Relief of the Town Expected at Any Time.

BRITISH CONFIDENCE IN ROBERTS

Only Hope for the Boers Now Is in Foreign Intervention, and There Is No Likelihood of That.

LONDON, March 18, 3:35 A. M.—Amidst the festivities of St. Patrick's day, London has been listening for word that Mafeking is relieved. It is remarkable supported by Russia and not negatived by that the revival of this holiday, which puts St. Patrick's day hereafter on an equality with Primrose day, has been the occasion of the first real gala day since the declaration of war. Christmastide week, his national loan. As the Spectator points out, for the Sulian to refuse about the replication of warsh and the replication of the first real gala day since the declaration of war. Christmastide week, his national loan. As the Spectator points out, for the Sulian to refuse about the request of Prince Ferdinand's Generals, guns, and, this week, his national loan. As the Spectator points out, for the Sulian to refuse about the replication of the representation of the representa

Africa to justify rejoicing, however, for the rapid pacification of the Free State leads the people of Great Britain to believe that they have a statesman as well as a strategist in the hero of the hour, "Bobs." With rallway communication open to the Cape and the morale of his army at its highest, England is now ready to trust the Commander-in-Chief to complete the remainder of his task in his own way, lain but a few weeks previously had lowthe rapid pacification of the Free State

onfident of his ultimate success. So far as the Free State is concerned, ithough the Boers are entrenching at over. The Transvaal officials are said to have vacated Taungs and Vryburg, but the rebels are unwilling to enter the Free State, being anxious to trek homeward. No one would be much surprised if a great spread of this contagion occurred in the next fortnight.

Lady Rendeling Churchill, who started deness of reconciliation, but it is learned.

n the next fortnight.

Lady Randolph Churchill, who started comeward on the hospital-ship Maine yesterday, cabled to the committee that the regards it a compliment to the United

Wilkinson reviews the war news for the past week for the Associated Press as follows:

The great secret of war is perso change in the state of the South African war is due to the presence and power of one man, Lord Roberts. Seven years ago I spent many weeks with him in India, accompanying him as his special to the presence and power of one man, Lord Roberts. Seven years ago I spent many weeks with him in India, accompanying him as his special to the latest and the l Napoleon said. In war the big thing India, accompanying him as his guest on his last tour of inspection of the Indian armles. I saw for myself how 200,000 men orshiped him. Since his return from to keep him in the background. The disto keep him in the background is oppor-sasters of the Winter gave him his oppor-tunity, and now he world sees what he has made of it. When Sherman set out son, I'll tell you where Grant beats all Colonel Schlei, who was captured in the rest of us. He don't care a defor what he can't see the enemy doing and it scares me like h—. Roberts is like Grant He is too his to be disturbed at anything, and he quietly does just what he means to do. Accordingly, 11s provements have knocked the Boers out of time.

Staters and the Transvallers.

Colonel Schlei, who was captured in Natal in the early part of the war, has a special sentry at his door to prevent him from doing himself boothy violence.

Captain Johnson and Third Officer Boilege, of the steamer Mashona, captured by a British cruiser and subsequent-like the control of time.

Dreifonteln turns out by the losses of both sides to have been one of the hardest fought actions of the war. It has finshed the Free Staters. Roberts entered loemfontein Tuesday and the result has datance. The railway opened without difficulty to the Orange River, the rebel-lion in the Cape collapse, the Free Stat-ers turning round wholesale, meanwhile the Transvani Boers solemnly declare that they have made Biggersberg impergnable. but Buller has no need to run his head against Biggersberg. Lord Roberts, by advancing along the Vaal River, would turn Biggersberg and the Boers must

n be between two armies. The Transyaal Boers may fight on in the hope of foreign intervention. have no other chance, as either British army outnumbers them and they cannot escape being between two fires except by retreat. But though I can see no chan for them, except through intervention. I expect the Transvaal Boers will fight until the last, as their animosity against the British is deep and rooted. Intervention hardly seems likely, as the British navy an unknown quantity and the British quite determined.

cent reports show that despite the great ardships, the garrison will hold out; the eslegers are growing tired and timid, and relief movements are in progress north and south, but the news is indefinite. The situation is summed up in the Associated Press' latest dispatch, that the relief of Mafeking may be ex-

Railroad Open to Lobatsi.

