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For Fort Get There, St. Michaels Island, Alaska, mouth of the Yukon river, making connections with the river steamers Wear, Cudahy, Hamilton, Healy, Power and Klondike for Circle City, Minook Creek, Fort Cudahy and Klondike gold mines.

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We will issue letters of credit on our company at its posts—Circle City, Alaska, and Fort Cudahy, Dawson City and Klondike gold fields, Northwest Territory—at a charge of 1 per cent.

Large stocks of supplies of all kinds will be found at Fort Get There and Hamilton on the Lower Yukon. For particular rates apply to

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Operating vessels of 2,000 tons, in tow of our powerful tug Resolute, between Puget Sound and Alaska. We are ready to make contracts for delivery of freight to Skagway, Dyea or St. Michael. E. E. CAINE, Manager, Arlington Dock.

COLUMBIA NAVIGATION COMPANY

Will Dispatch the Magnificently Equipped Steamship CITY OF COLUMBIA (1,800 Tons Register) FOR DYEA and SKAGWAY AS FOLLOWS: February 25, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22.

And for DAWSON CITY and all intermediate points on the Yukon River on May 15 and every 30 days thereafter.

Connecting with the specially constructed stern-wheel steamers S. L. Kent, H. Emerson and W. K. Mervin, of the Columbia Navigation Co., and the steamer W. H. Evans, of the LEWIS KLONDIKE CO. For rates of passage and freight and other information apply at the office of the company, MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING, corner of Yester way and First avenue.

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Of Watches, Diamonds, Jewelry, Clocks, Silverware, etc., will continue to the first of January. FRISCH BROS., Jewelers, 720 First Ave.

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HANNA'S NOMINEE IS FOUR VOTES SHY.

Party Caucuses Show Broxwell Is Weak.

BUSHNELL IN THE FRAY.

He Announces His Candidacy and Scores "Bossism."

The Senator's Men Say He Will Be Elected, Even if the Opposition Succeeds in Organizing the House.

Mason Will Run for Speaker on the Issue "Anybody to Beat Hanna"—A Statement Declaring That the Intrigue Has Failed, and That Ohio Will Never Elect a Silver Man to the United States Senate.

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 1.—The caucuses for the nomination of the officers of the legislature, which convenes next Monday, were held tonight.

Usually these caucuses are of state interest only. Tonight the reelection of Senator Hanna was directly involved, and indirectly but openly and aggressively opposition in Ohio to President McKinley and his appointments assumed organic factional form.

The result of the caucuses shows that the nominees of the Hanna slate are short three votes of election in the house and one in the senate, and the opinion prevails that Hanna will be short four votes of election on the joint ballot on Wednesday, January 12, unless changes are made in the meantime.

At the joint Republican caucus next Wednesday Senator Hanna will have no opposition, but it is stated now that there are enough Republicans who will not enter the caucus to prevent his nomination.

The legislature now stands 15 Republicans, 65 Democrats and 5 fusionists. The fusionists are Senator Volght and Representatives Droste, Kemper, Lane and Otis, all of Cincinnati.

In the house Republican caucus tonight Droste, Kemper and Lane participated, and are pledged to Alex Broxwell for speaker, John R. Malloy for chief clerk, and Andrew Jackson for sergeant-at-arms, and other candidates for minor places on the Hanna ticket.

Droste, however, says he will not enter the Republican caucus next Wednesday, as he proposes to present the name of Jephtha Gerrard, a silver Republican, for senator against Hanna.

Including the fusionists, there are 62 Republicans and 47 Democrats in the house, a total of 109, with 55 necessary to elect. There were only fifty-two present at the Republican caucus tonight.

The ten absentees were Bramley and Mason of Cuyahoga, Griffith of Clinton, Griffith of Union, Jones of Stark, Joyce of Guernsey, Manuel of Montgomery, Otis of Hamilton, Rutan of Carroll, and Scott of Fulton.

