

JAPAN READY FOR WAR

A Fleet of Twenty Battleships Now at Goto.

WAITING FOR ORDERS

Prepared to Grapple with Russia, if Necessary.

The Japanese fleet is acting in close touch with the British Squadron under Vice Admiral Buller—Japan Will Oppose Permanent Russian Occupation of Port Arthur The Sudden Dissolution of the Cabinet Due to the War Spirit.

London, Dec. 29.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated Tuesday, says: "It is reported that a Japanese fleet of over twenty war ships is waiting near Goto Island, outside Nagasaki, fully equipped for war, and only awaiting instructions. This includes the Yashima and the Fuji, two of the first vessels in the Japanese navy, and the Chen Yuan, that was captured from China.

The Japanese fleet, it is said, is acting in close touch with the British Squadron under Vice Admiral Buller, commander in chief of the "China station."

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Japanese minister has not yet been advised of the resignation of the entire cabinet, and he feels that while the resignations may have been tendered the emperor will not accept them until it becomes apparent that an entirely new cabinet under Marquis Ito can be framed.

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SETTLING THE BANK TROUBLES

Comptroller Eckels Makes a Statement to Publishers.

A MEETING OF THE CREDITORS

In Compliance with an Order from Comptroller Eckels, a Meeting is Called—The Many Creditors Who Have Called at the Bank Have Agreed to the Arrangement of Settlement.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—Comptroller of the Currency Eckels wired a statement to this city tonight in relation to the published articles intimating that political feeling had something to do with the failure of the Chestnut Street National Bank and the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund company, of which William S. Singerly, proprietor of the Record, was president. The comptroller says:

I have read with deep interest the statement in a New York paper of this date relative to the affairs of the Chestnut Street National Bank, of Philadelphia, its president, William S. Singerly, and the acts of the comptroller of the currency in connection with the bank's failure.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS.

In compliance with an order from Comptroller Eckels, Deputy Comptroller Coffin today called a meeting of the directors of the bank to take steps to send out the notice of the meeting for shareholders to vote upon the question of going into voluntary liquidation.

Among the many creditors, it may be stated, who have called at the bank to have the plan of liquidation explained to them, not one has dissented. All agree that it is the best way out.

LENZ MURDERERS.

Have Escaped to Caucasus But Have Been Sentenced in Their Absence.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—An indication of the willingness of the Turkish government to oblige the United States minister at Constantinople, who has been pressing for the punishment of the murderers of the American bicyclist Lenz, is contained in a cablegram from the State Department, received today.

FEET FROZEN TO THE BOAT BOTTOM.

Four Men Nearly Perished Off Rockaway Beach.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A rowboat containing four men from an unsuccessful search was washed up on Rockaway Beach today. The men's feet were frozen fast to the bottom of the boat.

RATCLIFFE SENTENCED.

Judge Newburger Does Not Admire Wife Beaters.

New York, Dec. 28.—Edward J. Ratcliffe, the actor, convicted of assault in the third degree for brutally beating his wife, was today sentenced to six months in the penitentiary. Later in the day, however, Judge Justice Dickson, at White Plains, granted a temporary stay, returnable in Brooklyn on Monday next. The actor will remain in jail pending the argument as to whether there shall be a retrial of the charge of assault.

NO STARVATION IN KLONDIKE.

Passengers on the Steamer Alki Report That Food is Plenty in Dawson City.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 28.—The steamer Alki arrived here today bringing advice from Dawson City up to Nov. 25. The Alki's passengers included thirty persons who left Dawson between Nov. 22 and Nov. 25. All without exception say there will be no starvation at Dawson this winter.

DEPUTATION TO VISIT CHINA.

Missionary Work in the Flowery Kingdom To Be Inspected.

Boston, Dec. 28.—At a meeting of the Prudential committee of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions today, it was voted to send a deputation to China, consisting of Rev. Judson Smith, D. D., secretary of the foreign department; Colonel Charles Hawkins; and Samuel H. Shapleigh.

COTTON SITUATION.

It is Thought That Operatives Will Not Resist Wage Reduction.

