

SITUATION IS IN DANGEROUS STATE

Agreement Has Not Cleared Matters, as Scope of Negotiations is Limited.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—A Peking dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette, dated December 17, says: The situation has not improved by the representatives of the powers having reached an agreement, as the scope of the negotiations is limited and the effect is neutralized.

The allies have neglected to close the arsenals and factories at Han Kow and Shanghai, and have failed to check the transmission of supplies of ammunition of the Chinese. Tung Fah Slang thus has every opportunity of rallying and equipping his army. He has secured the position of dictator, terrorizes the emperor and controls the whole movements of the troops.

It will be necessary to give the military operations of the allies a wider area.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Secretary Hay had a conference for a short time this morning with Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador, devoted solely to the Chinese situation. The result was to clear up, so far as that can be accomplished in Washington, some obscurity as to the Peking agreement, and unless unexpected opposition comes from some other source, to advise the state department not to expect the British embassy has any reason to suppose that further delay in the consummation of the agreement.

A number were called upon to exist as to the British attitude, according to officials here. Some opinion holding out for more severe terms and harsher measures generally, it is stated that the British government is in thorough accord with our own policy, as developed in the latest Peking negotiations and the exchanges that have taken place between Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote. The United States government itself has taken every precaution in making its contribution to the agreement to insure its binding force, and at no time has the British government sought to go beyond the state department in the terminology proposed for the agreement.

ROME, Dec. 18.—A Peking dispatch, dated today, says the ministers at Peking will meet tomorrow, when, probably a final agreement will be reached as to the text of the joint Chinese note.

WOMAN'S SECRET REVEALED. NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A dispatch from London to the Herald says:

An extraordinary story of a woman's terrible secret at last revealed is wired from Ostend by a Daily Mail correspondent there. Three Belgian workmen were tried about seven years ago and found guilty of having committed a serious crime, among them the murder of an aged woman at Hautmonds. Although they declared their innocence until the last moment, one of them was sentenced to imprisonment for life and the others were guillotined. Now a woman named Sonnsage has just announced that her husband committed the crime. She is said to be quite sane, and the authorities are investigating the charges. When Degroot, one of the men executed, was being pinioned, he caused some sensation by saying: "You cannot tell me. You will not have my immortal soul. You will be punished for the wrong you have done me."

CLEMENTS' FORCE HAD NARROW ESCAPE. JOHANNESBURG, Monday, Dec. 17.—Details of the defeat of the British, at Nooit Gedacht indicate that General Clements' entire force had a narrow escape from capture. The Boer planes were splendidly laid. If the main British column had tarried a little longer there would have been a complete success for the Boers, who exposed themselves undauntedly, yelling and waving their arms. Their rushes were only stemmed by artillery.

After the British retreat the Boers held a prayer meeting. Their hymns could be heard by the retiring British.

All accounts indicate a heavy Boer loss.

Colonel Legg exhibited splendid bravery. He shot five Boers with his revolver before he fell with three bullets in his body.

COLUMBIA WILL HELP THE CANAL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: Senator Martinez Silveira, the Columbian minister of foreign affairs, cables from Bogota this statement of Columbia's attitude on the construction of an isthmian canal: "The Columbian government will do everything within its power to facilitate and hasten the opening of a canal by the Panama route, whether it is effected by the actual company holding the conces-

sions which expire in 1906, or by whomsoever may represent their rights.

"The government will make reservations only to preserve national society, and to give assurance that free transit by way of the canal for all nations shall be fully guaranteed.

"The Columbian minister to Washington will leave soon to attend to this matter."

Claims Turned Down by Sultan.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Payment of the missionary claims pending against Turkey is no longer expected by the administration. Although the sultan entertained the officers of the Kentucky in truly royal style, he did not let the presence of the battle-ship have any effect upon his pocket-book, and still holds the \$90,000 which American missionaries assert is the value of personal and missionary property destroyed six years ago. The Kentucky has left Smyrna for Port Said, en route to Manila.

The belief of the administration is that Turkey will not settle the claims arising out of the reported purpose of Great Britain to press the missionary claims of her subjects against the Sublime Porte. It is stated that if another nation begins to press its claims, the sultan will probably decline to settle those of the United States. The reason the American claims have not been disposed of is the fear of Turkey that other governments will require that their claims be paid.

