

## BACK FROM ALASKA

Steamer Tees Returns with a Number of Gold Seekers.

START FROM DAWSON DURING NOVEMBER

Scams Run Out of Provisions and Beg Along the Coast.

MANY OUTFITS FROZEN IN THE RIVER

Several Rafts of Beef Carried Down Stream by the Ice.

PEOPLE AT DAWSON HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT

Americans Complain of Having to Pay Duty on Their Outfits—Reports of Several New Strikes.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 28.—The steamer Tees, from Skagway, brought down five Klondike men, Richard Shaw of Victoria, who left Dawson on November 16, and three other Victorians, and T. Hanby of Seattle, who started on his tramp October 27. The party leaving on this latter date ran out of provisions at Fort Selkirk and had to beg their way along getting food at different camps or when it was not to be had living on anything they could shoot. Shaw came out by dog trail, leaving Dawson after the ice formed. He passed fifty men along the river bound outward. They were all coming along with just enough food to last them. At Stewart river forty-three outfits bound for Dawson were frozen in. Two of the three rafts of beef which were on the bars just above Dawson were carried down the river right past the town by the floating ice.

On the night of November 15 Jim Gray's saloon at Dawson was robbed of \$20,000. Ed Lord, the bartender, and two other men were arrested. At Fort Selkirk a man named Keeler was robbed of \$8,000. Ed Jackson was arrested on suspicion.

A report reached Dawson of a rich strike made on "48 Below," on Hatcher creek. The dirt went \$3 to the ton and there was five feet of gravel. Dominion creek is also turning out well.

Americans complain bitterly of having to pay duty on their outfits at Tagish lake.

J. W. McKay, who left Dawson on November 3, reached Skagway before the steamer Tees left. It is stated that he brought out \$75,000 in dust. Shaw says none of the men on the trails will get down until the ice goes out in the spring. Just before he left claim owners reduced wages from \$15 to \$10 per day and the men were threatening to go on a strike.

Speaking of the food situation at Dawson, Shaw stated that food was scarce, but that the men now there have enough to last them through the winter. There are a number of men along the trails who are not very well provided. All the recent mills at Big Salmon waiting means of transport to Dawson.

MORE MEN RETURN FROM DAWSON

Deny All Reports of Any Possible Suffering.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 28.—The steamer Alki arrives here today at 1 p. m., bringing advice from Dawson City up to November 25. The Alki's passengers included thirty persons who left Dawson between November 22 and November 25. All, without exception, say there will be no starvation at Dawson this winter or next spring. When informed of the action being taken by the United States government to send in a relief expedition, they said it was unnecessary and uncalled for. Several thousand men have gone from Dawson to Fort Yukon, where there is an unlimited supply of provisions. Those remaining in Dawson have three regular meals every day, and have enough supplies in sight to last well along in the spring. No sickness is reported at Dawson, and everybody there is in much better circumstances and worrying less over the food situation than their friends on the outside imagine.

Nearly all those who arrived on the steamer Alki today were at Dawson City only about three months ago. They say that with the first rush in the latter part of July. They came out to purchase their outfits for next season. Following is a list of today's arrivals: W. W. Evesland, S. W. Fox, W. E. Knowles, C. Leung, B. Murnier, D. E. Campbell, J. J. McKay and wife, Dan Egan, W. A. Kiestling, B. Alderson, A. Hedstrom, W. Falck, L. D. Barnes, G. D. Dubson, George Munroe, S. W. Poole, J. Dubinsky, E. A. Sacher, W. J. Christie, M. B. Crane, C. J. Christianson, E. L. Reynolds, T. H. Malory, Con O'Brien, Ed Barrington, Jim Keating and A. L. Cheney.

J. J. McKay and wife, whose home is in Tacoma, made the trip out from Dawson to Talia in the quick time of twenty-five days. They passed over 200 people on the way up.

The Alki's passengers brought out, it is estimated, about \$150,000 in dust and nuggets.

