**TOPICS OF THE TIMES.**

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**PERSONAL.**

Said to have recovered. The late President James Buchanan, who has been suffering from a severe cold, has returned to Washington, where the President-elect is expected to be on hand shortly. The President-elect has been making preparations for his inauguration, and it is believed that he will be ready to take the oath of office on the day appointed. The President-elect has been spending much of his time in study, and it is said that he has made many important discoveries in science.

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**JAPAN.**

The Japanese government has announced that it will not recognize the claims of any foreign powers in the event of any dispute between Japan and China. The Japanese government has been very careful not to show any sympathy for the Chinese, and has maintained a strict neutrality in all matters affecting the Far East.

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**CHINA.**

The Chinese government has been making preparations for the defense of the country against any possible attack. The Chinese government has been very careful not to show any sympathy for the Japanese, and has maintained a strict neutrality in all matters affecting the Far East.

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**GERMANY.**

The German government has been making preparations for the defense of the country against any possible attack. The German government has been very careful not to show any sympathy for the Japanese, and has maintained a strict neutrality in all matters affecting the Far East.

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**RUSSIA.**

The Russian government has been making preparations for the defense of the country against any possible attack. The Russian government has been very careful not to show any sympathy for the Japanese, and has maintained a strict neutrality in all matters affecting the Far East.

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**FRANCE.**

The French government has been making preparations for the defense of the country against any possible attack. The French government has been very careful not to show any sympathy for the Japanese, and has maintained a strict neutrality in all matters affecting the Far East.