LOBASTI, Bechuanaland, Monday, farch 12, via Lourence Marques, March 7.—The callroad is open to this point and there is wire communication as far as Pitsani. The Boers who were at Sequani have retired to Ruskonburg. The relief of Mafeking is expected at any day.

Pole-Carew Reaches Norval's Pont. VANZYL, Friday, March 16.-The railroad has been reopened from Bloemfon-teln to Norval's Pont. General Pole-Carew and the Grenadiers have just arrived at Norval's Pont.

Boer Defenses at Biggarsberg. GLENCOE, March 15, via Lourenco Marques, March 16,-The Boer defenses along the Bisgarsberg have been com-pleted and are said to render the posi-

FRANCE'S INTENTIONS PEACEFUL. Effect of Bel Casse's Speech on the

LONDON, March 17.-The mouths of the anic-mongers have been stopped, and by Frenchman. It is a curious commentary upon a certain side of the British character, which has lately been much in evidence. Several papers of fair standing have seriously been putting forward the probability of war with France, and their neations have been gulped down eager-by a small section of the British pub-though well-informed people are only France, however, was not the only Nation which it was asserted medi-rated an immediate invasion of England. Russia, Germany and Austria, according to the manufacturers of panics, had designs to take advantage of Great Britain's

outlies in South Africa.
With the cries for home defense in the endant, Great Britain might have dudicated the scenes when the island await-d the prospective invasion of Napoleon. But M. Del Casse, the French Minister, moke, and the bogy of European hostility and interference vanished. The hand of Frenchman restored calm to Great tain. Without the bias of friendship, Britain. Without the bias of friendship. He leaves a widow he disclosed the common sense with which tives in the East.

France and other European powers were governing their relations toward Great Britain, and bore home what has frequently been set forth in these dispatches -i. e., that no power had the slightest intention of going to war with Great Britain at present, and no power was anxious to intervene in behalf of the

The pacific condition which European matters assume is far more likely to be disturbed by trouble in the Balkans than by the South African war or anything in which Great Britain is chiefly concerned, though even the Balkan difficulty is most unlinely to result in a Continental war. This latest trouble exists in the apparent determination of Prince Ferdinand to de-clare himself King of Bulgaria and re-nounce Turkey's suserainty. He would scarcely contemplate this without the backing of Russia, whence come Prince Ferdinand's Generals, guns, and,

the deciaration of war. Christmastide suppose."

Was gloomy, indeed, in comparison with today's merry-making.

There is much in the situation in South between Great Britain and Germany over the salvers of the inter's ships in South the seizure of the latter's ships in South African waters. To what extent that remainder of his task in his own way, lain but a few weeks previously had lov-confident of his ultimate success.

So far as the Free State is concerned, bund," came as a revelation. Had not the Bo far as the Free State is concerned, but a came as a revelation. Had not the aithough the Boers are entrenching at the Vaal River, the impression at Cape Lord Salisbury's giving way, and had not Town tonight is that the war is virtually over. The Transvaal officials are said to grossed by the progress of her arms in

dences of reconciliation, but it is learned that this has been effected, and also that rather curious circumstances attended the to leave as soon as Kimberley was re-lieved. There are 13 officers and 153 non-commissioned officers and mer and more described by the country of the coun were honeyed, yet when Count von Bulow, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs, spoke publicly, he was anti-British, and when the dispatches which would, in the nature of things, be published, were writ-ten by the German side, they were formu-lated in the same strain. To quote a lated in the same strain. British Foreign Office official: "Germany flaunted us in the face of the world and

craft" creating little interest, and it is severely criticised all around for its lack of common sense.

PRISONERS FOR ST. HELENA. Only the Transvanlers Will Be Sent

to the Island. LONDON, March 17 .- A dispatch to the has made of it. When Sherman set out to march through Seorgia he asked General Grant for an old chum, Cavairr Officer Wilson, I think, and when Wilson ame he sat up half the night talking to Sherman, who, before retiring, said: Wilson Staters and the Transvaalers.

boat's crew from the Cheshire is missing.

