

Chinese Peace Negotiations.

FIRST STEP IN POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES.

Pekin, Saturday, Nov. 24.—The diplomatic body held a final meeting this morning and agreed upon the terms of the preliminary treaty. Nothing now remains except to secure the approval of the respective governments before definite negotiations with the Chinese peace commissioners are begun.

The precise terms of the settlement have not yet been made public here, but it is believed outside the diplomatic corps that the main points are in substantial agreement with those contained in the French note to the powers, namely, punishment for the guilty, indemnity to governments and individuals, retention of strong legation guards and the occupation of certain places between Peking and Taku.

A party of American cavalry went today to disperse a band of bandits in a village 16 miles from Peking. The village was found strongly fortified, but the Americans attacked and captured it, killing seven Chinese.

A secret edict from Sian Fu to the provincial viceroys and governors orders them to cease the manufacture of modern arms and to revert to the old type of weapons, because modern arms "have proved utterly useless against the foreigners."

LEGATION AREA TO BE ENLARGED.

London, Nov. 26.—"The foreign envoys have agreed to demand," says a special dispatch from Peking, "an extension of the legation area so as to embrace everything from the Ta Men gate to the Taion Mon gate between the walls of the imperial and Tartar cities, a strip of land a mile long and a third of a mile wide." M. de Giers, Russian minister, has declined to yield on the indemnity question and some kind of a verbal compromise has been arranged.

The Morning Post publishes the following from its Peking correspondent, dated Saturday: "Wang Wen Chao, now a cabinet minister, has written to Sir Robert Hart from Sian Fu that Emperor Kwang Su would be glad to return to Peking but that his majesty would 'lose his face' if foreign troops were there."

The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Standard asserts that "the Russian vote face dates from the czar's illness."

Shanghai sends another batch of reports from Chinese sources. Among these is a rumor that the allies have reached Wei Hui Fu, 300 miles east of Sian Fu and are proceeding westward. Another is that the Tao Tai of Chu Chau Fu in the province of Che Kiang, has been dismissed, and sixteen ringleaders of missionary murders have been captured. A third says that a Chinese official has arrived at the capital of the province of Hunan with orders to organize a militia force of 50,000 Boxers.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express writes that the Russians are assuring the Chinese that the Amur massacres were really repugnant to the Russian officers, but were carried out under orders of Count von Waldersee.

RUSSIA RETAINS RAILROAD.

London, Nov. 26.—Dr Morrison writing to the Times from Peking Saturday confirms the report of Russia's decision to retain the railway until her troops are withdrawn from the province of Chi Li.

"This change," he says, "is coincident with the arrival of Prince Ukhomsky, whose mission avowedly concerns the railway. The Chinese believe Russia's assurance that she is retaining the line in their interest."

"The German expedition to Kalgan is encountering no opposition. The other expeditions which Count von Waldersee has dispatched to harass the neighborhood of Peking are mainly expeditions in search of loot. They are incorrectly described by the Germans as important military operations."

MILD SATISFACTION ONLY.

London, Nov. 26.—Mild satisfaction is expressed in the London papers this morning at the news that the diplomats in Peking have arrived at a preliminary understanding but no great confidence seems to be felt that any real step has been made in the endless negotiations. It is recognized that there is little for Germany to do but to concede, wherever the United States and Russia agree. The Standard says: "It is hardly possible for Germany to hold out, deeply offended as she is, if the United States, Russia, France and Japan are disposed to moderation. Our Berlin correspondent believes that Germany is prepared to waive the death penalty."

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BATTLE OF BAGUSON.

Manila, Nov. 25.—Particulars have just been received from Iloilo of the battle, Oct. 30, at Baguson, Island of Panay, when 200 Bolomen and 50 riflemen attacked the Americans, who lost three killed, Lieut. H. M. Koonz, Sergt. Kitchen and Corpl. Burns, all of Company F, 44th infantry.

Corpl. Burns was killed while reconnoitering and Lieut. Koonz and Sergt. Kitchen were pierced by spears while going to relieve an outpost.

When the garrison in front attacked the rebels 49 of the latter were killed. None of the other parties of attacking natives made much of a stand and the insurgents lost 103 killed all told.