Griffith of Union, and Manuel of Montgomery are reported as sick, and the others are in the fusion with the Democrats to beat what is called the "Hanna slate" next Monday, and one week from next Wednesday to defeat Senator Hanna for reelection.

Complexion of the House Caucus. In the house Republican caucus tonight Droste, Kemper and Lane participated, and are pledged to Alex Broxwell for speaker, John R. Malloy for chief clerk, and Andrew Jackson for sergeant-at-arms, and other candidates for minor places on the Hanna ticket.

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Harry C. Mason for Speaker. The anti-Hanna Republicans and Democratic members in their joint house caucus nominated Harry C. Mason, of Cleveland, for speaker, and Charles Gerrish as state insurance inspector, Under Inspector Charles L. Kurtz for chief clerk, and a complete list of candidates for other places in the organization of the house.

The opposition claims tonight that they will have enough votes Monday to organize the house with fifty-five votes for the Mason ticket, fifty-two for the Broxwell ticket and two absent on account of sickness.

The Hanna men claim that Griffith, of Clinton, Griffith, of Union, and Manuel, of Montgomery will vote for Broxwell Monday and elect him.

The members from Clinton and Union, however, were reported tonight so sick that they will be unable to be in their seats Monday.

Previous to the caucuses, Mr. Broxwell called to see L. Kurtz, who is leading the opposition to Hanna, but Kurtz refused to receive him. Broxwell then asked Representative Mason for a conference, and was again declined an audience.

Each Side Claims It. While both sides claim the organization of the house, the opposition to Senator Hanna and the Broxwell ticket is most demonstrative.

Representative Mason tonight gave a theater party and a banquet afterwards to his Republican colleagues who remained away from the Republican house caucus.

The Hanna managers claim that the senator will succeed, even if the Broxwell ticket is defeated. The opposition would then have the committees and the chairmanship and other patronage at their disposition. It is believed Senator Hanna's

chances will not be even, if his opponents get the organization on Monday.

Representative Mason, the opposition candidate for speaker, came from Senator Hanna's home. Mason is bitterly opposed to Hanna for senator, as he is the friend of Mayor McKisson. Mason is for McKisson for the short term and Gov. Bushnell for the long term for senator, and he is running for speaker on the issue of "anybody for senator to beat Hanna."

Bushnell Openly Fights Hanna. Gov. Bushnell and the entire state administration took an active part in the caucus today against Hanna, joining the Democrats and those Republicans who remained away from the caucus.

While the crowds around the opposition headquarters are jollifying, it was learned that six Democratic members of the house were also absent from their caucus tonight, which was secret.

The Republican caucuses were open to members of the press. It is claimed that these six Democratic members are opposed to voting for Republicans and want to vote for Democratic candidates for the legislative offices and senator.

Under the law, if there is not a majority of all after ten ballots, the majority of a quorum will elect officers of the general assembly, and until the house elects a speaker, Secretary of State Charles Kinney, a strong Hanna man, presides.

The Hanna men declare with confidence that Broxwell will be the speaker.

Action at the Caucuses. At the Republican senate caucus there were two absentees—Senator Drake, of Cleveland, and Senator Volght, of Cincinnati, the latter being the only fusionist in that body.

Volght has been counted among the supporters of Senator Hanna. The Republicans nominated J. Park Alexander for president pro tem. of the senate, A. C. Caine for chief clerk, and R. F. Hayward for sergeant-at-arms.

Caine and Hayward were renominated for their old places. Although on the Hanna ticket, Hayward is from Springfield, is a neighbor of Gov. Bushnell and has been his close friend.

The Democratic senate caucus nominated Senator Burke, of Cleveland, an anti-Hanna Republican, for president pro tem.; Judge Doty, of Hillsboro, Democrat, and friend of John R. McLean, for chief clerk, and Democrats for all the other places.

Lieut.-Gov. Jones is here and will preside in the senate. It is conceded by the Democrats that the body stands 18 Democrats, 17 Republicans and 1 fusionist.

The attitude of Senator Burke will not likely leave the tie vote to be cast by Lieut.-Gov. Jones.