Four others were drowned, and a

Consul Hay Waiting for a Reply. PRETORIA, Thursday, March 15, via Lourenco Marques, Friday, March 16.-The United States Consul, Adelbert Hay has not received a reply from the United States since he asked for its good offices in behalf of the Boers toward peace. State Secretary Reitz has received a dispatch from Washington, saying the war was the ubject of friendly pegotiations with the British Government, and it contained an expression of the President's earnest hopes for peace. All the Consuls are coerating for the general good of the whole community.

Transporting of Prisoners Delayed. CAPE TOWN, March 17 .- The departure of the transports with the Boer prisone s for St. Helena was delayed on account of the fact that many Boers nave been sick including many infectious diseases. The authorities are striving to complete the isolated hospital by Wednesday, and the transports will probably sail that day.

Volunteers at Esquimalt. VICTORIA, B. C., March 17.-The right

half of company A, now being recruited in British Columbia, will not go to Haliax, but will assist the imperial troops in

CONFERENCE AT OMAHA.

Passenger and Traffic Men Considered North Pacific Const Rates.

OMAHA, March 17.-There was held at Union Pacific headquarters today a con-ference of traffic and passenger men of several Western roads, to consider the condition of business to the North Pacific points. What was done is not given out authoritatively, but it is stated that it was decided to maintain both passenger and freight rates to that territory, in spite of the action of the Canadian Pacific. There were present General Passenger Agent Burleigh, of the Short Line, and General Passenger Agent Huriburt, of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company; D. Miller, vice-president of the Great Northern; J. M. Hannaford, vice-president of the Northern Pacific, St. Paul: James T. Clark, second vice-president and general manager of the Omaha road. St. Paul; B. Campbell, traffic manager of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, Portland, and S. W. Eccles, manager of the Short Line, Salt traffic Lake.

Search for Missing Island.

WASHINGTON, March 17 .- The Hydrographic Office has taken steps to have the United States ship Iroquois make a search for the missing Morrell Island, while she is engaged in the survey for a cable route in the Pacific. Several reports have reached the office to show that ships have salled directly over the place where the island was charted. The officers say this may be owing to a mistake made by the early recorders, but they will verify the

The Late Aaron Stein. SAN FRANCISCO, March 17 .-

stein, secretary and assistant to the president of Wells, Fargo & Co., who died last night, had been connected with the com-pany since 1865. He was formerly agent of the United States Express Company at Muscatine, Ia., and the success of the oldlime transcontinental pony express was largely due to his ability. He was born at Scranton, Pa., and was 55 years of age. He leaves a widow in this city and rela-

FREED THE PEONS

Governor Leary Issued an **Emancipation Proclamation.**

MORE SLAVERY IN GUAM

General Wheeler Reported to the Navy Department on Conditions in the Ladrones.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—The follow-ing proclamation has been issued by the Governor of the Island of Guam: "To the inhabitants of Guam: In issuing this decree, the Government desires and earnestly invokes Divine blessing and

made toward the establishment of an Epis copal church in the Philippines.

Chinese Litter-Bearers Dismissed. WASHINGTON, March II.—General Otts
has rescinded instructions herotofore issued from the headquarters of the Department of the Pacific permitting the empartment of the Pacific permitting the em-ployment of Chinese as litter or burden bearers for troops in the field or on the march. All Chinese still employed in that capacity will be discharged from the service. General Otis has also ordered to be revoked the order allowing the apecific payment of money from the pub-lic civil fund for the purchase of diet for the regimental sick an advantage having the regimental sick, an advantage having been taken of the said allowance.

