

SCANDAL AT MANILA

Captain Read, Formerly Depot Commissary, Arrested.

OTHER OFFICERS ARE ALSO IMPLICATED

Manager of a Firm of Government Contractors Is in Jail—How Uncle Sam's Money Was Squandered.

MANILA, April 17.—The trial of Commissary Sergeant John Weston, charged with complicity in the commissary frauds, is finished. No verdict is announced and Weston's conviction is uncertain. Other trials of those implicated with follow.

Captain J. C. Read, formerly depot commissary at Manila, has been arrested. It is alleged that entries upon the books of Evans & Company, government contractors, indicate that the commissary officers received the following sums: Major George B. Davis, upwards of \$1000; Captain J. C. Read, \$1800; Captain Frank H. Lawton, \$750; B. L. Tremaine, Colonel Woodruff's chief clerk, \$700. It also appears that Evans & Company furnished the handsome residence of Colonel Woodruff.

Harold M. Pitt, manager of Evans & Company, who is now under arrest, is notoriously lavish in entertaining commissary officers, while the depot commissary, a frequenter of the tenderloin district, occasionally spent days at Pitt's house in questionable society. Pitt's house is a bacchanalian rendezvous and prominent officers frequently visited it, drinking champagne and playing poker. Women of doubtful reputation are known to have often been there. It is alleged that Pitt had the inside track in securing government contracts and it is also asserted that he was the prime mover in the scheme to re-establish cockpits in Manila, Mrs. Lara being subsidized in securing a cockpit.

It is asserted that the commissary department made unauthorized purchases of quantities of champagne. Pitt sold some. In addition to what the transports brought, the commissary imported 200 gallons in February and a like amount in March. The commissary and the commissary sergeant kept private carriages and indulged in other extravagances.

THE WINTER CAMPAIGN.

Kitchener Will Soon Resume Active Operations.

LONDON, April 17.—The British newspapers and magazines comment upon the alternating periods of hope and apprehension which characterize the latest stages of the South African campaign, compare these with the later stages of the American war of independence as though to emphasize these fluctuations. While the letters of responsible correspondents in Pretoria depict the situation in a rather despairing mood the Pretoria representative of the Daily Mail sends today a dispatch of the most hopeful character.

"The next six weeks," says he "will see a resumption of active campaigning. Lord Kitchener will renew his sweeping movements. He has an army of 250,000 efficient troops, including 60,000 men with a good supply of horses, 40,000 having been secured in Cape Colony alone. The army is in good spirits and Lord Kitchener is satisfied with the progress of events, slow though it seems."

The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener dated Pretoria, April 15:

"Colonel Henry Rawlinson's column rushed the South laager, northwest of Kerkdorp at daylight. Six Boers were killed, 10 wounded and 23 taken prisoner. He captured a 12-pounder one pompan complete and two ammunition wagons with ammunition. Our casualties were three wounded. Colonel Plumer captured a field cornet and seven men with 10 wagons and rifles. During Colonel Picher's operations in the Orange River colony, seven Boers were killed."

It is said that a private telegram has been received here to the effect that General French, with 500 British troops, has been captured by the Boers, while his force was enveloped in a mist on the hills. No confirmation of the report can be obtained. The war office here knows nothing about the rumored capture and entirely discredits the report.

Unguarded Valuables.

Phoenix, Ariz., April 17.—The death here of Mrs. Robin Iche reveals the fact that unguarded and unguarded in her house was great wealth in jewels and precious stones. The husband of the woman is in jail awaiting trial for insanity, and the sheriff has taken charge of the jewelry, the estimated value of which is not less than \$50,000. Mrs. Iche has a sister in Birmingham, England, the wife of a great coal operator.

Postoffice Robbed.

Salem, Or., April 17.—Chief of Police Gibson received a telephone message from Turner this afternoon, saying that the postoffice at that place was robbed at noon today, while the postmaster was at dinner. The burglars secured \$300 in cash and stamps. At last reports there was no clew to the guilty parties. This bold piece of work, taken in connection with the robberies at McCoy and Lincoln last Wednesday and Thursday, leads to the conclusion that this section of the valley is being worked by a gang of professional crooks.

Forest Reserves.

Washington, April 17.—The secretary of the interior has announced his intention of turning over the administration of the national forest reserves to the forester of the department of agriculture. This great body of lands embraces some 48,000,000 acres, and its scientific and practical administration is a matter of national importance, since the area includes the sources of hundreds of rivers and streams.

