

W. F. MARSHALL, Editor and Proprietor. DEVOTED TO THE PROTECTION OF HOME AND THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY. One Dollar a Year in Advance.

COUNT CASSINI ON CHEFU INCIDENT

World Menaced, He Says, by Seizure of the Ryeshitelni.

JAPAN WROCKS HAY'S PEACE PLAN

Destroying China's Neutrality Provisions a Question, Says Russian Ambassador, as Momentous as Water Crisis—He Adds That Russia Will End the War on Her Own Terms.

Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, recently used the following vigorous and significant language in an interview at Bar Harbor with a correspondent of the New York Herald, in discussing the grave aspects of the Chefu incident and its bearing on the whole world, when he said:

"As the situation presents itself today, without any further steps by the nations of Europe and by the United States secretary of state, Mr. Hay, to insure the neutrality of China has gone to wreck, and the entire Chinese question, fraught with danger to all nations that have an interest in that country, once more lies open to all eventualities."

"Do you regard the Chefu incident as closed by the excuses which Japan has given?"

"No excuses that Japan can give can alter the occurrence, and, instead of being closed, I regard it as only open."

"Do you regard the incident as serious?"

"I regard it as far more serious, in an international sense, than any question which has been before the world since the adjustment of the Boxer troubles."

"And why do you regard it in such a serious light?"

"Because it is in a fair way to terminate suddenly and finally the international agreement for the maintenance of the neutrality of China. That would be a calamity, because of the dangers with which it would threaten not only China, but every nation that is interested in China."

"Will you outline briefly the history of matters in this question, so far as they relate to the neutrality of China, which is affected by the Chefu incident?"

"At the outbreak of hostilities between my country and Japan the suggestion was made by the United States that all nations interested in the Chinese question suggest to the belligerents the desirability, so far as practicable, of limiting the zone of hostilities, and that they all subscribe to the principle of the neutralization of China with a view to the maintenance of its territorial integrity. All the other nations signatory to the Peking peace protocol made this suggestion to Russia and Japan, and my government consented to it and also to the principle of the neutrality of China. Japan assented also. Russia entered into this agreement solemnly, believing it to be in the interest of the whole world."

"Now, what has happened? Before war had been declared a large Japanese squadron appeared off Chemulpo and found two Russian ships in the harbor. Notice was served on them to come out and be destroyed or the Japanese would bombard them in the harbor of Chemulpo. The commanders of foreign ships entered a protest against such a violation of neutrality, and in the end, rather than have the town of Chemulpo bombarded, the Russian senior commander took his ships out, made a spirited fight and sunk his own vessels."

"I will speak of this merely to call attention to the disregard of international law and neutrality which was exhibited by Japan at the outbreak of the war. Japan went into the agreement intending to violate neutrality wherever it suited her purposes. This brings us down to Chefu."

"What is your understanding of what occurred at Chefu?"

"My understanding is derived from the press reports, just as I presume yours is. There is no question as to the brutal and essential facts. The commander of a Russian torpedo boat destroyer went to Chefu after a sortie from Port Arthur. He declared to the Chinese authorities that he would remain in that neutral port absolutely under conditions prescribed by the law of nations."

"He unceremoniously seized and removed them and the other weapons and the ammunition. These he delivered to the Chinese authorities, and the ship was in the situation that she should have occupied in a neutral port and was entitled to the protection of the neutral power, which had gunboats and cruisers in the harbor."

"That night came two Japanese men-of-war. The Japanese commander discovered the Russian ship in exactly the state I have described. He attacked her, boarded her and attempted to run up the Japanese colors. The Russians, recognizing this as an unlawful act, defended the ship with their hands. In the hand-to-hand struggle which ensued the Japanese commander was thrown overboard, but superior numbers prevailed, and the Russian ship was taken out of this neutral port as a prize. The Chinese were in duty bound not to have permitted the Japanese to enter the harbor. They were bound not to have permitted the attack, and they were bound not to have permitted the consummation of this act of piracy by the removal of the Russian ship."

"What steps have been taken by your government?"

"I am not further advised beyond the fact that we have entered a strong protest to Japan through the French minister who represents Russian interests at Tokyo. I have no information that a protest has been sent by Russia to

the other powers, who are almost equally concerned with Russia. I presume a protest has been sent to China."

"What next?"

"That is the important question. What next? What are the other nations going to do? Surely we cannot be bound longer to respect the neutrality of China if China will not respect it herself. We certainly cannot overlook this act any further than we can overlook similar acts in the future."

"It would seem to me to be a time for action by Europe and the United States. I do not mean the sending of fleets, but I do mean that some extraordinary step should be taken. Japan seems determined not only not to recognize the neutrality of China, but not to recognize international law, and yet Europe and the United States are pledged to the neutrality of China and to the observance of international law."