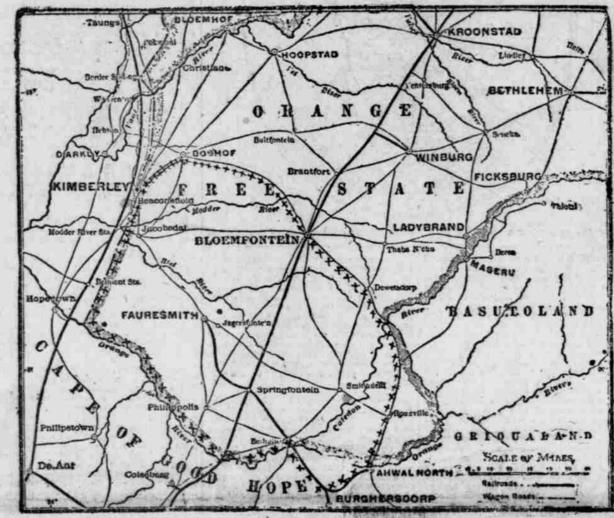
Census of Manila, WASHINGTON, March 17.—The War Department has received a report from the sanitary corps which has been making a census of Manila. It places the population actually living in bouses within the police district at 150,000. The territory included in this census does not embrace the suburban district or take into account neonle living in bancas or those

ment of Tariff Dispute.

Large Delegation of Country Wome to Save Them From Starvation.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, March 17 .- At ulation actually living in houses within the police district at 150,000. The territory included in this census does not embrace the suburban district or take into account people living in bancas or those on the plaza, with the object of drawing

OCCUPATION OF THE ORANGE FREE STATE.



THE TERRITORY WITHIN THE LINE OF CROSSES IS NOW CONTROLLED BY LORD ROBERTS AND THE BRIT-ISH ARMY.

all of the authority, power and respondent bility of sovereignty were transferred to this Government, and in transforming and organizing the new political power, the surest and speedlest route to success, prosperity and happiness for the inhabitants of this 'sland is by benevolent assim-liation to the fundamental principles that constitute the basis of free American Gov-

"Honest labor, with just compensation dignified by faithful consideration of the mutual interests and welfare of all con-cerned, should insure prosperity to this community; whereas, the existing labor-degrading system of human bondage and unjust, indefinite servitude of peonage permitted during the late Spanish control in this island, was in fact a system of slavery, and as such was subversive of good government, an obstacle to progress, civiliration, a menace to popular liberty and a of the sacred provisions guaran teed by the Constitution of the United States.

"Now, therefore, by virtue of the author ity vested in me by His cellency, the President of United States, I. Richard P. L Captain United States Navy, Governor of the Island of Guam, do hereby announce and publicly proclaim absolute prohibition and total abolition of human slavery of peonage in the Island of Guam on and after the 221 day of February, A. D. 1900, and all persons are hereby command-ed to comply with the requirements of this proclamation.

"In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and have caused the seal of the United States Naval Station, Island of Guam, to be affixed.

"RICHARD P. LEARY. "United States Navy, Governor,"

LEARY IS DOING WELL,

General Wheeler's Praise for the

Governor of Guam, WASHINGTON, March 17.—General Wheeler called at the Navy Department and Assistant Secretary Allen, who is more directly in charge of the islands of Captain Leary, the naval Governor. The report is not yet quite complete, but the General read extracts to indicate its character. In substance, he found the eral island well favored climatically, that it says: was of strategic importance to the United was of strategic importance to the United States, was especially valuable as a mid-way coaling place in the long run from Honolulu to Manils, and that the people were well satisfied with the change in

sidering the extensive reforms Cap-

Are Satisfactory.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Bishop Henry C. Potter arrived today on the Campania from Liverpool. Speaking of the condi-tion of the Philippinee, which islands he visited in his absence from home, he said that on the whole it was satisfactory. The war in the Philippines, he said, he be-lieved to be practically over. He paid a strong tribute to the American sol-dlery. Hishop Potter said he went to the Philippines on an application of the paid as the said Philippines on an ecclesiastical mission, and added that some advance had been

guidance in its official action and in the daily pursuits and occupations of the cities of Guam. By the cession of the Isle of Guam to the United States of America, way. It is estimated that at least 50,000 The agreements were sent to all towns throughout Davis demanding immediate Congressional decision on the tariff, one way or the other. Chinese live in the city

Added to the Transport Fleet WASHINGTON, March 17.—The War Department has purchased from the North American Mall Steamship Company the steamship Columbia for use as a transport in the Pacific. The Columbia had been chartered by the army trans-port service from last August up to a short time ago, when she was released.

