

pend of \$1,000,000; but as great secrecy is maintained on this point nothing about the price is really known.

Passing over to France, we find the French Chamber of Deputies adjourned for a new election which is to take place on the 27th, when a new chamber is to be chosen for four years. It will assemble on the 1st of June. The Senate, the members of which are elected for nine years (the terms of one-third of the body expiring every three years) has adjourned to June 3.

Russia has at last entered into arrangements for relinquishing, nominally at least, her self-assumed protectorate (p. 711) over Manchuria. The announcement is made by the Peking correspondent of the London Times, whose dispatch, published on the 29th, states that the Russian minister to China and the president of the Chinese foreign office have agreed upon the principal conditions of a treaty for the Russian evacuation of three provinces, to be carried out at three successive intervals of six months each, dating from the signing of the treaty. After the Russian evacuation, China is to be allowed to maintain in Manchuria whatever military force she thinks necessary.

Meanwhile another rebellion has been raging for several weeks in southern China, in and about Kwangse province. Early last month it was reported that it had become so extensive as to threaten Nanking. About the same time Mr. Conger, the American minister at Peking, was quoted as having notified the Chinese government that the United States expects China speedily to suppress this rebellion and protect foreigners. In response to his request of a few days previously for information as to the outbreak, the Chinese government informed him that 10,000 soldiers had rebelled and that they were being rapidly reinforced by other rebels. It requested him to have the foreign missionaries deposit their valuables with officials and accept an escort to the coast. On the 18th a Hongkong dispatch reported the rebellion as spreading, and told of a battle at Fangcheng which lasted two days and resulted in a defeat of the government troops under Gen. Ma; and on the 19th Gen. Ma confessed his inability to cope with the rebels without reinforcements. Three days later the

rebels had captured Kamchau in the Province of Kwangtung, of which Canton is the capital, and had seized the granaries and the arsenal. The rebel leader's name is Fungming.

These threatening disturbances in China are reported from London as having had a tendency to give the British government great concern, since the rebellion is in the region of the British "sphere of influence" in China, and Great Britain still has the South African war on her hands. Although high expectations of peace in South Africa have been raised by the journey of acting President Schalkburger, of the South African Republic, to meet President Steyn, of the Orange Free State (p. 808), no actual indications of a settlement are at hand. Schalkburger had passed through the British lines at the time of our last week's report, and was on his way, under British escort, from Pretoria to Kroonstad; but he had not yet met Steyn. It is now known that he reached Kroonstad on the 23d, and that on the 24th one of his staff was escorted, blindfolded and under flag of truce, through the British lines, to bring the Transvaal party into communication with Steyn, who was understood to be with De Wet. On the 29th a message from Pretoria stated that Steyn's whereabouts had not yet been discovered though he and De Wet had been traced to Paris, about 30 miles northwest of Heilbron road, in the Orange Free State; but on the 30th it was announced that he had been found with Delarey and that the interview between him and Schalkburger would be arranged without further delay.

This episode has not prevented the continuance of fighting. Some of the details of Delarey's escape from Lord Kitchener's cordon (p. 808) came out on the 28th. Kitchener captured 179 prisoners, but 1,500 broke through his lines and got away. Official news of a Boer victory, on the 24th, not before reported reached London on the 30th in the shape of a casualty report. A British force had lost 7 killed, 8 wounded and 29 captured near Sutherland, in Cape Colony. The prisoners were afterward released in accordance with the Boer practice. A British surprise attack on a Boer company on the 31st was repulsed, after a severe engagement, but Lord Kitchener's report of the event gives no details. To strengthen her force in the field Great Britain has

notified Canada of her acceptance of 2,000 troops offered by the Dominion for service in South Africa; and on the 1st orders were issued in London for the embarkation for South Africa of more troops on the 15th. Kitchener is believed to have again surrounded De Wet, but there is nothing authentic about the rumors.

American sympathy with the Boers was expressed on behalf of the Democrats in Congress on the 31st by the introduction into the lower House, by Congressman Sulzer, of New York, of the following resolution:

That we sympathize with the heroic Boers in their struggle to maintain their liberty and independence, and protest in the name of humanity and civilization against the continuation of a war which outrages the feelings of all liberty-loving people; and that, the Congress of the United States, being committed to the principle of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, the President is hereby respectfully requested to urge upon the government of Great Britain the wisdom of adopting this policy for the purpose of stopping the awful atrocities now going on in South Africa; and that the President is hereby directed to maintain a strict neutrality between the contending forces, and prevent the shipment of contraband goods from ports in the United States to aid the British soldiers in South Africa, and respectfully inform the British government that, if the war in South Africa is continued, it must be conducted in accordance with the rules of civilized warfare and the provisions agreed to and adopted by the Geneva convention and The Hague peace convention.

The question of American neutrality, mentioned in the resolution, appears to have been brought to a sharp issue by the Governor of Louisiana, in which state the breach of neutrality is claimed to be in progress. Gov. Heard, of that state, officially and formally questioned the American State department on the 2d upon the subject. He writes the department that in his opinion the British government is maintaining a military camp within the territory of the United States; that the camp in question is located in his state, a few miles below New Orleans; that it is for the transshipment of horses and mules to South Africa, there to be used by British soldiers as munitions of war in the war against the Boers; that this camp is, therefore, in his opinion, a British army post, and its operations in his state a violation