

THE ANNEXATION STRUGGLE IS ON AT THE CAPITAL.

RECITES THE TRAGEDY OF A GOLDEN LAND IN FIRE AND SNOW

THE TREATY HAS STRONG OPPONENTS

Grave Senators Resolved to Hold Secret Sessions.

The War of Conquest to Be Carried On Behind Closed Doors.

Short of the Votes Needed to Secure Ratification of the Convention.

EXCUSE FOR SECRECY.

Among Other Things the Asiatic Situation and the Monroe Doctrine Were Lugged In.

Special Dispatch to The Call. Call Office, Riggs House, Washington, D. C., Jan. 10.

The debate on the Hawaiian treaty began in the Senate to-day. After the transaction of morning business, Senator Davis of Minnesota, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, moved that the Senate go into executive session, which was agreed to. The galleries were cleared and the doors locked. The treaty was not taken up immediately, as considerable time was consumed in the consideration of Presidential nominations. The nomination of Mr. McKenna as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court to succeed Field was referred to, and the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, said it had not been considered in the committee, because some of the members wished first to dispose of those nominations to which no objection was offered. He said the committee would take up the McKenna nomination and consider it to-morrow. The annexation treaty was then taken up. Senator Pettigrew of North Dakota, who is opposed to annexation, immediately offered a resolution providing that the treaty be debated in open session. He supported his resolution in a speech, contending there was no need for secrecy, that the people were greatly interested in the question, and had a right to know what was taking place from day to day.

Senator Davis opposed the resolution, saying it had been long the custom to consider treaties in executive session, and there was now no reason for departing from this time-honored custom. Other Senators supported the resolution, declaring that the whole question had been discussed in the public press; that the people had become familiar with the terms of the treaty and there would be no new points exploited. It was said by other Senators that there would certainly be new questions presented, and that the situation in the Chinese Empire would be discussed, and that this was a matter not for open discussion since it involved questions of diplomacy of vital interest to the United States.

The debate on the Pettigrew resolution continued for about two hours. Gray of Delaware, Mason of Illinois, and White of California being conspicuous. White made a vigorous speech in favor of an open session. The speech of Senator Spooner of Wisconsin opposed an open session, but at the same time its tenor clearly indicated that he was strongly opposed to annexation.

It was finally decided to consider the treaty in executive session. The ayes and noes were not called, and as no record was made of the vote, which was viva voce, it is impossible to give the standing of the Senators. The fact that the Senate decided in favor of executive sessions is not an indication of the sentiment on the question of annexation itself. The opinion is now generally expressed among Senators familiar with the situation, that the necessary two-thirds cannot be secured. The opposition has at least 35 votes, while there are only 85 Senators in all. Senator White, in conversation to-night expressed a positive belief that the treaty would be defeated.

Gorman of Maryland is very active in favor of annexation. Morrill of Vermont, who is very influential, is preparing a most exhaustive speech in open session, which he will deliver in a few days. Hoar of Massachusetts, despite all reports to the contrary, will probably oppose the treaty.

Senator Morgan was the principal opponent of the proposition for an open debate. He talked at length upon the importance of obeying the Senate rules in discussing this question, contending that as the Senate was acting only in advisory capacity to the executive, it would be an act of bad faith for it to throw open the doors to the public. Most of the Senators who spoke in opposition to open sessions referred to the probability that the action of the European powers in their evident purpose of partitioning the territory of



MORRILL OF VERMONT.

One of the Most Prominent Leaders in the Fight Against Annexation.

China would form the basis of much of the debate on the question of Hawaiian annexation. All who referred to this phase of the question manifested a disposition to regard it as a delicate and complicated one, and one which it were better should be ventilated behind closed doors. It was also intimated that the Monroe doctrine would come in for a fair share of discussion before the close of the debate, and it was asserted that this was a question which could be more freely discussed in executive than in open session.

Senator White was among those who replied to these statements. He spoke spiritedly and in sarcastic vein of the folly of attempting to keep executive secrets within the control of the Senate. He made reply to the suggestion that the control of publicity in regard to the treaties should be left to the Executive, saying that the treaty itself had been made public, also the President's message on the subject. Mr. Morrill contended that the question of annexation was one of much public interest and said that on this account the public should be fully informed of the reasons for and against annexation.