She is now in San Francisco harbor. Meade Sails for Manila. SAN FRANCISCO, March 17.—The transport Meade sailed for Manila, via Honolulu, today, with 25 doctors, 69 hospital corps men and 26 recruits. It has been decided that hereafter all transports leaving this city for Manlia will coal at Honolulu. None of the transports has stopped at Honolulu for some time, ow-

Enlisting Pilipino Musicians.

ing to the existence of plague there.

WASHINGTON, March 17 .- The Adiutant-General received a telegram today from General Otis acking authority to allow Filipinos to enlist as members of regimental bands in the Philippines. The request will be granted as a matter of policy.

New Orleans Needs Repairs. WASHINGTON, March 17.-A report om Manila indicates that the cruiser New Orleans must undergo extensive repairs in order to continue in active serv-

ABANDONS BRYAN.

Eugene V. Brewster Takes Exception to His Anti-Trust Views.

NEW YORK, March 17,-Eugene Brewater, of Brooklyn, who was toast-master and chairman of the Bryan dollartoday to consult with Secretary Long dinner, and who has been probably the and Assistant Secretary Allen, who is most conspicuous man of the so-called more directly in charge of the islands "Chicago-platform Demorcacy," has writunder the naval government, respecting ten a letter to W. J. Bryan, in which he the report he was charged to make upon says that he cannot support Mr. Bryan for the Island of Guam and the administration the Presidency, and that he now abandons all efforts to "effect a union of reform forces" under Bryan's leadership. Mr. Brewster, in a discussion of the general question of trusts and machinery

'The trust question, to which you are devoting most of your attention, involves the very greatest and really the only problem that the Americans have to solve. Rewere well satisfied with the change in greifully, you seem to see only one side their condition. They were of a docle, of the case, and, seeing only evil on this pleasing character, and those of the in-side, you would unhesitatingly destroy habitants who preserved the traits of the trust. You do not seem to relaise, original owners of the soil were of fine dear Mr. Bryan, that the same argument that you apply to the trust also applies equally well to improved machinery, and yet you would not destroy that. I have carefully studied the conditions and the Considering the extensive reforms Captain Leary had been obliged to inaugurate, he had succeeded very well in hold-carefully studied the conditions and the majority of the people of the island.

BISHOP POTTER RETURNS.

BISHOP POTTER RETURNS.

BISHOP POTTER RETURNS.

Mr. Brewster expressed his discontent of each of the principal existing political parties, and announces his adherence to pursue V. Debs. He tells Mr. Bryan that

with his brilliancy and oratorical powers he would soon "bring the world to his Cincinnati Municipal Tickets.

feet" if only he would believe and speak CINCINNATI, March 17 .- The Republicans today nominated Julius Fleischmann for Mayor by acclamation. The Demo-cratic and Independent Republicans ap-

inted conference committees to select a

throughout Puerto Rico, requesting like

The feeling of uncertainty regarding the tariff holds business practically at a standstill, the merchants being afraid to order goods or to advance funds on the planters' accounts. The meeting today was conducted in a calm and businesslike manner. The merchants will be satisfied to accept any direction of Congress, either free trade, the 25 or the 15 per cent tariff, but they ask for settlement of the question, so that business activity may be resumed. They decided to take this unparalleled step only after mature de

Sixty country women marched from Na ranjito, arriving last evening, and peti-tioned General Davis to save them from starvation and to provide work and food. The women presented a most pitiable sight. They were barefooted and ragged, half naked, dust-covered and weary from their journey. The petition which they presented to the Governor-General tells the story of the depressing times, no work, and the price of rice, beans and bread beyond reach, fruits destroyed and the relief supplies discontinued, bringing them and others where they came from almost to starvation.

General Davis promised relief to the party and requested the Mayor to provide them transportation. His reply was that there was not a peso in the treasury and that the police were yet unpaid for their last two months' work. Similar parties are expected from other towns.

ANTI-TRUST FEATURES. Amendments to the Ship Subsidy Bill Drafted.

