

PEACE IN THE ORIENT

The Commissioners Will Confer With the Mikado at Heroshima.

WHAT THE WAR COST CHINA

An American From Peking Believes the War is Practically at an End—The Feeling of the Chinese Against Foreigners Not So Serious As Reported.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The meeting of the Japanese parliament was officially communicated to Minister Kurino in cables received here. The impression is held here that the negotiations between the representatives of the contending powers will be held at Heroshima, the present headquarters of the Japanese Emperor. It will probably be a fortnight or perhaps longer before the commissioners will be able to effect a meeting.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., Dec. 26.—Rev. Dr. Henry Blodgett, who has just returned from Peking is visiting here. Dr. Blodgett went to China in 1854 and has been connected since with the Congregational mission located at Tien-Tsin and Peking removing to the capital in 1864. In an interview he said: "The Emperor of China gives audiences to his mandarins, privy councillors, princes of the blood, and high military commanders daily. He is inaccessible to foreigners except when he gives occasional audiences to ambassadors from other countries. The anti-foreign sentiment in Peking is greatly exaggerated. Of course the Chinese do not like foreigners and if they were not restrained they might do injury. Shortly before my departure in response to remonstrances of foreign representatives the Emperor issued a proclamation to protect foreigners. A copy of the proclamation was tucked up in every mission church and completely quieted all manifestations towards foreigners. No Americans or other foreigners are allowed by treaty to do business in Peking. In other parts of China little business is done by Americans, most of what used to be American having passed into English hands."

Dr. Blodgett says there is little resentment on the part of Chinese in general on account of American restriction of immigration. The high officials rather favor it because they do not wish their subjects to leave the country. Li-Hung-Chang has been greatly misunderstood. He believes in the western world civilization without the Christian religion and had he had his way the Chinese would have been educated in the arts of modern warfare.

The defeat of China, Dr. Blodgett says, came from a supercilious disregard of the advance of the world in warfare. He believes the war is practically at an end, the severe weather and the general foreign sentiment against it being too much, he thinks, for the Japanese to resist.

TOKYO, Dec. 26.—A Japanese paper gives a summary of the losses of the Japanese and Chinese armies up to November 23, exclusive of the battles at Fung Wang, Chang Kinshan, Tchien-Wan and at Port Arthur. It shows that the Japanese lost 330 killed and 835 wounded, while the Chinese lost 4,800 killed and 4,500 wounded and 1,018 of them were made captives, making a total of 10,310.

The Chinese have also had 211 cannons taken from them, 4,835 rifles, 36,384 cannon shots, 48,000 cartridges, besides enough ammunition to last a month firing with 20,000 rifles; 332 banners have been taken, 3,400 tents; 1,000 horses, 3,000,000 rials worth of gold and silver, 111,000 mace coins, 2,415 koku of rice, 5,755 koku of unhusked rice and in addition sufficient food to last an army of 20,000 men three days. The Chinese have lost 13 vessels, a torpedo boat, five men-of-war sunk, and one of their war vessels captured, which makes a total tonnage of 9,850 tons.

The number of killed and wounded on the Japanese side at Port Arthur is estimated at over 400, while those of the enemy is estimated at nine times that number. The Japanese government is still sceptical in regard to China's peace overtures and points out that no authoritative statement has yet been made by China in regard to the mission and that while China now professes to desire peace news has reached the government of Japan that China is negotiating for the purchase of an entire squadron of the Chilean navy, and the agents of Col. Von Hannekin in Europe, it is added, are trying to enlist a number of German officers for service in the Chinese army and navy.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—A despatch received here from Shanghai says that the third Japanese army is reported to have landed west of Chefoo and to have captured Lai-Chow, a seaport town of China in the Province of Cheang-Tung, on the south shore of the Gulf of Pechili.

Hypnotised a Wealthy Countess.

MUNICH, Dec. 22.—The trial of Czestans Czynski, the teacher of languages and lecturer on mesmerism, who was arrested a short time ago, charged with hypnotising the wealthy Countess Zedlitz, at Neukirch, and compelling her to marry him, ended in his conviction. The trial lasted several days and a large number of witnesses were examined, including several specialists in hypnotism. Czynski was convicted of offending public order and also, forgery. The court sentenced him to three years imprisonment.

