

The Centre Democrat.

Circulation Over 3800

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1904.

VOL. 26. NO. 6.

JAPAN STRIKES FIRST BLOW

War is now on Between Russia and Japan

RUSSIAN VESSELS DISABLED

Naval Encounter at Port Arthur—Torpedo Boats Deadly Work at Night—Naval Engagement During the Day—War Declared

The long expected war between Russia and Japan is now on. The scene of the conflict will be in the far East, in which two magnificent modern navies will test strength, and infantry will meet face to face in the long disputed territory of Korea. In our last issue we gave a complete review of the differences arising between the two great powers, with a map showing the territory where the struggle would take place.

Japan sent her ultimatum to Russia some time ago and demanded an immediate and definite reply. To this the customary delay was given by the Russian government, as in all their former negotiations. Japan could bear with them no longer and recalled her representative at St. Petersburg. In the meantime Russia was rushing troops into Korea evidently taking all possible advantage of the delay, in formulating her reply. Japan began to move troops last week and some sixty vessels landed forces in Korea. A detachment of Russian cavalry has been sent south to engage them.

NAVAL ENCOUNTER.

Plucky Japan struck the first blow and gained an important victory at Port Arthur in a naval encounter.

A dispatch from Chefoo, dated February 9, says:

A CRUSHING BLOW.

"The Japanese have dealt the Russians a crushing blow at Port Arthur. An advance squadron of the Japanese fleet, under command of Vice Admiral Togo, and comprising sixteen battleships and cruisers, with a numerous torpedo flotilla, left the main fleet off Shan Tsung peninsula on Sunday, immediately that the news of the diplomatic rupture became known."

"The Japanese scouting cruisers had given accurate information of the precarious situation of the Russian fleet outside Port Arthur. The squadron steamed slowly in battle formation Sunday mid-day toward its goal and came within sight of Port Arthur under cover of darkness. It cruised slowly outside without showing lights. The Russians were lying in the roadstead apparently feeling secure from attack. Nearly all the Japanese torpedo boats were dispatched on their dangerous and daring task. They rushed full steam on the enemy, who were completely surprised. A great rattle of small arms greeted the invaders, who, however, escaped unhurt, and the splendid battleships Retvizan, the Czarevitch and the cruiser Pallada, were almost immediately torpedoed. The Japanese dashed along the entire line of the Russians, exposed by now to a terrific fire from machine guns and small arms from both the ships and the shore. There was the utmost consternation among the Russians, which probably accounts for the Japanese torpedo boat's escape, practically unscathed, and rejoining the admiral outside. The admiral's fleet, during the attack, kept out of range of the Russian searchlights.

"Line of battle was then formed and the Japanese fleet moved in within a range of two and one-half miles and opened fire on the Russians." In this engagement the Russians lost two officers wounded, nine men killed and forty-one men wounded. On the shore batteries, one man was killed and three were wounded. The battleship Poltava and the cruiser Novik each had a hole knocked in her side below the water line. The forts were slightly damaged. The Japanese fleet steamed away apparently uninjured.

Two Russian battleships were beached across the entrance of the harbor. They were soon followed by a Russian cruiser, which also was beached. None of the vessels was damaged above the water line. The disabled armored cruiser and the grounded battleships block the entrance to the harbor, preventing gunboats from going out and battleships and cruisers from going in and getting coal. Besides this, Japan has the Russian gunboats Variag (which was built at Cramps yards, Philadelphia, and is one of the best in the czar's navy—the battleship Retvizan was also built by the Cramps.) and Kozret caught at Chemulpo. They were bound for Vladivostok.

The Japanese fleet was under the command of Vice Admiral Togo and consisted of four fast cruisers, the Chitose, Kasagi, Takafago and Yoshino, which circled outside, drawing the fire of the Russians. They then joined the main fleet and all went in to attack the armor-

ed cruisers. In the Japanese fleet, which consisted of two divisions, were the Mikasa, the flagship; the first class battleships Sahi, Fuji, Inashima, Shikamsi, Hatsuz and the dispatch boat Tatsumo.