The following Democratic senators were appointed a steering committee on organization and senatorship: Long, Doty, Broxwell, Fugh and Fink.

The Democratic house caucus appointed the following committee on organization and senatorship: Gaman, Silvers, Atkins, Bollin, Hazlett, Spielmeier and Durrand.

Bushnell Nominated for Long Term. After the anti-Hanna Republicans and Democrats caucused separately, they met jointly before midnight and nominated Mayor McKisson, of Cleveland, for the short term and Gov. Bushnell for the long term for senator, and entered into a fusion agreement to organize both houses.

Senator Burke was notified to remain away until the senate was organized.

The fusion conference adjourned after midnight until 2 p. m. tomorrow, when the steering committee will report.

The joint caucuses of anti-Hanna Republicans and Democrats that endorsed Mason for speaker caused a surprise by nominating Griffith of Union for speaker pro tem.

While Griffith has been counted on by both sides and was reported as sick at the Republican caucus, it is believed that this takes him out of the Hanna slate and enters him with the opposition.

The Democratic steering committees claimed at midnight that they had all of their partisans except one in line for the organization of fusion tickets, and for anybody to beat Hanna, and that they would show a bold front on Monday.

When he held the caucus, Major Dick, who is Senator Hanna's manager, explained the absence of certain legislators by saying that Manuel of Montgomery county and Joyce of Guernsey county did not attend the caucus for the reason that they would not vote for Broxwell for speaker, but that both were safe for Hanna.

Major Dick claims that six out of the nine absentees will vote for Hanna.

Hanna Says the Plot Will Fail. Late tonight Senator Hanna and his associates at their headquarters gave out the following statement regarding the result of the caucus tonight:

"The result of the caucuses tonight assures the supporters of Senator Hanna that the intrigue of disloyal Republicans with the Allen O. Miers-John McLean Democracy for the election of a free silver man to the senate will not be successful.

Mr. Kurtz and his associates had claimed that the Republicans could not muster more than thirty-five votes in tonight's house caucus; instead of that, fifty-two were present, and at least two others would have attended but for illness. They boasted constantly that they would keep at least twenty-seven Republicans out of the house caucus; instead of that, but one-third of that number remained away.

"In the senate caucus every Republican was present, with the exception of Burke, of Cleveland. Of the ten absentees, two were detained by illness, one of them sending word that he would support the nomination of the party, while of the other eight it is known that some will vote for Senator Hanna.

"Tonight's results encourage the friends of Senator Hanna, and the fight will go on to the finish. They feel that the sentiment of the Republicans of the state and county."

Continued on Page 7.

FORGING A LOAN ON DECREPIT CHINA.

Russia Tries to Oust England From Control.

BRITAIN STANDS FIRM.

Prize Is Monopoly of Railroads North of the Great Wall.

The Tsar Will Attempt to Displace the British Director of Maritime Customs, as Has Already Been Done in Korea—Time for Action Has Not Yet Come—Japan May Grant a Postponement of Payment of the Chinese War Indemnity—Germany Will Hold Fast to Kiaochau, and Develop Territory.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—At present there is keen interest in commercial circles over the outcome of the efforts of Russia to secure a Chinese loan on the onerous terms admitted by the Peking correspondent of the Times, who said the Chinese government refused to place the link (internal revenues) under foreign control as security for the loan proposed by

It seems go with it. It is improbable that the British government will see reason to recede from its previous refusal to guarantee China financial support, although offered concessions, apparently showing that Great Britain's policy is not territorial aggrandizement, but distinctly commercial.

The ingenuity displayed in manufacturing news from the far East is remarkable. Five-sixths of the statements can be safely labeled "guess work." The British and Russian foreign offices are as dumb as oysters, and the German stream of conflicting communications in the semi-official press shows they do not know which foot they are standing on.

France is apparently dark, while the mikado has dissolved the Japanese diet in order that opinions should not be expressed.

Under the circumstances it is not strange that accurate information is difficult to secure. The known facts wholly corroborated the statements cabled to the Associated Press on Saturday last that Great Britain is carefully watching the situation, biding her time, and will certainly not fail to act promptly and vigorously at the proper moment.

