

The Chinese legation has received unofficial advice from Japan announcing the signature of the terms of peace between China and Japan.

TOKIO, April 16.—The newspapers here say that at a conference between the peace commissioners yesterday, Viceroy Li Hung Chang submitted China's reply to the propositions of Japan, whereupon an agreement on the subject was reached. It is added that the conference of peace commissioners will not meet again until the ratification of the treaty of peace is arranged.

LONDON, April 15.—A dispatch to the *Times* from Shanghai says that Li Hung Chang's son-in-law telegraphs that a peace convention was signed at Shimoneseki Monday by the plenipotentiaries of China and Japan. Following are the terms of the convention:

First—Independence of Korea.

Second—That Japan retains the possessions she has conquered.

Third—That Japan shall also retain the territory east of the Liao river.

Fourth—That the island of Formosa be ceded permanently to Japan.

Fifth—The payment of an indemnity of \$100,000,000.

Sixth—An offensive and defensive alliance.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15.—In view of the great rise in the price of beef and the reported scarcity of cattle, the chief of the bureau of animal industry, Dr. Salmon, has recommended to the secretary of agriculture the admission of Mexican cattle into the United States under stringent regulations, calculated to insure a rigid inspection of all cattle admitted. Dr. Salmon believes such a course may be safely pursued with the exercise of due vigilance, and that under the circumstances it is judicious. It is hoped by this means to check the tendency to excessive prices to the consumer, without injuring the interests of the producer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15.—An official of the agricultural department, discussing the recent increase in the price of cattle, which is said to be the primary cause for the increase in the price of beef in the country, says that it may be occasioned by the decreased corn crop of the past few years. The last great crop of the country was that grown in 1891, and available in 1892. It amounted to 2,100,000,000 bushels. The crop of 1892 was 1,600,000,000 bushels; that of 1893, 1,620,000,000 bushels, and the crop of 1894 less than 1,200,000,000 bushels. There has been a falling off in this crop, which is the principal food of beef cattle.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Charles H. Maneur, assistant comptroller of the treasury, formerly a member of Congress from Missouri, died at 7 o'clock this morning at the National hotel. His death has been expected about a week.

BOSTON, April 16.—Hon. Everett Saltenstall, ex-collector of the port of Boston, died in Brooklyn late last night, aged 80. He was a descendant of Sir Richard Saltenstall, who came over from England with Governor Winthrop and founded the colony of Massachusetts.

DENVER, Colo., April 15.—An immense throng tonight congregated at

the Brown Palace hotel to greet the two champions of silver, ex-Congressman J. C. Sibley and General A. J. Warner, and to extend to them a hearty welcome to the state. The rotunda of the hotel had been profusely decorated with flags and plants, while the entrance where the guests of the evening were standing had been draped with two large American flags, joined at the top by a large shield made in imitation of the silver dollar.

The appearance of the guests was greeted by a burst of applause.

Governor McIntire introduced the two gentlemen, whose coming had caused such an outpour. Ex-Congressman Sibley was the first to respond to the introduction, and while, as he said, it was not an occasion for speech-making, still he could not refrain from saying a few words in regard to silver. He stopped himself, however, before he had fairly entered into the subject, and invited all his hearers to attend the great meeting to be held tomorrow. General Warner followed, and in a few words thanked the audience for the reception, and the enthusiasm displayed. Both speakers seemed so full of their subject that it was with difficulty they refrained from making lengthy addresses.

CHICAGO, April 15.—Mr. W. H. Harvey, chairman of the executive committee of the Bimetallic League, whose headquarters are in Chicago, prepared today the following reply to President Cleveland's letter to the Chicago committee of business men:

"CHICAGO, April 15.

"To His Excellency, Grover Cleveland, President, Washington, D. C.:

"Dear Sir—In reply to your letter, addressed to a committee of business men of this city, we wish to say that the committee that waited on you and the persons who attached their names to the invitation the committee presented, did not represent a majority of the business men and citizens of this city who take a deep interest in the welfare of this republic. They represented that class that owns money and securities payable in money, fixed incomes.

"We respectfully submit that your letter does not present the true merits of this controversy. You call the attention of farmers and wage-earners to the fact that raising prices, while enabling them to sell their products and labor at higher prices, will also cause them to pay equally more for what they may purchase, but you neglect to say that your statement is not applicable to debts.

"With prices coming down regularly and steadily since the demonetization of silver, our merchants, manufacturers and the people generally have been doing business on a falling market, so that the time intervening between the purchase of their merchandise or raw material, and placing it, months after, on the market, has removed the margin they would have otherwise made. This shrinkage in values, added to the ordinary risk and expense of business, has led to an ever-increasing volume of debt, to a money-lending period, until it has increased all told, public and private, to about forty billions of dollars, or about two-thirds of the total value of all the property in the United States.

"Money and these debts payable in money have been steadily increasing in exchangeable value with the property of the people. A debt for \$1,000, that 1,000 bushels of wheat would have paid ten years ago, now requires the farmer to give up 2,000 bushels of wheat in exchange for these dollars with which to pay the same debt.

"The debts now in existence are principally old debts, or renewed or refunded debts, or new debts contracted to pay old debts, or debts the people have been forced to contract by reason of the continued decline in prices.

"The owners of products must now give up twice as much property to pay taxes as in 1873. Seventeen thousand bushels of wheat would have paid the President's salary of \$25,000 in 1873, and it now requires 100,000 bushels of wheat to pay his annual salary of \$50,000. Taxes have increased as expressed in dollars, and have doubled and quadrupled as measured in the property the people surrender with which to pay them since 1873.

"We have constantly pointed out to the people the ever-increasing, exchangeable value of the creditors' dollar, and the reason why it was increased, but the influences of these creditors have dominated your administration and you insist on such a currency as they have established as a sound currency. It means the confiscation of the property of the people by the sale of property under mortgages, judgments and executions. It means that fixed incomes will wipe out the interest of stockholders in our railways and corporations.

"If it is an injustice to restore prices so that people can exchange their property for a sufficient number of dollars to pay their debts, and bring happiness and prosperity to our land, then it was a greater injustice to destroy the value of property and enhance the value of money by the demonetization of silver and the establishment of a single gold standard so that when you call the attention of the farmer and wage-earner to the fact that rising prices will make him pay more for what he buys you should at the same time call his attention to the fact that it would enable him to pay his debts, free him from a bondage in which he has been unjustly placed, and again make him the owner of a home and a free and independent citizen.

"We might say further to him that rising prices cause money to seek investment, and would thus open up the channels of commerce and trade and give employment to the millions now idle. It is not more money that we want to borrow, but to pay off what we already owe. The more we borrow, the more we must pay, and the annual interest on all public and private debts is now more than the annual profits of business and production."

The state board of charities, says the *Cheyenne Leader*, will leave within a short time for a tour of inspection of penal, reformatory and charitable institutions in Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. The object of the board is to make such investigation and research as will be necessary to put in force a new system of hygiene and discipline at the Wyoming state penitentiary.