

The Smithfield Herald.

PRICE ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

"TRUE TO OURSELVES, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOD."

SINGLE COPIES FIVE CENTS.

VOL. 22.

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1904.

NO. 51.

THE FAR EAST—RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

In the war now going on between Japan and Russia we may expect no battle to be fought in Japan's dominions. The nature of the islands comprising the Japanese Empire is such that a Russian invasion is hardly possible. The coasts of Japan are generally mountainous and are easily defended. One reason that will prevent a Russian invasion is that most of the Japanese ports are shallow. Tokio, the capital of Japan, does not fear any Russian attack on account of the shallowness of the bay. It has been suggested that the channel should be made deeper so that the largest vessel might enter, but the Japanese have refused to do this as they are not willing to place their capital at the mercy of a foreign invader.

Japan has five naval stations. Each of these stations is strongly fortified, has dry docks, arsenals and barracks. Japan is now building at these ports many of her war ships. The sagacity of the sleepy-eyed Japanese is shown by the fact that they allow no visitor to enter the yards of these ports. These naval stations are Yokosuka, Ominato, Kure, Saseho and Maizuru.

Though Japan is one of the oldest nations of the world, it has been during the past fifty years that she has waked up and taken on the spirit of Western Civilization. Within the past half century but few nations have made the progress that Japan has. Her strength was but little understood until the Chino-Japanese war broke out in 1894, but within a few months she startled the world by showing that she could with her forty million people overcome China with her four hundred million.

As it now appears the war will either be fought on sea or in Manchuria and Korea. Either of these countries are somewhat unpromising for war operations. They are so mountainous that it would be difficult to move a large army with any speed. Korea has only a few troops and no fortifications worthy of mention. All her ports of any importance are treaty ports and their capture by either of the belligerents might involve foreign complications.

At the close of the war between China and Japan in 1895 Russia obtained from China a valuable concession by leasing the southern part of Manchuria known as the Liaotung peninsula for a period of 25 years. At the southern end of this peninsula is Port Arthur. This is Russia's stronghold in the East and is the place where the first naval battle of the present war was fought. A little to the east is Dalny, a city built by order of the Czar. North of the Russian concession Manchuria, a territory a great deal larger than the State of Texas, spreads away to the north. In 1896, by an agreement between China and Russia, a branch road of the Trans-Siberian railway was built from Harbin, on the main line, to Port Arthur. The building of this road has had a great deal to do with fastening Russia upon Manchuria. This railway touches no important town, but several towns have been built by Russians along the line, the principal of which is Mukden.

One of the great problems with Russia at the present time is how to maintain a large army in the Far East. Recent newspaper dispatches say that Russia will make Harbin her supply base. The country through which the Trans-Siberian railway passes is not very fertile in many respects and produces only enough for the population along the line. To carry the supplies to Russian soldiers in Manchuria is a great problem. It takes a freight train about 24 days to make the trip. A part of the trip is made across Lake Baikal on the ice at this season, as there is no road around the lake.

RUSSIA MEANS TO CRUSH JAPAN.

Expects to End the War by September—Japan Says Nit.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—"The war will end in August or September in the complete defeat of the Japanese," said to the press association a high authority in intimate touch with the Russian war plans, whose opinion can be taken faithfully to reflect the belief in the highest official quarters. He added: "How the Japanese can hope to succeed when our army in the east is strengthened to a point equal or superior to that of our adversaries, we are honestly unable to comprehend. It will not be difficult to place two, four, or even six hundred thousand

THE MIKADO.

Mutsuhito, Japan's progressive ruler, ascended the throne in 1868, at the age of sixteen, and since then has trans-



MUTSUHITO, EMPEROR OF JAPAN.

formed his country from barbarism to the position of a thoroughly up to date world power.

additional men in the field, if necessary. When our forces are concentrated and ready they will finish by driving the Japanese into the sea.

"Frankly, it seems to us that the Japanese either have utterly failed to appreciate Russia's resources, or have counted on aid of Great Britain or the United States, neither of which ever contemplated becoming involved. So far as Great Britain is concerned we do not believe any hallucinations existed there. We think the British statesmen, who did so much to push Japan into war, realized that with Japan's defeat they would accomplish two things for Great Britain; first, to give Russia a check—for, of course, the war must impede our progress temporarily—second, to cripple Japan's maritime power, which was beginning to be greatly felt in the Pacific.

"It can be said with the utmost positiveness that Russia will bide her time. She will act on the defensive until she feels confident that her weight of numbers will leave no doubt as to the result. Reinforcements are going forward at the rate of 3,000 a day.

"Probably some time will elapse before Russia feels fully prepared to assume the offensive. The conviction is growing here in official circles that, in spite of Japanese denials, the Japanese fleet was severely crippled off Port Arthur in the engagement which began February 5th.

Greensboro Female College was the first chartered college for women in North Carolina, and with the exception of the Wesleyan Female College, at Macon Ga., the first south of the Potomac. It is the same age as the North Carolina Conference, that conference having begun its separate existence in 1838, and the college having been chartered later in the same year. The college was only last week transferred from the alumnae association to the two conferences of the Methodist church in North Carolina.