The last to leave Dawson were Messrs. Egan and Kiestling. They made even better time than the McKays, completing the journey in twenty-one and one-half days. All agree that the most serious shortage at Dawson is in candles and oil. This will reduce the output of the mines, as an absence of artificial light will prevent their being worked to full capacity.

Edward Conrad, when asked if there is danger of starvation at Dawson, replied emphatically: "No, sir, there is not a surplus of food, but there will be no starvation." When asked for an opinion on the governmental expedition he said: "It is a humbug, and I doubt if it can get down to Dawson before the ice breaks. The men who came out and say that starvation lurks there are men who were there only a few weeks, got discouraged and homesick and cry starvation as an excuse for coming out."

Conrad's statements, so far as they related to the improbability of starvation, were endorsed by all the other arrivals seen.

On November 20 the English church, known as "The Klondike," was destroyed by fire. Two of three adjoining cabins were also burned.

All the creeks in the Klondike district are reported as turning out well.

About 300 men are camped at the mouth of Stewart river, which stream they will prospect this winter. No new gold discoveries are reported.

Mrs. Booth's Condition Unchanged.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The condition of Mrs. Ballington Booth today is reported as being unchanged.

## CANADA PARTIAL TO THIS COUNTRY.

Interesting Figures on Its Exports and Imports.

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—The trade and navigation returns shortly to be issued will show the total imports entered for consumption were \$11,250,921, an against imports of \$110,587,453 the preceding year. The duty collected amounted to \$19,891,897, as against \$20,219,037, a decrease of \$327,040.

Exports amounted to \$123,950,838, an increase of \$17,551,485. There were exported to the United States Canadian products to the value of \$43,991,485, as against \$34,469,428 in 1905-6.

Great Britain took of Canada's exports \$69,535,852. Yet, Canada's imports from the old country were but \$29,412,288, a decrease of \$3,567,554 as compared with the preceding year, while from the United States Canada imported to the value of \$61,649,941, an increase of \$3,675,023 over imports of American products of the year before. Upon the total imports of British goods there was collected duty to the amount of \$6,225,354, an average rate of 21 per cent, and on total imports from the United States the sum of \$8,147,075, an average rate of but 13 per cent. Even upon the dutiable portion of imports the average duty on American imports was only about 28 per cent, as against 30 per cent on imports from Great Britain.

The balance of trade in 1906-7 as between Canada and Great Britain is in Canada's favor by \$40,151,664 for the year, as between Canada and the United States it is in favor of the Americans by \$17,657,558.

CONFEST THE WILL OF DR. EVANS.

Brother of the Deceased to Make the Fight.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Rudolph Evans, the only surviving brother of the late Dr. Thomas W. Evans, the famous American dentist, who died in Paris, November 14, arrived here yesterday evening with his wife and child.

It is learned from a reliable source that the original will of Dr. Evans, drawn up by Arthur E. Valois of New York, his attorney, was so badly copied by Dr. Evans, who also amended it and added several codicils, that it is very doubtful if it is legal.

It also appears that Dr. Evans made two wills, one for the United States, and another for France, which was sworn to by the translator, who demands 35,000 francs for the translation, and having found differences in the two wills, he refuses to deliver them until both are probated here. The United States consul, however, insists that the wills be handed to him for verification. This adds to the complications.

Rudolph Evans, who, if his brother had died intestate, would have been entitled to half the fortune of the deceased, which after all only amounts to exactly \$4,000,000, received but \$10,000. Therefore he is determined to fight the will.

CHINA WAITING ON THE POWERS.

Utterly Powerless to Do Anything in the Present Crisis.

PEKIN, Dec. 28.—The German question is unsettled. China's difficulty is increased owing to the uncertainty of the attitude of the powers. Germany's withdrawal from Kiaochow Bay is said to be conditional upon its finding a suitable naval station elsewhere. China is becoming alarmed at the present situation. The government appears to be utterly powerless. No answer has been received from Russia concerning the proposed loan. There are calamitous forebodings connected with the sun's eclipse on the Chinese New Year's day.

