

AMULTI-LETTER WAS NOT OFFENSIVE

Those Who Have Seen Famous Epistle Say It Was Not an Interference with England's Naval Plans.

Berlin, March 14.—A lively correspondence has been in progress between members of the English and German courts since the fact that Emperor William sent a personal letter to Lord Tweedmouth, supposedly concerning the British naval estimates. News has reached the German court that it was King Edward himself who permitted the information about Emperor William's letter to be communicated to the London Times. Unwillingness to publish His Majesty's communication and Lord Tweedmouth's reply was expressed, because it might embarrass Lord Tweedmouth. For this reason the Emperor did not give his consent to publication. Copies of the letter, however, have been shown to various persons who are able to say that the letter contained nothing that could be construed into interference with the naval plans of Great Britain.

CHINESE DIPLOMACY SEEMS TO BE IN LEAD

Peking Government Will Pay Indemnity but Will Have Rights Recognized.

March 14.—The negotiations between China and Japan growing out of the seizure by China of the Japanese steamer Tatsu Maru are making favor the progress. The Chinese foreign board to-day approved the draft document in which China accepts the proposals made by Japan yesterday. It will pay Japan 21,400 yen (\$10,000) to indemnify the cargo of the Tatsu Maru. She will pay also ten thousand yen as demurrage on the steamer. It is expected that the Tatsu Maru will be released March 16.

In addition Japan agrees to adopt and enforce strict regulations to prevent future traffic in arms and ammunition from Japan to China, but she refuses to include the territory of Macao in this limitation. China will soon take up negotiations with Portugal regarding the contraband traffic at Macao. She hopes that an adequate delimitation of Portuguese waters at Macao will now be secured and that the gambling for which Macao is notorious as well as the smuggling done through that port may be materially restricted.

Had a Fatal Fall.

Huntville, Ont., March 14.—J. P. Jackson, a jeweller, while removing ice from the roof of his house, fell to the ground striking his head. He died an hour later, leaving a wife and three children.

Liberals Against Female Workers

Ottawa, March 14.—The executive of the Ottawa Liberal Association, which has much to do with patronage and local appointments of Government positions, has passed a resolution recommending the curtailment of appointments of women to the civil service.

To-night or to-morrow some hundred and eighty Hindus are expected to reach Vancouver from Esquimalt, where they were debarked from the C. P. R. steamship Montezuma some time ago because of the presence of smallpox on that vessel when she reached this coast from the Orient. No Natal Act bars the entrance of these men to this province, and the only obstacle in the way of their enjoying perfect freedom here is the order in Council passed some weeks ago by the Dominion Government requiring all immigrants to come direct from the land of their birth or citizenship. The Hindus who arrived on the Montezuma all reached Hongkong direct from Calcutta, being transhipped at the former port to the steamer bound for Vancouver. To prove that they came direct from India to Vancouver the Hindus possess orders from the C. P. R. agents at Calcutta on the agents at Hongkong calling for trans-Pacific transportation.

Might Transfer at Hongkong.

Despite the fact that in previous instances of an exactly similar kind Hindus have been admitted by the Dominion officials, the federal authorities now intend to question the claim of the turbaned men to having made continuous passage. The result may be another clash in the courts, with the Hindus as aggressors and the federal government on the defensive. The government contends that the order from Calcutta agents is not positive identification of the men presenting it here—that the order might have been transferred, say to Hongkong—and an attempt will be made to place the burden of proof of identification on the Hindus and on the C. P. R.

What proof the individual Hindus could possibly adduce to satisfy the officials that the order was held in a bona-fide manner is still a question. It appears that the best they can do is that direction is to make oath.

Steamship Company's View.

So far as the C. P. R. is concerned, it does not intend to accept the claim that the anus of proof is upon its officials. It was announced to-day by a prominent official of the company that it will contend that it is merely a carrier of these people—that when they buy tickets in Calcutta for Vancouver, they are entitled to transportation, and it does not devolve upon the company to establish their identification before immigration officials at this port. It is understood that if the government presses the point as against the railway the matter will be fought in the courts.

The Montezuma Hindus, it is understood, will be examined here to-morrow by Dr. Monro, Dominion immigration agent.

Inspection of Schools.

The civic officials appointed to inspect the public buildings of the city, Thursday afternoon visited Lord Roberts and Aberdeen Schools. At the former place it was found that the furnace-room could be made absolutely fireproof at comparatively small expense, but that changes were necessary in the line of stairways and fire-escapes. The Aberdeen School was in comparatively good shape from the fire hazard standpoint, but it is probable that some recommendation will be made as to the construction of better fire-escapes from the building.

A Provincial Nomination.

Welland, March 14.—Welland Conservatives have nominated E. E. Fraser M. L. A. as candidate in the next provincial elections.

The indifference of his letter prompted me to cooperate with Mr. Wm. Ellis of this city in sending in two other parties via Hazelton. One of them has been instructed to return to Hazelton about April 1, and where the extent of the strike. If the news is favorable we will send in a large contingent with horses and supplies this spring. Mr. Ellis is also represented there by a prospector named Fillmore whom he sent in over eighteen months ago via Edmonton. It would be unwise for people to rush in there until further particulars have been received. They would be face to face with starvation as there is no surplus of supplies in the region. I don't think the number of men wintering on the Ingenika exceeds six or seven. Mero has two partners in his own layout. They have been spending the winter whip-sawing lumber for the purpose of making sluice boxes. The original discoverers of gold in the district are two Swedes and I don't even know whether they have located on the Ingenika or somewhere else.

The Ingenika is the West Fork of the Findlay River, and the latter river joining the Parsnip forms the Peace River. The country is difficult of access via Ashcroft and Quesnel at this season of the year. In summer time the journey can be made by trail and canoe. Parties going in will be obliged to construct their own boats as the trail is a poor one.

Others Starting North.

Mr. Geo. Gething, who is familiar with the northern country, also strongly deprecates the idea of people going to the new gold fields until reliable information reaches them. Mr. Gething says he is not a prospector, but on the Peace River. It is a dredging proposition. It was located several years ago. Gething has never started on the Ingenika although he has spent several summers in the district. He started to-day that last summer he had met a prospector named Goble, who was claiming on the Ingenika, and who was going out for supplies. Goble did not enthrall over the alleged strike. He said the prospect was excellent.

Mr. Goble still dredges on his claims. Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, through the region farther south.

Mr. J. S. Johnson, now in Vancouver is clearing up making an early start for the Ingenika. He knows the district well, having prospected on the Findlay several years ago.

Among those who have already left Hazelton for the scene of the alleged strike are Condit brothers and a man named Byrnes.

EXCITING INCIDENT IN COMMONS LAST NIGHT

Ottawa, March 14.—There was a violent scene in the Commons late last night. Col. Talbot, member for Bellechasse, made an attack on Dr. Sproule, reading from a speech the doctor is reported to have made at the strange Grand Lodge meeting at Mount Forest, concerning the province of Quebec. Mr. Talbot bitterly assailed Dr. Sproule, and declared he had no words available in which to express his contempt.

Dr. Sproule retorted that if Mr. Talbot had no words available he might suggest some that Mr. Talbot had used in his private life.

Mr. Talbot very excitedly replied: "I challenge you, I defy you, to prove me in part life." He then left the chair.