

A JOINT CONFERENCE

Chinese Plenipotentiaries Meet Foreign Envoys.

PUNISHMENTS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Chinese Ministers Seem Anxious to Come to Terms—Li Hung Chang Weak and Unable to Walk.

PEKING, Feb. 6.—The Chinese plenipotentiaries, Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, had a protracted meeting yesterday with the foreign envoys. Twelve names of prominent Chinese officials were submitted with the request that China keep faith with the powers and punish the persons named commensurately with their offenses.

The Chinese plenipotentiaries replied that China's earnest hope was to carry out fully the demands of the powers and that she felt sure the punishment which would be inflicted would be satisfactory.

It was discovered that 2 out of 12 of the persons named were already dead. In certain cases the Chinese plenipotentiaries gave reasons why the punishment inflicted should be banishment and not death, asserting that in those cases they particularly desired banishment only because the persons in question were so closely related to the throne.

After a long conversation on the subject of punishment it was decided that the foreign envoys should draw up a full list of all accused officials, both national and provincial, with indictments specifying the guilt of each and a statement of the punishment required, which would then be presented to the Chinese plenipotentiaries for definite action.

Li Hung Chang, who is very weak from his recent illness, had to be carried in and out of the British legation. He is unable to walk, but his head seems as clear as ever.

The foreign envoys were impressed with the evident desire of both Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang to come to terms. Prince Ching asked whether, provided China showed by every means in her power a desire to carry out the terms of the joint note, the foreign troops would leave Peking.

The foreign envoys replied that this was a subject they could not discuss beyond saying that, if everything were satisfactory, they believed the powers would begin to withdraw the troops early in the coming spring, but that this depended largely upon the Chinese themselves.

Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang said they desired to know the names of the places where guards would be kept for the purpose of maintaining communication with the sea in accordance with the terms of the joint note.

They were informed that this was a subject regarding which the military authorities had more accurate knowledge than the envoys, but that at present no determination had been reached.

STARVING IN CHINA.

Cannibalism in Two Provinces—Terrible Sufferings.

PEKING, Feb. 4.—Reports received here from Singan-fu all agree that the famine in the provinces of Shansi and Shensi is one of the worst in the history of China. All information on the subject is necessarily from Chinese sources and is fragmentary, but the stories are all to the same effect, picturing a condition of affairs that is calculated to arouse the sympathy of the world for the stricken people.

It is estimated that two-thirds of the people are without sufficient food or the means of obtaining it. The weather is bitterly cold, and this adds to the misery of starvation. There is little fuel in either province, and the people are tearing out the woodwork of their houses to build fires to keep themselves warm.

Oxen, horses, dogs and other animals used by the farmers to aid them in their work in ordinary times have practically all been sacrificed to satisfy hunger.

For three years the crops have been failures in both provinces. There was more or less famine in previous seasons, and the people were in poverty when the winter began. Their condition has since been growing steadily worse. Letters state that cannibalism is practiced now to a considerable extent.

Venezuelan Revolutionist Here.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—When the steamer Philadelphia reached the foot of Montague street, Brooklyn, yesterday, there were several friends of General Uribe awaiting the revolutionist's arrival. One of them, A. Diaz Guerra, said that he general did not wish to speak of his visit to this city, and after the party had their baggage examined the general, with Mr. Guerra and several friends, went to Mr. Guerra's office, 15 Whitehall street.

State's Biggest Man Dead.

NASHUA, N. H., Feb. 4.—New Hampshire's largest man, Hendrick D. Conroy, who weighed 400 pounds, died suddenly at his home in the hamlet of South Merima, four miles from this city, yesterday. His enormous proportions made him a well known character throughout his section of the state. He was 5 feet 9 inches tall, had a waist measure of 5 feet 2 inches, was 4 feet 5 inches around his chest, and the calf of his leg measured 2 feet 6 inches. He wore an "S" shoe.

Must Wear Patent Leather.

BEHLIN, Feb. 6.—The young woman of Tolgate, in Westphalia, and other women of that district have notified the young men of their intention to dance with them hereafter only when they wear patent leather shoes.