Redmond Seeks Today.

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LONDON, Dec. 28.—(New York World Telegram—Special Telegram.)—John Redmond, M. P., the earl of Ava and Hon. Robert Guinness are among the passengers on the Teutonic, sailing for New York tomorrow. Redmond is going over to work up the movement for the celebration of the centenary of the rebellion of '98. Dublin Freeman's Journal, which is the organ of the movement, has in its mission today, says: "It is more folly to suggest for a moment that it is not meant for a party demonstration in favor of a campaign of the section of which Mr. Redmond is leader in this country. An attempt to narrow down the celebration to the party who are, to put it very mildly, a very small minority of the Irish race in America or at home. Redmond's position in Ireland is in itself conclusive proof of the meaning of this American expedition. Redmond has set himself to determine opposition to the peace and unity proposals of Mr. Harrington. He persists in maintaining division and it is not to be doubted that it is not with pursuance of that policy that his mission to America has been undertaken."

The earl of Ava is on his way to spend the winter in Canada, with a view to engaging in the Klondike enterprise, in which his father, the marquis of Dufferin, is largely interested. The earl of Ava is one of the most popular men in London society and a great organizer of society functions. He is unmarried.

Officers of Geological Society.

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—The annual meeting of the Geological Society of America was held here today and the following officers were elected: President John H. Brown, New York; first vice president, H. K. Eason, Amherst, Mass.; second vice president, George M. Dawson, Ottawa; secretary, H. L. Fairchild, Rochester, N. Y.; treasurer, J. C. White, Morgantown, W. Va.; editor, J. T. Brown, Washington, D. C.; librarian, H. P. Cushing Cleveland; councilors, W. M. Davis, New York; Robert Ball, Ottawa, and M. E. Wadsworth, Houghton, Mich.

Welcome the British Flag.

LAGOS, West Africa, Dec. 28.—Hesha and Berehara, important Bariba towns, have been occupied by the Lagos Hausas. The inhabitants are enthusiastic over the presence of the British flag, as they feared an attack from the French native troops, who are attempting to force themselves on the Bariba country and are devastating it.

Strengthening Out His Accounts.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—S. H. Elrod of Clark, S. D., was discharging agent for the Sioux Indians in 1891 and his accounts have never yet been finally settled at the Treasury department. He is here for the purpose of strengthening them out; and is making rapid progress to that end.

Prince George Not Popular.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Times says that at the last meeting of the ambassadors of the powers the Russian representative created surprise by proposing Prince George of Greece as governor of Crete. The proposal was coldly received.

Attend Princess Hohenzollern's Funeral.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—All the members of the staff of the United States embassy attended the funeral of a requiem mass for the repose of the soul of the late Princess Hohenzollern, who died on Tuesday.

## CONFERENCE IS POSTPONED

Secretary Alger Is Too Sick to Discuss Klondike Relief.

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES ON HAND

Will Remain a Few Days Hoping that Mr. Alger Will Recover Sufficiently to Meet with Them.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The Canadian minister of the interior, Mr. Sifton, and his secretary, Mr. McKenna, were waited upon at their hotel this morning by Assistant Secretary Melkjohn of the War department and welcomed in the name of Secretary Alger. They were then driven around the suburbs, including the Soldiers' Home grounds until noon, when Secretary Alger, who arose from his sick bed for the purpose of entertaining his visitors at luncheon. It is understood that Mr. Sifton is accepting Mr. Alger's invitation to come to Washington for the purpose of consulting respecting Klondike relief measures, telegraphed that his government was heartily in favor of co-operation with the United States authorities in the effort to aid the miners in the Klondike.

CONFERENCE POSTPONED.