Churchill Stricken With Paralysis. LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Morning Post says: "Lord Randolph Churchill is paralyzed on one side and is unable to recognize his friends. His mother and sister, Lady Wimborne, have started for Marseilles to meet him. Constitutionally he is of an excitable temperament and this has been overstrained by excessive cigarette smoking. The want of outdoor exercise and latterly the use of opiates are given as causes of the wreck. It is impossible for him to continue in politics."

No Liquor in Pullman.

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—The Pullman Car Company has notified some of the leading merchants in the town that the leases of their premises which expire on December 31 will not be renewed on account of their selling liquor in large quantities and permitting gambling in their establishments. It is said that these practices have been notorious for some time. The action of the company is the result of a crusade, started a short time ago by the female residents of the town.

Drowned While Skating.

LANARK, Ont., Dec. 24.—About ten o'clock Saturday a boy named Morley Bain, about ten years, while skating on the Mississippi river in the township of Bathurst skated into open water and was drowned. The body was recovered. He was the only son of Mr. Andrew Bain of the township of Bathurst.

WIPE OUT BY WAVES.

A Town in the Department of Magdalena Has Entirely Disappeared.

PANAMA, Dec. 22.—A Colon correspondent sends the following: Passengers arriving here bring news to the effect that Santa Maria, the capital of the department of Magdalena, a city of some 10,000 inhabitants, has been inundated by the rising and overflowing of the banks of the River Manzanares and by a tidal wave which swept over the city on the 7th inst., washing away a number of houses and causing considerable damage to property.

Hemmed in by the slowly, but gradually rising waters of the Manzanares on one hand and the mountainous waves of the Caribbean, dashing with violent fury into the town, the inhabitants were thrown into the greatest consternation, some taking refuge in the church steeples and highest buildings in the town, while others took to the mountains. The number of persons that have perished in the disaster or number of buildings destroyed cannot yet be ascertained.

COOL TRAIN ROBBERS.

Four Men, Unarmed, Relieve the Passengers of Their Valuables.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 22.—When the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul passenger train from South Dakota came in this morning just before daybreak four men went into one of the coaches, some distance from the depot. They used no revolvers but wore masks. Two took each side of the car and nearly every passenger was relieved of a watch or pocketbook. The job was done so quickly that no one seemed to realize what was occurring until the men had gone. Not a hand was raised against them and hardly a word was said by the robbers.

HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE.

Y. M. C. A. Buildings in Albany, N. Y., Destroyed—Other Damages.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 26.—One of the most valuable business blocks in the city narrowly escaped complete destruction by fire last night. It broke out in the Y. M. C. A. building on the corner of North Pearl and Stuben streets shortly after 7 o'clock. There was a high northwest wind blowing and the flames were quickly beyond control. The block is composed of the Kenmore hotel owned by the McNaughton estate of this city; three large structures owned by the Pruyn estate and the Y. M. C. A. building, the gift of J. B. Jermain. The Y. M. C. A. building is located on the northwest corner of the block so that the direction of the wind was the only thing that saved the block. The damage was as follows: Y. M. C. A. building \$40,000; Pruyn estate \$10,000; Kenmore hotel \$3,000; H. P. Dickinson cloaks and fur store \$15,000; Singer Sewing Machine Co. \$8,000.

A LETTER FROM MR. EDGAR.

He Supports the Canadian Copyright Act in the Times.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The Times publishes a letter from J. D. Edgar, a member of the Canadian House of Commons, dated Toronto, December 3, supporting the Copyright Act of 1889. Mr. Edgar says that British authors and publishers desiring the Act modified will ultimately have to apply to Ottawa.

