

NEW LAWS IN ALASKA

Congress to be Asked to Do Something for Her.

IMMIGRANTS ARE VERY ANXIOUS

Laws Are Badly Needed Which Will Establish Closer Relations Between Alaska and the States—They Want a Delegate in Congress.

WASHINGTON, October 6.—An attempt is to be made during the coming session of Congress to enact legislation for the better governing of Alaska. Persons who have gone to that Territory and made investments are anxious to have laws which will make secure property, and which will also establish closer commercial relations between the Territory and the United States. It has been suggested that one of the first steps toward bringing Alaska into closer communication with the United States and making it more useful to the government would be to reorganize the Territory as others have been organized and send a delegate to Congress to represent it, who will point out the needs of the people to the legislators. This idea is combated by those who claim that at present there are enough white people there to constitute a representative government, and that the native population has not attained a degree of intelligence to entitle it to participate in government affairs. Because of a lack of legislation the development of Alaska mines, said to be very rich, is retarded. Most of the mines consist of machinery to operate them, and considerable capital must be invested before any results can be obtained. It is possible that during the short session of Congress there will be no time for passing adequate laws for the government of the northwest Territory, yet those who have been pushing the West for years are determined that something must be done for Alaska, and her interests will be pressed upon Congress in the short session. Even if no action is taken it is expected that the way may be opened for something substantial in the next Congress.

JAPANESE WAR SONGS.

They All Breathe of a Spiritual Bitterness Toward China.

WASHINGTON, October 6.—The officials of the Japanese legation have received a budget of news and gossip by the last mail from Japan. The spirit of the people is shown in the war songs sung by the Japanese troops as they push toward Peking. The songs were officially compiled by Prince Arisugawa. They breathe great bitterness against China, and declare that now is the time to plant the flag of the Rising Sun on the walls of Peking and to illuminate its darkness. Each verse of the song begins and ends with "Strike and chastise China." Various verses describe the Chinese as arrogant and insolent, with an army of "enormous" size. The Chinese troops' war songs say of the Japanese: "They are an undisciplined rabble, and however fine their arms look, they are useless, like fine ladies in pictures." The Japanese Minister of Finance has officially made an announcement that the war will not be allowed to interrupt the internal improvement of Japan. Consequently railway construction is to proceed with the same vigor as in peaceful times. The Minister has arranged so that the treasury shall keep separate accounts of war expenses and those for internal improvement. The former will not overshadow the latter. The late customs-house reports in Japan show that her trade with the United States is greater than with any other power. The total trade last year was valued at 1,000,000,000 yen. British trade, which comes second, is 800,000,000 yen. The Japanese people and press are retorting to the Chinese Emperor's proclamation directing that the Japanese "wo jen," meaning pigmies, should be sent to their lairs. The Chinese are called "chou chan," meaning pig-tailed vagabonds. China is referred to as "mei-so-ku," the country in which the people cannot make up their minds. The Japanese papers are already printing articles showing the rout of the Chinese on land and sea.

DISPUTED GOLD FIELDS.

Both Brazil and French Guiana Claim the Country.

New York, October 6.—Additional advices were received here yesterday by the steamer Madiara, which arrived from West Indian ports, regarding the gold fever in the disputed country between Brazil and French Guiana. The colonies in the latter province are on a hunt for gold, and there are thousands of pirates and freebooters waiting for them to find it. The government of French Guiana is powerless to protect them because of the international dispute over the country. Already the pirates have begun their work according to the news received. Several expeditions have left for the gold fields. A party left for the gold fields a short time ago, and have not been heard of since. The Governor and his friends are anxious about the fate of M. Herard. Meanwhile the French troops and gunboats are waiting for word from the home government to sail in and drive out the desperadoes.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

The Subject Debated in the Hungarian Upper House.

