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## PEACE COMES AT LAST.

### Japan Sacrifices Her Claims for Indemnity.

#### PEACE SURPRISES DE WITTE.

Japan Wins Everything She Went to War for, and More too. Russia is Driven Out of Manchuria—Port Arthur Goes to Japan and She Also Gets Valuable Fishing Rights in Russian Waters.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 29.—Peace between Russia and Japan came today, and came with the bewildering swiftness of a whirlwind.

A treaty of peace without a single question of importance in dispute is now under consideration.

At Tokio and St. Petersburg terms of an armistice are being considered.

Within a short time two great armies that of Japan, numbering perhaps 600,000 men, and that of Russia, numbering perhaps 500,000 men—will be marching home, both with flying colors. Japan brought peace by making concessions the magnitude of which were never dreamed of. Under instructions from the Mikado himself the Japanese envoys offered to withdraw absolutely the demand for a war indemnity or remuneration for the war and to yield back to Russia half of the island of Sakhalin.

With such a change of front, amounting almost to magnanimity, peace became an accomplished fact.

Until the envoys began the discussion at what the Russians believed would be the last meeting of the conference there was no information as to what lengths the Mikado had instructed his representatives to go into in order to insure peace.

That the instructions were of the most sweeping character the early developments of the discussion showed. It had been surmised that Japan would still insist on the payment of money under some other form than the remuneration of the war. But Japanese instructions were absolute to forego all idea of indemnity and be satisfied with the actual results accomplished in the acquiring of Korea, Manchuria and Sakhalin, and to exercise magnanimity as to the latter.

Russia had a proposition to make at the outset which was in reply to the last offer made by Japan to recede from a demand for straight remuneration and to return to Russia the island on payment of \$600,000,000. There was some discussion of this counter-proposal. What it was the envoys declined to say. It is understood, however, to be that of no indemnity and cession of half of Sakhalin. It was in the nature of an ultimatum. In the language of Mr. Sato, of the Japanese staff. "What does it matter? What is the use of plucking a dead carcass?"

Thus when the Russia counter-proposal was submitted the two nations were exactly \$600,000,000 apart, and an immeasurable distance separated them on the recognition of the principle of paying for the war.

Then came the dramatic event of the session. The two parties were divided by a seemingly impassable abyss. Japan took a step that crossed it in an instant. Baron Komura said he had received instructions from his Imperial Master to waive all claims to indemnity and remuneration for the war and to offer to the Russians half the island in dispute.

M. Witte sat in silent amazement for several seconds after the words of Baron Komura were repeated to him. He could not realize that the end had come, and so fortunately for both nations. He had been expecting from Japan an insistence on terms which he could never

accept, and instead the envoys of his country's enemy were offering to do exactly what Russia wanted.

"It seemed incredible," said M. Witte this afternoon. "For some time I could not credit my sense of hearing. Then it dawned on me with the effect of a thunderclap that peace had come."

"I don't believe any other man in my place would have dared to hope for the possibility of peace on the conditions to which we have just agreed. From all sides, from President Roosevelt down to my own friends in Russia, I received up to the last moment, even this morning, urgent representations that something should be paid to Japan."

The terms under which peace has been agreed to are limited to the logical accomplishments of the war. Japan wins at every point except that of exacting of Russia tribute such as is exacted of a thoroughly beaten foe.

The reason for this is that Russia still had a large and well-equipped army in the field, and could have fought for years to come, and Japan realized that she was in the position before the world of coercing Russia to pay her money, not because she had conquered her, but because of Russia's internal troubles.

Under the terms of the treaty to be signed and to be known as "the Treaty of Portsmouth" the "prepondering influence" of Japan in Korea is recognized by Russia and Japan will hold undisputed sway over that country and practically make it a part of her empire. This was the immediate cause of the war. Russia gets a concession by which she will receive the "favored nation" treatment.

Russia evacuates Manchuria and abandons her dreams of extending her empire to the very doors of Japan.

Japan is also to withdraw from Manchuria, and in the treaty will be a pledge to observe the open door and the integrity of China. Manchuria was the main cause of the war, and Japan will have whatever privileges she can obtain from China, and those, it is believed, will not be difficult to obtain.

Japan becomes possessed of the Russian leases on the Liaotung peninsula, including the railroad, Port Arthur and Dalny.

All the concessions under which Russian influence was fastened on that peninsula will be transferred to Japan.