Senator Mason took advantage of the opportunity to make a speech directed against executive sessions. He announced his intention to support the motion for an open session and said he would take advantage of all such openings to exercise his influence to break down the Senatorial rule for secret sessions.

Senator Davis announced his purpose to call up the treaty again to-morrow and press it as rapidly as possible. It probably will make a speech in general advocacy of the treaty at to-morrow's session. The annexationists now claim fifty-nine votes for the treaty, lacking only one of the number to ratify it. On the other hand the opposition say the ratifiers will fall short from three to five votes.

SENATE POLLED SHOWS THE TREATY IS SHORT OF VOTES.

Five Doubtful Men in the Senate Whom the Annexationists Claim, but Are Not Sure Of.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—The Herald's Washington correspondent telegraphs: As a result of a canvass I made of the Senate to-day it can now be positively stated that there are fifty-seven Senators who will vote for the treaty of annexation after an amendment has been adopted which will prevent the possibility of Statehood for the islands until after such time as the majority of the population shall be of the Caucasian race. There are twenty-seven Senators against the treaty and five are doubtful. The advocates of annexation claim all five of the doubtful ones, which would give them two more than necessary to secure ratification. Here is the result in detail of the poll which I have made: For ratification: Aldrich, Allison, Baker, Burrows, Cannon, Carter, Chandler, Clark, Cullom, Davis, Deboe, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Frye, Gallinger, Gear, Gorman, Hale, Hanna, Hansbrough, Harris, Hawley, Helfeld, Hoar, Jones of Nevada, Kyle, Lodge, McBride, McMillan, Mantle, Mason, Money, Morgan, Murphy, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Pettus, Platt of Connecticut, Platt of New York, Pritchard, Proctor, Quay, Rawlins, Sewell, Shoup, Spooner, Stewart, Teller, Thurston, Turner, Turpie, Warren, Wetmore, Wilson, Wolcott.

Against ratification: Allen, Bacon, Bate, Berry, Butler, Caffery, Chilton, Clay, Cockrell, Daniel, Faulkner, Gray, Jones of Arkansas, Lindsay, McFery, McLaughlin, Mallory, Martin, Mills, Mitchell, Pascoe, Pettigrew, Till-

man, Turpey, Vest, Walthall, White. The doubtful Senators are: Messrs. Kenney, Morrill, Roach, Smith and Wellington. It is the belief of Senator Davis, who leads the fight on the Republican side, and of Senator Gorman, who is one of the leading Democrats in favor of the treaty, that all five of the men classed as doubtful will vote for the treaty, thereby assuring its ratification. Senator White, who leads the opposition, has declared that if necessary the treaty will be talked to death.

COMPROMISE AS TO LITTLE KOREA

Terms of the Agreement Between England, Japan and Russia.

How the Customs Commissioners of the Three Grasping Powers Will Be Distributed.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—According to a special dispatch from Shanghai it is said that the agreement between England, Japan and Russia with respect to Korea involves a restoration of the status quo and the reinstatement of McLeavy Brown as Chief Commissioner of Customs, with a Russian Commissioner at Gensan, the port of Brough-ton Bay, on the east coast, and a Japanese Commissioner at Fusan, in the extreme southeast.

Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese marine customs, is negotiating with the Chinese Government for a loan. The Emperor took the negotiations away from the Tsung Li Yamen in disgust at the previous failures.

Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury and Government leader in the House of Commons, addressed his constituents at Manchester this evening. Turning to China, he said his interests there were commercial, and not territorial. Except as the base for possible warlike operations, the territory would be a disadvantage, because it would involve responsibility and expense in money and men. He dilated upon the fact that the extent of our trade in China gives us a special claim to prevent her pursuing a policy that would discontinue trade. There was no objection, said Mr. Balfour, in conclusion, to Russia having an ice free port provided England was not excluded; but the Government would do its utmost to prevent China yielding to foreign pressure to make regulations adverse to Great Britain, or "any improbable but possible attempt to dot the coast of China with foreign stations by protectionist countries who would raise customs or other barriers to our trade."

