

CHINA AND JAPAN.

"Ministerial Blunders"—The China Submarine Cable—The Reception of Mr. De Long by the Mikado—An Absconding Business Man.

The steamer *America*, from Hong-Kong June 12, via Yokohama June 23, arrived at San Francisco July 15.

CHINA.

The *News Letter* has the following on "Ministerial Blunders:" "American residents in China have received with astonishment the announcement that LOW, before departing for Corea, had appointed a foreigner as Acting United States Consul for the port of Chefoo. So much dissatisfaction has been felt and expressed at Meadows, an Englishman, holding the office of United States Vice-Consul at Tientsin, that it was generally believed some steps would be taken to replace him by an American born, but instead of this, another one has been added to the list, much to the surprise of every one possessing the least particle of national pride, and Americans see, with the deepest feelings of humiliation, their flag represented at the capital of this country by foreigners—men who can have no interest in the affairs of the country they are thus appointed to represent. It is difficult to say what mysterious influences have swayed LOW in making this appointment, but whatever they may have been, they should not have been allowed to have force in a matter of this importance, where the feelings and interests of so many are concerned. All foreigners in China know in what light the Chinese look upon a country that is under the necessity of calling upon others than its own countrymen to discharge its official duties. It is gratifying to learn that the American residents at Chefoo have united in a petition to LOW, protesting against a foreigner being permitted to hold the position of United States Consul, and requesting that one of their own countrymen be appointed to represent them; and it is devoutly to be hoped that even should LOW fail, on reconsidering the matter, to grant their petition, the United States Government will very soon undo what he has done amiss."....The *Hong-Kong Press* says the final splice of the China submarine cable was made June 11, thus placing Hong-Kong in communication with Singapore and other parts of the telegraphic world as far as San Francisco. This work has been carried out in the most efficient manner, and reflects the highest credit on all concerned. The whole of the staff and instruments had to be transferred from one ship to another no less than six times, but, notwithstanding this, had it not been for some bad weather which was experienced off the Paracels, when it was necessary to cut and buoy the cable in 700 fathoms of water, the vessels would have arrived within an hour or two of the time expected, As it was, they only exceeded it by twenty-four hours, thus maintaining the high character for punctuality with which the Telegraph Construction Company carry out their contracts.

JAPAN.

From our Yokohama files we extract the annexed items....The Japanese Parliament has not yet assembled, though it has been again stated for certain that Prince SATSUMA—owing to whose non-arrival in Yeddo the Mikado had delayed its opening—has reached the capital.... Among the few notable events that have occurred during the past fortnight, has been the reception of the American Minister by the Mikado. In our last we mentioned that DE LONG had been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Japan, and on the 9th instant, accompanied by several American civil and naval officers, and Col. SHEPHERD, the United States Consul, he presented his credentials to the Emperor. His reception was everything that was satisfactory, and the Mikado's Ministers afterward entertained them at Hama Goten....Troops continue to pour into Yeddo from many provinces—contributions of the several princes to the national army to be established at the capital, but the Government will have to deal very cautiously with this matter, for the smallest partiality shown to any one clan raises the jealousy of the other....Much excitement was caused among both foreigners and natives the day the French mail left, when it became known that the manager of a German firm here had absconded with a sum variously stated at \$20,000 and \$60,000, and left by the steamer for Hong-Kong. E. SEYD & Co. were heavily involved, and both Japanese and Europeans are the sufferers. The house and godowns were immediately placed in charge of the Police by order of the North German Consul.