The expected conference between Secretary Alger and Mr. Sifton did not take place this evening. Secretary Alger had overrated his strength and he was not sufficiently recovered from his illness to undertake the work of arranging details of the relief expeditions. The Canadian visitors are to remain in Washington for a few days, however, so that the conference is simply postponed for a short time.

Captain Brainerd has been authorized to issue tomorrow the advertisements for the supplies that are to be carried on the relief expeditions. They probably will appear in newspapers in Chicago, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. The list of articles to be carried has been arranged with the greatest care by the quartermaster's department, after consultation with Surgeon General Sternberg, who is most vitally necessary food articles, which combine resistance to cold and decay with great nutritive value, being selected.

SUPPLIES TO BE SENT.

The list is as follows: List No. 1 includes absolutely indispensable articles and is made up of bacon, flour, peas, corn, coffee, tea and sugar. These things are to go if anything is taken. It will be noticed that in food value alone are set ahead of potatoes, and tea is taken instead of coffee. Both potatoes and coffee are provided for in list No. 2, which is made up of articles to be carried in addition to those in the first list, if there is accommodation for them. This list is dried fruits (apples, prunes or raisins), desiccated potatoes and coffee. If the transportation facilities are equal to a full cargo, the list would be as follows: Fresh meat in cans, sugar and tobacco.

From the advice of the Canadians it is likely that Skagway will be chosen, instead of Talia, as the terminal point of the relief expedition. The reason for this change is said to be the fact that Skagway has wharves at which the ships can discharge their cargoes directly, while at Talia there is nothing but lighters to land the goods.

Mr. Sifton said tonight that he proposed to conclude his visit within the next two days and that there was no doubt the two governments could make an arrangement which would be mutually beneficial in extending relief to the Klondikers.

The minister's attention was called to reports that Canada might not be willing to co-operate in the use of the military arm of the government as provided by the bill which recently became a law. He said, however, that he apprehended no difficulty in that direction, as the only purpose of the two governments was to effect the relief in the most feasible way possible. There appears to be no desire on the part of the Canadian officials to interpose any technical obstacles to the relief measures, and for this reason it is expected a satisfactory agreement will be reached within the next two days.

MIXING CHARITY AND POLITICS.

Spanish Minister Comments on the Talk of Jugglers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—M. Dupuy de Lome, the Spanish ambassador, is expressing strong disapproval of reports that the relief matters adopted by the United States and co-operated in by Spain are a step toward intervention by this government in the affairs of Cuba. The minister characterizes such reports as an effort to mix politics with charity and as calculated to excite ill-feeling which will embarrass the charitable movement and impede its execution in Havana and throughout the island. Referring to the subject he said today: "While talk of intervention in certain quarters has no other purpose than to embitter both countries and to divert the original essential purpose of alleviating. The extension of aid to the sufferers in Cuba is no more intervention than was the action of all the nations of the world—included Spain—to extend help to Chicago after the big fire, or that of the United States in sending a shipload of grain to Russia and last year to India and of the city of London in sending food and money to Paris when the siege by the Germans was raised."

Turning to a dispatch just received from Dr. Congost, secretary general at Havana, the minister proceeded, quoting in part from the dispatch: "It is not true that the Spanish authorities in Cuba are not equal to the situation. Success is being given abundantly and relief committees are in regular operation. In two of the provinces—Puerto Principe and Santiago—there has been no concentration. Port plantations are grinding sugar and there is ample work for those who want it. Many of the reconcentrated who are reported to be suffering, are in such condition through an unwillingness to work. The energy with which relief measures are being conducted in Havana is shown by a glance in the Havana papers every day, where there are long lists of charitable donations from parties of condensed milk, cornmeal and like articles, especially serviceable for the relief of children. It should be borne in mind also that the Spanish government has remitted all duties on relief supplies sent to Cuba, so that for every dollar of supplies entering Cuba Spain adds a considerable percentage, the duties ranging from 50 per cent down. It is well understood that the American help will be received with the spirit it is given and the American government—as Secretary Sherman expressed in his recent letter—offers the well known generosity of the American people in the same spirit that they have accepted foreign help in case of public calamity."