IN NINTH CIRCUIT.

Decisions of Hawaiian Courts Are Not Final.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The United States supreme court, through Chief Justice Fuller, today issued an order granting leave to file a motion for a rule against the circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit to permit the filing of an appeal in that court from a decision of the supreme court of Hawaii in the Wilder Steamship Company case. The rule was made returnable May 13. Previous to this action, a rule was promulgated attaching the territory of Hawaii to the ninth circuit with headquarters at San Francisco.

The action of the court in assigning Hawaii to the ninth circuit and at the same time issuing a rule to cause why it should not take jurisdiction of an admiralty case originating in Hawaii, involves an interesting general question relating to our new territorial acquisitions. The application in this case was made by Duane E. Fox, in behalf of the Wilder Steamship Company, of Hawaii, against Hind, Sprckels et al. Under the act of 1891, organizing the circuit court of appeals, it was given jurisdiction in appeals from the supreme court of territories and the supreme court was given authority to assign the territories to the several circuits. But the courts in the territory of Hawaii were organized by the act of April 30, 1900, on a different basis from other territories, and the same distinction was made as in courts of a state as to writs of error and appeals, and the supreme court of the United States made no order assigning the territory. The act also provided that cases pending at the date of the organization of the territory should be carried on to final judgment and execution in the corresponding courts of the territory. It also established a district court, having the jurisdiction of United States circuit and district courts. The supreme court of the territory rendered judgment for \$55,000 against the Wilder Steamship Company, and, when the company attempted to appeal, the circuit court of appeals on April 1, 1900, refused to entertain the appeal, holding that the judgment of the territorial court was final.

CONFERENCE OF TAXATION.

Several Governors Have Named Delegates—Object of Meeting.

CHICAGO, April 17.—The governors of the various states are beginning to announce their appointments of delegates to attend the conference of taxation, called to meet at Buffalo, May 23 and 24, by the National Civic Federation. At the headquarters, notice of the appointment of the delegates has been received from the governors of Missouri, Maine and Montana. The call for the conference is signed by leading economists, tax experts and public men representing all portions of the country and all interests. The letter of invitation says:

"For many decades the states have been building up independent systems of taxation without reference to each other, until now we have a state of affairs bordering on chaos, where each state is practically fighting nearly every other state. Some property is taxed three or four times, while other property is not taxed at all. Corporate activity has largely changed the character of individual investments. Industry has overstepped the boundaries of any one state, and commercial interests are no longer confined to mere local limits. This conference will be the first attempt in this country to work out some uniform principles. It is not expected to settle any of the problems in the two days' discussion, but it will be a beginning, and may result in the appointment of a permanent committee to work out some basis for future action."

Inspection of Philippine Fleet.

Washington, April 17.—The inferior condition of many of the craft sailing in Philippine waters has led to arrangements for an examination in any city of the United States having postal free delivery of candidates for appointment as inspectors of boilers in the office of the captain of the port of Manila. The examination will be held May 21 by the civil service commission, at the request of the Philippine civil service board. Back of the plans for establishing this office lies an official desire to avoid any serious accidents, for which the Philippine government might be held responsible.

Is Rightfully Theirs.

Washington, April 17.—The millions and tens of millions of dollars which the government has received from the West through the sale of its public lands, give that half of the continent the right to expect liberal assistance from Uncle Sam in the reclamation of its remaining arid lands which only require the building of storage reservoirs to make fertile and populous.

Transport for Manila.

San Francisco, April 17.—Two transports sailed for Manila today—the Logan and the Thyra. The Logan took a battalion of the Ninth cavalry, a battalion of the Tenth cavalry, companies I and M, First infantry, and the First battalion of the Eleventh infantry.

The Thyra was to have taken the horses of the Ninth cavalry, but it was found at the last minute that the glanders had broken out among the horses of the Ninth at the Presidio, and horses of the Sixth cavalry, which were brought back by the disabled Arab, were substituted.

Proceeds of Arid Land Sales.

Washington, April 17.—The proposition to devote the proceeds from the sale of the arid public lands to the construction of irrigation works is one which should commend itself to every interest. The West should of course support it as a unit, and there can certainly be no reasonable opposition in the East to allowing the West the use of its own funds in the improvement of its property.

BITTER FIGHT IS ON

Strike at the United States Steel Plant is Growing.

SITUATION AT McKEESPORT IS SERIOUS

Amalgamated Association of Metal Workers Threatens to Shut Down Every Union Plant of the Company.