McKENNA'S CONFIRMATION DELAYED IN COMMITTEE.

The Report Is Not to Depend Principally Upon the Stand of Hoar of Massachusetts.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—The Post's Washington special says: Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary are reticent about expressing an opinion as to the outcome of McKenna's nomination, but it has been intimated that the report will depend principally upon Senator Hoar (R.) of Massachusetts, who is chairman, and as Senator Hoar has expressed a most profound contempt for the American Protective Association it is fairly safe to predict that in so far as the objection to McKenna emanates from that source he will disregard it. McKenna's name has been before the committee about a month, which is a most extraordinary delay for an appointment of this kind.

SAM W. WALL WRITES FROM DAWSON CITY

Telling of Suffering From Cold and Hunger.

Of Wild Life and Quick Death in Arctic Wilds.

Of Evil Hap and Fair Fortune Found in the Klondike.

JOAQUIN'S BAD LUCK.

Livernash Gives Even a Yellower Tinge to the Atmosphere of the Mines.

BY SAM W. WALL.

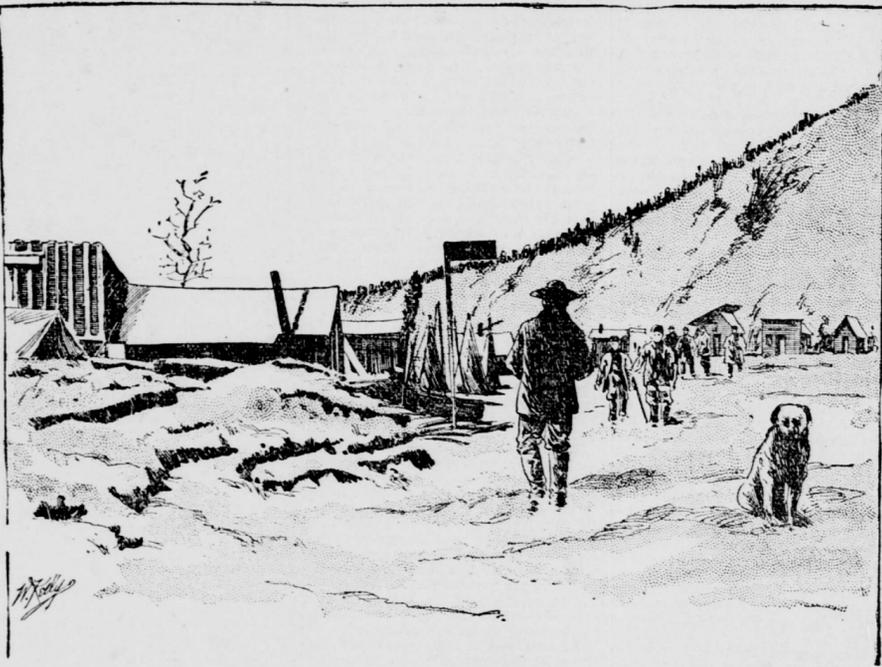
DAWSON CITY, N. W. T., Dec. 9, via Seattle, Jan. 10.—Since my last dispatch, which left here in charge of J. D. Barnes and Harry Dobson, fifteen days ago, and which reported the destruction by fire of the Klondike Church and a lodging house, another fire has occurred which destroyed the most prominent and largest buildings of this city and threatened for several hours its complete destruction.

The fire occurred early on Thanksgiving morning and the buildings destroyed were the Dawson City Opera House, the M. and M. saloon and dance hall and the Dominion saloon and gambling house. These were all two-story buildings, the upper story being occupied as living rooms or lodging apartments. The loss is estimated at \$150,000.