The state department has not been informed of the signing of the contract with the representatives of the Cramps, at Constantinople, for a cruiser, the cost of which was to have included the amount of the American claims.

Faith in Criminal Shattered.

BAKER CITY, Dec. 18.—Charles Albee, the well-known young man of Baker City who pleaded guilty to stealing material to build a house, has been sentenced to three years in the penitentiary by Judge Eakin. Before Albee's sentence, he was visited by Rev. J. R. N. Bell, pastor of the Presbyterian church, and one of the prominent ministers of the state. Dr. Bell visited the culprit as a spiritual adviser. After spending an hour with him, he came out of cell assuring the jailer that Albee would be a better man when he had served his term, and that he seemed to have good parts. As Dr. Bell started to leave the courthouse he passed three trunks on the sidewalk. One of them he recognized as his own, and immediately asked where the jailer had got his trunk.

"That is not your trunk; this is Albee's," replied the officer.

"That is my trunk," insisted the reverend gentleman. "Well, if that fellow didn't steal my trunk!" Rev. Mr. Bell is credited with saying that he believed there was no hope for the criminal. Circumstances alter cases. A man that would steal the parson's trunk had little hope for reformation.

Farmers Apprehensive.

EGGERS, Dec. 18.—Farmers in this vicinity apprehend great damage to the wheat crop again this season, on account of the Hessian fly and the grain aphid, which was credited with responsibility for a large portion of the damage last year.

At the present time they say the fields are looking much better than usual, but they fear damage in the spring, when the insects work upon the joints of the straw. Climatic conditions this winter have been unusually favorable, and the soil is in much better condition than a year ago. The weather has been such as to cause the soil to work up mellow and light, and has not been so wet but that a vast amount of plowing and seeding has been done. Last year the soil remained heavy and wet all winter, and in the spring it baked so hard that it was almost impossible for anything to grow. The insect is the only thing that causes uneasiness now, but this is greatly feared.

Attack on Winburg is Expected.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—It is reported this afternoon that General Knox has been forced to abandon the pursuit of General Daut, owing to the situation created in Cape Colony by the Boers crossing the Orange river.

It is said that 3000 republicans have entered Cape Colony, and a similar number have reached Philippstown. The report adds that Dewet, with about 4500 men, is northwest of Ladybrand, and that an attack on Winburg is momentarily expected.

He Fooled the Surgeons.

All doctors told Renick Hamilton, of West Jefferson, O., after suffering 15 months from Rectal Fistula, he would die unless a costly operation was performed; but he cured himself with five boxes of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, the surest Pile cure on Earth, and the best Salve in the World. 25 cents a box. Sold by Blakeley, Druggist.

Subscribe for THE CHRONICLE.

DRIVEN ON THE BEACH AT WOODS

Lumber Schooner Pioneer a Total Loss—Crew Landed in Safety After Long-Continued Effort.

SHERIDAN, Dec. 19.—Captain Mickelson, of the lumber schooner Pioneer, has just arrived here en route for Portland to report the total loss of his vessel at Haystack Rock, near Woods, Tillamook county.

The Pioneer left Knappton, Wash., Sunday, December 9, with a full load of dressed lumber, bound for San Francisco. All went well until Thursday, when she encountered the beginning of the late storm, and the extremely heavy swells twisted off her rudder. A jury rudder was rigged, which answers all purposes for a time, but the storm increased in violence, so that the captain estimates the velocity of the wind to have been 90 miles an hour. The jury rudder was rendered useless and the vessel was at the mercy of the elements. She gradually drifted toward the coast, sighting Yaquina Bay light on Sunday morning. She was then under bare poles. She signaled distress by running up her flag upside down, and thought the signal was observed. Drifting up the coast the vessel entered the breakers near Haystack Rock, just above Neastuca Bay, above 4 p. m., Sunday.

The captain and crew had little hope at this time, as the vessel was going in broadside. Luckily the action of the breakers turned her head directly toward the shore, and she was lifted in by each succeeding wave. Three men were observed on the beach, and two left, running inland, when the crew understood to mean that they were going for assistance, which was shortly confirmed by the arrival of a number of people just as the darkness closed in.