"The importance of this thing, as it appears to me, is that if nothing is done the great act of Mr. Hay in leaving China out of the conflict—an act which we all recognize as making for the peace of the world—becomes absolutely null and void."

"It is the duty of every government to give the most serious and immediate attention to this question. Mr. Hay's act was recognized as a clever and beneficial idea. Was it worth while? Certainly it was. Shall it now fall to the ground because of this wanton act of piracy by a nation pledged to an agreement such as that? If China consents to be neutral, what then? That is the question which should be discussed seriously."

"It is stated that Japan's excuse is that the commander of the Ryeshitelni was carrying dispatches to Chefu, and it is also argued that a Russian consul in Chinese territory is suspected of being in wireless communication with Port Arthur."

"And the moon is made of green cheese! Nothing can be pleaded in extenuation of this act. There is no question of the facts. The foreign consuls in their reports all agree. Even the British consul has reported the facts, though I see that Great Britain now says that Japan must have time for explanation, whatever that may mean."

"What steps will you take?"

"It is impossible for me to say until I have seen Mr. Hay, the secretary of state. I am sure that not a government, except Japan, that has assented to the neutrality of China can remain indifferent. Japan at least should be made to say what she thinks of making Chinese neutrality a dead letter."

"In your opinion, what follows if it becomes a dead letter today? That is for the powers to say. Answering your question in that event, it surely opens up the whole question of China again. It leaves it where it was before Mr. Hay sent his note. It interests all Europe and all America. It is likely to affect your 'open door.'"

"The powers ought to be prepared to give the strongest sort of admonition to China and Japan. I have always had the idea that Japan was seeking to force China into war. A few incidents like this will force war on China perhaps. Look at the unmaking of Chinese troops on the frontiers. They have been drilled by European officers and are now under Japanese officers."

"The ending of the neutrality of China opens up all eventualities. It is in the interest of the entire world, once and for all, to put an end to this menace. We are at war with Japan. It may be some other power next year. Then this nation that has done these things at Chemulpo and Chefu will continue its same tactics unless a halt is called. And so in time we will fall back on the laws of war which governed the times in the old days."

"What have you to say about the progress of the war?"

"We will bring it to an end on our own terms. It may be two years. It may be three years. But we will bring it to an end on our own terms."

"Is it true, Count Cassini was asked, 'that representations are being made to the powers that the Russian destroyer seized at Chefu by the Japanese was fully armed?'"

"I believe such representations are being made, but that does not alter the facts as they are known. Read the report of your own consul, of the British consul, of all the foreign consuls. The Ryeshitelni was no longer a warship. Her colors had been hauled down. She had been completely disarmed. The colors and the weapons, even to the revolvers, had been handed over to the Chinese authorities. All the provisions of international law had been complied with."

"But is it not a new point in international law that a warship fleeing from an enemy can find asylum in a neutral port and be secure from capture simply by lowering her colors and disarming and giving those weapons into the keeping of a neutral power?"

"It is not at all new; it is a recognized principle. It has occurred in the history of the United States. When this is done to a warship, as a belligerent vessel, as a fighting craft, she ceases to exist. I see Japan now, instead of returning our destroyer to Chefu and restoring her to the Chinese, is seeking to bully China and compel her to send from other harbors other Russian ships which have been similarly disarmed and interned. Thus the situation becomes additionally grave. I cannot help thinking that out of the Chefu incident will grow very big consequences."

Port Arthur in Japanese Hands. The Chinese notice for Port Arthur was Lunshunkow. The town had, twenty years ago, only a few thousand inhabitants and was used as a place for the deportation of criminals.

THE GAZETTE, twice a week one dollar a year.

HARPER-SEVIER.

Two Former Gastonians Wed at Charlotte Wednesday.

The account given below of the marriage of Mr. Matthew Harper of Atlanta and Miss Val Sevier of Charlotte is taken from the Charlotte Observer of the 12th. Both of the contracting parties formerly lived in Gastonia and have many friends here. The bride is a sister of Mr. Craton Sevier of Thomson Company's.

The Observer says: A simple home wedding will be that of Miss Val Sevier and Mr. Matthew Harper this morning at 8:30 o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Durham, in Dilworth. Miss Sevier is a niece of Mrs. Durham, and a descendant of John Sevier, the first Governor of Tennessee. She is a charming young woman, who has made many friends even in her short stay here, having come to this city recently with Mr. and Mrs. Durham from Spartanburg, S. C., their former home. Mr. Harper is in business in Atlanta, Ga., where the couple will go to-day to make their future home, leaving on the 9:25 a. m. train.