Japan also becomes possessed of the Eastern Chinese railroad from Port Arthur to a point called Quanchoutze, about 150 miles south of Harbin. This will, of course, necessitate an arrangement between Japan and China whereby the concession under which the Russians built the road will be transferred to Japan.

The agreement under which the road was built and operated was that China should buy the road back from Russia and the stockholders in 36 years from the date of opening traffic, on payment of the value of the stock and all the charges. If China did not buy back, then the road would revert to China in 80 years from the opening of the road. These concessions will now go to Japan. If a plan which has been much discussed for the transfer of the road to an international syndicate should be put into operation by Japan the Mikado's Government probably would reap a very large sum, which could be applied to the expenses of the war.

Japan also obtains fishing rights along the Siberian littoral which have been denied for many years and which will include the sealing privileges. This is a very valuable right.—Baltimore Sun.

#### Got Off Cheap.

He may well think, he has got off cheap, who, after having contracted constipation or indigestion, is still able to perfectly restore his health. Nothing will do this but Dr. King's New Life Pills. A quick, pleasant, and certain cure for headache, constipation, etc. 25c at Hood Bros. drug store; guaranteed.

## GENERAL NEWS.

### Some of the Events That Are Taking Place All Over the World.

Nine persons lost their lives by a cloudburst in Rhade Canyon, Cal.

The Secret Service the last year has arrested 385 alleged counterfeiters and accomplices.

A young man in Huntington, W. Va., shot and killed his sweetheart and himself last Monday.

The Kentucky farm of 110 acres on which Lincoln was born has been sold at auction for \$3,600.

The American steamer Peconic sank off the coast of Florida Monday and 20 of her crew of 22 men were drowned.

Edwin S. Holmes, charged with conspiracy to defraud the Government in the cotton leak incident, surrendered Monday and was released in \$10,000 bail.

Troops have been ordered to the mines of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company in anticipation of trouble when operations are resumed with non-union men.

Cable reports from Minister Rockhill, at Peking, declare that the Chinese are tiring of the boycott against American goods, and that Shanghai is opposing vigorously its continuance.

In a letter praising the work of the Public School Athletic League and General Wingate, its president, President Roosevelt has accepted the office of honorary vice-president of the league.

Edwin S. Holmes, Jr., the former associate statistician of the Agricultural Department, has been indicted in Washington for conspiracy to defraud the government in connection with the cotton leak.

Codorus creek, which runs through York, Pa., rose higher than at any time since 1889 and a number of persons endangered by the flood had to be rescued on rafts. Railroad traffic was also seriously interrupted.

The President went out on the submarine boat Plunger in Oyster Bay last Friday and was on board while several dives were made, one lasting fifty minutes; he expressed himself as greatly pleased with the work of the vessel.

A detachment of marines and sailors from the German cruiser Bussard surprised about 1,000 insurgent natives, half of whom were armed with rifles, near Kowoni, German East Africa, August 25. The Germans killed 73 of the insurgents and drove many others into the river Riffiji, where they were drowned.

#### Guests at Farewell Party.

Selma, August 29.—Misses Annie L. and Sarah K. Stancil, who have been attending the manual training department at Chautauqua, N. Y., have returned. They were guests at a delightful "Farewell Party," given at Chautauqua on the thirteenth, and added much to the pleasure of the occasion. Mrs. Elizabeth Parker, of Albemarle, N. C., was also present.

#### Dr. Atkinson Enjoys an Outing.

Washington, D. C.,—Dr. W. H. Atkinson has returned from his vacation trip to Niagara Falls and surrounding country very much refreshed by his outing. Dr. Atkinson is a native of Johnston County, North Carolina, who has won distinction in his profession in Washington City, where he enjoys quite a large practice.

#### Attacked by a Mob

and beaten, in a labor riot, until covered with sores, a Chicago street car conductor applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and was soon sound and well. "I use it in my family," writes G. J. Welch, of Tekonsha, Mich. "and find it perfect." Simply great for cuts and burns. Only 25c at Hood Bros. drug store.

## CHIEF EVENTS OF WAR

### Russo-Japanese Conflict Lasts 527 Days.

#### FIRST BLOW AT PORT ARTHUR

Series of Victories Crowns Japanese Arms with no Important Reverses. Battles of Yalu, Kinchan, Telissu, Motien Pass, and Liaoyang Followed in Succession—Rout at Mukden.

