

CHINA WANTS PEACE.

OFFERS JAPAN \$75,000,000 TO CALL IT QUITS.

The Amount is Regarded as Large—Now that the Downfall of Port Arthur is But a Question of Hours the Powers at the Celestial Kingdom Hasten Negotiations With Japan—Records of Ministers Dun and Denby.

China's Peace Offering.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—A cable from Hiroshima, Japan, where the mikado has established headquarters, states that China has intimated her willingness to pay a war indemnity of 100,000,000 taels and, in addition, to pay all the war expenses incurred by Japan. The indemnity would reach 150,000,000 taels, the total offer of China would be 250,000,000 taels. The tael is a Chinese silver coin worth about seventy-five cents at the present exchange, so that the whole payment would be, approximately, \$175,000,000, American money. The amount is regarded here as quite large, and it is believed arrangements between the two nations could be effected on terms providing for a smaller war indemnity.

Diplomats here say that under ordinary circumstances it would take some time for China to present its offer to United States Minister Denby, but, owing to the fact that the Japanese are now at the walls of Port Arthur about to make the last blow at China, the Chinese government may hurry the negotiations to a conclusion. It is expected that Minister Denby will transmit the offer by telegraph to Tien Tsin and Shanghai and thence by cable to Yokohama. The understanding is that China and Japan will pay the expenses of the American ministers incident to the negotiation.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Japanese state department has notified Ministers Dun at Tokio and Denby at Peking to transmit such direct word as China may wish to make to Japan. The cable directions were sent yesterday.

The advance on Port Arthur is regarded as having an important bearing on the peace negotiations. Lieutenant Miyake, naval attaché of the Japanese legation here, says that the advance movement has been most cautious, as the ground for forty miles around Port Arthur has been found fairly alive with powder mines connected with electric wires to Port Arthur. Three days ago the Japanese were within a day's march of the fortress, but it was necessary to send ahead small scouting parties to pick a route away from the mines and electric wires. The regular roads could not be used for the artillery, as it would have been blown up, and accordingly the big guns have been moved in circuitous routes through the morasses. It is regarded as likely that this caution march will have been completed to-day, and the Japanese legation is hourly expecting word that the decisive blow has been struck, though a long siege may be necessary, as the fortress has one of the strongest defenses of modern times. It is believed that Japanese success would quickly close the peace negotiations and that a repulse would impel China to hold off further.

Officials and diplomats are scanning the records of Messrs. Dun and Denby to ascertain their capacity and character. Mr. Dun has had unusual experience in Japan. General Capron, who built the Japanese legation in Washington, wished to send a comment on the Japanese legation to Japan. The Duns had a stock farm in Ohio, and the minister's sheep were bought and he went to Japan with them. He remained there some time and met a girl of Japanese lady of high family, by whom he had a daughter. This attached him to the Japanese and made him a fixture there. President Arthur first appointed him as second secretary at the United States legation at Tokio. When President Cleveland's administration began two years ago, California made an effort to secure the appointment of a woman to Japan for one of her favored sons. At an opportune time, however, Judge Thurman, who had been on the presidential ticket with Mr. Cleveland four years before, asked the president as the only favor he had to request, that Mr. Dun be promoted to minister. The request was complied with. Mr. Dun's Japanese wife is dead, but his relations with the Japanese are cordial, and he is well fitted by his long experience, which fits him for the present negotiations. Minister Denby is a lawyer of ability, who has served through three administrations, being appointed during Mr. Cleveland's first term. He is retained by Mr. Harrison owing to their personal associations in Indiana and the objection of China to Senator Blair and against reappointment of Cleveland. He has an outward austerity which has not, however, prevented his being most acceptable to China.

MOUNT TACOMA ERUPTION.

The Great Monarch of the Cascades Strangely Transformed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—Great excitement has been caused throughout the Puget sound country by what is looked upon by many as an eruption of Mount Tacoma, or Rainier, 14,411 feet high, the highest of the loftiest peaks in the United States.

The mountain has lately been strangely transformed. The crest of the great monarch of the Cascades has changed, the cone having fallen in, and steam can be seen rising from the crater. There is no eruption, it is believed by those most competent to judge, but great masses of rock seem to have fallen. The snow-capped cone has disappeared and a sharp-pointed peak has risen in its place to the east of the crater. The changed appearance of the mountain is evident from the streets of Seattle, ninety miles distant, and thousands of people have watched the great peak all the afternoon. But very few people have ever ascended the mountain, and at this season of the year the ascension is an absolute impossibility. There is no way of making a thorough investigation of the phenomenon.

Gold From Various Sources.