The shipwrecked crew were greatly cheered through the long hours of the night by an immense bonfire which was kept going on the beach. Constant efforts were made by the people of Woods to get a line to the vessel, and this was accomplished after hard work all night about 5 a. m., when the crew were all safely taken ashore. Captain Mickelson leaving his vessel last.

The Pioneer is a three-masted schooner, owned by the Simpson Lumber Company of San Francisco. Her cargo consisted of almost 530,000 feet of dressed lumber. With the exception of the deckload the lumber is intact and can be saved. The vessel is a total loss. She had a crew of nine men. A life-saving station is badly needed at this point, this being the fifth wreck which has occurred near by.

Army Bill Changed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The subcommittee of the senate committee on military affairs has completed its work upon the army reorganization bill and reported the result of its labors to the special meeting of the full senate committee this afternoon. The subcommittee reported a complete substitute for the house bill, and while much of the language is the same as that of the house measure, there are numerous changes. Probably the most important change is in the provision regarding the artillery arm of the service. The subcommittee recommends retention of the present regimental organization of the artillery, and does not give its assent to the corps organization proposed by Secretary Root and accepted by the house. In the matter of the appointment of staff officers, the bill follows largely the lines of recommendations made by Secretary Root. The house canteen provision was amended so as to permit the sale of beer at canteens. This exception was made by omitting the word "beer" from the prohibited articles. The maximum strength of the army is to be 100,000 men. Later, the full committee adopted the bill as reported by its subcommittee.

As amended, the paragraph reads as follows: "The sale of, or dealing in wine or any distilled spirits by any person in any post exchange or canteen or army transport or upon any premises used for military purposes by the United States is hereby prohibited. The secretary of war is hereby directed to carry the provisions of this section into full force and effect."

Santor Harris made an effort to have the canteen provision extended to City of Manila, so as to prohibit entirely the sale of liquors in that city, but failed.

To Shut Out Wheat.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The agrarian party in Germany, having successfully brought about a law at the last session

of the reichstag prohibiting, in effect, the importation of American canned meats, is now using its powerful influence to increase heavily the import duties on all grains entering the empire, notably on wheat, reports United States Consul Dietrich at Bremen to the state department. The aim of the agrarians, according to the consul, is to make Germany entirely independent of all countries for its bread stuffs and food supplies.

Luxurious Floating Gambling Palace.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says: A syndicate has been formed to buy an obsolete Atlantic liner, fit her up as a miniature Monte Carlo casino, moor her off the English coast, just outside the three-mile limit, and run a big game in the English channel, off Brighton, the place chosen. Launches will run back and forth to meet the London trains. The boat will be a floating hotel as well as a gambling resort, and visitors may live aboard as long as they please in luxurious surroundings. Experienced crochiers will be imported from Monte Carlo, and roulette will be the principal game played, in strict accordance with Monaco rules.

Nominally it will be a club, but any man belonging to any recognized club in Europe can easily obtain admission upon payment of a nominal fee. This is similar to the rule of the Ostend club. A private part of the ship will be devoted to a restricted club, like any London club, with heavy subscriptions and limited membership. This will be for private play.

The promoters say making money is not so much their object as providing a place where Englishmen may gamble. They reckon the profits of the hotel and restaurant business will be sufficient to pay the expenses, so every reasonable concession will be made to gamblers.

The cost of the ship is estimated at \$250,000, while more than that will be subscribed to stake the bank.

Pitiable Plight of Poor Women.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from The Hague says: Pitiable stories reach Holland concerning the fate of the reconcentrated women in the British camps in the Transvaal. Mme. Hardus, of Kimberley, reports at the end of October:

"Today arrived eight women and 24 children from Potchefstroom. They had a terrible tale to tell of how when they refused to leave home they were dragged away by Kaffir, thrust into jail and after being kept some time without food, taken by soldiers to Kimberley. When they arrived here their clothes were in rags, having been torn by soldiers. Two of them had been subjected to indignities. Some of them were widows, two had husbands in St. Helena. The children were of all ages and most barefooted. I was glad to be able to get them some food, which they badly needed."

Another correspondent describes the arrival of six poor women from the same district in a miserable plight. Two women who had suffered from the violence of soldiers were taken to the hospital for treatment.

A nursing sister who has arrived at Harlem from Africa gives harrowing accounts of the condition of many victims of soldiers. Another letter relates how two young mothers who were brought into a reconcentrated camp were not allowed to take infants 4 and 6 months old with them.