Japan broke off diplomatic relations with Russia on February 7, 1904, after being convinced that further negotiations regarding the integrity of China in Manchuria and Korea and respective spheres of influence in those countries were useless.

The first blow fell next day. Admiral Togo, in command of the first Japanese fleet, reached Port Arthur, sent in his torpedo boats and destroyers, and, during the night and early morning, sank the cruiser Pallada and drove the battleships Retvizan and Tsarevitch aground in a badly damaged condition. The Russians were completely taken by surprise.

From that time a series of victories crowned the Japanese arms. Port Arthur was effectually blockaded, and the entrance almost wholly blocked by sunken merchant steamers. On April 13 Admiral Togo decoyed the Russian flagship Petropavlovsk over mines that had been planted and the warship was sunk in three minutes. Admiral Makaroff, commanding the Russian fleet and 700 of his officers and crew went down with her. The famous Russian war artist, Verestchagin, was among the lost. Grand Duke Cyril was saved.

The Japanese continued to bombard Port Arthur, and in June the Russian fleet attempted several times to escape. In these attempts the Russian fleet was almost annihilated or driven disabled to neutral ports. With the capture of Port Arthur later on, the Russian sea power in the far East was reduced temporarily to zero.

The sailing of Admiral Rojestvensky's vast fleet and his subsequent complete defeat in the battle of the Sea of Japan are occurrences of so comparatively recent date as to necessitate no review of that memorable but one-sided conflict.

On land the Japanese were uniformly victorious in the important battles. Victories at the Yalu, Kinchan, Telissu, Motien Pass, and Liaoyang followed in rapid succession. In all these battles the fanatical bravery of the Japanese won over the slow but stubborn Russians.

The battle of Liaoyang was the largest of the war to that time. Half a million men, about equally divided, and 1,300 guns were engaged, and for a week the desperate fighting went on. Gen. Kuroki had the Japanese right, attempting a flanking movement; Gen. Oku held the center, and Gen. Nodzu the left. All were under command of Field Marshal Oyama, Japan's greatest soldier. Gen. Kuropatkin clung to his strong position with desperation, bringing up all his reserves. The slaughter was dreadful and the Japanese attack continuous.

Finally, on the night of September 4, Gen. Kuropatkin said he could hold out no longer and withdrew his weary army across the Taitse River, leaving Liaoyang in flames. Conservative estimates of the casualties were: Russians, 16,000; Japanese, 12,000. The Japanese captured many Russian guns and some supplies.

The siege of Port Arthur was a long and bloody one, but the Japanese finally triumphed after a total loss in killed and wounded estimated at 111,000 men. The Japanese captured upward of 30,000 men and immense quantities of guns, small arms, ammunition.

After the fall of Port Arthur, Marshal Oyama had been drawing his troops into position for the battle of Mukden, which, it was realized, would be the great land engagement of the war. The forces engaged were three armies of Russians, numbering 376 battalions of infantry, 171 batteries of artillery, 178 sotnias of calvary, numbering 300,000 rifles, 34,000 gunners, with 1,368 guns and 26,700 sabers, an aggregate of 361,500 men. It is difficult to speak with accuracy of the Japanese numbers, which comprised sixteen divisions. A division may comprise anything from 10,000 to 30,000 men. It may be assumed that they averaged 25,000, making the Japanese army 400,000. The total forces engaged stand at the enormous figure of 761,500. The five armies engaged for nineteen days, fighting over a front of 100 miles. The Russians left some 30,000 dead. They had over 100,000 wounded and lost 50,000 prisoners, with enormous quantities of foodstuffs and war material. The Japanese casualties totaled 50,000.

Gen. Kuropatkin was recalled the next day. Gen. Linevitch succeeded him, but no important engagement had been fought up to the signing of the treaty of peace.

The war has lasted 527 days. Its estimated cost to Russia is very close to \$1,900,000,000, to Japan \$1,400,000,000. The Russian losses in killed and wounded and prisoners were 420,000; Japanese losses, 170,000. Russia lost by capture or sinking in battle 73 ships and the Japanese 12. The value of Russian ships was \$150,000,000 and the Japanese \$15,000,000. Washington Post.

## BENSON NEWS.

Mr. Ira Creech, of Kenly, was in town last Sunday and Monday.

Miss Daisy Hardee, of Upper Johnston, was the guest of Mrs. J. C. Stancil last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Stancil, of Raleigh, and Miss Sarah Stancil, of Wake county, spent last week in town with relatives.