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.—The New York agency of a large Canadian bank has received from its correspondent at San Francisco \$250,000 in gold within the last two days, and \$50,000 in gold has been shipped by the Bank of Montreal to its agent in this city for the purpose of subscribing to the government banking bill. The government banking firm with Paris and San Francisco connections, is also receiving small parcels of gold from California.

POSTAL AFFAIRS.

Postmaster General Bissell's Annual Report to the President.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—Postmaster General W. S. Bissell has submitted to the president his annual report for the year ending June 30, 1894. He briefly outlines the policy of the department in the following:

"In general I would recommend that the first and most important thing to be done is to revise the laws as to second-class matter so as to place the postoffice department immediately upon a self-sustaining basis.

"Second—Avoid expensive experiments like postal telegraph, rural fee delivery, etc.

"Third—Develop the postal service on existing lines of administration, viz: Extend free delivery in cities that now enjoy it; accord it to towns already entitled to it under the law, and quicken railroad transportation.

"Fourth—Revise and reclassify the organization of the railway mail service and reclassify clerks in post-offices.

"Fifth—Provide for district supervision of all postal affairs by appointment of expert postal officials from the classified service, as recommended in my last annual report."

"The revenue for the year was \$75,080,479; expenditures, \$84,324,414, leaving a deficit of \$8,243,935. The estimates for the current year ending June 30, 1895, are: Revenue, \$84,427,749; expenditures, \$90,399,485; deficit, \$5,971,737. The estimates submitted to the secretary of the treasury for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, are: Revenue, \$85,997,407; expenditures, \$91,059,283; deficiency, \$4,151,876."

This annual deficiency, the postmaster general says, could be overcome by the increase of postal rates, but he does not believe this advisable. Economy has been practiced, but nevertheless, great care has been taken that it should not affect the efficiency of the service.

The economies have consisted mainly in reletting contracts for mail transportation and in the cost and amount of supplies; also in the abolition of seven of the eleven steamship subsidy contracts, which will mean a total saving in the ten years of the contracts' life of \$14,431,325.

Mr. Bissell recommends the experimental free delivery projects should be discontinued, and thinks that free delivery in rural districts is not needed or desired by the people. Both these projects were originated by his predecessor.

One of the most important and interesting features of Mr. Bissell's report is its discussion of class matter. In his last report he referred to the great disproportion of growth of second-class matter, which has made a thorough investigation during the year, upon which he says: "The effect of all this upon my mind is a conviction that the statutes and the precedents regarding this business are now not as defective; that they embody the only great abuse at present existing in the postal service; and that, as this business is growing all the time, some remedy should be applied."

Of the obstruction of mails by strikes, the postmaster general says: "In my last report I called attention to the necessity for legislation such as that which I have recommended by the superintendent of the railway mail service for the punishment of train wrecking, and for legislative determination of the definition of a mail train. Such legislation would be of great advantage to the postal service."

The postmaster general does not favor the postal telegraph, a system which his predecessors have favored. He points out that in a country where the territory is so large the cost of a postal telegraph would far exceed any possible receipts or benefits.

He also refers to the following daily average business of the department, which shows the vastness of the postal service:

Number of miles of post route run 1,130,000
Number of letters mailed 2,300,000
Number of envelopes manufactured 1,800,000
Number of newspapers manufactured 1,500,000
Number of pieces mailed 15,750,000
Number of letters mailed 7,600,000
Number of newspapers mailed 1,500,000
Number of pieces mailed 27,500,000
Number of pieces handled in dead letter office 21,000
Dollar transactions in money order business 81,000,000
Dollar transactions in postal notes 211,000

Bonanza Gold Mine.

SPOKANE, Wash., Nov. 27.—Michael Shuman, a well-known mining man, has returned from his mines in the Okanogan district. He reports the find of a veritable bonanza gold mine at the very summit of the Cascade range of mountains near Slate creek. Two young men from Anacortes named Baron and Gerrish, are the lucky finders. Shuman says that the boys, after a week's work with the crudest of instruments, have cleaned up \$12,000, with plenty of the same rich dirt in sight. Nearly all the miners and sections of the country have flocked to the new Eldorado and staked out claims.

Recorder Owsley May Be Removed.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 27.—To a reporter to-day Governor Stone said that he was not ready to announce what he would do in relation to Recorder of Voters Owsley, but he said he is of the opinion now that he had not the legal power to remove Owsley. He declined to talk further on the topic, but stated that he would determine within a very short time what his legal powers in the matter were and then he would be in a position to say what action he proposed to take.

A Fatal Jump.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 27.—While the family of Colonel H. Phelps, who is connected with the legal department of the Missouri Pacific railway, were out driving yesterday afternoon, the horse took fright and ran away. Mrs. Phelps became panic-stricken and jumped from the carriage, receiving injuries from which she died soon after.