Record Broken in Congress.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The volume of business before the present congress was shown when the total of house bills introduced reached 14,033, which is the highest record ever attained for an entire congress.

To Sink Gas and Oil Wells.

ALBION, N. Y., Feb. 5.—A company, organized, headed by ex-Comptroller Roberts, to sink a test gas and oil well here. Similar wells are to be put down at 24 other points.

The Black Eagle For Roberts.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—Emperor William has conferred upon Earl Roberts the Order of the Black Eagle, the highest German decoration.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Notable Events of the Week Briefly and tersely told.

Masonic temple at Toledo was burned. Loss, \$150,000. Sarah Bernhardt took out insurance policy for \$100,000. Chicago saloon keepers were arrested for violating Sunday law.

Rail communication with Europe via Beijing strait is predicted. Transport McPherson went ashore on Cuban coast eight miles west of Matanzas.

Governor Voorhees of New Jersey nominated Senator Pitney for supreme court justice. Exposition hotel, Binghamton, N. Y., was burned. Two dead and three fatally injured.

Arrest was made in Philadelphia in connection with robbery of Adams Express car.

Tuesday, Feb. 5. Ambassador Meyer was received by King Victor Emmanuel.

The new Austrian reichsrath was opened with a speech from the throne. President McKinley is to address the University of California students May 16. An Adams Express car on a Pennsylvania train was robbed of \$4,000 worth of goods.

Japanese were reported to be organizing a home company to compete with Standard Oil. John Marshall centenary was celebrated in Washington, Albany, Boston, Philadelphia and other cities.

A German expedition is reported to have started to escort the Chinese emperor back to the capital. The second trial of Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy for the murder of Sally Reynolds was begun in New York.

Monday, Feb. 4. Hugh Kerr, father of George J. Kerr, who was removed to state prison Friday, died at his home in Paterson, N. J., of a broken heart.

Eva Irwin, a deaconess in the Episcopal church, arrived in Ateshon, Kan., in a snowstorm, having tramped all the way from New York alone.

Workmen excavating for the rapid transit tunnel in New York city found a well preserved skeleton of an Indian 30 feet below the surface of Center street.

Saturday, Feb. 2. Severe fighting in Abyssinia reported from Cairo.

Governor Allen of Porto Rico reports prosperity and contentment. Jennie Bosschiet's four assailants were taken to Trenton for imprisonment. W. M. Collier was elected president of the New York state civil service commission.

Friday, Feb. 1. Venezuelan revolution is considered ended. British ambassador at Berlin has been summoned to England.

Hostilities are threatened between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Fire caused \$100,000 damage at Reade and West streets, New York city. The deadlock continues in the Nebraska, Oregon and Montana senatorial contests.

After rejecting various amendments the Paris chamber adopted by 353 to 93 the first article of the law of associations.

Thursday, Jan. 31. State Senator Cornelius R. Parsons died at Rochester.

Forty sailors from the cruiser Albany were convicted of mutiny. Neely reached Havana and was turned over to the keeper of the city prison.

The consul at Glasgow reported 385 cases of smallpox and that the disease was spreading. The Merchants' National bank of Baltimore inaugurated secret examinations of its accounts.

The late Benjamin D. Stillman's will provides for bequests of \$110,000 to Yale and \$10,000 to Columbia. During a fire in the Hotel Jefferson in New York city a woman nurse was killed by falling from a window and a servant girl was suffocated.

Test of Compressed Air Locomotive. ROME, N. Y., Feb. 2.—A party of 18 prominent railroad men came here from New York in a special car to inspect the Hardie compressed air locomotive made at the works of the Compressed Air company of this city. The principal railroads in this and adjoining states were represented by managers, general superintendents, mechanical engineers, superintendents of motive power, officers or directors. The air locomotive was operated drawing a special car on the New York Central tracks to Oriskany and return. It proved very satisfactory. This type of locomotive is designed to draw trains on elevated, underground or suburban roads and is made to run 25 to 50 miles on one charge of air.

Wisconsin in Commission. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—The battleship Wisconsin, which was constructed at the Union Iron works, was formally placed in commission yesterday. Captain Reider taking command. The usual ceremonies were observed. About 300 natures were placed on the Wisconsin, and within the next two weeks she will leave for her first cruise under the flag, her destination being the Mexican coast, where she will engage in drill and target practice.

