

ENGLAND BREAKS SILENCE

Officially States Her Position
Anent Chinese Question.

DOES NOT WANT ANOTHER INDIA

On Her Hands, and Therefore Desires None
of the Chinese Territory—Chief Secretary
for Ireland Makes a Statement at
Leeds—No Backdown in England's Policy
as at First Decided Upon.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
London, Feb. 4.—The Government has broken its silence, with a view to allaying the ferment caused by its supposed back-down in the matter of Tientsin-Wan, although it has not divulged anything to throw light on its true position in the Far East.

Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, happening to be the first member of the Government to make a public speech since the outbreak, was contrasted by Salisbury to make a statement at Leeds this evening.

The following are the principal passages of Mr. Balfour's speech:

"Rumors and suspicions have been given currency to the effect that the Government is flinching from the firm position it had taken on the Chinese question; that it was abandoning principles to which it had given public utterance, and that the brave words of the Ministers were only preparing for surrender or retreat.

"I can say with confidence that these rumors (which have even been accepted in quarters where one might have thought more confidence would have been placed in the wisdom and courage of Her Majesty's advisers) are without foundation. (Loud cheers.)

"It is not true that the Government have in the smallest particular departed from their declared policy in the Far East, or that they have, in consequence of pressure from any other quarter yielded any of our just claims.

"I consider it necessary for strategic purposes to have a second India on their hands.

"To annex Chinese territory would simply be adding an immense additional burden without corresponding advantages.

"Great Britain's treaty rights secure equality of opportunity for trade, and she could not secure more if she assumed charge of hundreds of millions of Chinamen.

"I am sure, Mr. Balfour said: 'So long as our rights are protected, and so long as the Governments make no conditions by which these rights would be jeopardized, so long this Government is entitled to the confidence of the nation, and so long (I believe) they will retain that confidence. (Cheers.)

"I hope the public will realize the effect of impatience and premature criticism is only to embarrass the Minister of Foreign Affairs and increase the difficulty of his task.

"No conditions of this kind," he declared, "are necessary of a delicate and critical character, and to either affirm or deny authorized statements that may appear, would necessarily produce false impressions.

"I am, therefore, of Ministers on this subject, is not to be taken either as affirming or denying what is said.

"The time has not yet come for making public statements concerning the negotiations which have taken place, and which are still taking place.

"In the mean time, I am sure you will be satisfied with the assurance which I now repeat, that it is not the intention of the Ministers to recede in any way from the declarations of policy they have made."

London Newspapers Not Satisfied With It.

London, Feb. 4.—The Government's speech at Leeds, and again appeal to Lord Salisbury to take the Nation into his confidence, and declares that he is convinced that good, rather than harm, will result therefrom.

The Standard evidently fears that the Government is hedging with different interpretations that can be placed upon its declared policy.

BILL OF SEPARATION GRANTED

To Two of the Italian Royal Blood Who Had
Been "Separated" for Years.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
Rome, Feb. 4.—The bill of separation has been granted severing the marital relations of Count Philip Folchi and Princess Elvira, the daughter of Don Carlos, pretender to the Spanish throne.

By the terms of the separation Princess Elvira receives 300 francs a month. The Princess eloped with the Count in November, 1896, at which time she was publicly disowned by her father.

ENGLISHMEN KLONDYKE BOUND.

Canadian Pacific's Newly Purchased Ship
"Tartar" Will Transport Them.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Southampton, Feb. 4.—The steamship "Tartar," recently purchased by the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company for service between Vancouver and Port Wrangell, at the mouth of the Stikine river, will sail from this port tomorrow.

She will take on 300 Englishmen, destined for the Klondike, together with a large quantity of stores, telegraphic cables, etc.

IMPORTANT CUBAN DESPATCHES.

Detailing Matters of Interest and Cabled to
to 'The Post Early This Morning.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Havana, Feb. 4.—A despatch from Matanzas says the American cruiser "Montgomery" entered that port yesterday, anchoring at noon near the Spanish fort of San Severino, which answered the cruiser's salute by the usual 21-gun salute.

The son of the Spanish General Luque continues in a very desperate condition from the wound he received a few days ago in an engagement with insurgents in Santiago de Cuba province. Today his right leg was amputated.

Henry W. Talm, who says he is an American citizen and captain of artillery in the American army, and who was an officer in the Cuban army under Garcia, arrived at Havana today. He surrendered to the Spanish a few days ago in the Struck by Cuba.

This morning he called on the acting Governor General, Gonzalez Parrado, and held a long conference with him, Secretary General Congosto acting as interpreter.