The out-of-town visitors who are here to attend the ceremony are: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Robertson, Jr., Miss Constance Robertson and Miss Florence Sevier, of Spartanburg, S. C.; Mr. Craton Sevier, of Gastonia; Mrs. S. J. Durham and Miss Pearl Dixon, of Bessemer City, and Miss Mamie Simpson, of Rutherfordton.

STANLEY ITEMS.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

Stanley, N. C., October 12th.—Rev. E. W. Fox, pastor of the Methodist church, gave a "scuppernon party" to a number of his friends and neighbors Tuesday evening. From his home in the eastern part of the State Mr. Fox received a box of fine scuppernon grapes, which are rare in this section, and he invited his friends in to help eat them. The occasion was a very delightful one.

Mr. William Smith, who holds a responsible position on the staff of the New York Sun, spent Saturday, Sunday and Monday here looking after the affairs of his brother, the late Mr. D. A. Smith, an account of whose tragic death appeared in this correspondence last week.

Mr. C. C. Moore, who recently moved back to Stanley from Iron Station is quite ill with typhoid fever. Mr. Moore's wife died about two months ago. She rifled Armstrong was here Mouday collecting taxes. He met with success.

Are They Degenerating.

Columbia State.

In the account of the annual freshman-sophomore class rush at the University of Wisconsin, which "rush" takes place in the waters of Lake Mendota and includes an attack by the freshmen upon the sophomore "flag raft," anchored 400 feet from the shore, it is told with becoming ingenuity that "no one was drowned and the most serious injury was a four-inch gash in the head of a freshman from a boat-hook in the hands of a sophomore." Really it must have been a tame affair, no one drowned and a four-inch gash in the head the most serious injury! What is the matter with our youth? Are they degenerating?

Broke his Collar Bone.

Rock Hill Herald, 12th.

Sunday afternoon a Mr. Rowden, who lives near Yorkville, together with a man from Gastonia, while returning home in a buggy after spending the day with Mr. Henry Lineberger near Catawba Junction, were thrown from the buggy, the former having his collar bone broken. The horse they were driving became frightened, and running, succeeded in turning the buggy over, and in the fall the accident occurred.

The men came to the city that night where Rowden received treatment in the hospital, leaving the next day for his home.

Peter Sells, the last of the Sells Brothers whose circus appears in Charlotte the first day of November, died in Columbus, Ohio, last Friday. Arrangements for the sale of the circus had been arranged before the death of Mr. Sells. As the News stated some days ago, the sale will take place in Tarboro, the 19th of November.—Charlotte News, 12th.

LEWIS-PUETT.

Beautiful Church Wedding at Dallas—Mr. and Mrs. Lewis go on a Bridal Trip to St. Louis.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

Dallas, N. C., Oct. 12th.—Perhaps no wedding solemnized in Dallas for many years, has excited as much friendly interest as has that of Mr. Robert S. Lewis and Miss Carrie Puett which occurred Monday evening.

The bride and groom have always resided in Dallas. From earliest infancy, through the happy days of laughing childhood, then as schoolmates and later on in the social life of our town their interests have ever been in common and they have contributed largely to the good and hospitable influences which have made the social life of Dallas very pleasant.

It is no wonder, therefore, that friends irrespective of denomination, endeavored to make the Baptist church, in which the wedding was solemnized, as beautiful as possible. Graceful ferns with their long waving fronds, stately palms, blooming plants of various descriptions, together with garlands of cedar and dozens of candles made the decorations both beautiful and churchly.

As the wedding march from Lohengrin was played softly by Prof. S. A. Wolf the ushers, Dr. S. A. Wilkins and Mr. A. L. Bulwinkle, came down the aisles and took their places near the altar. They were followed by the bridesmaids Misses Hogenia Lewis and Violet Holland. Next came the bride down the left aisle with the maid of honor, Miss Bessie Puett; while the groom came down the right aisle with his best man, Mr. James Moore from Gastonia. At the altar they were met by the bride's pastor, Rev. Cornelius Miller, and Rev. J. L. Vipperman the pastor of the groom. The marriage service was impressively performed by Rev. Miller, and was concluded with a prayer and benediction by Rev. Vipperman.

During the ceremony Prof. Wolf played a selection from the "Morning Chords," and as the bridal party left the church the glad, triumphant strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march filled the air.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis left almost immediately for a visit to the St. Louis Exposition. The presents received by this popular couple were both numerous and costly. They consisted of pieces of cut glass, hand painted china, silver, and a great many handsome pieces of furniture.