A meeting of the board of trustees of the college has been called at Greensboro Tuesday, February 23rd, to discuss the loss of the fire, and to take such steps as they may deem best looking to its future.—Fayetteville Observer.

JAP OFFICERS HANGED.

Disguised as Coolies They Tried to Blow Up Bridge.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—The Japanese who were hanged by the Russians in Manchuria for attempting to blow up the railroad bridge over the Sangari river were disguised as coolies. They were arrested just as they were about to make the attempt. Inquiry revealed that they were Japanese officers of the general staff, namely, Colonel Assai, of the engineers, and Lieutenants Zoneloiascha and Kaurta, of the sappers.

They were at once hanged from the girders of the bridge. The newspapers of Port Arthur dated February 4 reached St. Petersburg today, indicating that they were less than three weeks in transit. Troop trains probably require a longer time on account of the difficulties at Lake Baikal, where provisions and troops are crossing, but on ice trains and sledges; but the cold is exceedingly severe.

Today 36 degrees below zero (Fahrenheit) was recorded at Irkutsk and other places. Stories of the sufferings of the troops in the crossing of the lake are persistent. Some reports say 600 men were frozen, but these lack confirmation, official or otherwise. The telegraph is working well. One line, devoted exclusively to government business, runs direct to Irkutsk, whence, with a single relay, it connects with St. Petersburg.

The Czar recently stood at the telegraph key and talked with Viceroy Alexieff practically uninterrupted.

Military men desiring to accompany the Russian army have been formally notified that they can proceed when convenient, but it is added that accommodations and commissariat supplies cannot be guaranteed before

THE CZAR OF RUSSIA.

The emperor of all the Russias is in his thirty-sixth year and has ruled Russia nine years. The Hague peace tri-



NICHOLAS II.

bunal was his idea, and he is strongly in favor of peace so long as it does not prove a barrier in the path of his empire's growth.

March 15. No authorizations have yet been issued to war correspondents, and it is improbable that anything in this direction will be done until the concentration of troops is completed.

The Chinese minister here has presented to the foreign office a note similar in tenor to that handed to the government at Tokio regarding China's neutrality and the respect to be paid to the imperial tombs. It is understood that Russia has not made a specific reply, but communicated to the minister a copy of her reply to Secretary Hay's note on the subject of China.

The New York American announces that Prof. George B. Pegram, of Columbia University, a son of Prof. W. H. Pegram, of Trinity College, has discovered in a radium vacuum tube machine the nearest approach to perpetual motion yet devised. The American says that "Radium's activity has not yet been demonstrated by any physical instrument to decrease. So far as is known this machine may therefore be expected to run indefinitely, until the propelling machinery is exhausted."

AGAINST THE JAPANESE.

Rumours From Seat of War Seem to Favor the Russians.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25th, (Thursday). 2:45 a. m.—A telegram from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar says:

"At a quarter before three in the morning of February 24 numerous Japanese torpedo boats attempted to attack the battleship Retvizan and sink large steamers loaded with inflammables. The Retvizan was the first to observe the torpedo boats and opened a strong fire on them. She was supported by the land batteries. She destroyed two steamers near the entrance of the harbor; they were coming directly towards her. One of them went down on

EMPEROR OF KOREA.

Emperor Yi Huing, whose country caused war between China and Japan in 1894-95 and is the present bone of contention between Japan and Russia,



YI HUNG.

is fifty-one years of age. He became king in 1894 and emperor in 1897. Like the emperor of China, he is a man of little force and ability.

the rocks near the lighthouse on Tiger Peninsula and the other sank under Golden Hill. The Retvizan observed four steamers in a sinking condition, and eight torpedo boats departing slowly to rejoin the waiting Japanese warships. A portion of the crews of the Japanese vessels was drowned. The grounded steamer is still burning. The enemy is observed in the offing of Port Arthur in two lines."

THE FIRST REPORTS.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—(Thursday, 12:10 a. m.)—The wildest rumors have been afloat here regarding the reported Japanese repulse at Port Arthur, but up to midnight nothing official could be learned. An official bulletin, however, is expected soon.

It is reported unofficially that the Japanese, while attempting to land at Pigeon Bay, lost two cruisers and two transports.

London, Feb. 24.—A dispatch to Reuters Telegram Company from St. Petersburg, sent at 11 o'clock tonight, says that on February 23, the Japanese attempted to send four steamers filled with explosives among the Russian fleet in Port Arthur harbor. These fire ships did no damage and were themselves destroyed, two being sunk and two going ashore. Two Japanese boats escorting the fire ships were destroyed by Russian guns.

A dispatch to the Central News from St. Petersburg gives another version of the reported Japanese defeat at Port Arthur, according to which the Japanese planned to sink some barges in the strait leading from the outer to the inner harbor of Port Arthur, thus blocking the exit. The Russian gunfire, however, sunk the barges before they arrived at the intended spot.

Mr. J. C. Clifford has been appointed receiver of the Bank at Dunn, which failed last week.