Astoria is Boycotting.

ASTORIA, Dec. 18.—The merchants and shippers of this city have commenced an open fight to secure common-pact rates for Astoria. At a mass meeting held this evening an agreement was drawn up and signed by representatives of many of the leading business houses, agreeing to ship no more freight on the O. R. & N. railway or steamer lines until that company shall grant to Astoria rates on wheat and lumber equal to those given the Puget sound cities and other points in this district. A committee was appointed to visit every shipper in the district and ask him to sign the agreement. The meeting was largely attended and was unanimous in support of the action taken.

Atsiph Better Than Zeppelin's Invented.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from Vienna says: An Austrian engineer, William Kress, has invented an airship which is pronounced to be better than Zeppelin's. The emperor's attention being called to the model, he has become much interested and expressed the belief that it would be successful.

Kress did not have money to build a large ship, and the emperor said he would fix that, and contributed \$1000 out of his own pocket. Numerous others followed suit, and Kress will build the ship.

Clarke & Falk have on sale a full line of paint and artist's brushes.

OUR BANNER TRADE YEAR

Distinction Which Will Be Eerred By 1900—Favorable Balance Will Be \$25,000,000 Greater Than Ever Before.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The commercial record of the United States for 1900 will surpass that of any preceding year both in exports and in the excess of exports over imports, or "favorable balance of trade," as this excess is usually termed. The imports will be slightly below those of one or two preceding years, and when considered in their relation to population, show a smaller importation for each individual than at almost any other period in many years. Basing the estimate for the year upon the eleven months' actual figures already received by the treasury bureau of statistics, it seems probable that the exports of the calendar year 1900 will reach about \$1,470,000,000, and the imports \$25,000,000 making the exports over imports, or favorable balance of trade, \$645,000,000, a sum greater by \$25,000,000 than that of any preceding year. It is only since 1873 that the exports have with any regularity exceeded the imports or produced the favorable balance of trade which has almost continuously characterized our commerce during the last quarter of a century. Yet it remained for the closing year of the century to present not only the highest figures of exports over imports, or favorable balance of trade in the history of our commerce.

Considering the exports alone, it may be said that for the calendar year 1900 they will be double those of the calendar year 1878, three times those of 1872, four times those of 1869, and five times as much as in 1868. On the import side, the figures are less imposing. They will aggregate for the year about \$25,000,000, against \$840,000,000 in the calendar year 1862, when they reached the high-water mark of the century's imports.

Considering the commerce from the per capita standpoint, the contrast between the import and export figures is even more phenomenal. Following the records of our commerce back to 1870, it is found that the imports when considered in the light of the actual population, have decreased rather than increased, while the per capita of exports has enormously increased. In 1870, the population was 38,558,371 and the imports \$461,132,058 an average per capita of \$11.96. In 1880 and 1890, the per capita was a little above \$13; in 1895, it had fallen to \$11.47, and in 1900, will be about \$10.90. This shows a slight decrease per capita comparing 1900 with 1870, and a material decrease comparing 1900 with 1880 or 1890. On the export side the increase is even more striking. In 1870, the exports per capita amounted to \$10.46; in 1885, to \$12.29; in 1890, to \$13.69, and in 1900 will be about \$19.42. Thus the imports show since 1870 a slight reduction per capita, while the exports have almost doubled per capita during the same period.

Considering the question of excess of exports over imports, or favorable balance of trade, from the per capita standpoint, the development is startling. In 1870 imports exceeded exports by \$7,546,043, and the excess of imports over exports amounted to \$1.50 per capita. By 1875 the balance had turned in our favor, but amounted to only 17 cents per capita. By 1885 it amounted to \$1.79 per capita, and in 1900 will amount to about \$8.50 per capita. Thus in the thirty years the balance of trade has gone from a minus quantity of \$1.50 per capita to a plus quantity of \$8.50 per capita.

A Life And Death Fight.

MR. W. A. Hines of Manchester, Ia., writing of his almost miraculous escape from death, says: "Exposure after measles induced serious lung trouble, which ended in Consumption. I had frequent hemorrhages and coughed night and day. All my doctors said I must soon die. Then I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, which completely cured me. I would not be without it even if it cost \$5.00 a bottle. Hundreds have used it on my recommendation and all say it never fails to cure Throat, Chest and Lung troubles." Regular size 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Blakeley Drug Store.