Among the many visitors to town this week to attend the Lewis-Puett wedding were Mrs. Tyson and sons, Norwood; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carpenter and son, Shelby; Mrs. Claudia Henderson and sons, Hickory; Miss Sarah Hoffman, Elizabeth College; Misses Lyda and Mattie Ormand, Old Furnace; Mrs. Kate Brittain and Mr. Eugene Brittain, High Shoals; Misses Ada Furr and Bertha Jenkins, from Mt. Holly.

Mr. L. M. Hoffman left last Thursday for a visit to the Exposition; and also visit relatives in La., and his old home in Ark. He expects to be away for five weeks.

Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Jenkins are also visiting the Exposition. While away Dr. Jenkins will attend a course of medical lectures in Louisville, Ky.

Little Dorothy, the two year old daughter of Prof. and Mrs.

S. A. Wolf has been critically ill with a severe case of ptomaine poisoning. She is improving and it is hoped that the improvement will continue. Miss Essie Rudisill of Cherryville is visiting Miss Emma Curwell.

Rev. W. A. Deaton is attending the annual meeting of the Tennessee Synod which is being held at China Grove. He was accompanied by Mrs. Deaton and two little sons.

Rev. C. I. Morgan will leave Thursday morning to attend the meeting of Synod.

CHANCE FOR THE GAZETTE READERS.

Coupon Worth 25c. If Presented at Adams Drug Co's Store.

In order to test THE GAZETTE's great circulation and its superior advertising value, we have made arrangements with Adams Drug Company the popular druggists, to offer one of their best selling medicines at half price to any one who will cut out the following coupon and present it at their store.

COUPON

This coupon entitles the holder to one 50c. package of Dr. Howard's specific for the cure of constipation and dyspepsia at half-price, 25c. We will refund the money to any dissatisfied purchaser.

Adams Drug Company. TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

Dr. Howard's specific for the cure of constipation and dyspepsia is not an unknown remedy. It has made many remarkable cures right here in Gastonia and so positive in Adams Drug Co. of its great superiority in curing dyspepsia, constipation, sick headache and liver troubles that they will, in addition to selling it at half-price, refund the money to anyone whom it does not cure.

If you cannot call at their store, cut out the coupon and mail it with 25 cents, and a 50 cent box of the specific will be sent you by mail, charges paid. Do not put it off. "One to-day is worth two to-morrows."

This is a great opportunity for our readers to obtain a popular remedy at a small price. There are sixty doses in every package, and unlike ordinary constipation remedies, the dose is decreased after the first few days. 04-17

Boy Started a Match Charity.

Philadelphia Press.

A small newsboy who had picked up the stump of a cigar stepped into an uptown grocery store.

"Say, mister, give us a match?" he said to the man behind the counter.

"We do not give away matches; we sell them," the clerk replied.

"How much?" said the boy.

"Cent a box," was the reply. Diving down into his pocket, he produced the cent, saying "Gimme a box."

Receiving the matches, the youngster proceeded to light his cigar, and then, leaning across the counter, he handed the box of matches to the clerk and remarked:

"Say, mister, you jes' take these here matches and put 'em where they'll be handy, and when some other gentleman steps in and asks for a match don't you sell him a box, but jis' give him one on me."

And with a dignified air the boy walked out of the shop.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

The undersigned having this day qualified as administrator of the late W. H. Hoffman, all persons having claims against the said decedent are hereby notified to present them to me, only cashed, dated for payment on or before the 15th day of October, 1904. This notice will be placed in bar of any recovery thereon.

Persons indebted to the estate of the said decedent are requested to make immediate settlement.

Little Dorothy, the two year old daughter of Prof. and Mrs.

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Leading Brands—Royal Worcester, P. N., H. & H. at 50c and \$1. Children's waists 25c. Tally Ho and Tape Girdles, the newest out.

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Plain linen 5c, 10c, 15, 25c. Fancy handkerchiefs for pillow covers, large variety at 10c. Swiss embroidered 10c to 50c. New lot of belts, combs, and hand-bags just arrived to-day.

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One lot closing out at reduced price. Regular price was \$5. They are going now for \$3.25.

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36-in Black Taffetas 90c to \$1.25, 27-in. Jap Silks, white, black, and colors, 50c. Peasde Crepe, Black, white, and colors \$1.

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Be careful in selecting your gift. It will be viewed and criticized by many. Those whose opinions you most esteem will see it. By it may be judged your good taste and judgment, mayhap your friendship and liberality.

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We are again ready to supply you with mules and horses, having only a few days ago received a car load of stock from Tennessee. These stock were selected by our old buyer Mr. Geo. A. Anderson and among them you will find some extra nice pairs of mules and a few good horses to suit almost any one wishing a good animal. Call and see our stock before buying elsewhere, and oblige

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