Senator Simmons has introduced a bill in the United States Senate to encourage the emigration of desirable labor into the South.

SEES CHANCES FOR VICTORY.

Cleveland Calls Upon the Democrats to Unite.

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 19.—In an article written for this week's Saturday Evening Post former President Cleveland urges his "rank and file associates" of the Democratic party to unite and take advantage of the opportunities of next November.

"I am one of those," he writes, "who believe that there is an opportunity for Democratic success in the coming presidential election."

"Thorough attachment to the party in which I am enlisted and an intense desire for its ascendancy make such belief exceedingly welcome; they certainly don't create it. It is built upon an unshakable and abiding trust in the patriotism and intelligence of my fellow countrymen."

Mr. Cleveland's paper opens with a reiteration of the declaration that he made three years ago:

"Our fighting forces will respond listlessly and falteringly if summoned to a third defeat in a strange cause; but if they hear the rallying call of true Democracy they will gather for battle with old-time Democratic enthusiasm and courage."

Referring to his faith in his Democratic associates, he continues:

"This trust will not permit me to overlook the meaning of the daily increasing unrest among our people, growing out of the startling and flippant abandonment by the party of national traditions and maxims; its disregard of our national restraints; its inconsiderate tendency to set aside national good faith; its willingness to break away from safe and accustomed moorings, and its contemptuous neglect of our national mission. Surely these conditions, together with the broken pledges and forgotten promises of reform that vex the sight on every side, not only

PREMIER KATSURA OF JAPAN.

Count Katsura is Japan's premier and minister of the interior. Soldier as well as statesman, he received his



GENERAL COUNT TARO KATSURA.

military education at a German war college and is a field marshal in Japan's army.

abundantly explain the popular distrust and fear prevailing everywhere in the land, but I submit that in such stress of political weather those of our fellow citizens who thoughtfully and constantly love our free institutions will not be unmindful of such safety and quiet as may be offered them by a patriotic and conservative Democracy."

Mr. Cleveland thinks the conditions justify the assertion of Democracy's opportunity. He says:

"It should be remembered, however, that opportunity may be only distantly related to actual accomplishment, and that it does not of itself, unaided and alone, warrant the expectation of reaching successful results."

"This is no time for cunning fibes, nor for the use of words that conceal intentions or carry a double meaning. The Democratic party has a message to send to its followers and to the masses of the American people. Let that message be expressed in language easily understood, unconfused by evasion and untouched by the taint of jugglery.

Obsolete issues and questions no longer challenging popular interest should be manfully abandoned."

Mr. Cleveland urges tariff reform, pleads for economy in the expenditure of public money, and charges the opposition with having made promises and broken them. He arraigns the administration's Philippine policy, and refers to the isthmian canal in these words:

"The Democratic party has been consistent and unremitting in its advocacy of an interoceanic canal, and has with the liveliest satisfaction looked forward to the day when such a highway of commerce, built under the auspices of our government, would be contributed by America to the world's progress and civilization. It is, nevertheless, not within the mandates of the Democratic creed that, even in consummating so noble an enterprise as this, the territorial rights of any other nation should be disregarded, or that our own national good faith should be subjected to reasonable suspicion."

Mr. Cleveland concludes as follows:

"At such a time as this the Democratic party can not with honor undertake the battle of the people, except under a leader that not only represents the best traditions and purposes, but fully realizes what is meant by the tremendous issues of the conflict; and his selection should not depend upon so small a consideration as the locality whence he comes.

"The Democracy's opportunity is already in sight, but only in a campaign waged in reliance upon the people's love of country and devotion to national morality, under leadership that personifies these sentiments, will be found the Democracy's hope."

Out of the Mouths of Babies.

"What did George Washington do for his country?" asked the teacher.

"He gave it an extra holiday," promptly answered the boy at the foot of the class.

"Why, Freddie!" exclaimed the excited mother, "what did you drop the baby for?"

"Because," answered Freddie, "grandma said he was a bouncing baby and I wanted to see him bounce."

"Can you tell me what a smile is, Elsie?" asked the father of his little daughter.

"A smile is a laugh that cracks one's face without breaking it open," replied the small observer.

Teacher—Where's the north pole, Harry?

Harry—Don't know.

Teacher—What! You don't know where the north pole is?

Harry—No, ma'am; if I did them explorer fellows would be out of a job.—Chicago News.

The directors of the Baptist Female University passed an order last week for the erection of another dormitory building to cost not exceeding \$30,000. The capacity of the building will be for 96 girls.

Chesapeake, Feb. 21.—Russia is rushing troops into Port Arthur. The Japanese declare they will take Port Arthur within two months. The Russians are preparing for a long siege.

Greensboro, N.C., Feb. 18.—Fire early this morning destroyed the historic old Greensboro Female College, the loss aggregating in the neighborhood of \$65,000. The building and contents were insured for \$35,000 for the benefit of the bond holders and this amount will be applied to the bonded indebtedness of the college (\$40,000) when a settlement with the insurance companies is made. None of the insurance was held in the Greensboro companies.

A new bank with a capital of \$25,000 has been organized at Dunn to take the place of the two which recently failed there.