BUDA-PEST, October 6.—The Hungarian Upper House to-day opened the debate on a bill granting liberty of worship to all sects. In the course of the discussion Cardinal Schlanck, Archbishop of Transylvania, declared the bill, if it should become a law, would ruin society and the State. The Serbian Patriarch and the Romanian and orthodox bishops spoke in a similar strain. Ex-Minister Czaky and the Calvinist Bishop Szvazs, warmly supported the proposed reform, which was introduced by the Minister of Public Education. Baron Esterhazy declared that the bill was prompted by a true sense of liberty and was the outcome of the spirit of the age. The debate was adjourned.

FREIGHT RATES RAISED.

The Expected Advance Will Take Place October 20.

PORTLAND, October 3.—Press dispatches received yesterday confirm the statement already made that commodity rates from the East are to be raised in the near future. The following is the text of a dispatch sent out from Omaha: "The Missouri river roads to-day announced that after October 20 all freight rates to Portland and adjacent points will be advanced 7 to 25 per cent. This is a discrimination in favor of San Francisco, though the object is a mystery." Local freight men had not last evening received official notification of the proposed advance, but feel satisfied that the change will be made. The following dispatch was received from San Francisco last night: "Inquiry among the local railway agents resulted in the confirmation of the statement contained in a dispatch from Omaha to-day, which announced that after October 20 all freight rates to Portland and adjacent points would be advanced 7 to 25 per cent. All of them united, however, in disagreeing with the proposition that the raise in freight rates had been ordered with the intention of discriminating against Portland."

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GENERAL WADE HAMPTON.

The Commissioner of Railroads on Government Ownership.

WASHINGTON, October 3.—General Wade Hampton, Commissioner of Railroads, was at his desk to-day for the first time in several weeks, having returned from an extended trip over the government roads which are under his supervision. The Commissioner says he encountered in California a great deal of clamor for government control of not only the Union and Central Pacific roads, but of all the roads. So the government of the Pacific road does not come from the best-informed people of the Pacific Coast, although it has got to be a very popular movement in the West.

COMBINE BROKEN.

Raisin Growers to Ship Their Product East for Storage.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 3.—The raisin combine that was threatened by the disagreement of the California producers and the New York and Chicago fruit brokers has been broken, and the yield of the San Joaquin Valley is being rapidly shipped eastward. The raisin combine intended to sell this year's crop, except in California, intending to force Eastern buyers to come to California and make their purchases. The Eastern dealers refused to do this, and there was a deadlock. The raisins were stored at Fresno until the warehouses became overcrowded, when the combine discovered it could store the product in the East as cheap as in California, and the raisins were shipped to central points, St. Louis, Chicago and New York. The product will be stored at these points to await a market for it when it will be marketed by the combine. Fifty-seven carloads left for New York, and maybe more will follow. Up to September 30 the following shipments of fruit to Eastern points were made: Raisins, 208 carloads; other dried fruits, including prunes, 1,000 carloads; density, 1,000 carloads; 5,600 carloads; canned fruits and vegetables, 1,000 carloads.

MAKING CITIZENS.

Right of Citizenship Given to Sailors of the United States Navy.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 3.—In compliance with a recent act of Congress Secretary Herbert has recently promulgated a general order which gives to sailors of the United States navy the right of citizenship. This order has been forwarded to every vessel of the navy and to each naval station with instructions that it be published at general muster, and copies conspicuously posted. The order entitles men of the navy the right of citizenship after five years' service without any previous declaration, the same as provided for in the case of the United States army and marine corps. The granting of this suffrage to the navy-fifths of the enlisted men to become citizens, and already a large number have procured their citizenship papers. It is reported from the New York navy yard that fully 1,000 sailors have secured their papers since Secretary Herbert's order has been issued.

Competition in Beer.

San Francisco, October 3.—Within the past two months two plants have been established in this city for bottling Eastern beer, and the brewers of Milwaukee and St. Louis are endeavoring to compete with the local brewers by supplying bottled beer to families, hotels and restaurants at the same price per dozen as that charged for local beer.