WASHINGTON, March 17.-The final drafts of the amendments to the ship subsidy bill agreed upon by the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries

have been completed.

One of these amendments declares the Sherman anti-trust law to be "specifically applicable to the builder, owner, or either or both of them, of any vessel entering into any contract provided for by this act, and any such vessel is hereby declared to be property in the course of transportation within the intent of the said law."

The other two amendments, designed further to prevent combinations either be-tween shipowners or builders, are as follows:

"Section 25-That on complaint made to "Section 25—That on complaint made to the Secretary of the Treasury that two or more persons owning, controlling or oper-ating vessels registered and entitled to compensation under this act, which ag-gregate in tonnage one-third of the total tonnage of all vessels so registered and en-titled to compensation, have entered into any contract, combination or conspiracy, whatseever be the form thereof, for the purpose of controlling the terminal facilipassengers in trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations, or for granting any special rebates or privileges to shippers in such commerce or for otherwise putting any restraint upon trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations, the Secre-tary shall fix a time and place for hearing such charges and give notice thereof to the persons interested, and may require the production before him of any contracts or papers which he may deem material in the consideration of such charges. If, after such notice and hearing, the Secretary of the Treasury shall sustain such charges, thereupon the right of the person or persons so found violating the provis-ions of this section and their assigns to any compensation under this act shall immediately cease and terminate. tersburg one of her "Section M-That any contract, combination competent diplomats.

Puerto Ricans Call for Settle-

BUSINESS IS AT A STANDSTILL

Petition Governor-General Davis

tion or conspiracy, in whatever form made or entered into between persons owning, controlling or operating two or more ship-yards in the United States, which have constructed or are constructing or are capable of constructing during any one year vessels aggregating in tonnage one-third of the total tonnage of the new vessels registered and entitled to compensation under this act, for the purpose of limiting or controlling the number, ton-nage, classes, type or kind of vessels to be constructed therein, or for regulating in any manner the terms or increasing the prices of construction of such vessels, is hereby declared to be illegal; and any

lidation, absorption, sale or transfer by the persons owning, operating or controlling two or more shippards of the United States of the capacity aforesaid of such privileges, franchises or property of such shippards for the purpose of limiting or suppressing competition among such shippards and of placing control of the terms and conditions of such contracts for constructing vessels therein under one management, is hereby declared to be ille-gal. Upon written complaint filed with the Secretary of the Treasury by any per-

is now engaged nearly every morning in "rubbing it into" the Chief Magistrate. The paper's leading editorial this morning son having a contract or application for a contract for the construction of new-vessels in the United States under the states provisions of this act or a violation of the provisions of this section, the Secretary shall give notice to the interested person or persons of such complaint and fix a time and a place for a hearing on the

charges made, and may require the per-son or persons against whom the charges are made to produce before him any con-tracts or papers which he may deem to be material in the consideration of such "If the Secretary of the Treasury shall find that the provisions of this section have been violated he is authorized and agement and sanction, the American peo-ple do not know it and have no reason directed, upon the application of the person or persons having contracts or appli-cations for contracts for the construction of vessels as aforesaid within two years

next thereafter, to grant register, as pro-vided by law, as vessels of the United States to foreign-built vessels to the ag-gregate tonnage of the vessels constructed by the persons so found violating the provisions of this section during the year next preceding such order. Such foreignvessels so registered shall be regarded as new vessels constructed in accordance with the contract or application for contract of such person or persons, and shall be deemed to be constructed in compliance with such contract or application therefor and with the terms of any bond provided for by this act, and shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges and be subjected to all the changes and obli-gations applying by this act to new ves-sels constructed in the United States, ex-cept that such vessels shall not enter the Coastwise or Lake trade of the United States. The words 'person or persons,' wherever used in this section, shall be deemed to include 'corporations,' 'associations' and 'partnerships' existing under or authorized by the laws of either the

United States or of any state or of any territory or of any foreign country. "This section shall not be held to interfere with or prevent the enforcement of any other law of the United States pro-

hibiting contracts, combinations or spiracles in restraint of trade." THE DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Culogies Upon the Late Monroe La Hayward.