Summing up the encounter: three of Russia's best battleships are torpedoed and disabled, and two fine cruisers met like fate, and two gunboats captured at Chemulpo; the Russian forts were damaged; they also had a number killed. The Japs didn't even get a scratch.

President Roosevelt through Secretary Hay has sent an identical note to the European powers asking that they join in guaranteeing the territorial integrity of China, whatever may be the result of the war, and urging that they use their influence to limit the field of the war to Manchuria and Korea. Four regiments of Japanese troops landed at Chemulpo and started for Seoul.

BOODLE COMING.

Solomon R. Dresser, the McKean county boodler, has announced his candidacy for re-election to Congress from this district. Centre county voters should be up and doing, they are entitled to a portion of the swag. It was plenty two years ago and there is some left.

The announcement is made in a dispatch from Clearfield to the city papers that Col. W. F. Reeder, of Bellefonte, will be a candidate this time and will carry the instructions, but in the conference will yield to Dresser, with the understanding that two years hence McKean county will endorse Colonel Reeder. That is a fair proposition, if carried out. It confirms the rumor of a deal some time ago by which Mr. Reeder was to drop his judicial aspirations and assist Love for re-election, to have him assist in the congressional boom. It may look plausible, but such things don't always pan out.

As the district is strongly republican we think Col. Reeder would make about as good a congressman as any one they could name. He would be superior to Dresser in every respect, except in the amount of boodle he could throw into the political arena.

Hublersburg Institute.

The school teachers comprising Bellefonte borough, Spring, Benner and Walker townships will hold their local institute at Hublersburg Saturday February 13th. The following program has been announced:

MORNING SESSION.

Discussion: In what ways may a Local Institute benefit a teacher? Prof. C. L. Gramley, L. H. Yocum, Harry Breen.

Discussion: How may a teacher save time in the present over-crowded school curriculum for the more important branches? Miss Rebecca Heekman, Prof. R. U. Wasson, W. H. Minnich.

Paper: What are the best methods of teaching primary reading? Jason K. Meyer.

Discussion: What shall a practical education for the average boy or girl in the rural district include? Prof. L. W. Musser, W. H. Beck (director), Miss Ella Levy.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

School Discipline: Prof. D. O. Ethers, Miss Mame Bell, J. F. Garthoff.

Discussion: How may a teacher cooperate with the parents in the education of the child? J. W. Lee (Director), Prof. J. D. Meyer, Prof. A. P. Weaver.

Some practical methods in teaching the 3 R's, including spelling. W. W. Bible, Miss Carrie Weaver, C. F. Hoy, Miss Alice Robinson.

Peach Buds Frozen.

Dr. J. M. Dumm, of Mackeyville, has an orchard of 3000 peach trees and after the recent cold snap he was of the opinion that the buds had been greatly damaged as they cannot withstand a temperature lower than from 15 to 20 degrees below zero. This week he removed a number of branches from different trees in his orchard and carefully examined over 100 buds, all of which were frozen, thus confirming his fears. Hence it is the opinion of Dr. Dumm that the peach crop not only of this section, but all through Pennsylvania will be a total failure.

\$300,000 to Church Mission.

The will of A. P. Boynton was probated at Clearfield, Friday. It provides that the sum of \$1000 shall be paid yearly to his aged parents and that the residue of his fortune, estimated at \$300,000, goes to the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church as trustee, the revenues therefrom to be paid his widow during her life. She is appointed the executrix of the will. The bequest is one of the largest ever left for religious purposes in the state.

Mock Trial.

One of the novel entertainments of the season was the Mock Trial in Petriken Hall on Friday evening, witnessed by an overflowing house. It was under the direction of Col. A. V. Newton, of Worcester, Mass., who with but one rehearsal gave a splendid entertainment filled with humorous incidents and local flings that kept the audience in good humor for over two hours. The Y. M. C. A. cleared about \$77 from the entertainment.