"It seems that persons who make the statement as to the conditions in Cuba for

## GAGE HAS NOT RESIGNED

Head of the Treasury Department Still at the Old Stand.

ALLEG'D AUTHOR OF THE STORY DENIES IT

Belief in Washington that Secretary Gage Offered to Resign if His Views Were Embracing to Administration.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Secretary Gage was seen today on his return from New York and questioned as to the truth of the published report that he had tendered his resignation to the president and that it had been firmly declined with many expressions of confidence and appreciation of his ability as shown in his administration of the Treasury department. Mr. Gage was not inclined to discuss the matter at length, but said that he had not tendered his resignation nor had he any reason to believe that he and the president were not in substantial accord on the great question before the country. The report, he said, probably sprung from a remark he had made to intimate friends to the effect that not for anything would he embarrass the president, and if he saw that he was doing this he would resign at once.

He added: "A cabinet officer ought always to be ready to surrender his office at the call of his chief, the executive, but I have not the slightest reason to believe that such action on my part is even remotely desired by the president. The desires of other people in that direction I am not disposed to consider."

RATIFIERS EXTRADITION TREATY.

Orange Free State Takes Favorable Action.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The Orange Free State has notified the extradition treaty between that country and the United States, recently negotiated, and has returned the document to Washington, where it awaits the action of the United States senate. It was this convention, together with a similar treaty negotiated with the Argentine Republic, that made up an issue between President Cleveland and the senate, resulting in the shelving of both treaties. As submitted to the senate by President Cleveland, the treaties contained clauses permitting an American citizen to be surrendered under extradition to the legal authorities of the Argentine Republic or of the Orange Free State, or vice versa. The United States might reclaim from either of those countries a native who had escaped from the United States after the commission of a crime. The senate very promptly rejected the radical departure in the theory of our extradition procedure and cut them out of the treaties by amendments. This resulted in sending the documents back to the State department for transmission to the other parties to the treaties in order that they might have an opportunity to pass upon the amendments. But the president positively refused to go forward with the treaties unless congress accepted his ideas on the point at issue and the documents have lain on the shelf until the present administration took them up soon after it assumed office and resumed the negotiations, looking to their final completion on the lines indicated by the senate.

CABINET SESSION WAS BRIEF.

No Matters of Importance Under Consideration.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Today's cabinet meeting was unusually brief. Secretaries Gage and Bliss being out of the city and Secretary Alger ill, only five members attended.

The appeal to the American people for aid for the sufferers in Cuba was the principal topic of discussion. The president and members of the cabinet are deeply interested in the relief project and have taken every means at the command of the administration to facilitate the extension of the subject through the State department here and Consul General Lee in Havana. It is expected that the first responses to the appeal will come from the large cities of the country and belief is expressed that they will be both prompt and generous. Several departmental matters of minor importance also were brought to the president's attention.

Reject Claim to Talia Townsite.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—A decision of much importance has been made by Commissioner Herman of the general land office in rejecting the claim to Talia, Alaska. The townsite is claimed by Healy and Wilson under the general law allowing 160 acres in Alaska for manufacturing and trading purposes. These parties claim to have made their location long prior to any adverse right. The commissioner rejected the application for patent on a number of grounds and says that the survey of the claim was not regularly made. He says that a new survey is therefore necessary and that the case will come up on its merits.

News for the Army.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—(Special Telegram.)—Captain George A. Cornish, Fifteenth infantry, has been detailed as agent at Uintah and Ouray Indian agency, Utah. Lieutenant Colonel George C. Hunt, Second cavalry, has been detailed as temporary commander of the Department of Colorado during the absence of Brigadier General Otis on court martial duty at Savannah.