Four Rivals for Senator Do Ph.

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 27.—Senator Dolph will not have clear sailing for reelection to the United States senate. Already the names of four aspirants have been put forward, and in the probability will be presented to the legislature. They are Governor-elect W. P. Lord, Congressman Binger Hermann, C. W. Fulton of Astoria and T. H. Tongue of Hillsboro.

OFFICIAL ABSTRACT OF VOTES.

The Appended Tabulation is an Abstract of the Vote Cast at the General Election of 1894, as Returned to the Secretary of State, and Officially Tabulated.

Table with columns for GOVERNOR, LIET. GOVERNOR, SECRETARY OF STATE, AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, TREASURER, SPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, ATTORNEY-GENERAL, COM. PUB. LANDS AND BUILDINGS, CHOICE UNITED STATES SENATOR, and Total Vote. Rows list counties from Adams to York.

ODD FREAKS OF NATURE.

A Dog Who Went About With Two Orange Trees of Considerable Size.

A party of pedestrians while tramping along the Wissahickon had their attention drawn to a singularly shaped tree growing along the creek side of the drive. The tree when a sapling had evidently been fixed by some meddler with nature, who, after penetrating one stem with a knife, inserted the end of a branch into the hole and left it there to grow.

The peculiar formation led the party into talking of other peculiarities of nature which they had observed in the Philadelphia Times. One of the trio said: "When I was a boy I went with several other boys into the woods that stood back from the village of Plymouth to gather wild flowers. We tramped through the woods until the underbrush became so thick that we had to crawl in places, and when we had done so, we found a very large egg of the boys, a venturesome little fellow, who was as full of fun as an egg is of meat, was on the lead, and, all at once cried out: 'Say, fellows, come here and see what I've found.' We hurried forward and saw him bending over the skull of an ox which lay on the ground face upward. From among the eye-sockets there was protruding a small chestnut tree, while from the other eye-sockets once attached a beautiful vine shot forth, intertwining the horns and trailing gracefully about the skull.

"We looked about for a piece of bark or some other object upon which we could transport the odd flower-pot to one of our homes. We succeeded in getting it out of the thicket, after carefully placing it upon a piece of bark. When we got to a clearance we drew lots to see who should own the find. The lot fell to me and the other boys helped me to carry it home, where my father planted it in the garden. The vine died, but the chestnut tree grew to large trees. The skull long ago crumbled to dust and formed a fertilizer for the trees, which to-day look like me. Growing so close together they grew into each other, and went to the old place every autumn and gather chestnuts under the tree which the owner is kind enough to call mine. Last autumn I found that the tree had been slightly injured during the summer by being struck by lightning, and I made arrangements with the owner that if it should die I am to get the timber, which I shall have made up into furniture. Part of the trunk I shall take to a carver and have him carve from it an ox's skull, from which I shall have miniature artificial trees and vines to grow, and shall give it the best place in my library."

White Rhinoceros.

From a letter addressed by that renowned sportsman, Mr. Selous, to the Field, it appears that that curious and rare animal, the white rhinoceros, has not yet gone the way of the dodo and the great bustard, though some have ventured to give Mr. Selous' authority for saying that he is extinct. It is to the occupation of Northern Mashonaland, which kept the native hunters to the west of the Umwati river, that this gentleman attributes the fact that in this part a few specimens still survive the constant persecution which in the last twenty years has utterly exterminated them in every portion of South Central Africa. "There may yet," Mr. Selous adds, "be ten, or even twenty of these animals left, but certainly not more, I think than the latter number."

Worth It.

Briggs—Fine suit of yours.
Grigg—Yes; business suit.
"How much?"
"Nothing."
"Don't mean to say you got it for nothing?"
"Yes; I did; my employer gave it to me."
"What for?"
"For finding my own business."

TEMPTS THE THUNDERBOLTS.

Danger of the Washington Monument and Its Good Luck.

It is for electrical engineers to say whether there is not danger of a catastrophe in the great monument of granite and marble which the people of America have erected to the honored memory of George Washington. The monster obelisk, capped by its aluminum tip, is supported on the inside by eight iron columns running from the top to bottom. That represents tons of metal piled heavenward to the height of 555 feet, as if to tempt the thunderbolts. To be sure, there are lightning rods on the outside, but they are pigmy bits of wire compared to the mass of iron within. One of the attendants told me the other day that there never passes a severe thunderstorm without some electrical disturbance in the monument. Usually it has no more serious effect than to make the wires and electric signals in the shaft act better for some days following. Several times, however, he says, he has seen the iron columns wreathed with fiery snakes with such a crackling and hissing of blue-forked flame as might well frighten a man with simple tastes. On one occasion the attendant assured me that he saw the electric bolt leap from an electric column and disappear down the well-trodden hole at the base of the shaft. Two steps farther and he would have been directly in its path.