Train Robbery Prevented.

St. Joseph, Mo., October 3.—Lee Jones and "Scar-faced Charley" Frizzle were arrested here to-day, charged with conspiracy to rob the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific train. They were betrayed by one of their own band. A west-bound Rock Island train and blow it up, if necessary, was the plan. This was postponed and last night finally abandoned, the would-be robbers learning that the police were after them.

LAST MOVE OF JAPAN

Troops Said to Have Landed at Possiet Bay.

CONJECTURES AS TO THE REASON

The Japanese May be Preparing to Resist a Possible Advance of the Russians into Corea—Anti-Foreign Feeling in Tien Tsin.

TIENTSIN, October 3.—It is officially announced 5,000 Japanese troops have arrived close to Possiet Bay near the Russian frontier. It was reported here that a Japanese fleet had been sighted September 29 ten miles south from Shan Hai Kwan, 200 miles from Peking. Large bodies of Chinese troops have been drafted to that district the last few days to prevent the Japanese landing. OFFICIALS ARE PUZZLED. WASHINGTON, October 3.—Officials here, who have been closely watching the progress of the war in the East, are puzzled to account for the landing of 5,000 Japanese troops at Possiet Bay, as announced officially from Tien Tsin. This bay lies directly on the eastern boundary between Corea and the Russian maritime provinces. It is not believed any Chinese troops are in the neighborhood, as the country is too rugged and barren to warrant the plan of marching the troops overland clear across Corea to join the army marching on Moukden, and it is considered conceivable that the Japanese are preparing to resist a possible advance by the Russian troops from the north into Corea.

PURPOSE OF THE MOVEMENT.

The purpose of the movement reported from Tien Tsin of the reconnoitering by the Japanese fleet off the Chinese coast near Shan Hai Kwan is more reasonable and apparent. Shan Hai Kwan lies on the boundary between the Chinese provinces of Manchuria and Chi Li at the eastern end of the great wall which traverses China. It is directly on the railroad building from Tien Tsin to Moukden, and as the Japanese are in operation between it and Tien Tsin, the town is a place of great strategic advantage. Should the Japanese effect its capture and land an army, there would be nothing in the way of a rapid advance on Peking, the capital, and unless the Chinese resistance is more formidable than it has been so far, the march could be made in a week or ten days.

FEAR FOR PEKING.

SHANGHAI, October 3.—The anti-foreign feeling at Peking is increasing hourly, and the authorities find it difficult to repress outbreaks of the Chinese population. Leading Chinese representatives at Peking fear that if the Japanese march upon Peking, the capital will be captured, as the Chinese soldiers gathered to defend it are dissatisfied and unreliable. It is reported Li Hung Chang has received orders not to proceed to Corea.

ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING.

LONDON, October 3.—A Shanghai correspondent of the Central News telegraphs: There is no sign in Tien Tsin that Li Hung Chang's power is waning. His audiences are well attended and he has several thousand loyal troops to protect Europeans. Much anxiety is felt by foreign residents, as the populace is behaving insolently and becoming unusually threatening. The removal of the treasure and archives from Moukden made a bad impression.

SECRECY OF WAR.

Japanese Armies Are Busy, But Are Telling No Secrets.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 3.—H. E. Keller of Philadelphia has arrived from Tokio, Yokohama, Kobe and other Japanese points, where he has been for three months. "The arsenal at Tokio," he said, "is as busy as it can be, and no-birdy is allowed there. Strict secrecy is preserved. I dined with Iwasaka, the richest man in Japan, who recently gave 5,000,000 yen or \$250,000 to aid the war, and became quite intimate with him, but he could not act in accordance with the policy of the Japanese, give any facts about the war. Every day I met frequently Count Matsugata, the James G. Blaine of Japan and ex-Prime Minister, and his son, with whom I graduated at college. Both told me the policy was to give nothing out that could give the Chinese an insight into what was being done. Going from Hong Kong to Shanghai, I met four English gunners who had been engaged for a Chinese warship at \$100 a month, and five years' pay for it when it is killed. An English Captain was with them, who was to receive much greater pay. The Chinese are engaging all the Englishmen fighters they can, and they are paying them big sums. In Japan it is believed to be the policy to capture it before winter sets in. The Japanese say they have got to do it quickly, or it will be much harder later."