Tom Nash, a former partner of Pete McDonald, principal owner of the M. and M. saloon, was arrested on suspicion of having lighted the fire and released on \$15,000 bail. He was subsequently discharged, but has been again arrested, the second time only yesterday. Pete McDonald has sworn out the warrant. Friends of Nash, however, Nash has a complete alibi, in that he was seated at a gambling table for hours before and until the cry of fire. The fire broke out at 2 o'clock on the morning of Thanksgiving Day, beginning in the private rooms of the proprietor of the M. and M. saloon on the floor above the dance hall. Smoke coming through the rafters gave notice to the dancers. Two men rushed up the stairs, and turned back at once with the cry of "Fire!" and panic followed.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

- Weather forecast at San Francisco: Fair on Tuesday, continued cold weather, with heavy frost in the morning.
Maximum temperature for the past twenty-four hours:
San Francisco 48 degrees
Portland 34 degrees
Los Angeles 39 degrees
San Diego 52 degrees
FIRST PAGE: Flight on Annexation Begins. Bitter Winter at Dawson City.
SECOND PAGE: Sleight in the Klondike. Senate Confirms Nominations.
THIRD PAGE: Girl Bitten by a Mad Dog. Hired Man Murders a Family. Flight With a Wife-Beater.
FOURTH PAGE: Yankin Fishermen Lost at Sea. Highwayman in Monterey. Snow in the Citrus Belt. Esterhazy Put on Trial. Herz Wants a Remedy. The Fight for the Rivers. The Great Battle in Ohio. Foes of Civil Service Talk. Sacrament's New Chief of Police. Los Angeles School Scandal. Jim's Last Offer to Fitz. Edison Finds a New Metal. Los Angeles Killer Sentenced.
SIXTH PAGE: Editorial. Unsafe Leadership. A Chicken-Hearted Boodler. The Fight for the Rivers. The Los Angeles School Scandal. Something Great for California. The Hatpin's New Renewal. "Dr. Chapman's Crusade," by Miriam Michelson. Stories From the Corridors. SEVENTH PAGE: Preparations for the Jubilee. News From Over the Bay. Close of a Famous Suit. Rules of the Police Courts. EIGHTH PAGE: To-night's Fight at Vallejo. Freeholders Choose a Chairman. NINTH PAGE: Death of A. E. Hecht. New Bills at the Theaters. What the City Fathers Did. TENTH PAGE: The Commercial World. ELEVENTH PAGE: Broderick and Corner Signs. News From Over the Bay. TWELFTH PAGE: A Woman Crushed by Fate. Racing in Oakland. THIRTEENTH PAGE: Births, Marriages and Deaths. FOURTEENTH PAGE: Father Lagan Talks of Durrant. A Policeman Broke His Nose.



A VIEW IN KLONDIKE CITY.

From a photograph by Sam W. Wall.

A FROSTBITTEN POET.

DAWSON CITY, Dec. 9, 1897.

Joaquin Miller arrived yesterday from Circle City, having come up with a sled. He is in a badly frozen condition. His left ear is sloughing off and he has lost a part of the great toe on his left foot and both his cheeks are frozen. He also suffered severely from falling on the ice. He was thirty-five days coming up from Circle City. He was unable to get to Fort Yukon and brings no news from that point, nothing having been heard at the time he left. He says that no less than 700 men without provisions have gone there, 600 having passed down from there and about 100 from Circle.

SAM. W. WALL.

The loungers in the saloon made a run toward the dance hall to see the cause of the alarm, and the dancers rushed toward the saloon. In the jam men swore and women screamed. The jam was broken in a few minutes, and men and women made their way into the streets.

Flames shortly came from the upper windows of the building, and it was seen that it could not be saved. The next building south was the opera house. There was a masquerade ball in progress. The ball had been under preparation for weeks, and costumes had been rigged out of every available material. The dance hall was crowded with maskers, and the saloon with men and women. The cry of fire here had the same effect as in the M. & M., and in a few minutes saloon and dance hall were almost emptied.

The thermometer registered 52 degrees below zero in the street, but the thinly clad maskers, men and women, leaving their furs and wraps behind them, fled. There was little wind, but the flames soon created enough to toss the torch that lifted itself above the big frame building first to one side and then another, as though in doubt whether to spring upon the Alaska Commercial Company's big store and warehouses within half a block northward, or go down the line of saloons and gambling houses southward. The opera house could not escape.

The gambling paraphernalia and portable furniture of all the buildings in the block were piled out in the snow on the river bank as rapidly as possible, and then an attempt was made to break the path of the fire by blowing up the Dominion saloon adjoining the opera house on the south. Twelve cans of powder were placed in the building and exploded, but their only effect was to shatter and shake it up. It did not fall. The fire moved down upon and ate it up.