Leaves of absence: Lieutenant James B. Hughes, Tenth cavalry, three months; Lieutenant Anton Springer, Jr., Twenty-first infantry, extended two months; Lieutenant Colonel Edwin B. Wood, deputy surgeon general, extended one month.

Negro-American Academy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The first annual meeting of the Negro-American academy was held in this city today. The organization was formed a year ago and includes some of the most prominent negro educators of Washington. While the membership is largely local, it is hoped that the present session to extend its scope and establish a year book, and provide for an interchange of views among those interested in the welfare of the race all over the country.

REBUILDS AUDITORIUM THEATER.

Faxon & Burgess Contract for the New Lease.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 28.—Alexander Fraser, owner of the Auditorium property recently destroyed by fire, contracted tonight to rebuild the theater and to have it ready for occupancy by September 1 next. The hotel feature of the old building will be omitted, but the theater will be larger, having a seating capacity of 3,500, and the structure will also provide for a big roof garden. Mr. Fraser contracted tonight to lease the same to Faxon & Burgess, the lessees of the burned building, and O. D. Woodward will be their manager.

## THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—Partly Cloudy; Northwesterly Winds.

1. Stories of Retiring Klondikers.

Klondike Relief Conference Postponed. Secretary Gage Has Not Resigned. Japs Spelling for a Fight.

2. Nebraska Horses for Kentucky.

Broad Question Opened Up.

3. Nebraska School Ma'am Takes Lincoln. Eckels Gives the Lie to a Fake.

4. Editorial and Comment.

5. Art Plans for the Exposition. Courtship Through the Mails.

6. Patsy at South Omaha.

7. General News of the Farther West.

8. Poppleton Enjoins the City Council. Jobbers Pleased with Bridge Deal.

9. Some Facts About Pensions.

Gossip About Railroad Promotions. Klondike and the Moscow Settlement near. Mand Raymond Case Up Again.

11. Commercial and Financial News.

12. "Louis's Last Tantrum."

Temperature at Omaha:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	23	1 p. m.	24
6 a. m.	22	2 p. m.	28
7 a. m.	22	3 p. m.	29
8 a. m.	22	4 p. m.	30
9 a. m.	22	5 p. m.	30
10 a. m.	23	6 p. m.	30
11 a. m.	24	7 p. m.	30
12 m. m.	25	8 p. m.	31
		9 p. m.	32

At 9 p. m. the temperature was the highest it has been since Friday, when the maximum was 37.

SENATORIAL CONTEST IN OHIO.

Major Dick Takes Charge of Senator Hanna's Forces.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 28.—Major Charles Dick arrived from Cleveland tonight to assume charge of Senator Hanna's personal interests in the senatorial election. Mr. Hanna is not expected here before Sunday, and in the meantime Major Dick will shape up affairs to combat as successfully as possible the opposition to his chief. The room at the Nell house occupied by Senator Sherman as headquarters in his memorable contest with Senator Foraker six years ago have been secured by Major Dick for Mr. Hanna. Major Dick will have a corps of lieutenants to assist him and the prospects are for a very lively skirmish.

But few of the members-elect of the general assembly have arrived and the majority will probably not come to the capital city until Friday, the day previous to the caucus for the organization of the upper and lower houses.

The list of members claimed by Charles L. Kurtz in opposition to Senator Hanna, as given out tonight, contains the names of two senators and six representatives, but Major Dick does not concede that any of these members will vote against Senator Hanna.

CONFESSION MURDERER LYNCHED.

Joseph Hopkins, Colored, Captured and Guilty Disposed Of.

MINTON CITY, Miss., Dec. 28.—Joseph Hopkins, the negro who murdered two white farmers on Christmas day at Glendora, a small town near this place, was captured by a posse at daylight this morning on the James plantation, near Swan Lake. Hopkins had concealed himself in a gin house, but was discovered by two negroes, who gave the alarm. Hopkins fought like a demon before being taken into custody and when arrested it was found the negro had been shot in three places during the melee. He was not fatally injured, however, and was at once taken to the scene of his terrible crime. Hopkins confessed his guilt and did not plead for mercy, but begged his captors to make quick work of him and little time was lost in carrying out the request. A rope was placed about the negro's neck and he was hanged to a limb of a tree. The body was then riddled with bullets and left hanging. Hopkins' record is a very bad one, many recent crimes being attributed to him.

