

AMERICA AND COREA.

ADMIRAL SHUFELDT'S TREATY CRITICISED— COREA'S OTHER TREATIES.

YOKOHAMA, June 23.—The latest advices indicate that Commodore Shufeldt's treaty with Corea promises more complications than any other recent act of Eastern diplomacy. It was originally so managed under Chinese influences as to inflict a petty affront upon Japan by producing the impression that no convention with Corea is legitimate unless negotiated through Chinese guidance and authority, throwing discredit on the early treaty between Corea and Japan. It was also contrived with the view of enforcing the favorite Chinese theory of suzerainty over all the neighboring Asiatic States. Tsung and Leyamea are elated at having made Commodore Shufeldt a convenient instrument for their purpose, and their satisfaction might have been lasting but for Commodore Shufeldt's letter impeaching the Empress's private character, the publication of which makes the pending authorities as anxious to repudiate all connection with him and his performances as they were to avail themselves of his agency. It is now a question if any of the countries directly or indirectly concerned will be content to abide by Commodore Shufeldt's action:

First, because China's grievance is deep against him; next, it is currently reported in the open ports of China that a telegram was sent from Washington to Commodore Shufeldt instructing him to do nothing in the Corean business until after the arrival of the new American Minister in China. The inference is that the telegram arrived too late. The fact of its transmission shows that the United States Government doubted Commodore Shufeldt's qualification for the work required. Japan, moreover, having been the first nation to open relations with Corea and feeling a species of responsibility for that kingdom's external relations, shows concern that a secret compact should be made after Japan had once been given to understand that her co-operation would be valued. Japan's point on behalf of Corea is that the treaty shows but little advance in spirit upon that executed between the United States and Japan 25 years ago, notwithstanding the United States have displayed constantly increasing liberality of intentions in dealing with Asiatic nations. Japan professes to be actuated by sincere good will for Corea and to doubt that China has any motive but that of selfish regard for her own interests as regards her American relations. It will have to be first definitely settled whether Corea means to be absolutely independent or not, or any treaty is useless. If she is independent the admissions and acknowledgments in Shufeldt's treaty would seem to invalidate that document. The other foreign representatives to China now appear disposed to await further developments before following Shufeldt, with the exception of the British, who have imitated him with considerable exactness. Sir Thomas Wade, who had prepared for a visit to Corea, remained at Pientsin and allowed Admiral Willes, with a subordinate Secretary of the British Legation, to proceed with the actual work of negotiation. A treaty said to be in most respects identical with Shufeldt's was signed on June 6, and Admiral Willes went to Yokohama, while the Secretary returned to Sir Thomas Wade in China. It is reported that a Corean envoy will be appointed to Washington, Kin being spoken of for the post. Kin has had an adventurous career. Several years of his life were passed in America, having been rescued from a disabled Corean ship and carried to San Francisco. He came to Japan and was taken into the Government employ in opening relations between Japan and Corea eight years ago. Since that date his people have recognized his usefulness and his experience has been utilized in numerous directions. A Japanese newspaper correspondent reports that a conspiracy against the life of the Corean King has been discovered and suppressed. It had been instigated by parties hostile to the progressive measures sanctioned by the monarch.

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