Letter Carriers' Inspection.

WASHINGTON, October 3.—Acting Postmaster-General Jones sent a letter to Postmaster Hensing at Chicago to-day concerning the inspection of letter carriers in that city next Sunday. He says that, owing to the work of the carriers and the interruption to business, an inspection on a week day is impracticable, but says that, as they must under the law be inspected, such inspection should be brief and entail as little labor on the carriers as possible. Mr. Hensing is directed to have the inspection take place at the postoffice and the several stations without parades or unnecessary demonstrations.

Questions for Diplomacy.

LONDON, October 3.—The Standard's correspondent at Paris says: The Politique Coloniale, reflecting the views of the Minister of the Colonies, gives, exclusive of the questions of Egypt and Madagascar, a list of eleven outstanding difficulties between France and England connected with frontier and similar disputes in various African colonies. Many of these have practically been settled, and none of them would justify a rupture, unless one country was bent upon picking a quarrel with the other, which the paper says, is not the case.

NEW YORK POLICE.

Sensational Testimony Before the Lexow Investigating Committee.

New York, October 4.—Mr. Moss, attorney for the Parkhurst Society, opened to-day's proceedings before the Lexow investigating committee by placing in evidence a chattel mortgage given by David Kroman to David Kroman. The first David has already testified before the committee that he gave the mortgage to raise money to give the police for protection. Policeman Hussey was the next witness. Mrs. Urchitt, who some time ago appeared before the committee, had testified that an officer had walked her around the streets all night and taken down her stockings to search for money. The prosecution tried to show that Hussey was the officer. Hussey testified that a stool pigeon named Black had told him that a policeman named Charles A. Place was the policeman who took the money. An affidavit from Black was read, saying he was present when Place demanded money in the woman's store. Place took the stand, and swore he never saw the woman or took the money from her. He said Hussey had asked him to help him out by swearing that the woman was disreputable. The woman then took the stand. Her story was a shameful one. Her children were born in prison. She was never placed in an asylum. She was scourged from pillar to post by the police and Max Hochstein, an East Side politician. Hochstein at first under the guise of a friend advised her to pay the police, and later insulted and humiliated her. Looking around a courtroom, her eyes lighted upon Hussey; she recognized the author of her troubles in a moment, and became intensely agitated. She pointed dramatically at the officer, and half starting from the witness chair, cried: "That's him; that's him!" For a moment it looked as if he would spring at the officer. It was some time before she became quiet. Elias Mandel, a restaurant-keeper, testified that Hussey had come to him and demanded \$100 for protection for gambling. He was arrested by Hussey on a charge later, being objected to much persecution. In court to-day officer Hussey accused Narberth Peffer, a detective employed by the committee, of being the author of his trouble. After calling him a foul name, the policeman threatened to blow Peffer's nose. Later he called the witness made the accusation or threat. Morris Masch, a cloak manufacturer, testified that clothing had been stolen from his store. Officers Hussey and Shelby assisted in finding the thief, but, although they made arrests and had a strong case, Masch does not appear to have been vindicated, and the thieves were discharged.

DIED OF THIRST.

Terrible Suffering by Prospectors Crossing the Desert.