MRS. MCALLUM GETS HER DIVORCE.

Husband is in Prison at Johannesburg.

FARGO, N. D., Dec. 28.—In chambers before Judge Pollock this evening, Mrs. Ethel Mary McCallum was granted an absolute divorce from her husband, William Cutburt McCallum, on the ground of conviction for felony, extreme cruelty and adultery.

The case is one of interest in Great Britain and in rounded circles in this country, in which the accomplished plaintiff has many wealthy relatives. The defendant held a responsible position for the government at Cape Town, South Africa, and was convicted of felony and sentenced to a term of years in prison at Johannesburg. Mrs. McCallum came to this country and staid until the evidence indicated that McCallum married her in 1885, while still the lawful husband of another Mrs. McCallum, who was Nellie Andrews. On November 17, 1896, a child was born as issue of said marriage.

CHASE MURDERER DOWN STREET.

Interesting Diversion for Citizens of a Missouri Town.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 28.—A crowd of men and boys chased a negro murderer through the business section of Kansas City today, running him to cover in a pile of goods boxes. The negro, James Reed, fired four bullets into the body of his mitre, Stale Blakely, of whom he was jealous, killing her instantly. The shooting occurred at Twelfth and Cherry streets, and as the murderer ran out of the house the cry of murder was raised by men on the street, who began the chase, and soon several hundred men and boys had joined in the pursuit. When the murderer was captured he was hurried off to the police station. James Reed is the son of Martin Reed, who was hanged in Kansas City six years ago for the murder of his wife, James Reed's mother.

DENY WRIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE.

Supreme Court Knocks Out Another Hope of Durant's.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Late this afternoon the supreme court, after having heard the matter argued in chambers denied the application of the attorneys for W. H. T. Durant, the condemned murderer of Blanche Lambert, for a writ of probable cause. It was contended by Durant's counsel that Judge Bohn erred in having fixed the date for the execution of their client within less than sixty days after the date upon which he was re-committed to the custody of the warden of San Quentin prison. The supreme court, however, after hearing the points relied upon for reversal, denied the petition unanimously.

Gas Companies Consolidate.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—It was announced today that the consolidation of the Equitable and East River Gas companies, which has been pending for many weeks, has finally been accomplished. The terms agreed upon were those suggested by J. Pierpont Morgan, who is credited with having engineered the deal.

## JAPS WANT A FIGHT

Their Fleet of War Ships Reported Ad Ready for Action.

WAITING ONLY FOR THEIR INSTRUCTIONS

Japan Acting in Close Touch with the British Squadron.

PROPOSES TO JOIN HANDS WITH ENGLAND

Will Oppose Permanent Russian Occupation of Port Arthur.

DIET DISSOLVES, OWING TO WAR SPIRIT

Japanese Fleet Will Attempt to Prevent Landing of Reinforcements from Odessa to Protect Russian Railway.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated yesterday (Tuesday) says: It is reported that a Japanese fleet of war ships is waiting near Goto Island, outside of Nagasaki, fully equipped for war and only awaiting instructions. This includes the Yamihira and the Fuji, two of the finest vessels in the Japanese navy, and the Chen Yuen, that was captured from China. The Japanese fleet, it is understood, is acting in close touch with the British squadron under Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Baile, commander in chief on the China station. Japan will certainly oppose a permanent Russian occupation of Port Arthur.

The sudden dissolution of the Japanese Diet was owing to the war spirit. It is expected that the Japanese fleet will attempt to prevent the landing of reinforcements from Odessa for the protection of the Russian Transsiberian railway in Manchuria.