning five villages. Herr Schöller inferred that von Pückler was deranged, and ordered that nothing be done. The letter arrived too late. Count von Pückler, with twenty-five men, tried to arrest the headmen of one of the villages, but the count was killed, and his escort with difficulty escaped. In the next few days the company's factories on the Cross River were burned down and four agents were killed. A punitive expedition has now arrived in the hostile district.

Count von Pückler, as appears from information subsequently received by Herr Schöller, had recently given way to fits of fury against the negroes.

DEL PILAR BREAKS HIS OATH.

Manila, March 2.—Del Pilar, the leading spirit of the Caribao insurrection against Spain and the United States, who was exiled to Guam, but who returned and took the oath of allegiance, has joined the outlaws who are defying the authority of the government.

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