SAN DIEGO, October 6.—Jose Garcia, a peddler, who has just returned from the Cocopah country with Quirino Cosillo, a half-breed, and Fred Cota, a Mexican, tells of the finding on the desert before the national boundary of the body of an American who had died of thirst. There were no means of identifying the remains, save that contained in the clothing and a piece of an envelope or paper sack addressed to "James Moore, paymaster A. T. and S. F., Topeka, Kan." A common clasp purse, which held this paper, and the part of a greenback in it, the boot was about a No. 6, and the man died of thirst, but all recovered. On the return trip the trail of another wanderer was discovered, and certain circumstances led the party to believe that he had fallen a victim to the desert, as the hovering vultures and the hills afforded good grounds for the suspicion. Much suffering is reported on the desert by returning prospectors. The water is poor, and there is but little of it.

First Cargo of the Season.

TACOMA, October 4.—The ship City of Athens sailed last night for the United Kingdom with the first cargo of new wheat shipped from this port. It amounted to 1,800 tons. Four larger ships have arrived to load wheat in character for Ballou, Guthrie & Co. and Sbarro & Kerr. They are the Andros, the Andros and Windso Park. The Andros arrived yesterday. Captain Lockhart reports that August 3, 240 miles southeast of Shanghai, the ship encountered a terrific gale, which lasted thirty hours. For twelve hours it seemed the proportions of a typhoon. Two ships were dismasted near the Andros, and she met three steamers disabled by the storm. The Andros lost a lower mainsail, but suffered no other casualty.

Court of Private Land Claims.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 4.—The Court of Private Land Claims has just concluded a term wherein much important business was transacted. During the past year the court confirmed Spanish and Mexican grants in New Mexico to the amount of 779,000 and rejected such claims to the amount of 3,840,000 acres. In Arizona none were confirmed, and grants amounting to 195,000 acres were rejected. United States Attorney Matthew Reynolds of St. Louis receives much credit for this favorable showing to the government. The court will meet again January 25 next, when claims to the amount of several million acres will be taken into consideration.

May Remain Open Sundays.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 4.—The remains of San Jose may hereafter remain open Sundays. The State Supreme Court rendered a decision to-day in the case of the People vs. Scherer, declaring that a county law passed by the Board of Supervisors cannot affect the city of San Jose.

Ethel Brandon Again Free.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 4.—Mrs. Ethel Stockwell, better known as Ethel Brandon, the actress, was awarded a divorce from L. R. Stockwell in the Superior Court to-day on the ground of extreme cruelty.

UNDER THE NEW LAW

First Month's Receipts of the Treasury Department.

IT WAS LESS THAN LAST YEAR

But It Is Estimated, However, That for the Fiscal Year There Will Be a Surplus of Between Fifty and Sixty Million Dollars.

WASHINGTON, October 2.—The first month's receipts of the Treasury Department, namely for the month of September, under the operation of the new tariff law were made public yesterday. The aggregate receipts for the month were \$22,621,288, as compared with \$24,582,768 for September, 1893. As compared with August, 1894, when the receipts from internal revenue assumed abnormal proportions because of the large withdrawals of whiskey in anticipation of the increased tax of 20 cents per gallon, there is in round figures a decrease of \$18,000,000. According to the estimates upon which the new tariff bill was based it was to produce, exclusive of postal revenue, from sugar \$43,000,000 a year, and from the income tax placed at a minimum figure \$15,000,000 per year. No revenue from either of these sources is shown in the current receipts of the month of September, for the reason that the income tax does not become operative until January 1, 1895, and three or four months' supply of sugar was imported prior to the new law in anticipation of the ad valorem tax placed upon it. Upon the basis of the estimates submitted, an upon which the tariff bill was framed, the revenue from the two principal sources—customs and internal revenue—each was put down at \$179,000,000 per year. For the three months of the present fiscal year the receipts have been \$97,848,174, against \$79,379,417 for the corresponding months of 1893. Of the receipts for the current fiscal year to date, \$35,797,243 have been from customs or at the rate of \$140,000,000 a year, and from internal revenue \$58,944,931 or at the rate of \$232,000,000 a year. These two items alone show an excess of the total estimate of \$70,000,000, upon which the tariff bill was based, leaving the miscellaneous revenue of \$20,000,000 as a surplus. From present indications, when revenue from sugar and the income tax begin to be received and customs and internal revenue receipts assume their normal conditions, as they are now gradually doing, a surplus of between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000 at the present ratio existing between the receipts and expenditures, is indicated. Even if the situation is now shown for the current year to date the expenditures exceed the receipts less than \$1,000,000.