Vaccinated in the Face. POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Feb. 4.—While dressing the arm of her little daughter, who had been vaccinated about ten days ago, Mrs. Robert E. Farrier, wife of the pastor of the Baptist church in this city, chanced to brush her hand across her face. In this manner some virus from the child's arm was introduced into a slight scratch on the mother's face, which resulted in her thorough vaccination and left a bad sore on her face.

Coffin Ready For Twenty Years. NYACK, N. Y., Feb. 5.—Twenty years ago Michael Walsh, a well known schoolmaster in Piermont, a bachelor and a very eccentric man, purchased his coffin and tombstone and ever since had them in his apartments, where he lived alone. Sunday night he died at the age of 78 years, and he will be buried in the coffin which he selected a score of years ago and have the tombstone placed at his grave.

Martinelli to Be a Cardinal. PARIS, Feb. 6.—The Rome correspondent of the Temps says a letter from the Vatican has been posted to Archbishop Martinelli, the apostolic delegate in the United States, notifying him that he will be created a cardinal.

UNLIKE HIS FATHER. BLANKETING ORANGE GROVES.

Personality of J. Ogden Armour, Son of the Great P. D.

He is Deliberate, Cautious and Reserved—Few Changes Looked for in the Management of the Great Armour Interests.

J. Ogden Armour, who succeeds to the management of his father's vast business interests, is physically if not mentally wholly unlike his father, says the Chicago Record. Slim of form and face, deliberate if not slow in his motions, hesitating if not studied in his utterances, he has none of the personal characteristics which distinguished his father. The late head of the Armour house was square of stature, "bullet-headed," strong-jawed, round-faced, quick of movement, alert in repose, impulsive, positive, aggressive and relentless in the pursuit of an idea.

J. Ogden Armour has a long, narrow head, a chin pointed like his mother's, a refined rather than a strong contour. He is as calm in action as at rest. He lacks impulsiveness to the verge of coldness. He is cautious, modest, evasive as opposed to aggressive, conciliatory, generous and always well-poised. Nobody who knows him believes that he absolutely approves of his father's almost slavish adherence to early hours, hard work, devotion to detail and personal supervision of a business so perfectly organized and officered that, like a great railroad or a good government it can almost "run itself."

Those who are nearest to the young head of the great packing business agree that he will introduce no startling changes in the affairs of the company. He is notoriously averse to changes, opposed to revolutionary methods and fearful of "scenes." He has always shown a disposition to "take up" with the men who assisted and advised his father and to let well enough alone.

Innocent of any of the combative qualities of his sire, it is probable that he will never engage in those fierce speculative combats that seemed to delight and almost inspire the founder of the house. Yet withal, conciliatory, gentle and deliberate as he is, the young president of Armour & Co. is said to be possessed of a spirit as stubborn and self-reliant as that of his father.

Arthur Meeker is perhaps the dean of the late millionaire's advisers, and there is every reason to believe that J. Ogden will lean confidently upon him and his associates. The young man has not thus far departed from the routine hours set forth and observed by his father. He knows every detail of the business even better than Phil, his brother, knew them at the time he was taken ill. But he does not take business details as seriously as the others. He seems content to know rather than to do.

Already most of his well-conceived and well-digested ideas have been profitably used by the company. There is no reason to suppose that he will abate any of the great projects that may become feasible for the business. There are some who believe that his cool, quiet, deliberate ways are even better suited to the altered conditions of trade than were the swift—almost headlong—methods of his father in the days when commercial victories were won by wit and audacity rather than by diplomacy, finesse and cold calculation.

J. Ogden Armour was born 37 years ago. He spent two years in the public schools and was later sent to Yale, graduating in the class of '89. After an extended European tour he returned to Chicago, and the second day after his arrival was invited by his father to accompany him to the yards. From that time he has worked steadily.

Mr. Armour is a member of the Chicago club, Union league, Chicago Athletic club and various other associations. At least twice a year Mr. Armour, accompanied by his wife, makes a trip to London, where he visits the big markets. They are usually gone from four to eight weeks.