The Benson Graded School continues to grow, new students coming in every day. We believe that with the fine faculty of teachers, and the large and commodious buildings erected, that no school in this section of the State offers better advantages than does the Benson Graded School.

Messrs J. C. Stancil and J. H. Rose have recently purchased the furniture and undertakers business of Mr. R. F. Smith and will continue the business at the same stand on Main Street. Messrs. Stancil and Rose are both well known to the public and are fine business men, therefore we predict for them much success. The style of the new firm will be Rose & Stancil. SOLON.

## Are You Engaged?

Engaged people should remember, that, after marriage, many quarrels can be avoided, by keeping their digestions in good condition with Electric Bitters. S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., says: "For years, my wife suffered intensely from dyspepsia, complicated with a torpid liver, until she lost her strength and vigor, and became a mere wreck of her former self. Then she tried Electric Bitters, which helped her at once, and finally made her entirely well. She is now strong and healthy." Hood Bros. druggists, sell and guarantee them, at 50c a bottle.

Just received a new lot of English Crockery. COTTER-STEVENS COMPANY.

Good advice to women. If you want a beautiful complexion, clear skin, bright eyes, red lips, good health, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. There is nothing like it. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Selma Drug Co., A. H. Boyett.

## POLENTA NEWS.

Misses Mary and Lucy Sanders, of Smithfield, are on a visit to relatives in this section.

Misses Ella and Corrinna Mial, of Wake county, are on a visit to friends in the Preston section.

Mrs. Robert Parrish, of the Smithfield section, spent Sunday visiting kindred in this community.

Miss Lucile Ellington, of Clayton, after spending a few days at Mr. G. B. Smith's, returned home Sunday evening.

Mrs. W. M. Sanders and children, who for the past several weeks, have been out at the White Oak Farm, will return to their home in Smithfield the first of next week.

Dr. Ralph Stevens leaves us for Raleigh this week. He has been with us only about two months, but during that time he has ingratiated himself into the good will of us all, and we had hoped he would not leave us, but he thinks it best to accept the flattering offer made to him by Dr. Hubert Royster, of Raleigh, and whilst we reluctantly part with him, we wish for him great success in the field to which he goes.

The picnic at Barbour's Bridge last Friday was largely attended and enjoyed by all present. Three games of baseball were played during the day, viz: Polenta against Wilson's Mills, resulting 19 to 5 in favor of Wilson's Mills. In this game the batting for Wilson's Mills did the work. Then came the second game between Wilson's Mills and Centre Cross, resulting in victory for Centre Cross, 8 to 3. In the evening Myatt's School played against Baptist Centre which resulted in favor of Myatt's School 6 to 5. The playing of Harris and Brockwell, of Raleigh, for Wilson's Mills is said to have been very fine, especially did they show off well in the first game.

Last Friday Mr. H. T. Garrard gave his annual dinner at his home near Leachburg, and like all previous ones, it was a success in every particular, all pronouncing it par excellence. About two hundred were present and all seemed to enjoy the occasion. The table groaned beneath the substantial and delicacies of the season and after every one had partaken, there was enough left to have fed another such crowd, thus demonstrating the fact that Henry Garrard never does things by halves; also that he is ever on the alert as to the enjoyment of his guests. Dinner over the crowd assembled to the front porch and several after dinner talks were made by Mr. J. P. Edmondson, Senator Whitaker, of Wake, and this scribe, laudatory as to Mr. Garrard's unstinted hospitality, and expressing thanks to Mr. Garrard, and Mr. Booker Wood and good wife in contributing so much to the pleasure of those present. Late in the evening the crowd gathered in the parlor, and was favored with some as fine music as we ever listened to. In fact with Mrs. Venie Hardee at the piano, Messrs. C. H. Holland and Lon Coats with the violin and Mr. John Hardee with the guitar, the music was simply grand, hard to be excelled. Late in the evening the crowd began to disperse to their homes, all hoping for the return of many more such occasions, and all wishing for Mr. Garrard a long, prosperous, happy life.

## TYPO.

(The remainder of Polenta News will be published next week.) [Ed.]

Experienced travellers have found great benefit by taking with them a bottle of Dr. Seth Arnold's Balsam. It cures illness caused by impure water and sudden changes of climate. Warranted by Hood Bros.

We have many handsome toilet sets to select from. Come now and get your choice. COTTER-STEVENS CO.