It was pointed out in that dispatch that in well-informed circles the scare in the newspapers in regard to the East was at least premature, and that the members of the government were evidently sincere in disclaiming the least alarm.

This view of the case was practically reiterated by the Daily Graphic on Friday, which asserted that there was every reason to believe the Russians would adhere to their pledge to evacuate Port Arthur at the end of the winter, and that therefore there was no ground for complaint on the part of Great Britain.

The Daily Graphic further pointed out that the British government did not regard the occupation of Kiaochau by the Germans as calling for action, because British interests were not threatened. Both the foreign office and the admiralty, according to the Daily Graphic, were agreed on this point.

Evidently, apart from the question of the Chinese loan, the Korean question is more

UNFOUNDED REPORT OF BISMARCK'S DEATH.

The Prince Still Alive at His Home, Although Suffering Intensely From Insomnia and Gout.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The usual quiet of New Year's day was disturbed yesterday afternoon by a report that Prince Bismarck was dead. This rumor, so emphatically made by the Evening News and shouted throughout London by newsboys, created a deep sensation in the minds of the general public and great excitement in newspaper circles until a denial was received by the Reuters Telegram Company.

Most Londoners, however, went to bed last night in the belief that Prince Bismarck was dead, as the dispatch to the Reuters Company from Hamburg was only published in this morning's newspapers.

Inquiries made in London bore out the denial. Baron d'Eckardstein, attache of the German embassy, said no news had been received at the legation, and the officials were convinced that the rumor was untrue, because, apart from the absence of official news, a personal friend of d'Eckardstein was staying at the home of Prince Bismarck and would certainly have telegraphed had the rumor been true.

At the British foreign office it was also said that no news of Bismarck's death had been received, and the rumor was discredited there.

A denial has also been received from Berlin. The feeling is one of profound relief.

The actual source of the report is not known, but the rumor was readily credited in view of the fact that the ex-chancellor has for the past fortnight been in bad health and worse than before, though it was not thought his life was in positive danger.

Inquiries made by both telegraph and telephone have elicited the reassuring statement that the prince is alive and there is no reason to believe that his condition is any worse today than it has been of late. A dispatch from Hamburg says the rumor of Bismarck's death originated in Berlin and was received in Hamburg with skepticism, while inquiry at Frederickshue proved to be justified.

There is no doubt, however, that Prince Bismarck's health has been rudely shaken in the last few days, owing to his insomnia, which is due to want of open air exercise and the agony which he suffers from it.

Dr. Schwenninger has ordered the prince to abstain from all mental exertion.

The Hongkong and Shanghai bank, and asserted that unless the loan was procurable without this condition, a demand will forthwith be made for a Russian loan guaranteed 4 per cent. loan of 100,000,000 taels, to be issued at 93 net.

The security for this loan would be the land tax, which would remain under Chinese administration, and China in return would give Russia the monopoly of the railroads and lines north of the great wall, open a port as a terminus of the Siberian railway and would agree that a Russian should succeed Sir Robert Hart as director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs.

The interest is increased by the equally strenuous endeavors of the British in China to prevent Russia from obtaining the loan and the rich concessions which

interesting for Great Britain at the present moment than Port Arthur and Kiaochau, principally because the Marquis of Salisbury sees in the attempt to oust J. MacLeavy Brown, the British superintendent of Korean customs, a more serious scheme to overturn Sir Robert Hart, the British director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs, which has apparently been nipped in the bud.

The cabinet's existence would be short if it permitted Russia to coerce the Chinese foreign office into dismissing the British head of the Chinese customs.

It is not known yet whether the British government will approve of the arrangements arrived at, according to a cable dispatch from Peking, by which Mr. MacLeavy Brown and M. Alexieff, the Russian agent in Korea, will work the Korean customs together.

The British minister appears to be somewhat distrustful, so the warships of Great Britain, which are at present at Chemulpo, the port of Seoul, in order to give moral support to Mr. Brown, will remain there for the present.

