

ENGLAND STRONG IN THE ORIENT

Can Battle Almost Alone With the Rival Powers.

With Japan She Has More Ships Than the Rest Combined.

United States Determined to Have No Hand in Despoiling China.

OUR TRADITIONAL POLICY.

The Robber Nations May Raid, but They Must Respect the Rights of Americans.

A BIG FLEET IN THE ORIENT.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A Washington special to the Herald says: If Great Britain has any intention of making an offensive move in the far east she has ample force in Asiatic waters to support her action.

Her fleet on the China station exceeds in numbers the combined fleets of Russia and Germany, Russia and France or France and Germany, and is only a few ships short of the combined forces of Russia, Germany and France.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—This country's attitude toward what appears to be an effort on the part of the powers of Europe to partition China was the principal topic of discussion to-day at the meeting of the Cabinet.

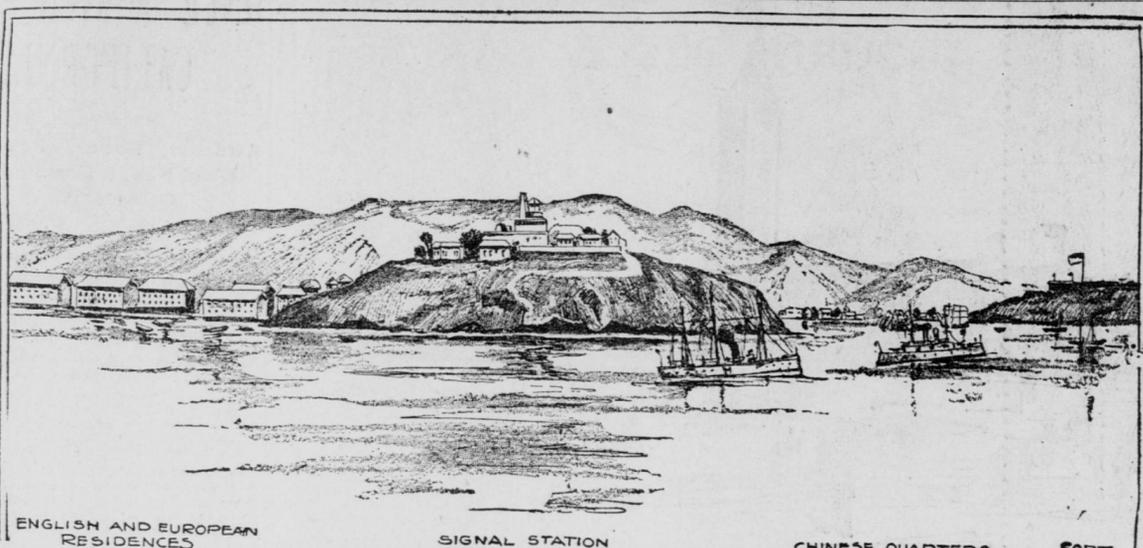
YOKOHAMA, Dec. 24.—On the re-assembly of Parliament to-day the Mikado declared that the relations of Japan with all the foreign powers were friendly.

TILTON IS ADMINISTRATOR. He Will Handle the Funds of the Estate of Mrs. Scott.

Arrested by a Hotel Man. Colonel Young, proprietor of the Russ House, yesterday afternoon had H. C. Wilson, alias D. A. Urquhart, arrested on a charge of passing fictitious paper.

ENGLAND AND JAPAN NOT EXACTLY ALLIES, BUT ACTING TOGETHER. Reports From the Center of the Oriental Disturbance Are Too Conflicting to Place Much Credence In.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Daily Mail publishes a dispatch this morning from Tokyo which it claims evaded active censorship.



CHEFOO, SHANTUNG, CHINA, Where the British Vessels in the Far East Are About to Gather for a Great Naval Demonstration.

HIGHER WAGES FOR LABORERS

Gratifying Increase in Many Branches of Trade.

Commissioner Wright Highly Pleased With Present Conditions.

Compensation of Workmen Voluntarily Raised in a Number of Factories.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A Washington special to the Herald says: The investigations of Carroll D. Wright, labor commissioner, on the subject of wages and labor in this country in the last few months convince him that a general industrial improvement has taken place in the last year, but the impracticability of obtaining anything like complete statistics regarding wages and the number of persons employed precludes the possibility of making use of reliable figures.