After Two Hundred Millions.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says: The Corey family, of Nebraska and Kansas, has been trying to get a fortune of \$200,000,000 alleged to be lying in the English court of Chancery. Elisha Corey, of Omaha, who believes himself

Do You Cough?

I guess I used to be like everybody else. When I caught cold, I just let it alone, thinking it would cure itself in a few days; of course the coughing and spitting of mucus sometimes lasted several weeks, but after a while the trouble would subside. I always noticed, however, that each cold was worse than the one before. My throat seemed to get weaker, and the least change in the weather started the coughing again. The last cold was the most severe of all. I was really frightened. Cough drops and home treatment did no good. A friend told me about Acker's English Remedy. I got a bottle, and you never saw the like of the way it acted. Before the bottle was gone I was well. My throat felt strong and well as could be. Since then I have had no more trouble. I think Acker's English Remedy so strengthens the delicate lining of the throat that it easily resists the changes in temperature, and it builds up the constitution as well."



Sold at 25c, 50c, and \$1 a bottle, throughout the United States and Canada; and in England, at 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d., 4s. 6d. If you are not satisfied after buying, return the bottle to your druggist, and get your money back. We authorize the above guarantee. CHAS. SCHWAB, 251 Gold St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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to be heir to \$2,000,000, is leader of the project, while Jay Corey, of Tozanda, Kan., thinks his share is \$15,000,000. Letters circulated declare that gold, stocks and bonds belonging to the Corey family and held by the English court for sixty-five years are now about to be secured. Inquiries having been made through official channels, the court of Chancery replied that not a penny of the Corey estate in held.

Chalmers Jones Will Resign.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—The Record will say tomorrow: "Chairman J. K. Jones, according to reports in democratic circles, will call a meeting of the democratic national committee in Washington for the purpose of resigning as chairman. It is said that J. G. Johnson, who was chairman of the executive committee, is an active candidate for the chairman of the general committee, and that ex-Governor Stone, of Missouri, would like to be chairman, but that a majority of the committee members are in favor of Mayor Taggart, of Indianapolis, the Indiana committeeman.

Found Dead in Bed.

OREGON CITY, Dec. 19.—Phillip Wolf, aged 73, was found dead in bed at Shubel this morning, having died some time during the night. About 6 o'clock this morning Mrs. Wolf called to her husband that it was time to get up. On hearing no response, she investigated, and discovered that life was extinct. The deceased was a native of Germany, and had resided with his family at Shubel for the past 17 years.

Died From Effects of Scalding.

ASTORIA, Dec. 19.—Roy Engbretsen, a 3 1/2-year-old boy, fell into a tub of boiling water yesterday. Although immediately removed, he was quite badly scalded. At the time his condition was not considered serious. During last night he became very ill and died this morning. His death is attributed to the shock more than to the actual effect of the boiling water.

Now a Silver Trust.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The formation of a silver trust is practically assured by this afternoon's action of the directors of the American Smelting and Refining Company, they authorizing an increase in the capital stock to \$100,000,000 to be used in part in acquiring Guggenheim & Son's properties.

Heavy Wind at Corvallis.

CORVALLIS, Dec. 19.—An unusually heavy heavy wind storm prevailed here about 4 o'clock this morning. Nearly all the frame buildings in town were badly shaken, but no damage resulted.

Don't Run It In.

Just use the old-fashioned part freely with Mysterious Pain Cure, a Scotch remedy and the pain is gone. Sold by Clarke & Falk.

Dyspepsia can be cured by using Acker's Dyspepsia Tablets. One little Tablet will give immediate relief, or money refunded. Sold in handsome tin boxes at 25 cts. Blakeley the druggist.

For Rent or Sale.

The San Wilkinson warehouse, on First street, is for rent or sale. It is a three-story, corrugated iron building, 110x33 feet, with water elevator. Apply to San Wilkinson, The Dalles. 229-11

Experience is the best Teacher. Use Acker's English Remedy in any case of coughs, colds or croup. Should it fail to give immediate relief, money refunded. 25 cts. and 50 cts. Blakeley the druggist.