A diplomat, talking over the alleged desire of Germany to arrive at an understanding with Great Britain on the far Eastern question, explains that the change might be due to Germany's dissatisfaction with her allies. Her faith in the Italian army has been shaken by the defeats in Erythraea, and the collapse of the constitutional government of Austria has made the efficiency of that empire in case of war doubtful.

"In the meanwhile the diplomat continued on Page 2.

BOGUS KLONDIKER WORKING THE EAST.

He Passes as Wealthy Alexander Macdonald.

HAS A GIGANTIC SCHEME.

A British Company, Says the Swindler, Has Bought Up All Steamers.

Hundreds of People in the East Who Are Saturated With the Klondike Fever Are Told by This Stranger That His Company, Which Has Its Headquarters at Vancouver, B. C., Will Carry Them Across the Continent and Land Them in Alaska for the Nominal Price of \$150 Per Head—His Circular.

The workings of a highly imaginative gentleman, whom some people would designate by the plain term "grafter," have been exposed and brought to light by investigations and correspondence recently carried on by railroad officials of Seattle and the East and South. The man, who appears to be possessed of many of the attributes credited to Baron Munchausen, and whose flights of fancy and dreams of prestige as a transportation manager have not been exceeded, travels under the name of Alexander Macdonald. His proposed victims are people living in the territory tributary to the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad, who were anxious to get to the gold fields of the Yukon and Copper rivers.

Macdonald has given it out to certain railroad officials at Richmond, Va., with whom he has been negotiating, that he is better known as the "millionaire Klondiker" and that with his associates, located at Seattle, Victoria, Juneau and other points along the various lines of travel to the Yukon, he intends to control all the main steamship companies operating between Puget sound and the Yukon.

A syndicate, he has stated, has been formed, which has swallowed, in one fell swoop, all of the great transportation companies operating on the Yukon and the North Pacific ocean.

A line of railroad from tide water to Lake Teslin has been, it is alleged, represented by Macdonald as part of his through line to the gold fields. By this route he offers to sell passage to Dawson from Richmond for the low figure of \$150, of which sum \$10 is to be deposited by prospective passengers on the date of making application for tickets.

Macdonald, according to information which has reached the Post-Intelligencer, represented to the Chesapeake & Ohio officials, so it is claimed, that his company, the British Yukon Transportation & Trading Company, generally known as the British Yukon Company, would, after January 1, 1898, control the following steamship lines: The Pacific Coast Steamship Company, the Alaska Commercial Company, the North American Transportation & Trading Company, and the Boston & Alaska Steamship Company.

The "Klondike Millionaire." It is not surprising, in view of the excitement over the wonderful gold finds in Alaska and the Klondike, that there have sprung into existence, as a crop of mushrooms over night, a lot of fake schemes, developed by men who are by nature disqualified for legitimate business, but who are skilled in the ways of the crooked.

The Post-Intelligencer has exposed a number of these people, and has, wherever the matter has been brought to its notice, warned the credulous and unwary against their operations. The Macdonald affair has been thoroughly investigated by railroad men with whom he sought to ally himself and by the Post-Intelligencer itself, whose agencies at Victoria and other points have been brought into requisition in the work of sifting the matter to bedrock, with the purpose of ascertaining the exact truth. If Macdonald has made the statements credited to him by reputable and responsible railroad officials his scheme is one of the cleverest and most atrocious in its wicked scope yet devised.

Macdonald was not averse, it seems, to having a golden halo thrown about him by representing that he was possessed of placer claims galore, located in the Klondike, and indeed was better known in the North as the "Klondike millionaire." He asserted, it is stated, that he had been the agent of the Alaska Commercial Company at St. Michael for a long period, and had been engaged in mining and other gold-producing avocations on the Yukon for four years.

The man displayed more than common originality and cleverness in the alleged swindling line by first associating himself with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company, through its agents at Richmond, Va. That he succeeded in ingra-

Continued on Page 2.