Wages at present are not as high as 1891, and it may be several years before such rates are reached again, but in the last year there has been a gratifying increase in many directions, and to a sufficient degree to warrant the statement that wages are again on the upward trend.

The increase of wages in the last few months has ranged from 5 to 25 per cent and the percentage of employed is greater than this, owing to the establishment of new enterprises and the reopening of suspended works.

YOKOHAMA, Dec. 24.—On the re-assembly of Parliament to-day the Mikado declared that the relations of Japan with all the foreign powers were friendly.

His Majesty announced the intention of the Government to initiate fresh taxation methods and to introduce a bill amending the income tax.

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naval demonstration at the entrance of the Gulf of Pe-Chili. In diplomatic circles at Tokio the probability of a conflict is regarded as extremely distant.

Russia, according to a dispatch from Shanghai, is preparing temporary headquarters for 10,000 troops at Port Arthur. She has obtained a half promise from the Grand Council at Peking to dismiss Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs, and other high customs officials, in addition to the British railroad officials and the German officers and instructors.

Contrary to general report the dispatch asserts that there is good reason to believe that Great Britain will actively oppose the Russianization of Korea and Northern China.

A special dispatch from Paris says the French cruiser Pothuau has been ordered to prepare for the sea in Chinese waters. The Pothuau is a first-class cruiser of over 5000 tons displacement and 1000 indicated horsepower. She carries two 7.6 inch guns; ten 6-inch quick-firing guns and eighteen small caliber guns.

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—The Weekly Journal Zukunft combats the statement that Prince Bismarck had suddenly become an enthusiastic supporter of the Chinese expedition and that during his recent visit to Friedrichsruhe, Emperor William confided to the Prince his most secret plans. It says: Emperor William and Prince Bismarck did not exchange a syllable as to politics, and the Chinese policy is solely the Emperor's. It is the intent of both men that this fact should not be obscured, and those zealous persons who are always trying to represent Prince Bismarck as a secret collaborator in the changing experiments of a new course will assuredly get no thanks either from Potsdam or from Friedrichsruhe.

The Neue Nachrichten says that since the occupation of Kiaochow Bay the Chinese Government has engaged German military instructors, and is now arranging for fitting receptions of Prince Henry of Prussia at the different Chinese ports.

The Post reiterates its statement that the United States has no interest in the present territorial changes in China, and adds that England displays "a rising nativete" in expecting American aid in the present situation.

VIENNA, Dec. 24.—The Viennese papers comment with ill disguised joy on the rumor from Berlin that England's confidential inquiries at Washington regarding common action in China have failed of the desired result.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 24.—The Novoe Vremya advises England to come to an agreement with Russia, France and Germany, but says it does not expect the British to accept the advice, because under such an agreement England would not get the lion's share of China.

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Ex-Governor Altgeld Says the Silverite Was Defrauded.

Declares That States He Carried Were Filched From Him in the Count.

McKinley's Victory, He Says, Was Gained by the Theft of Thousands of Votes.

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SACRAMENTO, Dec. 24.—Ex-Governor John P. Altgeld of Illinois stopped over in Sacramento last night en route to Los Angeles, leaving for the latter place on this morning's train. He is accompanied by his wife, who is in ill health, and it is this that has caused him to take the trip to California.

This morning, just as he was about to get into a carriage to drive to the train, Governor Altgeld was seen by a Bee reporter. He refused at first to say anything, declaring his aversion to interviews, and stating that he had nothing whatever to say that could interest the public.

"I am out for my wife's health," he said, "and have made up my mind to leave politics alone."

It was suggested to Mr. Altgeld that the people would like to know whether the sentiment in favor of silver in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and bordering States was growing stronger or weaker.

"I have but a minute's time," remarked Altgeld, "but I can assure you that the sentiment in favor of silver is not only stronger than it was in 1896, but it is very much stronger. There is no question whatever about this, and it is steadily growing. I will predict that in 1900 there will be a much stronger sentiment than there was at the last Presidential election, strong as the sentiment then was."

"Do you think," was asked, "that the Republican party at the next election will stand on its old platform or whether it will declare uncompromisingly for the gold standard?"