WASHINGTON, March 17 .- Members of the House today pronounced eulogies upon the late Monroe L. Hayward, Senator, ot from Nebrasks, who died before taking the oath of office. No other business

of importance was transacted,

Kahn (Rep. Cal.) called up a bill to prony of a stri

The bill was passed. Burkett (Rep. Neb.) then presented resolutions in memory of the late Monroe L. Hayward. Tributes were paid to Hay-ward's memory by Burkett, Mercer, Stark, Sutherland and Neville of Nebraska, and Hull of Iowa. The usual resolutions were adopted, and the House, as an additional mark of respect, at 1:25, adjou

WAR TALK IN THE ORIENT

Nothing on the Surface to Indicate an Impending Conflict.

YOKOHAMA, Feb. 28, via Victoria, March 17.—The persistency with which the Western press clings to the immisence of war between Russia and Japan is attracting much attention here. Thus far, there has seemed to be no foundation whatsoever for the rumor. The fact which now impresses the public is the arrival of representatives of some of the prominent New York papers, they having been sent for the express purpose of being upon the spot when the outbreak comes. This, together with the activity prevailing in the Russian squadron in Eastern waters, assembling in force in the Corean Straits, and the reports constantly coming in of extraordinary doings at Port Arthur, have at last forced the conviction that where there is so much smoke there must be some fire, and the people and press are correspondingly on the qui vive. In of-ficial circles, however, the utmost caim is manifest, while everybody else is wonderone of the Chinese papers actually propounds the theory that Japan will be likely to take the opportunity furnished by the approaching naval maneuvers in the Corean Straits to strike a sudden blow at

Russia. Yokohama has been visited by another great fire, sweeping away some 300 houses in the native town. Comparatively little destitution has not been caused by it, as the Japanese are now largely availing themselves of the resource of insurance, and thoroughly appreciate its benefits.

The Japanese Diet was prorouged on the 34th inst., after a session of small

GERMAN ENCROACHMENT.

Foreible Occupation of Shan Tung Province, China.

VICTORIA, B. C., March II.—According to advices by the Idsumi Maru today, the report that Germany is to essay what is everywhere recognized as a practical occupation of the province of Shan Tung is generally credited as being in line with the now accepted plan of foreign en-croachment in distracted China. The steps of the process are very simple. First ties for shipping in any port or ports of the United States, or of regulating or in-creasing the rate of fares for freight or comes the railway concession, then troops to protect the works, military occupation, ritory. This has been Russia's invariable course in Manchuria, and there is no reason, it is argued, why Germany should not follow suit. In the meantime, signs are more than ever rife that the great Empire will soon be torn by civil strife, thus accentuating the necessity for for-eign nations to carry things with a high hand in order to protect their interests.

The new Japanese Minister to Washington, Hon. Kogora Takahua, to succeed Komura, who has been ordered to St. Petersburg, has been for some time the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and is considered well qualified for his new post. The new appointment of Mr. Komura is also highly approved, as it is of the greatest importance that Japan at the present critical juncture should have at St. Petersburg one of her most trusted and

WHAT IS HIS POLICY?

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Country Wants to Know Where McKinley Stands.

CONGRESSMEN ARE GROWLING

Will Vote Against the Bill if They Again Have the Opportunity-Re-

funding Bill Reported. WASHINGTON, March 17 .- The Washington Post, which supported McKinley in everything he did from the time he was elected up to within a very few weeks.