SEVERAL ARE CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

Manila, Nov. 25.—Four natives will be hanged at Dagupan, Luzon, next Thursday. They are under conviction for arson and murder, the victims of the latter crime including two American prisoners. The military courts are now returning numerous death sentences upon natives.

Death of a Noted Gambler.

"Billy" Mack, the last of the gamblers who found wealth and fortunes in Charleston a quarter of a century ago, is dead. At the time of his best winnings the common story in the city was that he "could not get his ready money in a barrel," but like many of the people of his class he died in poverty. His last deal was to the city hospital, where the gamblers sent him to be treated, and the local sporting fraternity, of which he was an honorary member, buried him in Magnolia cemetery beside his dead comrades who had sought fortunes in the same games.

Mack was a celebrated gambler and was known in every gambling house in the South. He belonged to that class, however, which has almost passed away, for he did not take rank with the gamblers who are seeking easy victims nowadays. Mack is said to have played in every house of note in the United States. He came to Charleston years ago from New York and it was said that his home was in Albany, but he never got a letter in his life except from gamblers and absolutely nothing could be learned of his past life.

Would Cost too Much

London, Nov. 25.—"We understood," the Daily Express this morning, "that Lord Roberts recently requested the government to send 20,000 regulars to South Africa to relieve the same number in the field, but that his request was declined on the score of expense."

London, Nov. 26.—After condemning the government's refusal as "ruinous economy," the Daily Express goes on to describe Lord Kitchener's "drastic plan of operations."

"He will endeavor to isolate the commandos," it says, "and to move suspected Boer families into garrisoned towns. He will clear troublesome districts, confining the population in laagers, if necessary, and will take or destroy all food supplies, punish treachery by death or transportation, raze villages guilty or treasonable acts and destroy all farms in the vicinity of railway or telegraph cutting."

SEEKING TO PURCHASE PHOSPHATE ROCK

Beaufort, Nov. 25.—Mr. S. Y. Mori, of Tokio, Japan, who is a guest at the Sea Island hotel here, is an eminent citizen of the Sunset Empire, being a millionaire and proprietor of an extensive phosphate industry located near Tokio. He has been in America about ten days, coming here from Europe via New York. While here President Mori will negotiate for the purchase, by his firm, of a considerable quantity of phosphate rock from the various concerns actively engaged in the industry in this section.

Mr. Mori says Japan is becoming largely interested in the manufacture of fertilizers from American phosphate and that the manufactured product there is both consumed by the farmers of his country and exported to less enterprising countries in the orient.

It was stated in our Raleigh correspondence a few days ago that leading merchants of Franklin county have recently made careful inquiries of farmers as to whether they have during the last five years made more money out of cotton or tobacco, and that the farmers said cotton had proved the more profitable crop. This suggests again the question, twice recently touched upon in this paper, as to the future of North Carolina as a tobacco State. Franklin ought to be a good tobacco county—it joins Granville, which is accounted the best tobacco county in the State. If the crop cannot be grown profitably in that tier of counties—and we have not heard that the Granville tobacco growers are getting rich—it looks like lechabod is the name of the business in North Carolina. As giving emphasis to this conclusion it is to be remembered that within the period covered by the inquiries as to the relative profitability of these two crops cotton has been as low as 5 cents.—Charlotte Observer.

McKinley Demands a Big Army.

Other Schemes the Republicans are Hatching.

Washington, Nov. 26.—"Whatever else is left undone, hurry with the army bill." That is the sum and substance of what Mr. McKinley says to every prominent republican senator and representative who goes to the white house. The reason he wishes the legislation for the increase of the army hurried is that he has received a hint that the decision of the United States supreme court will be against the constitutionality of the Porto Rico act, which would mean that the United States would have to relinquish ownership of the Philippines, and would consequently have no use for a large standing army. He wishes to get the big army provided for before the court hands down its decision, and it will not be surprising if the attorney general so manipulates the case as to prevent its conclusion until after the end of this congress, as Mr. McKinley might prefer not having congress in session should the decision be adverse. This story sounds incredulous, but it is being seriously talked about in political circles, and there have been other cases in which administrations have been given advance hints of important decisions of the supreme court. Any member of the court can usually make a pretty nearly correct guess of how his colleagues will stand upon important decisions from their talk in a general way to each other. Whether the whole story is correct or not, it is absolutely certain that Mr. McKinley is plainly showing his anxiety of the speedy passage by congress of the army bill.