Fall River, Mass., Dec. 28.—The cotton mill situation here is uncertain, but it is thought the operatives will not forcibly resist the reduction of their wages when it goes into effect next week.

MURDERER'S CONFESSION.

William Daly Admits Having Killed William Doolan.

Haverhill, Mass., Dec. 28.—William Daly was arraigned in court today on the charge of murdering William Doolan yesterday. He pleaded guilty and was held without bail for the grand jury.

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 28.—Learned men from all over the land are assembled in Cleveland today. The occasion is the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, which is holding its second congress west of the Alleghenies.

CURRENCY REFORM OUT IN INDIANA

Representatives of the Republican Party Hold a Conference.

THEIR PROPOSITION A SURPRISE.

Silver and Gold Will Be the Issues. Senator Fairbank Makes a Speech in Which He Points Out Prospects That Will Follow the Dingley Bill.

Indianapolis, Dec. 28.—Five hundred representatives of the Republican party of Indiana held a conference here today. The primary issue before the party was the state of the proposition that the currency must be reformed was a surprise to many in attendance.

ON CURRENCY REFORM.

On the subject of currency reform, Senator Fairbank spoke as follows: "Our Democratic friends say to the old Democrats, the Republican party will not keep faith with us; when the Republicans declared in favor of sound money in 1896, they did not mean it. The Republican party, with McKinley as our leader intend to keep faith, to preserve the gold standard unimpaired to the American people."

DEATH OF A FAMOUS CHAPLAIN.

Very Rev. William Corby, of South Bend, Passes Away.

Pennsylvania Pensioners.

Washington, Dec. 28.—These Pennsylvania pensioners have been notified that they will receive their pension for the month of December.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today: Fair; Warmer; Southerly Winds.

His Son the Engineer.

Saint Hyacinthe, Que., Dec. 28.—Antoine Copelle, aged 35, was run over and instantly killed at Richmond yesterday by a train whose engineer was Coyette's son.

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Death From Foot Ball.

New York, Dec. 28.—Frank Henley, the young man who was found unconscious in the street on Sunday last, and whose condition was said by his father to be due to an injury received in a foot ball game eight years ago, died today.

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FITZSIMMONS WILL FIGHT.

Corbett and Kid McCoy Will Be Given a Chance.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Martin Julian today, on behalf of Robert Fitzsimmons, announced the following statement:

Fitzsimmons will defend his right to the title of champion. Mrs. Fitzsimmons has released him from his promise of retirement.

SECRETARY GAGE HAS NOT RESIGNED.

Firm For the Gold Standard, the Secretary of Treasury Desired to Relieve the President From Trouble With His Republican Bimetallic Senatorial Critics.

Washington, Dec. 28.—It was reported yesterday that Secretary Gage had offered to resign if the president thought that step desirable, in view of the secretary's declaration for the gold standard before the banking and currency committee, and the president had stated that he desired him to remain at the head of the treasury department and thereby has expressed his approval of Secretary Gage's declaration.

WILLED BY CHARLES GONTOIT.

An Estate Amounting to \$1,500,000 Devoted to Church Charities.

KILLED HIS FRIEND.

George H. Lincoln Stabs John Healy to Death While Intoxicated.

THE FIGHT A DRAW.

Daly Everhardt Match at New Orleans Ends With the Tenth Round.

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CHINA SEEMS POWERLESS

German Question Unsettled and the Alarm Spreading.

GOVERNMENT PARALYZED

Apparently Unable to Cope With the Situation.

Uncertainty as to the Attitude of the Powers—New Year's Day Forecastings—England's Fleet Reported at Port Hamilton, Twenty Ships Strong—Japan's Squadron Said to Have Arrived There Also.

Pekin, Dec. 28.—The German question is unsettled. China's difficulty is increasing owing to the uncertainty of the attitude of the powers. Germany's withdrawal from Kiaochow Bay is said to be conditional upon her finding a suitable naval station elsewhere.

London, Dec. 28.—A special despatch from Shanghai says the British fleet has anchored at Port Hamilton.

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