

TRIPLE ALLIANCE

Culmination of Six Years of
Secret Negotiation.

SIGNIFICANCE OF TREATIES.

United States, Russia and France
Have Joined Hands.

MUTUAL BENEFIT AND DEFENSE.

Carrying Out a Plan Originally Sug-
gested by Gortschakoff.

Russia and France Now Stand Pledged to
Take the Part of the United States
Against All Other Euro-
pean Powers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—A triple alliance between the United States, Russia and France, such is the international combination of forces for mutual benefit and defense which has been secretly pending for six years and which, unknown to the diplomatic world at large, culminated in an executive session of the United States senate two days ago. This is the first public announcement of the weighty meaning which lay behind the seemingly unimportant and formal announcement that "the extradition treaty with Russia has been ratified."

That was the sum total of the announcement which was given to the public. But the ratification of this treaty meant an epoch in the history of this country. It meant that the century will close with what Prince Gortschakoff, the great Russian chancellor, once described as "necessary for the universal equilibrium of nations—namely, an alliance between the United States, Russia and France."

In ratifying these treaties the United States government has received distinct pledges both orally, through the Russian and French legations in Washington, and by correspondence through the department of state with the foreign officers of those governments, of their support, by force if necessary, against any interference by Germany, Great Britain or any other European power with the maintenance by the United States of what is commonly termed "the Monroe doctrine."

In other words, the control of the Hawaiian Islands, the annexation of British America, the acquisition of Cuba, of Hayti and San Domingo and the ultimate expulsion of Great Britain from Bermuda are all possibilities in fulfilling which the United States would be upheld by the two powers which in European politics are most distinctly opposed to the Dreibund, the alliance between Germany, Austria and Italy.

ANOTHER CABINET FORECAST.