PITTSBURGH, April 18.—The close of the second day of the strike of the W. D. McKinley plant of the American Sheet Steel Company at McKeesport shows a condition of affairs that forebodes a stubborn fight between the company and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, involving the possible shut-down of every union plant in the country controlled by the company. The fight is being made by the Amalgamated Association for the recognition of the union, and President Shaffer's announcement that all the company's mills would be called out may receive sanction at the meeting of the advisory board which has been called for tomorrow. Secretary Jarrell, in charge of the labor bureau of the company, will be present at this meeting to present the company's side, and may use every endeavor to avert a general strike. If the statement credited to the company that the McKeesport plant will be closed indefinitely rather than recognize the union is adhered to, President Shaffer's attitude will demand that the entire strength of the Amalgamated Association be pitted against the Sheet Steel Company as a whole. The status of the strike tonight is that only two departments of the mill are in operation—the steel mill and hammer shop. The knolling mill was working today, but its workmen to the number of 125 joined the strikers, and tomorrow it will be idle. The mayor of McKeesport has taken the precaution to have the mill and town policed with an extra large force, but up to the present not the slightest disturbance has taken place. The company apparently has no intention of trying to fill the strikers' places, and the men seem content to allow their leaders to manage their campaign, and not go near the company property.

COMMISSARY FRAUD.

Latest Developments in the Scandal at Manila.

MANILA, April 18.—A court-martial has been convened and will meet tomorrow to try Lieutenant Frederick Boyer, charged with the embezzlement of commissary stores. Captain Frederick J. Barrows, of the Thirtieth volunteer infantry, will be tried later. A civilian named Fletcher, accused of unlawful conversion of commissary stores, will be tried by the provost court tomorrow.

Speaking of the commissary scandals, a prominent army officer said to the representative of the Associated Press that he had every reason to believe that Colonel Woodruff, head of the subsistence department at Manila, was not implicated. He said that Colonel Woodruff was one of the ablest men in the service, and that his honesty was unquestioned. He asserted that Colonel Woodruff was ignorant of the fact that Harold A. Pitt, manager of Evans & Co., the army contractors, was leasing him the house in which he lived for much less rental than Pitt had paid therefor. Upon discovering this, Colonel Woodruff immediately vacated the house. Pitt is alleged to have said the captain, head of the commissary department, deceived Colonel Woodruff, who thought Captain Read to be thoroughly honest. The irregularities on commissary matters were first attributed to Captain Read's unfamiliarity with commissary work. Colonel Woodruff was reluctant to believe that frauds were being perpetrated, but the facts disclosed caused him to give Captain Read a most severe reprimand and to begin an investigation which may involve, according to the prominent army officer previously referred to, the examination of Major Davis, who was the depot commissary before Captain Read, but who was sent home on sick leave.

The chief of staff of the insurgent General Mascardo has surrendered at the town of Marivales, in Bataan province, Luzon. He said that Mascardo's band of followers, now greatly diminished, are in a bad way. It is impossible for them to elude the Americans and they are unable to obtain food and want to surrender. It is expected that General Mascardo himself will surrender shortly.

An American Navy.

Washington, April 18.—Secretary Long has had compiled, in response to an inquiry from the West, a table showing the proportion of native-born and foreign-born sailors in the United States navy. This shows that during the Spanish-American war, out of a total force of 22,848, the total of native-born sailors was 15,496, and of foreign-born 7422. The percentage of native-born sailors was 65, and including foreigners who had become Americans by naturalization, the percentage was 80. The statement also shows that of the foreign-born sailors more than one-half have become naturalized or have declared their intention of becoming citizens.

Conditions in Porto Rico.

Ponce, Porto Rico, April 18.—The chamber of commerce met yesterday in response to a special call and discussed the commercial and general conditions of the island. The administration of Porto Rico was criticized and it was resolved to cable to Washington, denying the statements of Governor Allen and Secretary Hunt in regard to the prosperity of Porto Rico. The chamber of commerce of Ponce also telegraphed to the chambers of commerce of San Juan and Mayaguez to co-operate on similar lines.

TOOK HIS OWN LIFE.

Ex-Congressman Baldwin Shot Himself at Seattle.