The Isthmian Canal commission has handed Mr. McKinley its preliminary report. As expected it favors the Nicaragua route for the canal. The Panama company's lobbyists are moving Heaven and earth to prevent legislation by congress in favor of the Nicaragua canal.

According to Representative Hull, chairman of the house committee on military affairs, which is now trying to put together an army bill that will be supported by all the republicans, many of whom have publicly expressed widely differing opinions of what the bill should provide for, especially as to the number of men, the volunteers in the Philippines will not be brought home until regulars, enlisted under the bill not even yet written, can be sent to take their places. At least, that is a fair construction to place upon Mr. Hull's own words—"The army now in the Philippines will have to be brought home in the summer, that is, those of the men who do not care to reenlist. The transports which go out for them should depart laden with the troops who are to replace them."

Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, returned to Washington feeling as chippy as usual. He said: "I am not downcast or discouraged by the licking we got. The most unpleasant feature is it will take us six or eight years to get the senate. As to the proposition to reorganize the democratic party, it is a fact in natural history that the tail cannot wag the dog; and the same is true in politics. The party does not need reorganizing to begin with. It is thoroughly organized, and even if it were to be reorganized, it would not be from the outside. We want everybody to come in that feels like helping us, but we have a perfect organization of our own." Of the probable work of this session of congress Mr. Clark said: "I think this will be an extremely busy session. The main thing the republicans will do will be to ratify the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and pass a Nicaragua canal bill, in accordance with it, and to pass Mark Hanna's ship subsidy bill. If the supreme court decides the Porto Rican act unconstitutional, then the republicans will run races with us as to which will drop the Philippines first. But if it is decided to be constitutional, then this session of congress will have to pass some kind of a bill for the government and control of the islands. This, with the routine measures and the new appointments under the last census will make it an exceedingly busy session."

The reception of the proposition advanced by the radical republicans to reduce the representation of the southern states which have restricted negro suffrage, has been of such general condemnation that it has been abandoned for the present session and will not figure in the reapportionment bill which will doubtless become a law in the near future, but some of its advocates hint their intention to try to get the question before the long session of the next congress.

Says a Savannah, Ga., dispatch to the New York Commercial: The proposed formation of a new express company, to operate in all the southern states, where the Southern Express company has held a lucrative field, unopposed for more than 30 years. The Georgia legislature, now in session, is to be asked to enact a law requiring railroads, as common carriers, to accept express from competing lines. It has been known in Georgia for some weeks that a new express company was to be organized with a capital of not less than \$5,

000,000. Most of the money is to come from Philadelphia. W. A. Hawkins, of Cordele, is looking after the interests of the new company in this State. Every southern state, says Mr. Hawkins, will have the benefit of the competing company. It is not proposed to make war on the Southern or any other express company, but it is hoped to do a fair, legitimate business, with a profit to the promoters. In this city and at the prominent points in Georgia, attaches of the Southern Express company, and those formerly with it, have been approached by representatives of the new concern, in reference to accepting positions with the company now forming.

A Remarkable Coincidence.

Greenville Mountaineer. Mr. T. R. Lackie of Detroit, Mich., has sent us the following interesting reminiscence of the Second Manassas, which narrates an incident of the battle with which some of our readers are already familiar:

"In the year 1853 four gentlemen entered their sons at a boarding school at Cokesbury in South Carolina. They had been for years intimate friends, and were clergymen in the Methodist church. These boys remained at this school as room mates and classmates for two years and entered Wofford college, standing relatively first, second, third and fourth in a large class. They remained in this institution four years and were room mates all the time, graduating relatively first, second, third and fourth.

"They entered a law office in Spartanburg and studied law under the same chancellor. The war broke out and they entered Jenkins' Rifle regiment from South Carolina (Capt. Jos. Walker's company) and were messmates in the same company. Being near the same height they stood together as comrades in battle in this regiment. At the second battle of Manassas a shell from the federal battery fell in the ranks of this company, killing these four boys and no others in the company.

"They are buried on the battle field and sleep together in the same grave. Their names are Capers, McSwain, Smith and Duncan, and they are the sons of Bishop Capers, Rev. Dr. McSwain, Rev. Dr. Whiteford Smith and Rev. Dr. Duncan of Virginia. This grave is marked by a granite cross enclosed with an iron fence."