"The Republican party has not the courage to do what you suggest in the last half of your question," Mr. Altgeld answered. "For the past twenty years the Republican party has been sneaking along with its gold standard policy. It has been trying to saddle upon the nation while pretending to be favorable to international bimetalism. It hopes in time to get its policy firmly fastened upon the people, but as the time is not yet ripe for it to throw off the mask it will continue with its sneaking, insinuating pretensions of friendliness to an international bimetallic standard."

"I must go now," exclaimed Altgeld, "for I have already broken the rule laid down for myself this trip by allowing you to interview me."

"Just one more question," suggested the reporter. "Will you tell me whether you believe Bryan was fairly defeated at the last election?"

"I am on record regarding that," Altgeld said, as he placed his foot on the carriage step. "I do not think he was fairly beaten. I think he was elected. Thousands of votes were counted for McKinley that were never cast. Go look it up and you will see that I am right. Kentucky gave Cleveland a majority of 50,000 in 1892. Bryan got more votes in Kentucky than Cleveland did, and yet Kentucky was counted for McKinley."

"Look that up and then decide for yourself whether there was any fraud. What applies to Kentucky applies with equal force to my State, Illinois. There is no shadow of a doubt that States which were carried for Bryan were counted for McKinley."

"I can't say any more now," continued Governor Altgeld, stepping into his carriage.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 24.—A large oil painting of John P. Altgeld was hung to-day in the reception-room at the State House among the portraits of other former Governors of Illinois. The picture is in a frame of black walnut. The other pictures have gold frames.

RUN OVER BY THE CARS.

Theodore Shekels, an Employee of the Southern Pacific, Killed at Fifth and King Streets.

Theodore Shekels, an engine foreman in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, was run over by the cars and instantly killed at the corner of Fifth and King streets last evening. Thomas Mattigan and W. H. Stalard, who belong to Shekels' crew, were near the scene of the accident, and say that he was cutting out some cars from a freight train in the yard when his foot caught in a frog and he fell under the wheels, which ran over his chest.

Shekels was about 35 years old and leaves a widow and one son, living at 401 Sixth street.

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HUNDREDS OF REINDEER TO BE BOUGHT

Klondike Relief Expeditions Will Soon Start.

War Department Agents Go to Lapland to Buy Pack Animals.

Will Be Shipped to Alaska and at Once Sent Over the Trail to Dawson.

MULE TEAMS WANTED. Cavalry Officers Ordered to Take Charge of Trains at Skaguay and Dyea.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The preliminaries of the Klondike relief expeditions are being rapidly arranged by the War Department. Lieutenant Devore and Dr. Jackson were busy this morning making final preparations for their trip to Lapland, and will start for New York to-night in order to sail on the Lucania to-morrow morning. Secretary Alger has cabled to Mr. Kjellmann at Alten, Norway, to contract for 500 head of reindeer in advance of the arrival there of Dr. Jackson and Lieutenant Devore. This was done to save time, so that all will be ready for the final purchases and the shipment of the animals when Dr. Jackson arrives at Alten.

Lieutenants Preston and Ryan of the Ninth Cavalry have been ordered to take charge of the pack trains which are to be gathered up from points in Wyoming and convey them to Vancouver barracks.

Secretary Alger believes that these trains will be of great use in getting supplies through to the interior of Alaska. They will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible and will not be waiting for the arrival of the reindeer at Skaguay or Dyea. It is hoped that by a proper use of the trains a large amount of food supplies can be got safely through the White Pass and placed in a camp to be established there, which will afterward be used as the starting-place for the reindeer trains. If this calculation proves to be well founded the reindeer will find a comfortable corral ready for them when they arrive in Alaska, and so can be used to great advantage.

There is a disposition just now on the part of the officials who are arranging the plans of the expeditions, to abandon the Dalton trail and take the Lake Linderman route. This would involve the use of the frozen river for a large part of the way, but this is believed to be feasible.

Captain Brainard, who is now in Chicago, has been telegraphed to remain at that place until advised of the results of the department's efforts to get food supplies through public subscription. The subsistence department is now preparing a schedule of what is wanted, and this will be put in the form of an advertisement and responses invited by telegraph or bid.