There was a gap between the Dominion saloon and next building and there the fire stopped, a number of dwellings and shacks in the rear of the big building being destroyed on the way. There is now a big charred square where was a few days ago the business center and the center of the "life" of the town. Tables, chairs and stoves, faro layouts and roulette wheels, and the general wreckage of such a fire are still strewn about the streets around the charred square. The men whose business was interrupted have already found new quarters further down the water front toward the police barracks, and are fitting them up for the resumption of the game and the dance. There were only a few people who made their homes in the buildings destroyed, and these were principally the proprietors or women who were under their care, and who readily found shelter elsewhere.

As in the fire at the Klondike church building, a large quantity of provisions was destroyed, the cache of Pete McDonald of the M. & M. being one of the largest of any individual in the city. The loss is difficult to estimate, but probably \$150,000 would not replace it. There was no means or method of combating the fire other than to remove in advance what it might feed upon, and the building once attacked was simply

to walk on in that condition. They were soon frozen. He found suffering all along the river. He says they passed one or more boats in the ice every day of their trip. Mr. Miller is in excellent spirits, despite his severe experience. He is stopping with Captain Hanson of the Alaska Commercial Company and is getting thoroughly rested up. He had intended going out over the ice at once, but has been persuaded not to think of such a thing for some time at least.

Mr. Miller's companion on the trip up was Harold Canovan of Ottawa, lately attached to the coast survey. Mr. Canovan suffers from a frozen knee.

Captain Geiger of Puget Sound arrived the same day with Mr. Miller in company with two Indians, Kitka and Zuriska, the discoverers of gold in the Circle City district. Both the Indians had their cheeks frozen. Miller and his companion left Circle City for this place on the morning of the 27th of October. They were unable to buy dogs, because of the great scarcity of the animals and the large demand for them for freighting. They offered fancy prices, but were compelled to start away pulling their outfit on a little sled by hand. They fell in with freighters soon after their start and secured assistance from them. They also hired Indians with dogs to help them on from camp to camp. The story of Mr. Miller's trying experience I will tell further along under the date of his arrival here, when he tells it to me.

The steamers Bella and Weare, old liners, and the little new steamers Victoria and St. Michael, are at Circle City, frozen up in a slough for the winter. The latter two were caught there on the way up by the ice and the other two on their way to Fort Yukon from this city for another cargo of provisions and could get no further. Nothing has been heard of the May West, the steamer built at St. Michael during the summer, and which started up the river loaded with provisions by the passengers of the Excelsior—San Francisco people. Mr. Miller started to go to Fort Yukon in a small boat when his steamer stopped at Circle City, but the boat was caught in the ice fifty miles below Circle City and he and his two companions returned to that town. It was after that that 100 men were sent there for lack of provisions in two barge loads, the last in charge of Captain Ray of the United States army, the officer sent here with power to act for the Government. When the Weare stopped at Circle the "Pirates," as they were called, protested and urged the captain to go on. He thought it unsafe, however, in the condition of the river, and ran the boat into a slough, where she was quickly held fast by the ice.

Then there came a spell of warmer weather, the river being free of ice and the boat was chopped out and the pirates declared if the captain didn't go on to Yukon and attempt to bring more provisions they would take possession of the boat themselves and run her down. That night, before any move could be taken by anybody, the mercury dropped and the boat was frozen in fast. Captain Ray then set himself the task of getting the surplus population to Fort Yukon. He sent the first barge of sixty men with the promise that he would himself follow in the next barge. He did so a few days later with forty men. Nothing has been heard of them since then.

Mr. Miller says they have plenty of moose and caribou in the vicinity of Circle, and he insists there can be no fear for lack of provisions. A great deal of feeling has been aroused in this city and district in the matter of the commission of three delegates to carry the miners' memorial to Ottawa protesting against recently adopted mining regulations. One of these delegates is the representative of the Examiner-Journal, E. J. Livernash. He was appointed by the committee of ten, as the others were, but a bitter opposition to him has been active among the miners from the beginning. He was openly and strongly opposed when