Talm said that he needed no help from the American Consulate to get to New York, having \$5,000 in gold in a belt with him. He intends to sail for New York tomorrow.

Between Boniato and San Vicente, in Santiago de Cuba province, a train has been blown up by a dynamite bomb on many other points, in the mountains destroyed, four Spanish soldiers killed and sixteen wounded. After that a strong force of insurgents had an engagement near Boniato with the Spanish detachment which came to rescue the train.

The Spanish official report says that a battalion of Cataluna captured at Loma Coma, Santa Clara province, 75,000 cartridges which belonged to the insurgents.

MEAN TO ACHIEVE THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
London, Feb. 4.—The Havana correspondent of the Times claims to have the highest authority for stating that the Government is willing to reconsider the clauses of the autonomy measure which is objectionable to the insurgents, and grant additional concessions on many other points, if the insurgents ask for them.

The correspondent confirms the statements regarding the uncompromising attitude of the insurgent leaders, who, he says, will not accept any scheme of autonomy, however liberal it may be. They are determined to achieve their independence or die in the attempt.

AUTONOMY A FAILURE.

Fifteen Thousand More Spanish Soldiers
to be Sent to Cuba Shortly.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
Madrid, Feb. 4.—The newspapers generally are very pessimistic in regard to the situation in Cuba.

The impressions they gather are unfavorable to the success of autonomy, and their expectations are that there will be great difficulty in the pacification of the island.

It is reported that 15,000 additional troops will shortly be despatched to Cuba.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Important information as to the success of the Spanish schemes for autonomy in Cuba has been received here. Mr. Atkins, of Boston, who is the most prominent American grower of sugar on the island, has written to Consul General Lee expressing the opinion that autonomy is a failure, and that there is no immediate prospect of peace.

Mr. Atkins has hitherto been an enthusiastic supporter of the success of Spanish policy. It is due largely to his representations to the last administration that Mr. Olney pursued so conservative a course, and the present administration has been most favorably impressed with the value of his judgment.

He was in Washington soon after President McKinley's accession, and urged that Spain be given an opportunity to show what could be done to restore peace to the island before the United States took any steps toward intervention. What he says now, therefore, is likely to have considerable weight.

Mr. Atkins' letters to Consul General Lee are almost despondent in tone. Some of his plantations have been burned by the insurgents, and he is convinced that the insurrection is far from being under control.

FATAL ERROR OF MRS. SORG

Who Did This Murder, She Failing to Make
a Man's Track in the Snow.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 4.—Farmer Michael Sorg, who lived two miles from Lancaster, Erie county, was murdered by masked men at 4 o'clock this morning, while asleep in his bed with his wife and year-old baby.

It was easy for the murderer to effect an entrance, for the Sorgs were careless in the matter of fastening doors and windows, and Mrs. Sorg thinks the back door was left unlocked.

Strange noises awakened Mrs. Sorg about 4 o'clock. She opened her eyes and saw a man standing beside the bed with an uplifted axe. He wore a piece of cloth over his face.

As she stirred, the murderer swung the axe and the blade sank into Sorg's head.

The murderer fled, and Mrs. Sorg aroused the neighborhood.

Michael Roguski, a Pole, who had complained bitterly that Sorg had cheated him in the purchase of a cow, was arrested this afternoon on suspicion.

There is little or no evidence against him.

It is remarked that the first persons to appear on the scene were unable to find any footprints in the snow to indicate where the murderer entered the house or what course he took in departing.

This was served to cast suspicion on Mrs. Sorg.

Jap. Fleet Manoeuvring in Chinese Waters
By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Yokohama, Feb. 4.—A Japanese fleet is manoeuvring in this vicinity, preparing for a cruise in Chinese waters, it is generally believed.

BRADSTREET-DUN'S REPORTS A GREAT RAILROAD SCHEME

Condition of Country for Past
Week is Reviewed.

TO BUILD 150 MILES IN 120 DAYS

Slightly Improved, if There is Any Change
at All—Actual Payments Through Clearing
Houses in January Made a Remarkable
Showing—Spot Cotton Unchanged,
But Receipts Continue to Grow Larger.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
New York, Feb. 4.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: "The tone of the cotton goods situation is, if anything, improved. Southern buyers are coming into St. Louis more numerous than usual at this date.

"At the South trade is reported as improved at several important centers and the total of January business is said to have been above the average.

"The light freeze did little damage to Florida truck farming interests. Steadiness in prices has been the feature of the week.