Thirty days of the year will be the limit of the time allowed for the completion of deliveries of the food.

SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—Jack Dalton, the well-known Alaskan prospector, and W. S. Gardner, who arrived here last night from Dawson City, will leave to-morrow for Vancouver Barracks to consult with Brigadier-General Merriam in reference to the proposed Government relief expedition.

FLED FROM FAMINE. Returned Dawsonite Reiterates the Stories of Suffering.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 24.—George Ruth of Flathead, Mont., reached Portland on the steamer Elder this evening, having come direct from Dawson City, which point he left on November 5th. Warned of the suffering that was imminent before winter passed, owing to the shortage of provisions in Dawson and vicinity, Mr. Ruth disposed of all his supplies except 110 pounds, which he used on his way to Dyea. He states that there were from 5000 to 7000 people congregated at Dawson at that vicinity, and he estimates the provisions there are sufficient to winter only about 2000. Of the situation there he said:

"All has never been told of the richness of the claims. They are panning out in wonderful quantities, but the glitter of gold there does not supply the place of bread. Men are short in some instances, and there is poor prospect of supplying themselves, unless they are reached from the outside."

"There is about enough provisions, I should judge, to keep about 2000 men through the winter, and the population dependent upon Dawson food is between 5000 and 7000. There seems to be lots of meat and sugar, but all

A Different Story. Mrs. Charles Weber, the wife of the cabinet maker who was arrested and charged with insanity, and who was subsequently released by Judge Belcher for being a common drunk, stated yesterday that instead of persecuting her husband she had been treated as a sufferer from his cruel treatment. She also claims that he has not contributed to the support of her family for the past year, and that both have been compelled to work to keep from starving."

Rest Soldiers, Rest. The following order has been issued from the headquarters of the Department of California, U. S. A.: The period between December 25, 1897, and January 3, 1898, inclusive of both dates, will be treated as a holiday season, during which no instruction of any kind whatsoever, either practical or theoretical, for officers or enlisted men, will be given.

NEW TO-DAY.

DR. SOPER

Guarantees to cure every Case he accepts for the price given, including all medicines. This offer applies to all who commence treatment before January 2, after which date his regular prices will prevail. The object in making the following exceptionally low rates is simply to introduce his

NEW SYSTEM OF TREATMENT.

Cataract \$ 8.00 Skin Diseases \$ 8.00 Nervous Debility \$ 8.00 Rheumatism \$ 8.00 Diabetes \$ 8.00 Scurvy \$ 8.00 Neuritis \$ 8.00 Dropsy \$ 8.00 Stomach \$ 8.00 Deafness \$ 8.00 Insomnia \$ 8.00 Vertigo \$ 8.00 Fistula \$ 8.00 Spinal Disease \$ 8.00 Stricture \$ 8.00 Asthma \$ 8.00 Bladder Diseases \$ 8.00 Ovarian Tumors \$ 8.00 Gravel \$ 8.00 Scurvy \$ 8.00 Hemorrhoids \$ 8.00 Consumption, 1st stage \$ 8.00 Bronchitis \$ 8.00 Suppuration \$ 8.00 Chronic Diarrhea \$ 8.00 Constipation \$ 8.00 Loss of Manhood \$ 8.00 Tape Worm \$ 8.00 Headache \$ 8.00 Pimples and Liver Spots \$ 8.00 Epilepsy or Fits \$ 8.00 Gout \$ 8.00 Dropsy \$ 8.00 Bright's Disease \$ 8.00 Heart Disease \$ 8.00 Drusepsia \$ 8.00 Diseases of Liver \$ 8.00 Hemorrhoids or Piles \$ 8.00 Kidney Diseases \$ 8.00 Goitre or Thick Neck \$ 8.00 Paralysis \$ 8.00 Scalds \$ 8.00 Blood Diseases \$ 8.00

Nervous, despondent, diseased and weak men readily cured by this system. Diseases peculiar to women are treated by a new and painless method. If incurable will be told so. Those unable to call send history of case together with recent X-ray and accurate description. Patients successfully treated at their own homes by mail. All correspondence strictly confidential. Consultation, examination, diagnosis and advice absolutely free. Hours 10 to 12 A. M., 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 P. M. Sundays, 3 to 6 P. M.

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