To Build a Magnificent Theatre.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26.—A new theatre is to be built in Montreal at a cost of \$300,000. The deal has just been closed by four United States capitalists, who will invest \$50,000. One of them is Mr. Charles Vendel, broker and banker, of New York and Boston. Mr. Vendel admits the truth of the story, and says that ground will be broken early in the new year. The lessee will be Mrs. Henry Thomas, and it is understood that Mrs. Thomas has offered the business management to gentlemen well known in this city. He is at present in New York directing the tours of several important attractions, but it is likely that he will accept the proposition.

The Armenian Committee on the Way.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 26.—Chefik Bey, judge of the Court of Cassation, and Djelaliddin Bey, of the Court of Appeals, members of the Armenian committee, appointed to investigate the Armenian troubles, left Constantinople yesterday for Erzeroum. With them went the French delegate M. Villerot. U. S. Minister Ferrel had an interview with the Grand Vizier on Sunday evening with reference to the sending of an independent United States delegate to Sassoun. On Monday the Sultan positively declined to allow Mr. Jewett, the United States consul at Lirax, to accompany the commission of inquiry. This action will probably prevent any participation by the United States in the investigation.

Dishonest Army Contractors Jailed.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Allez Bros., army contractors, were found guilty of fraud in delivering to the Ministry of War defective goods. Each was sentenced to three months imprisonment. The sub-contractor, Massonneuve was sent to prison for year, and Metrel, the foreman was condemned to six months term. All were also fined.

Killed Her Child With a Penknife.

EASTPORT, Maine, Dec. 22.—A woman calling herself Mrs. Alexander Howard, 32 years old, who came from the maritime provinces two months ago is under arrest here charged with killing her new born child last Wednesday with a penknife. Her alleged husband, Howard, left for St. Andrews, N. B., three weeks ago and his present whereabouts is unknown.

A Noted Female Educator Dead.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Frances Buss is dead. Miss Buss was born in London in 1827. For the last thirty years she has had a reputation as an educator. She founded the North London Collegiate and Camden schools, whose attendance never falls below 1,000, and president of the association of head mistresses of public schools, besides occupying official places in several other educational societies.

Lord Churchill's Illness.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The doctors say that Lord Randolph Churchill is a victim of general paralysis. The Queen and the Prince of Wales inquired as to his condition today.

First Baron Trevor Dead.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Arthur Edwin Hill-Trevor, the first Baron Trevor, is dead. He was born in 1819, and was raised to the peerage in 1880. He was a Conservative.

FAMINE IN NEBRASKA

Many of the Settlers in That State in a Woeful Plight.

APPEALING FOR ASSISTANCE

Succeeding Bad Crops, the Result of Severe Drought, Bring the Farmers to the Verge of Starvation—Five Counties in a State of Destitution.

NEBRASKA, Neb., Dec. 24.—The suffering among the inhabitants of the drought-blighted part of Nebraska including three fourths of the residents of five counties is becoming more intense daily and immediate steps alone can prevent many deaths by starvation. Three years ago the farmers of these drought-blighted counties raised a very little crop and the past two years the crops have been almost total failures. Many families have not enough provisions in their homes for one week's sustenance and no money to purchase the necessities of life.

Many of the merchants here feel that they have aided these poor farmers to the extent of their ability and are unable to do any more for them or to sell them goods on credit. The sufferers cannot obtain employment and unless they receive aid very soon it is the general opinion that many will starve to death; or should the weather turn very cold will freeze, as it is a fact that many are barefooted and have scarcely sufficient clothing to cover themselves.

A mother and her two children were found dead in their cabin this week. It is supposed the mother had been confined to her bed by sickness, and she and her two little ones starved to death. The stomachs of the children were opened and not a trace of food could be discovered.

There is not a stream of water in Perkins county nor a living spring. The soil if watered raises good crops; if not, it bakes into a solid mass. The roads and much of the prairie resemble asphalt so hard packed and smooth are they. Well diggers say that the soil is a solid mass 150 feet, down so hard that picks have to be used to loosen it.

Over this smooth surface the winds blow filled with minute particles and are almost irresistible.