"Bank totals for January, in a total for 72 cities, aggregate \$5,974,000,000, a gain of 1.6 of 1 per cent. over December, 1897; of 33.7 per cent. over January of last year; of 37 per cent. over January, 1895, and of nearly 48 per cent. over January, 1894.

"Money is relatively easier here than in London."

New York, Feb. 4.—Dun's Review tomorrow will say: "The actual payments through the clearing houses in January made a remarkable showing, being much larger than in any previous month; 36.3 per cent. larger than for the same month last year and 7.1 per cent. larger than in 1892.

"The failures in January were smaller than in any previous year of which there is record, and probably smaller than in any other January since 1881.

"The statement by branches of business given this week shows a surprising gain in most of the departments of manufacture and trade.

"No failures at all appear in woollen manufacture, and in several branches there is only an insignificant aggregate compared with failures of previous years.

"Meanwhile, the money market is as confident as ever.

"Gold does not come from Europe in very large amounts, only because bankers find it worth while to lend American money abroad, and commercial balances are heavily in favor of the United States as heretofore.

"The spot price of cotton remains unchanged, but the fact that receipts continue larger than during the same week of 1895, after the heaviest crop ever known, checks speculative operations for an advance.

"The holding of a pet stock show soon in this city, and the South especially much larger than last year.

"There is a much better demand for cotton goods since the general stoppage of works at the East, but there is no indication as yet of material gain as respects unsold stock on pet show soon in this city. This ticket was nominated for officers for the year, the election to take place later: President, H. B. Savage, of Texas; vice-president, L. Banks Holt, of North Carolina; secretary, Jos. Lawrence, of Massachusetts; treasurer, Henry Hencon, of New York.

MR. L. BANKS HOLT.

Elected as Vice-President National Pet
Stock Association at New York Meeting.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
New York, Feb. 4.—The National Pet Stock Association held its second annual meeting at Madison Square Garden with the thirty-four members present. A permanent examination was adopted and plans were discussed for the holding of a pet stock show soon in this city. This ticket was nominated for officers for the year, the election to take place later: President, H. B. Savage, of Texas; vice-president, L. Banks Holt, of North Carolina; secretary, Jos. Lawrence, of Massachusetts; treasurer, Henry Hencon, of New York.

WINSTON'S PUBLIC BUILDING.

Bill Appropriating \$150,000 for Same to be
Introduced in Congress Today.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.
Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 4.—District Attorney Holton returned from Washington today.

He says a bill will be introduced in both branches of Congress (probably tomorrow, asking for an appropriation of \$150,000 for a public building for Winston, the largest internal revenue paying town in the Western revenue district.

The people here are sanguine of securing this very small appropriation, all the circumstances considered, and the only wonder is that it has not long ago been made.

Nine Killed by Railroad Accident.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
Edinburgh, Feb. 4.—The passenger train, running between Ayr and Kilmarnock, came into a collision today with a freight train at Barassie, a small intermediate station. The cars of the passenger train were derailed and wrecked. Nine persons were killed and many injured.

Later Particulars of Wednesday's Earthquake.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
Constantinople, Feb. 4.—Further particulars of the earthquake at Balkesir, Asia Minor, Wednesday, were received today.

The town is practically in ruins. All of the mosques, prison buildings and other public structures and a majority of the dwelling houses are levelled to the ground.

What Contractor Says About
Road Into Yukon Country.

TO BUILD 150 MILES IN 120 DAYS

Expect to Get Through Between 250,000
to 300,000 Tons of Supplies, and Will
Carry Over 150,000 Venturers Into the
Yukon This Year—Three Surveying
Parties Now Out.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 4.—Mr. D. D. Mann, of McKenzie, who has accepted a contract to build the Sitka-Teslin Railway, has arrived here from the East.

He says no time will be lost in the beginning of the work, and that the first party of workmen will start in a few days.

It will consist of 150 men and 60 teams, and they will make a sleigh road through to Teslin lake.

Camps will be established along this road at twenty-five-mile intervals, and accommodations maintained for travellers and horses. Three engineering parties will be put to work at once.

As soon as the line is laid out 1,000 more men will be sent forward, who will start the work of grading. The party to be sent out will consist of 3,000 men.

"We expect to get through on time," said Mr. Mann, "and if we do, it will be, all things considered, one of the greatest railroad feats ever accomplished.

"We expect to put through between 250,000 and 300,000 tons of supplies this year. It is a long calculation to say that there will be about 150,000 venturing into the Yukon this year.

"Without this road it would be impossible to get supplies through, and many would die, and many more would suffer from dire privation. To get relief in to them would cost the Government more than the construction of the road would cost it.