Now, the question is, and it would seem worthy of serious consideration, whether according to the laws of probabilities, such an accident will take place one day or another. Have no fear that the right whale will swallow you. He could not do so even if he were so disposed, as his gullet is only large enough to admit a good-sized herring. The sperm whale could swallow a man if he desired to do so, but he is no more inclined to swallow a man—particularly with his electric storm—than you would be to swallow a small bird with its feathers. But he will crush you in his ponderous jaws, if he is a fighting bull, and eject you in detail. He will also chew up and spit out pieces of the demolished bat, break up the wooden utensils floating upon the water, and every piece of wood, until more than seven baskets of fragments may be taken up, and having fired him off in this way, he will lay off, angrily snapping the water with his fins, and challenge some other boats, or, perhaps, in rare cases, attack the vessel.—Waverley Magazine.

A SENSIBLE ELEPHANT.

Enterprise on the Pacific Coast.

The oldest industry of the Atlantic coast, the fisheries, is the newest of the Pacific. Until a few years ago the fishermen on the northern coasts of California paid no attention to the vast quantities of sturgeon and halibut there, regarding them as worthless, and it is only within two or three years that they have been opened up. A correspondent of a paper saw a large elephant engaged in pumping such a trough full of water. He continues: "In passing I noticed that one of the two tree-trunks which supported the trough at either end had rolled

THE AFTERNOON NAP.

Consensus of Opinion Is That It Ultimately Depends on the Person.

The editor of Wisdom publishes the opinions of a number of eminent correspondents concerning the value of "the afternoon nap." The correspondents are described as "brain workers," which term seems to mean literary and professional men. The replies are as such, readers are usually asked. Our medical readers will know in this, as in other matters, tot hominus tot usus. One man can work long and well on hours of sleep which would fail to restore another, as one man can use the tobacco or tea which poisons his neighbor. Some who cannot, or will not, work by day work by night. Now, other things being equal, the value of morning sleep is less than that of sleep by night; it is lighter and more open to disturbances. He who reads and writes at night finds, at three o'clock or sooner, that he has undoubtedly taxed his strength; for such a person "the afternoon nap" is clear gain—it adds to the sum of sleep of a sort. Elderly people and bad sleepers often wake very early, and remain awake in spite of the friendly sandwhich for these the later nap is useful. There are, too, hard-worked men of naturally feeble powers, who benefit greatly by an addition to their hours of sleep; but for the ordinary man who sleeps of an afternoon, the judicious physician will prescribe less luncheon. Finally, the value of casual slumbering to persons suffering from "insomnia" is not sufficiently well known. It is too often supposed that sleep is a fluid which must be hoarded up for use in due seasons. On the contrary, sleep breeds sleep, and the warm feet, the incense of the chair may offer what the softest pillow refuses, and the sweet custom of sleep is bewitched.

How a Whale Fights.

Approaching a whale at all times is like going into battle, notwithstanding the abundance of the fishermen. Have no fear that the right whale will swallow you. He could not do so even if he were so disposed, as his gullet is only large enough to admit a good-sized herring. The sperm whale could swallow a man if he desired to do so, but he is no more inclined to swallow a man—particularly with his electric storm—than you would be to swallow a small bird with its feathers. But he will crush you in his ponderous jaws, if he is a fighting bull, and eject you in detail. He will also chew up and spit out pieces of the demolished bat, break up the wooden utensils floating upon the water, and every piece of wood, until more than seven baskets of fragments may be taken up, and having fired him off in this way, he will lay off, angrily snapping the water with his fins, and challenge some other boats, or, perhaps, in rare cases, attack the vessel.—Waverley Magazine.

He Was Innocent.

Mr. Justice Maul once addressed a phenomenon of innocence as follows: "Prisoner at the bar, your counsel thinks you innocent; the counsel for the prosecution thinks you innocent; I think you innocent. But a jury of your own countrymen, in the exercise of such common sense as they possess, which does not seem to be much, have found you guilty, and it remains that I should pass upon you the sentence of law. That sentence is, that you be kept in imprisonment for one day; and as that day was yesterday, you may now go about your business.—Argonaut.

A Suggestion.

"How do you pay these rammers?" asked a wayfarer of a paving contractor. "By the day," said the contractor. "You ought to pay them by the pound," said the wayfarer, "then they'd pound oftener."

Why He Hadn't Accepted Him.

"No."
"Then you are foolish. He is well to do, and would make a good husband."
"Yes, but you see he hasn't proposed yet."