SEATTLE, Wash., April 18.—In a fit of despondency over business reverses, aggravated by the depressing effects of an attack of the grippe, Melvin R. Baldwin, ex-congressman from Minnesota, and ex-state superintendent of Indian affairs under President Cleveland, this afternoon ended his life by self-destruction. The ex-congressman's body was found lying on his bed in his apartments at 2013 Fourth avenue, with a bullet hole through his brain at 7:30 o'clock tonight, and from the condition of the body it is estimated that death had occurred fully two hours before. Tightly gripped in his hand was a 38-caliber Smith & Wesson revolver.

D. McKinley, a friend and a former business associate of Baldwin, discovered the body as a result of a visit paid to the ex-congressman's apartments to ascertain his condition. Entering the room, McKinley spoke to his friend, the outline of whose body could be seen in the darkened chamber. Receiving no response, he summoned assistance, only to find that Baldwin had sent a bullet crashing through his brain, and lay in a pool of blood, which had accumulated upon the bed clothing, and which was yet flowing freely from the wound in his right temple.

Melvin R. Baldwin, who was 62 years of age, came to this city about three years ago from Duluth, Minn., after having relinquished his position as Minnesota superintendent of Indian affairs, to which office he was appointed by President Cleveland after the expiration of his term in congress. He was elected to the lower house from the Duluth district as a democrat in 1892, and served one term. He secured the position of superintendent of Indian affairs a few months later, and was one of the few Cleveland appointees who refused to resign, necessitating his removal by President McKinley.

Immediately after his arrival here, Mr. Baldwin became interested in Alaska enterprises, and spent a considerable portion of his time in that country. He acquired an interest in the schooner Abbie Morris, which came near foundering in a storm at Nome last summer. The vessel was rescued by a tug, which seized her for salvage, and the resulting litigation, which is yet pending in the courts, was one of the matters which it is supposed contributed to the despondency under which Mr. Baldwin was laboring.

GIVE CHINA A SHOW.

Minister Wu Urges That Some Consideration Be Shown.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Chinese minister was at the state department today in conference with Secretary Hay, on the status of the negotiations at Pekin. The minister is somewhat concerned over the delay in bringing about a final adjustment and also on the current reports that the indemnities reach a very large figure, which he fears, will be beyond the ability of China to meet. Minister Wu said in response to inquiries on these subjects:

"We have been accustomed to hear that China was very slow. But in this case many weeks and months are going by without any delay attributable to China, so far as I have heard, and yet without definite prospects of bringing the negotiations to a close. This unsettled condition is very injurious to China, but it also is an injury which affects the whole world. Take, for instance, the cotton industry of the South. The shipments to China are very large, but they have been falling off owing to the unsettled condition of affairs, and the trade is seriously menaced. The same may be said of many other branches of trade, in fact, the commerce of all the commercial nations of Europe, as well as America, is injuriously affected by the political uncertainty of conditions in China. What we need, and what the commercial world needs, is stability, and some definite understanding of what conditions are."

"As to the question of indemnities, I receive little direct information. But I regret to see from some of the published reports that the total indemnity is reaching a very large sum. It should be borne in mind that China herself has suffered losses through the recent disturbances which will reach to many millions, and for which she can not hope to receive indemnity. So that, if the claims of the powers aggregate \$314,000,000, as I see stated, it probably would be an under estimate to say that China's own losses would reach twice that amount, say \$600,000,000. In the aggregate, China will be shouldering a burden of colossal proportions, and this will come after the country has passed through a most trying experience."

POSTOFFICE MUST ALSO MOVE.

Effect of Sale of Thurston Courthouse for State Capital.

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 18.—Consequent upon the state purchase of the Thurston county courthouse, the commissioners of this county are laboring to select a site for a new building, and discussing plans as to the cost of the new structure. Many propositions have been submitted to the board, some of the offers made being in the form of business buildings already erected and now occupied. It is expected that the question will be definitely settled this week.

Another matter of a similar nature that is causing considerable interest in this city is the location of the postoffice. The postoffice is now in the courthouse, but, like the county offices, a new location must be found. It is generally thought the postoffice will go considerably further down town, into the business district.

The Sunken Transport.

New York, April 18.—Forage in the hold of the submerged Rawlins is giving trouble to the wreckers who are trying to raise the transport out of the mud of the East River bottom. Several hundred bushels of grain and as many bales of hay and straw for the army in Cuba and Porto Rico have swollen so that the divers at work have difficulty in moving them. The Rawlins was sunk at her pier last Wednesday in an attempt to extinguish a fire in her hold amidships.

STEAMER BLEW UP

The Boiler Exploded and Killed Four People.