"We will build 150 miles in 120 days. "Were people allowed to perish for want of means to get supplies to them, it would give Canada a set-back that she would never get over."

"We have also to establish a route by steamboats and otherwise to Dawson City, for which we get an additional grant."

ENVOY OF MINE NO MORE

Art Thou, But "Ambassador" From This
Hour.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Washington, Feb. 4.—The President's consent in the nomination of Ethan A. Hitchcock, of Missouri (now Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia), to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Russia, to the Senate today.

The nomination of Minister Hitchcock to the law authorizing the raising of the rank when another nation should take similar action.

A cablegram was received by the State Department on Wednesday indicating the intention of the Russian Government to raise the rank of their representative here to that of Ambassador, and this Government responded promptly with the action taken today.

Ambassador Hitchcock, under his new title, will be entitled to call on the Czar and receive visits from him.

"CUT DOWN THE ACREAGE!"

That Is the Farmers' Slogan Which Seems
Now About to be Obeyed.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
New York, Feb. 4.—A letter from Augusta, Ga., states:

"The farmers are saying but little in regard to the acreage through the Southern press.

But you will see a great reduction in the acreage after it is compared with the last season's.

Very few mules are being sold, and guano sales will be cut almost in half. Farmers will not be able to get supplies on the present basis of cotton, and they have little or no supplies on hand.

They are calling on factors and merchants and going home with empty wagons.

Only the best element of the planters will be able to get supplies with which to start a crop, and they will have to wait until late in the spring for the same, and then in limited amount.

Many of the better class of farmers have planted considerable wheat and oats this winter in sections never before utilized for this purpose.

Guano manufacturers are talking of shutting down their factories, owing to the small demand for fertilizers.

Prices have been reduced considerably under those of last season, and still they fail to move.

KLONDIKE IS UP TO PAR.

According to the Statements Made in This
Man's Letter.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
New York, Feb. 4.—Robert Reading, of Allendale, N. J., formerly Superintendent of Edwin Gould's match factory at Passaic, N. J., who started for the Klondike gold fields last summer, and arrived at Dawson City in October, has written his mother a glowing account of the outlook in the diggings.

He says the traffic in the claims is something marvellous, and that the richness of the country in precious metal has been exaggerated in no respect, so far as matters had come under his notice before going in.

He saw \$2,000,000 in nuggets and dust at one store, and says that the talk in the "city" is that no less than \$25,000,000 will be sent out during the next open season.

FIRST ASST. POSTMASTER GEN.

Spent Yesterday in Winston and for First
Time Witnessed Tobacco Manufacturing.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.
Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 4.—First Assistant Postmaster General Perry S. Heath and his brother, F. S. Heath, of Hamilton, Ohio, spent the day in Winston. In an interview they said they came here to look after some private business, but declined to say what kind it was.

They went through one of Winston's largest tobacco factories and saw how the weed is manipulated from start to finish.

This was the first time they ever saw a chewing tobacco factory in operation. The visitors left tonight for Washington.

Judge Wilson, Ex-Legislator, Dead.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.
Kernersville, N. C., Feb. 4.—Judge Wilson, nearly a centenarian in age, and who represented this (Forsyth) county in the Legislature, session of 1883, died near this place today, aged 90 years.

SMALLPOX IN THE SOUTH

Is Greatly Increasing in Several States,
North Carolina Included.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 4.—Reports received today show that the smallpox continues to spread in this section. It is estimated that there are 1,000 cases in Northern Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Kentucky and Virginia.

There were several new cases today in Lowndes county, Georgia, the total number there being fully 250.

The disease has appeared at Troy, Anniston and Hartsell, Alabama, and is creating considerable alarm in the mining districts of East Tennessee.

Dr. Albright, the chairman of the State Board of Health, announces that wholesale vaccination is the only thing that can prevent a general spread of the disease in all the districts affected.

Compulsory vaccination has been ordered, while the places where the disease has not appeared, vigorous measures to prevent infection are being taken.

MURDER JUST WILL OUT.

Nearly Every Time—A California Murderer
Just Entrapped Into a Confession.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
San Francisco, Feb. 4.—A 'Sulsan special says that Frank Belew has been entrapped by officers into a confession that he poisoned his brother Louis and his sister Susie at Dixon, Solano county.

The victims suffered horribly, and Frank sat by their bedside and was apparently a most sincere mourner.

The coroner's jury investigated the case, and though it was clear that strychnine had been put in the tea, they could get no evidence to justify the holding of Frank for trial.