"So far as the country now knows, so far as the Post knows, so far as any authentic utterance warrants the hum-blest citizen in believing, the President still stands on the declaration contained in his message and advocates free trade for Puerto Rico. He made that declaration so deliberately, and based it upon such a solemn and persuasive array of facts, that the whole country responded to his overture with fervor and sincerity. If he has changed his mind since then, if any of this agitation in Congress for a tariff against Puerto Rico has his encour-

This is followed by amplification of the text, stating that the people desire to stand by McKiniey and pointing out that McKiniey's loyal supporters, the Republi-can masses of the Union, are still with him. The paper asks whether these logal Republicans are to take the words of the President in his message or the statents made by Lodge and Smith and others, who pretend to represent him in a different light. It is known that these and other expressions of the press throughout the country are worrying the President a great deal, and he earnestly wishes some method of settlement might

be reached. Many Republican Congressmen are growling because the President has left them in the peculiar situation of facing his recommendation while he himself gives no voice to Congress of his sentiments. But McKinley is not the only man that is worried. The proposed tariff is giving a great deal of concern to Allison of Iows. Fairbanks and Beveridge of Indiana, Elkins and Scott of West Virginia, and a number of other Republicans where the sentiment seems strong in favor of free trade for Puerto Rico. That some sort of an arrangement will be patched up within the next few weeks is alto-gether likely. The Republicans who voted against the bill in the House declare it the bill ever comes over there in an amended form those who voted for the bill against their better judgment and are now hearing from their constituents will

not do so again.

Success of the New Currency Law. The prediction was freely made by the opponents of the gold-standard bill, and especially by those who objected to the refunding proposition, that the bonds of the United States Government could not be floated at 2 per cent. The rush to take up these bonds which has been going on since the bill became a law shows the Kahn (Rep. Cal.) called up a bill to pro-ride for the purchase by the Karluk Pack-plan that a 2 per cent bond is desired used by the company for the past 20 years. used as the basis for national bank circulation. The operation of the gold-standard law has been so easy and accom-plished without any panic or monetary disaster of any character, that its friends now believed that it will commend itself most thoroughly to the people, and will be of great assistance to the Republi-

cans in the coming campaign. Double Minimum Land Bill Reported, Representative Moody today finally secured a favorable report from the com-mittee on public lands on the double min-imum land bill, which provides for refunding to entrymen under the homestead and pre-emption acts \$1.25 per acre on all such entries in the forfeited Pacific Coast railway land grants. Representative Brundige, of Arkansas (Dem.), who opposed the committee, threatens to file a minority report. The bill, if it becomes a law, will require an appropriation of \$1,500,000, about \$265,000 of which will go to settlers on the forfelted Northern Pacific grants, the majority of which is in Eastern Oregon and Washington. Represent-ative Jones, who has been and is co-oper-ating with Moody, is to report the bill. This bill, as it requires an appropriation, must be referred to the calendar, where it is necessary to have unanimous consent, a special order, or recognition un-der the two-thirds rule, to get it up, which is hard to obtain for a bill that has opposition. Mr. Moody hopes, however, to secure the passage of the act during this

Congress, if not in this session. A similar

the Senate by Senator Dolph. Several

was introduced and passed through

House committee since then, but this is the first time one has been favorably reported to the House. Republican Party and Trusts. It is a great question with the Reput lican party whether it can get rid of the charge of being in coalition with the trusts during the present campaign. At every corner the party is met by the assertion that the trusts are in control of the party, and that it was the trusts that conducted the House upon the Puerto Rican tariff measure. A number of other things indicate a friendliness for trusts, and many Republicans have become apprehensive. It would not be strange to see party platforms in the Congressional districts in the states denouncing the trusts vigorously, and it is also believed that the National platform will be very strong in this regard. The House committee on judiciary has finally been moved to take up the subject of Republican policy during this Congress. Meanwhile, the party is on the defensive, and is compelled to do more or less explaining, which makes any campaign very hard. The general belief is that the people will not be deceived by any Democratic professions, and that the prosperity which the country is enjoying will offset any essertions that may be

FIVE DEAD, TWO INJURED. The Result of Starting a Fire With

Gasoline.

made that the party in power is in the con-

COLUMBUS, Or., March 17.-Five dead and one fatally and one seriously injured is the result of an attempt to start a fire with gasoline last night. George White used the fluid at James Weaver's residence, and an explosion followed. The building was set on fire, and the innates were covered with the burning

fluid. The dead are: Philip Weaver, aged 49. Roy Weaver, aged 14. Lorain Weaver, aged &

Tully Weaver, aged 3. Joseph White, aged 35. Alice Weaver was fatally burned, and James Weaver seriously burned.