The writer was in command of Company C, Palmetto Sharp Shooters, which was on the right of the regiment, and Company K was the next to the right, commanded by the late Capt. H. H. Thompson, a brave soldier who died a few years ago in Spartanburg. The position occupied by the regiment was in a piece of woods not far from the edge, where it was halted, ordered to lie down, and remained under a most terrific fire of shot and shell until Col. Walker gave the command to "change from front to rear on 12th company," which would place the regiment at a right angle from its first position in the woods. When Companies C and K began the movement, it was observed by the writer that several men did not rise when the command was given to change front, when he went to the place where the men were lying, and found that five young men were killed by the explosion of the shell in the manner described. Four of them were Capers, McSwain, Smith and Duncan, who belonged to Company K, and the fifth man was W. M. Keown of Company C, who was raised in Anderson county. Young Keown had a narrow escape from death in the First Manassas, where a minnie ball went through his hat and grazed his hair, and he went gallantly through all other battles unhurt until he was within 200 yards of the spot where he so narrowly ran the gauntlet in the First Manassas. He was an excellent soldier and remarkable for his native wit and intelligence, although he did not have the educational advantages of the young men who met death with him.

Mr. Lackie was a member of the Sixteenth Michigan, and The Mountaineer printed last year an account written by him of the famous encounter of his regiment with the Palmetto Sharp Shooters at Gaines' Mill, June 27, 1862. This account of the battle led to an extensive correspondence with Mr. Lackie by the members of the sharp shooters and others. Mr. E. E. Rankin, of Arlington, Texas, was among the number who wrote to Mr. Lackie, especially with reference to the proposed reunion at Louisville, which unfortunately did not take place. Mr. Rankin discovered that two of the sharp shooters lived in this town, and they were much interested in the reminiscences of Gaines' Mill.

The names of those two soldiers are M. T. and A. W. Walker, who belonged to Company K, P. S. S., and one of them sent the clipping from an old newspaper which gave the facts recited about the remarkable coincidence at the Second Manassas. Comrade A. W. Walker informed Mr. Rankin that he helped to bury the four boys belonging to Company K who are named in the article. The additional facts will prove interesting to many of our readers, and we thank Mr. Lackie for his courtesy and kindness in placing them at our disposal.

FROM THE WIRES.

Dubuque, Iowa, Nov. 23.—An order came to all tobacco dealers here today, to at once ship out of the State their entire stock of cigarettes and cigarette papers. The order came from the American Tobacco Company and is supposed to be due to the cigarette case decision of the supreme court of the United States recently.

Constantinople, Nov. 25.—A difficulty has arisen between Germany and Turkey. The Ottoman government objects to Germany using Far San Island, in the Red Sea, as a coaling station and wishes to establish there a Turkish depot accessible to all the powers. Germany, however, insists that she will not abandon the island.

Habana, Nov. 25.—At a meeting held in Habana today by the opponents of Mgr. Sharrett, bishop of Habana, Gen. Gomez presented a resolution that all the municipalities should send the bishop telegrams informing him that he was got intended by the Cubans and asking him to retire in favor of a Cuban ecclesiastic. All the speakers afterward accused Mgr. Sharrett of being too much of an American in this point of view and of favoring annexation to the United States.

Berlin, Nov. 26.—The following special dispatch dated St. Petersburg, Nov. 25, 3 49 a. m., has been received here: "It is persistently rumored in St. Petersburg that the condition of Emperor Nicholas is critical. Well informed people here declared that the disease has made far greater progress than the czar's physicians have publicly admitted. A fatal issue is now gravely feared."

The town of Grafton, Ill., is afflicted with an epidemic of black diphtheria, and the rabbits are charged with it. It seems that rabbits are unusually numerous around there this year, and the people have eaten them freely. Many dead rabbits have been found in the woods and investigation shows that they died of diphtheria.

Some striking proof of the close connection between pure drinking water and the health of the community is afforded in the experience of Chicago. From 1865 until 1869 the average of deaths from typhoid fever in the month of November was 70. During the past year the drainage canal has been opened and people of the city no longer drink water containing fever germs. The number of deaths from typhoid fever has fallen to an average of less than one a day and is not likely to be more than 23 for the whole month. The annual death rate of the city has fallen to 10.56, if figured from the number of deaths during the present month, showing Chicago now to be as healthy as any city in the world.—Augusta Chronicle.