He had been disinherited and had shown extreme bitterness over loss of his share of his parents' estate.

Through his brother-in-law the officers contrived to have witnesses hear Belew admit that he did the poisoning. He was soon to leave for the Klondike regions, having sold his share in the estate which he received at the death of his brother and sister, to another brother.

KILLED BY COAL FUMES.

The Three Children of a Modoc Man Asphyxiated
by Charcoal.

By Cable to The Morning Post.
Toronto, Ont., Feb. 4.—Caretaker Milligan, of the Model School at Madoc, lost his three children by asphyxiation this morning. The dead are: JOHN MILLIGAN, aged 21. LEE MILLIGAN, aged 15. ETHEL MILLIGAN, aged 12.

They were asphyxiated by the fumes of charcoal. It has been Milligan's habit to carry live coal from the school furnace in the evenings and place them in an old stove in one of the bedrooms of his house.

No pipe connected the stove and chimney, and of course the fumes lingered in the house.

When Milligan substituted charcoal for live coals, which he did this morning, the fumes quickly killed the persons named.

His wife was also badly affected by the fumes, and will probably die.

INDIFFERENT TO THE LAST.

How a Berlin, Ont., Boy Murderer Passed
in His Checks.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Toronto, Feb. 4.—Jim Allison, 17 years old, the boy who shot and killed Mrs. Orr in August last, was hanged at Berlin, Ont., today.

When he awoke at 6 o'clock this morning the jailer asked him if he wanted anything. Allison replied, "Say, you people appear to be getting rattled over this thing."

Before he mounted the scaffold, (the lower part of which was enclosed to conceal his death struggles) the boy handed this confession to the jailer: "I am sorry for my crime. I did it out of ill-will. I hope those whom I injured will forgive me, and that no one will throw this up to my people. My sentence is just, and I hope God will have mercy upon me."

He was indifferent to the last.

COTTON MILLS FOR CHICAGO?

Enquiring Englishmen Say Humidity Is All
Right, But Decline to Recommend Their
Erection.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 4.—Four Englishmen from Manchester have been testing the atmosphere at Chicago Heights (a suburb, twenty-six miles south) for the past three weeks, to determine whether it contained enough humidity to warrant the spinning of cotton fabrics.

They left for England Wednesday night, and before their departure said the atmospheric conditions were all that could be asked.

They declined to state whether they would recommend the erection of cotton mills there, but said that new tariff laws would greatly cut the importation of cotton stuffs.

SENATOR LINDSAY PROTESTS

Against Resolution and Its
Contemptuous Language

IN ASKING HIM TO RESIGN

From the Senate—He Protests Against Such
Usurpation of Ungranted Power by Ken-
tucky Legislature, and Touches up that
Body on the Language, "Disregardful of
the Ordinary Amenities of Life," Used.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.
Washington, Feb. 4.—Senator Lindsay made a lengthy speech in the Senate today, replying to the resolution of the free silver majority in the Kentucky Legislature demanding his resignation.

The preamble to the resolution calls him "one William Lindsay," and denounces him for his hostile attitude towards silver.

"It is couched," he said, "in language disregardful of the ordinary amenities of life."

"It is demanded that I shall surrender my place in order to create a vacancy and make room here for some one holding political views in harmony with the authors and supporters of such a resolution."

"I protest against such usurpation of ungranted powers."

His term of office was fixed by the Constitution, and could not be abrogated by the action of the Kentucky Legislature. Senator Lindsay spoke in contemptuous terms of the Kentucky law-makers, after which the Senate went into executive session to consider the Hawaiian treaty.

LITTLE DONE IN THE HOUSE.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The debate of bills on the calendar, already considered at Friday night's meeting and recommended for passage, together with a two-hour discussion of the Kansas Pacific railroad foreclosure sale, kept the House busy all today with unfinished business.

The result of it all was the passage of eighteen private pension bills and other private bills.

Mr. Hooker, of New York, under a question of personal privilege, denied the truth of the report recently published, that in connection with the postoffice fight at Jamestown, he made a corrupt compact with a rival candidate for the Congressional nomination in his district.

It was alleged in the local papers that the consideration in the deal was \$1,000 to his rival to withdraw.

During a long discussion of the Pacific railroad bill, the question of government ownership came up.

Mr. Terry, of Arkansas, said (amid Democratic applause) that government ownership of railroads was better than railroad ownership of the government.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, took occasion to deny that any one on his side of the chamber favored government ownership.

Battleship Maine to Be Withdrawn From
Havana.