TWO MORE VICTIMS WILL PROBABLY DIE

Two Bodies Cannot be Found—Disaster Occurred in Midstream Near Victoria. —Was a Portland Steamer.

VANCOUVER, B. C., April 19.—By the explosion of the boiler on the river steamer Ramona this afternoon, four persons were killed outright and six others seriously injured. The dead include two women who were passengers on the steamer and two deckhands. Of the injured, the purser and the mate will probably die.

The boiler explosion occurred in midstream while the steamer was en route from New Westminster to Fort Langley, the latter being a farming settlement about 25 miles from this city. By the force of the explosion Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Bailie, who were returning from New Westminster, were blown into the river and were drowned before aid reached them. The bodies of both women have been recovered and are comparatively free from bruises or burns, indicating that death was due to drowning. The remains of the two deckhands, Phipps and Mack, have not been found. Purser Power was badly scaled by escaping steam, and Mate Maynard was also terribly burned. They were taken to New Westminster and are now in the city hospital, but are not expected to survive. The injuries of Fireman Knowell are not so severe and he is expected to recover, as are also the Indians.

The Ramona was a stern-wheel river steamer of about 300 tons. She was 10 years old, but her boiler was new, having been put in last summer. She was valued at 25,000. On her fatal trip today she had only five passengers, the two women who were drowned and the three Indians who were burned.

GOLD IN THE TREASURY.

Largest Amount Now Held by Any Institution in the World.

NEW YORK, April 19.—The Evening Post says:

"Today's summary of the United States treasury's report of yesterday afternoon shows that the government's aggregate gold holdings for the first time in history have passed the \$500,000,000 mark. The exact total was \$500,275,506, of which \$252,078,959 was held against certificates in the hands of the outside public and \$150,000,000 a reserve against outstanding United States notes, the balance being free assets. This is the largest amount of gold now held by any single financial institution in the world, and it is the largest ever held by any institution with one exception—the Imperial Bank of Russia—which in February, 1898, raised its total holdings to \$590,300,000. At present, however, the Russian bank holds only \$371,500,000. The Bank of France now holds \$472,277,000, its high record being \$473,244,000, the 4th of this month. Most of this gold is held against outstanding notes. The Bank of England holds \$169,100,000 gold, and the high record of its history was \$245,500,000, in February, 1896. Present gold holdings of the Imperial Bank of Germany are \$130,000,000, and its total of gold and silver combined never ran above \$222,500,000. The United States treasury's gross holdings have increased \$76,439,000 within the past 12 months. In April, 1899, they barely exceeded \$278,000,000, as against the \$500,000,000 now held. February 10, 1896, they reached the low level, \$94,235,542."

No Longer Needed.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 19.—Governor Durlin has received a long letter from Secretary Root, in which a full explanation is made of the facts connected with the discharge of Russell B. Harrison from the army. Secretary Root says that he, after a conference with the president, directed the discharge of Colonel Harrison, and that Adjutant General Corbin simply acted in his official capacity in issuing the orders. By inadvertence the discharge was made to take effect December 1, instead of December 15, a matter which the secretary regrets. Mr. Harrison's services were dispensed with, the secretary states, because they were no longer needed, and for no other reason.

An Arizona Feud.

Phoenix, Arizona, April 19.—Sheriff Ed. Beeler of Apache County, well-known throughout the southwest, was ambushed and killed in a fight over a month ago. News of the bloody fight has just reached here. Beeler fell mortally wounded by a volley from behind a stone wall. At first it was believed that Beeler was the victim of cattle-rustlers, against whom he had made a long and bitter warfare, but later it developed that they were friends of a man whom Beeler had killed who had sworn to avenge his death.

Chile Will Protest.

Valparaiso, Chile, April 19.—The government is awaiting information from the Chilean minister in Buenos Ayres before a protest is made against repeated invasion of Chilean territory by citizens of Argentina. There have been invasions in Seno de la Ultima and Esperanza, near Punta Arenas.

To Spend \$50,000 For Target.

New York, April 19.—Work on a target to cost about \$50,000 will be begun at the Brooklyn navy yard in a day or two. The target, which is to test the relative strength of the Gathmann torpedo gun and the regular army 12-inch rifle, will duplicate a section of the battleship Iowa in resisting power. It will be faced with armor-plate 12 inches thick, hardened by the Krupp process. When finished it will be moved to Gandy Hook, where the trial will take place.

NAVY YARD AT SUBIG BAY.