BLOOD OF WOUNDS.

British Naval Officer's Account of the Horrors of Modern War.

LONDON, October 2.—A British naval officer attached to the Chinese naval squadron which was engaged in the fight off the mouth of Yalu river has written a letter to the Graphic, which is published in that paper to-day. In this letter the writer gives additional details of the fighting, and says: "On board the warship Chen Yuen the fighting was awful. The decks and the space around the guns were strewn with human fragments. Three or four men were blown up by a shell from the Japanese warship Naniwa Kan. The fourth gunner was shot while trying to escape from the turret, and the fifth stuck to his post. This man fired three rounds at the Naniwa Kan, and then fell overboard in the engine-room of the Japanese ship and another smashing her forward bridge. The Naniwa Kan then hauled off. The Chinese Admiral rewarded the surviving gunner with a present of 1,000 taels. A Chen Yuen sailor, who was killed, was buried on the rocks of the turret. A lieutenant, who was in the act of speaking through the tube leading to the engine-room, was blown into atoms, and his head was left hanging to the speaking pipes. Huge fragments of armor and the deck backing thereof were driven inboard by the shot, crushing a large number of sailors into a shapeless mass. A European engineer, who was in the act of groping about in an endeavor to repair a steam pipe, was drenched from head to foot with blood of an assistant, who was disemboweled while standing by his side by a shot from the enemy's ship. The Chen Yuen arrived at Wei Hai Wei the day after the fight in the same condition in which she left the battle. No attempt had been made to wash the blood from her or to remove the corpses which strewn her decks."

Longest in the World.

NEW YORK, October 2.—The power and mining department of the General Electric Company has just closed a contract with the Sacramento Electric Light and Power Company that calls for the transmission by electricity from a water-pipe at Folsom, Cal., of several thousand electrical horse power to the city of Sacramento to supply light, heat, power, etc., to an extent that will practically supersede all the present steam plants now in operation. This will make the longest transmission by electricity of power in large amounts installed in the world.

The Anarchists Dispatch.

LONDON, October 2.—A dispatch to the Chronicle from Vienna says that an Italian anarchist has been arrested at Cairo, charged with an attempt to murder the Khedive. It is alleged that he went from Italy to Cairo for that purpose, and that the Italian police authorities warned the Italian Consul at Cairo of his coming. A dagger was found in the possession of the man when he was arrested.

An Italian Society.

PARIS, October 2.—Eight anarchists were arrested at Marseilles to-day on a charge of plotting the murder of Signor Durando, the Italian Consul, and an attempt to blow up the Italian consulate. Letters found in the lodgings of the prisoners showed that they were connected with an Italian brotherhood, having ramifications in London, Trieste, Genoa and other European centers.

THE PUGILISTS.

"Gentleman Jim" Indites Fitzsimmons an Elaborate Epitaph.

Boston, October 2.—Under date of to-day Corbett wrote Fitzsimmons as follows:

"In reply to your communication to-day I desire to state that I am the heavy-weight champion of the world. I won that title not by defeating middle-weights, but by battling with every heavy-weight that stood between myself and John L. Sullivan. I dispute your right to claim a battle with me at the present time, because, while you are undoubtedly the best middle-weight in the world, your record gives me the right to place in my class. I propose to enter the prize ring once more and then retire, whether I win or lose, and I want my next contest to be with the best man in the world. I do not consider you that man, and do not propose to meet you and then after having defeated you be told by your friends that you are only a middle-weight after all. I care nothing for the past history of the ring or its obsolete rules. My future is in my own hands, and I do not propose to be told by any other man living what I am to do. I consider Steve O'Donnell a better man than you are, and he will prove it when he meets you. If you accept his challenge and defeat him, then you will not have to worry much about securing a contest with me. You say that O'Donnell is fourth-rate, and that you are sincere in your desire to be champion of the world. Then you should remove the only obstacle that stands between you and me, especially when he is so easy. I am prepared to post \$5,000 with any reputable man or newspaper in this country to be paid to you in case I refuse to fight you after you have defeated O'Donnell. Mr. Brady has posted \$1,000 with the New York Herald in evidence of O'Donnell's good faith. You do not need to wait thirty days for me to pay any attention to you, for I do not propose to do so. If you are sincere, then you had better arrange a match with O'Donnell at once, for the sooner you do the sooner you will get the chance you seem to desire so much—a meeting."

THE KAISER'S VIEWS.

What He Thinks That the Modern Battle Ship Should Be.

LONDON, October 2.—Edward Reed, M. P., in an interview to-day gave an outline of a conversation which he recently had with the Emperor of Germany on the subject of war between China and Japan. Mr. Reed said: "The Emperor expressed clear and pronounced views on the situation, which have been remarkably fulfilled through the results at Yalu. His Majesty recognized the value of strong armor, and particularly dwelt upon the necessity of armor belt reaching virtually from stem to stern, but he emphasized his opinion that it was of the utmost importance that a vessel in action should be given the greatest possible scope of gun fire."

The Emperor at the time of his interview with Mr. Reed gave to that gentleman a portrait of himself with his signature indorsed on its back. Preceding the imperial signature were the words: "In the modern battle ship the distribution of weight necessitates a compromise between armor and artillery. Give her a full all-around belt, and after that always reserve in favor of artillery." Mr. Reed expressed his opinion that the Yalu battle was remarkable for its emphasis of the value of speed and armament multiplied by the quick-firing gun.

MANY LIVES LOST.

Much of the Island of Cuba is Now Under Water.

HAVANA, October 2.—Owing to the excessive rains, with a fall of 167 the 23d and 24th the rivers Sagua, Yabu, Yabusito and Mayanera have flooded the surrounding country and inundated the towns of Sagua, Crences, La Jas, Sietosito and San Domingo. At Sagua the water is from eighteen to forty-five feet deep, and 3,000 families are homeless. The inhabitants have sought salvation on the roofs of the two-story buildings, which alone are not under water. The loss of life is estimated at 200, while the damage of property will reach \$4,000,000. Some seventy houses have been destroyed, and 200 more are badly damaged. Much of the furniture and merchandise has been swept away, and many heads of cattle have been drowned. The electric plant and the gas works have suffered heavily. Many sugar-houses and cane fields are under water. The sugar crop is seriously compromised. Forty-seven houses have been destroyed at Santa Cruz del Sur, and a pier there was also wrecked. Communications have been interrupted for four days. Subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers by the flood are being organized.

Chinese Treaty.

It Has Been Formally Ratified by the Celestial Government.

WASHINGTON, October 1.—Notification has been given the government in an informal way of the ratification of the Chinese government of the treaty between the United States and China negotiated by Secretary Gresham and Chinese Minister Yang Yu and ratified by the Senate on the part of the United States. Only a formal exchange of ratification between the Department of State and the Minister is to be transacted to make the treaty a law governing the relations of the two powers, and this ceremony will doubtless take place within a month. Minister Yang Yu called upon Secretary Gresham last week and said he received word from his government that it had ratified the treaty; that the document had been forwarded to the Chinese Secretary in taking action. Then Gresham gave to the press the status of the matter, and said the ratification of the treaty was proceeding toward the consummation of the treaty were entirely completed.

New York's New Constitution.

ALBANY, N. Y., October 1.—The Constitutional Convention has adopted the new constitution as reported from the committee of the whole by a vote of 96 to 45, two Republican members voting with the majority. It was first decided to admit the canonical article and the apportionment article separately and the rest of the document as a whole.