GRANT, Neb., Dec. 24.—President Nelson, of the Nebraska State Relief Commission, has been forwarded a carefully prepared report of the number of destitute families in the different counties in this State which there was a crop failure. The list is a large one, and it will require all the assistance that can be procured to keep the people in the most urgent of necessities during the winter months. The report is as follows: Custer County, 250 families; Perkins, 200; Chase 235; Dundy, 120; Hitchcock, 250; Red Willow, 100; Hayes, 200; Frontier, 40; Furness, 100; Lincoln, 700; Dawson, 45; Keith, 30; Deuel, 40; Cherry, 40; McPherson, 40; Blaine, 30; Boyd, 25; Holt, 30; Antelope, 30; Keyapaha, 30; Knox, 25.

In many instances people in districts remote from railroad facilities are said to be eating prairie dogs.

A newspaper man made a trip the early part of the week through the most destitute part of this county. A few deserted sod and frame houses were seen and there were signs here and there that some habitations had been torn down and removed with the other goods of the owners. In some cases farm implements were seen in the fields and substantial granaries stood just as their owners had left them.

They Point the Same Road.

QUEBEC, Dec. 26.—Monsignor O'Reilly, of New York, while preaching in the Silvery church, repudiated Father Rossbach's sermon, which the latter delivered in St. Patrick's church on the occasion of the requiem mass in memory of Sir John Thompson. In his remarks Father Rossbach slighted the different denominations of the Protestant religion by saying before many Protestants that if Sir John Thompson was to return to life he would prove that all religions except the Roman Catholic Church were frauds. Monsignor O'Reilly said he spoke on behalf of the ecclesiastical authorities, the clergy and laity.

Newfoundland's Alternative.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Times, during the course of an article on Newfoundland, says that to grant the loan of £1,500,000, which has been asked for by the colony, would be "cruel kindness which it would be impossible to concede without the fullest enquiry." The Times adds: "If the choice lies between insolvency and the surrender of their constitution, it is well that the alternative be faced without delay."

Married a Wealthy Canadian.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—In the large parlor of the Brunswick hotel, Mrs. Louise Caldwell, widow of the late Dr. Caldwell, of Canada, was married to Cornelius Marco, of Darlington, S. C., at nine o'clock. Judge McAdam, of the Superior Court, officiated. The bride is a native of Canada, but has resided at the hotel for some years. Her nephew is Count De Cades Couville, of Montreal. She is worth \$3,500,000, and he is wealthy and of old family.

Killed by a Boiler Explosion.

GLASGOW, Ky., Dec. 24.—By the explosion of a boiler in the mill near Bonary about eight miles from this place, Robert Bird and a man named Spann were killed and a son of Spann, a young man named Claude Dearing, son of the owner of the mill, and another whose name could not be learned, were fatally injured.

Dreyfus Sentenced for Treason.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Captain Albert Dreyfus was sentenced on Saturday for treason. General Mauriel in the name of the nation read the judgment of the court. Fortress confinement and degradation for life is the maximum penalty. There is an unconfirmed report that Captain Dreyfus has killed himself in his cell.

Tried to Kill His Wife.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 24.—John Para, an Italian laborer, is under arrest for attempting to murder his wife last night. He first attempted to drown her and afterwards beat her severely with a club. She is in a delicate condition and it is doubtful if she can recover.

Thirteen Killed in a Collision.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Thirteen persons were killed and many injured by a collision Saturday between the Manchester express train and a goods train.

FLOTSAM OF ANTIQUITY.

Roman ladies had safety pins closely resembling the modern article.

INCIDENTS RECALLED BY THE DEATH OF HIS FAITHFUL WIFE.

How the Impetuous Junker Won the Fair Puttkammer Maiden—A Pathetic Birthday Incident—A Memory of the Blind Incident.

Princess Bismarck, who died November 27 at Varzin, was Johanna, only daughter of Jacob von Puttkammer and Lady Luitgarde von Glasenapp, at Rheinfeld. She was betrothed to Bismarck before he appeared upon the political stage of the world. The marriage took place in 1847, under such strange circumstances that a narration of them cannot fail to be interesting at this time.