Genuine Chicago Enterprise. Chicago footpads are audacious and ingenious. Two of them despoiled a helpless woman of her purse and fled, pursued by a dozen citizens. When the highwaymen had lured the pursuers to a comparatively deserted street, they turned at bay, and held up the entire dozen, not leaving a nickel in any of their pockets.

Progress in the Far West. Seoul, Corea, has successfully inaugurated an electric tramway. This city boasts of the largest electric plant in the far east, with the exception of that at Tokio, Japan.

How the Young Trees are Protected from the Frost in the South.

Who ever heard of an orange tree being rolled up in a blanket at night? They never heard of such a thing in Florida until the year of the blizzard when the temperature dropped from 55 above zero to 20 in one night and thousands of orchards full of fruit were turned black and bare. Now orange growers have blankets for their trees and when there is danger of a frost tents are stretched around them, and very likely big kerosene lamps or small stoves are lit inside the tent to keep the fingers and toes of valuable trees from being nipped. Only 30 seconds are needed to put up some of these tents which are already in place attached to poles beside the trees and operated by means of rings and strings. In an hour a whole orchard can be made to look like an army camping ground. Some young orchards of many acres are inclosed in silt houses which can be opened and closed like window shutters. Still another way is to inclose the orchard in board fences as high as the trees. On frosty nights a roof is formed by strips of muslin stretched on wires from one side of the field to the other. In all of these inclosures artificial heat of some kind is kept up and everything is used from hand lamps to big sheet iron "salamanders" and miles of stovepipe to distribute the heat to all parts of the orchards.

COLOR OF PERSONALITY.

How This Young Girl Sums Up Her General Impression of Others.

"What do you think of her?" asked the man, as he and the girl looked together at a drawing in one of the illustrated magazines, according to the New York Sun. For answer the young woman took up a pencil and wrote across the top of the page: "She is very distinctly lavender."

"What do you mean?" said the man. "The drawing looks to me very much as though it were done in black and white."

"Of course," said the young woman, "but I mean the real girl of whom that is the picture. I always sum up people in terms of color. The general impression which anyone makes upon me—their look, talk and whole personality—is summed up for me in a color. This is the only way in which I can conceive a general impression of a person. Just as soon as I meet new persons and talk with them half a minute they become for me yellow, or scarlet, or violet, or some other color. As for that, names have color just as much as anything else. Florence, of course, must make anyone think of thick red plush. "To see things in this way, of course, a color has got to have, in itself, a personality, and I dare say that my color personalities are quite different from yours. But that is another question and a very complex one."

Reason for It. Stranger—It seems rather strange that you should complain about your best friend because he took your part. Hamphat—I'm an actor, sir, and I wanted the part myself.—Philadelphia Press.

Two Smart Alecks. "When is a smoky chimney like a balky horse?" asked the smart one. "Why, when it won't draw," replied the one just as smart.—Yonkers Statesman.

More to the Point. Miss Philadelphia—Has he any ancestors worth mentioning? Miss Manhattan—No; but he is the favorite nephew of a wealthy uncle who will soon be one.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Cured of His Conceit. Writes—Briefly used to boast that he never saw a will he couldn't break. Fyfaft—And doesn't he now? Writes—Not since he got married.—Town Topics.

Distressing Stomach Disease—Permanently cured by the masterly power of South American Nervine Tonic. Invalids need suffer no longer, because this great remedy can cure them all. It is a cure for the whole world of stomach weakness and indigestion. The cure brings with the first dose. The relief it brings is marvellous and surprising. It makes no failure; never disappoints. No matter how long you have suffered, your cure is certain under the use of this great health-giving force. Pleasant and always safe. Sold by C. A. Klein, druggist, 128 West Main street, Bloomsburg, Pa. 174 19

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For further information, call on or write to all Pennsylvania Railroad offices, or representatives of the Seaboard Air Line Railway at 306 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.; 1206 and 371 Broadway New York; 30 S. Third Street, Philadelphia; 207 East German Street, Baltimore; 1434 New York Ave., Washington, or to R. E. L. Bunch, General Passenger Agent, Portsmouth, Va.

Florida and Metropolitan Limited