Unwashed Fruits.

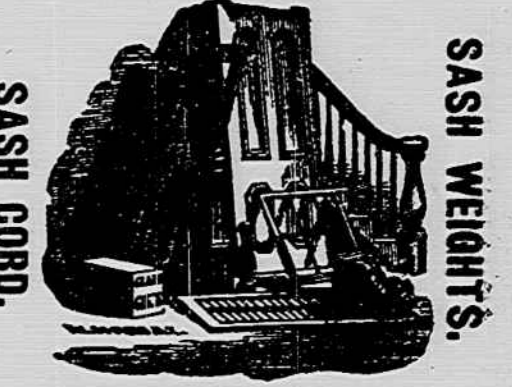
"All kinds of diseases may be traced to the eating of unwashed fruit," said a well known authority on bacteriology, in commenting on the spread of disease through unknown sources. The result of a careful examination has clearly shown the danger of eating fruit of any kind without washing it. Grapes kept for some time in a basket on a fruit stand were so covered with dust that the water in which they were washed was black. The man of science, thinking that perhaps the water contained tubercle bacilli, injected into three guinea pigs a small quantity of it. One animal died in two days, the others died in less than three weeks, both the latter presenting marked signs of tuberculous lesions. The water and vessel that contained it had been sterilized before the experiment was made so that without doubt the disease germs were on the grapes. "This," said the experimenter, "illustrates the innocent ways in which we unconsciously take into our systems dangerous as well as harmless germs."—Philadelphia Record.



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The State of South Carolina COUNTY OF SUMTER.

By Thos. V. Walsh, Esq., Probate Judge.

WHEREAS, SHEPARD NASH, as Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for said county, has made suit to me to grant him Letters of Administration of the Estate and effects of EDWARD B. MILLER, deceased. These are therefore to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said Edward B. Miller, late of said County and State, deceased, that they be and appear before me, in the Court of Probate, to be held at Sumter, C. H., on December 31st 1900, next, after publication thereof, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Administration should not be granted. Given under my hand, this 21st day of November, A. D., 1900.

THOS. V. WALSH, Judge of Probate.

Estate of Mrs. Sarah H. Chandler, Dec'd.

ALL PERSONS having claims against said Estate will present same duly witnessed, and all persons indebted to said Estate will make payment at once to ROBT. A. CHANDLER, Administrator. Nov 21, 1900—3*

Some Special Bargains.

- 40-lb boxes Starch, best grade, at 25c per lb.
- New Backerel, 14 good fish to kit, 90c
- Fancy full cream Cheese, 22 to 24 lb each, at 13c per lb
- Best fancy Elgin Creamery Butter, 69 lb tubs at 24c per lb
- American Sardines—new pack—\$3.85 per case 100 cans.
- 10 oz Tumble Fruit Jelly, 3 doz to case, 75c per doz.
- 3-lb stand. Tomatoes, 2 doz in case, 90c doz
- 2-lb stand. Tomatoes, 2 doz in case, 75c doz.
- 1/2 pint bottles, assorted Pickles, 2 doz in case, 75c doz.
- 1-lb cans Cove Oysters, full weight, 2 and 4 doz in case, 50c doz
- 2-lb cans fancy Maine packed Sugar Corn \$1.20 a doz.
- 2-lb cans fancy N. Y. State packed Sugar Corn \$1 a doz.
- Smoked Dried Herrings, 20c per box.

- CRACKERS.**
- Lemons 54c, Nic Nacs 54c per lb.
- Ginger Snaps 5c, Soda Cr. 5c per lb.
- Sugar Cr. 6c, Fancy Mixed 64c per lb.
- Cream Lunch Biscuits, 7c per lb
- Oatflakes, 2-lb packages, 90c doz
- FLOUR.**
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- Best family, 3.25 bb.
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E. L. Royal Cigar, good smoke, \$25 per 1,000. Try our Leader, \$10.50 per 1,000, 60c box
Old Virginia Cheroots, \$3.15 per box of 250 Cheroots, 3 for 5c
World's Best Cheroots, \$3.25 per box of 250 Cheroots, 3 for 5c.
Duke's Cigarettes \$3.50 per 1,000. Cycle Cigarettes \$2.65 per 1,000.
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