In the course of the summer of 1846 Bismarck took a journey in the Harz country, in company of the Blanckenburg family, which was very intimately connected with his own. This family took with them Fraulein Johanna von Puttkammer, with whom Bismarck had fallen in love a long time previously. But he had never made her acquainted with his antecedents in this direction. He had seen her for the first time at the wedding of his friend von Blanckenburg with Fraulein von Thadden-Trigglaff, whose bridemaid was Fraulein Puttkammer. On his return from this famous voyage in Harz, Bismarck, who has always favored energetic measures, wrote direct to the young lady's parents, with whom he was not acquainted, and demanded the hand of their fair daughter in marriage. The good people were naturally very much surprised at a direct attack like this; they were very simple folk, leading a very quiet life, and they were rather frightened at the reputation for high living which the candidate for their daughter's hand enjoyed at the time. As, however, the young woman herself intimated in discreet terms that she did not look upon the young man with an unfavorable eye, and as there was no doubt that Bismarck's parents had a reputation as good as their sons, Herr von Puttkammer decided not to hurry matters, either in one direction or the other. Consequently, he wrote to young Bismarck inviting him to come and see them.

Everyone did his best at Rheinfeld to give the visitor a suitable reception; Fraulein von Puttkammer's parents assumed an air of grave solemnity, and the young lady stood with eyes bent upon the ground, when Bismarck, on alighting, threw his arms around his sweetheart's neck and

embraced her vigorously before anybody had time to tell him that his conduct was hardly proper and correct. The result was, however, what the young people both desired—an immediate betrothal.

By his marriage with Fraulein Puttkammer Prince Bismarck had three children—Count Herbert, who came to be secretary of state for foreign affairs; Count William, who is godson to the late Emperor William, and Countess Marie, who, since 1878, has been the wife of Count von Rantzau.

The Bismarck home life has always been a very happy and contented one. On the occasion of the celebration of the prince's seventieth birthday, April 1, 1885, he gave a great dinner at his residence. After dinner an endless string of toasts followed each other, but the best conceived was certainly that of a Wurtemberg guest, who, after a wandering speech, turned to Frau von Bismarck and overwhelmed her with compliments. The lady was much confused, and cast suppliant glances at her husband in the hope that he would release her from her critical situation; but he did not stir, and contented himself with giving the orator frequent approving nods.

The sturdy Wurtemberg told her, among other things, that in her the German people honored the princess much less than the modest and devoted wife, the support and consolation of her husband and the model German wife.

While this was going on Bismarck gradually edged nearer his wife, and when the toast was at an end he kissed her affectionately on both cheeks. All this had passed so rapidly and at a time when it was least expected that the company was nonplused for a moment; but they recovered themselves and offered the chancellor their warmest congratulations.

When on Unter den Linden in Berlin, on May 6, 1866, a fanatic named Blind fired at Prince Bismarck, the latter personally captured his assailant, turned him over to the police and walked quietly home, where he found a rather numerous and distinguished company. He took his seat among them and joined in the conversation, without making the slightest allusion to what had happened. It was only on going to the dining room that he took his wife aside and whispered in her ear:

"My dear, I have been fired upon, but I am not hurt."

Princess Bismarck was nine years younger than her husband. She proved a model wife, domestic and wise, of whom he was both proud and fond. Their marriage produced in Bismarck that freshness of heart and mind he had so long and so ardently desired to obtain, and furnished him with new materials to meet the necessities the fine required from his patriotism.

Tunneling the Caucasus.

There has been talk of tunneling the Caucasus for a long time past, and there seems to be some prospect of the tunnel being commenced at last. A St. Petersburg correspondent writes that Government engineers have investigated and reported favorably, and the construction of the tunnel is not only considered possible, but promises to be satisfactory from scientific and economic points of view. Its magnitude, however, is such that it will take seven years to complete. The company who have undertaken the work have, it is stated, been furnished with a complete inventory of the machinery and appliances used in building the Suram tunnel. That this new tunnel is of paramount importance to Russia from a military point of view is sufficiently obvious.

BISMARCK'S HOME LIFE

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THE LATE PRINCESS BISMARCK.