THE PUYALLUP MUDDLE

No Settlement Except in the Manner Now Employed.

INDIAN BUREAU IS DETERMINED

It Is Said That Its Officers Want the Contracts Made With the Indians Ruled Out as Invalid—The Commission Doing Good Work.

WASHINGTON, October 1.—Notwithstanding the hard fight made by Representative Doolittle and other members of the Washington delegation, the probabilities are that there will be no settlement of the Puyallup Indian reservation muddle and sale of the lands except in the manner which is now being employed. The great fight which has been made to have something done which will give the men who made contracts with the Indians an opportunity to test their validity will probably fail. From the very first there has been a disposition on the part of the Indian office to have these contracts ruled out as invalid and make the men who made the contracts with the Indians lose what they have paid them. This disposition originated with Agent Eells, who has for so many years been agent for the Puyallups, and permeates the entire Indian office. The contracts were probably made in opposition to the wishes of Mr. Eells, and he intends, if he can, to make the contractors lose. Ever since Washington was admitted the delegation in Congress has been trying to have the lands opened under some regulations that will give the contractors an opportunity to get the lands or their money back, but it has always been a failure. The nearest a bill of that kind came to passing was in the Fifty-first Congress, when Representative Wilson slipped through in a right-of-way bill a clause which would have settled the whole affair. Cockrell of Missouri caught it up in the Senate and made a tremendous bluster, and Allen and Squire, who were not as familiar with Senatorial ways as they have since become, allowed the clause to be stricken out, something that would not happen again. Now the difficulty is in getting something through the House. In the last session of Congress Doolittle tried the House and Squire the Senate, but the more that has been done the more opposition is found. This opposition comes from the Indian bureau, which is very much opposed to the settlement of the Puyallup lands on any other basis except to eschew all contracts made.

Assistant Commissioner Armstrong, who for all practical purposes is the Commissioner during this administration, says that the commission which is now at work on the Puyallup reservation is doing good work in his opinion. He was there not long ago and looked the field over. He says that when the commission reports its action will be unopposed and the lands will be sold. The first report will relate almost entirely to the lands held in common by the Indians and not to those held in severalty. General Armstrong says that after these common lands are disposed of, the individual mission will be to sell the individual lands which the Indians desire to sell, and they will be sold under the direction of the government. Asked if anything whatever would be done with the contracts, General Armstrong replied: "Nothing." They are in the very body knows they are no account. If they are tested in the courts, it will make no difference. When the court dismissed the injunction against the commission, that settled the contracts. They will have no standing in court. Why would the commission be trying to secure legislation to legalize them, if they did not know they were worthless without such legislation?"

It Will Be Seen That the Indian Office Is Dead Set Against the Men with the Contracts.

WASHINGTON, October 1.—Notification has been given the government in an informal way of the ratification of the Chinese government of the treaty between the United States and China negotiated by Secretary Gresham and Chinese Minister Yang Yu and ratified by the Senate on the part of the United States. Only a formal exchange of ratification between the Department of State and the Minister is to be transacted to make the treaty a law governing the relations of the two powers, and this ceremony will doubtless take place within a month. Minister Yang Yu called upon Secretary Gresham last week and said he received word from his government that it had ratified the treaty; that the document had been forwarded to the Chinese Secretary in taking action. Then Gresham gave to the press the status of the matter, and said the ratification of the treaty was proceeding toward the consummation of the treaty were entirely completed.

Chinese Treaty.

It Has Been Formally Ratified by the Celestial Government.

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New York's New Constitution.

ALBANY, N. Y., October 1.—The Constitutional Convention has adopted the new constitution as reported from the committee of the whole by a vote of 96 to 45, two Republican members voting with the majority. It was first decided to admit the canonical article and the apportionment article separately and the rest of the document as a whole.