Department to Spend \$5,000,000—Board Appointed to Prepare Plans.

NEW YORK, April 19.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: If the plans of the navy department are adopted by congress, a \$5,000,000 naval station will be established at Olanguapo, Subig Bay, Luzon.

Upon the recommendation of Rear-Admiral Endicott, chief of the bureau of yards and docks, Secretary Long has appointed a board, consisting of Rear-Admiral Taylor, civil engineers Wolcott and Menocci, to meet at the New York navy yard for the purpose of preparing the plans and estimates upon which congress will be urged to act.

The board of which Rear-Admiral Remy was president only selected the site for the projected station, leaving the department to determine upon its extent. The dry dock to be built at Olanguapo will cost at least \$1,000,000, and the shops and tools are expected to cost \$4,000,000. It is the purpose of the department to urge congress to act expeditiously in order that the work of repairing men-of-war can be done in American yards. At this time the smaller vessels are repaired at Cavite, but the larger ships are sent to Hong Kong for docking and important repairs. Work at Hong Kong is expensive, and Secretary Long believes the money spent in an English port should be distributed among American workmen.

DANISH WEST INDIES.

Two Governments Nearer Agreement Than at Any Previous Time.

COPENHAGEN, April 19.—The government is earnestly considering the recent somewhat modified proposal with regard to the sale to the United States of the Danish West Indies, which is considered likely to lead to a satisfactory termination of the negotiations. Official circles are of the opinion that the two governments are now nearer an agreement than they have been at any previous time. The Danish government ridicules the reiterated reports published in English papers that peremptory communication regarding the sale of the islands had been received from the United States, and the officials are much impressed with the cordiality and friendliness that the United States government has shown throughout the negotiations.

Loomis Did Not Say It.

New York, April 19.—F. B. Loomis, United States minister of Venezuela, was a passenger on the Red D line steamer Caracas, which arrived tonight from San Juan. When seen on board the vessel, Mr. Loomis refused to say anything regarding the Venezuelan matters, except that President Castro seemed to be firmly seated when he left Venezuela. When asked if he intended to return to Venezuela he said he did not know, as he had not given the matter a thought. Mr. Loomis, however, in reply to questions, said that it was untrue that he had expressed himself regarding General Castro's attitude toward Americans, nor had he said anything about General Andrade.

Northwest Postoffices.

Washington, April 19.—A postoffice has been established in Gilliam county, Or., to be known as Alville. Allen McConnell has been appointed postmaster. The new office will be supplied from Condon, 12 miles to the southwest.

An office has also been established at McGowan, Pacific county, Wash., six miles northwest of Astoria, Or., on the route from that place to Ilwaco. Edmund P. Noonan has been appointed postmaster.

The postoffice at Hadleyville, Lane county, Or., has been moved three-quarters of a mile southeast, and Mary A. Emerson appointed postmaster.

German Tariff War With Hayti.

Berlin, April 19.—Official statistics published by the Reichsanzeiger regarding the foreign trade of 1900 within the German tariff union show imports aggregating 6,042,000,000 marks, as against 5,784,000,000 marks for 1899, and exports aggregating 4,753,000,000 marks, as against 4,368,000,000 marks for 1899.

A tariff war with Hayti has now formally begun. The Bundesrath has confirmed the increased duties upon coffee, cocoa and dye woods from Hayti.

Our Interest in Corea.

Washington, April 19.—Neither the Russian authorities nor the state department officials have received any word concerning the reported Russo-Japanese negotiations relating to Corea. There is no indication, however, that the United States feels any concern for about the only interest this government would have in the matter is that of keeping our commerce with Corea unobstructed.

British Columbia Gold Rush.

Vancouver, B. C., April 18.—Another gold rush is causing some excitement in the boundary district of British Columbia. During the past few days, Rock Creek and its tributaries have once more attracted placer gold hunters to stake claims. In the early 50s, the Rock Creek placer diggings yielded large returns, and the revival of mining is the result of recent gold discoveries below the historic White's bar, on this creek.

Deputies Appointed.

Seattle, April 19.—Frank H. Richards, recently appointed United States marshal at Nome, today announced his first appointments. Mr. Richards has selected W. B. Forrest, of this city, to be his chief deputy and Isaac Evans, of Tacoma, to be office deputy at Teller City, about 80 miles from Nome. The official headquarters of the marshal's office will be at St. Michael, but he will probably spend the greater part of his time at Nome, where court is almost constantly in session.