BALTIMORE'S GREAT FIRE

Seventy-Five Business Blocks Were Destroyed.

THE LOSS OVER 100 MILLION

Started Sunday Morning and Raged for Over 38 Hours—Business Section of a Great City now Smoldering in Ruins.

By the time this issue of the Centre Democrat reaches its readers there will be few who have not heard of the great calamity that befell the city of Baltimore the early part of the week, by which the heart of the city was destroyed by one of the fiercest fires on record. Its extent can hardly be appreciated in the following: The area burned covered seventy-five squares on which once stood immense wholesale houses, palatial hotels, tall office buildings, fine churches, imposing bank structures—representing the commercial centre of that great city. In all about 2500 large structures, with contents, are smoldering in ruins.

The loss cannot be ascertained at this time, only estimated and is thought to exceed \$100,000,000. In this frightful holocaust it is remarkable that only one life was lost, and that was a fireman from the city of York, Pa.; no one was even seriously injured, and no persons are left homeless. At this time heroic measures are being taken by the Mayor and leading citizens to cope with existing conditions.

STORY OF THE FIRE.

Many pages could be filled with thrilling incidents of the fire, but we will be brief. Last Sunday morning at 11 o'clock a terrific explosion occurred in the basement of the wholesale house of John E. Hurst Company, Hopkins place. Its violence rent the walls and the structure collapsed, a mass of wreckage, and flames broke from the ruins. A fierce gale was blowing and soon fanned it in to a seething furnace. Sheets of flame leaped out and enveloped adjoining structures so rapidly that all the fire departments of the entire city were summoned. On and on it crept, building after building being enveloped. Calls were sent to other cities and from Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Harrisburg, Altoona, York and other points firemen promptly responded. Special trains with clear track ahead were sent at highest speed to the doomed city with their steam engines, hoses and fire equipment and did valiant service. For 38 hours the fire was absolutely uncontrollable and was gradually reaching the residence portion of the city when its progress was checked Monday night.

The destruction of this part of the city will throw 25,000 people out of employment who worked in stores, factories, mills, etc. Hundreds of business men will be left penniless—the saving of a lifetime gone—but they have not lost courage. The rebuilding of the burned district will begin at once. An army of men are now at work clearing the streets of the tangled wires, bent girders and general debris. For a while troops were detailed to maintain order, but they have been dismissed as unnecessary. Good order prevails and the work of clearing the ruins has begun.

A Lost Art.

John K. Couster, of Clinton county, says he has solved the secret of tempering copper. He has a sample plate which he has sharpened to an edge that will cut wood. He says that he also has a knife blade of copper with which he shaves. He also has a hatchet and several chisels. If he can do this he has discovered a lost art, that will insure him fame and fortune.

Haffley-Powell.

H. S. Haffley, of Aaronburg, and Miss Lizzie Powell, of Renovo, were married at Pittsburgh, Jan. 20, 1904. Mr. Haffley has been located at Renovo, Pa., the past two years as an expert pattern maker in the Pa. R. R. shops. They now occupy their newly furnished home, at Renovo where they will reside in the future.

Smallpox in Philipsburg.

Philipsburg is up against the real thing now. A colored man who came here from Clearfield some days ago and stopped at John Delige's on Locust St., has been discovered to have smallpox. The board of health took the matter in hand at once, and established a quarantine.—Philipsburg Ledger.

Remarkable.

Editor Watts, of the Clearfield Monitor sails from New York, March 6, on a two month's visit to the Holy land. How a poor country printer can undertake such a journey is beyond conception.

LONG-LOST BROTHER.

Separated since childhood, during which lapse they had mourned one another as dead, Robert Newlin, of Chester, and Mrs. Bristol Burke, of Philipsburg, N. J., have been reunited through attending a dance at Tyrone, this state. In celebration of this unexpected and happy event both brother and sister are this week visiting at the home of their mother in Chester. When Newlin and his sister were children their father died. They then lived in Philadelphia. The family was divided. The sister was adopted by a family in Huntingdon, Pa., and the boy stayed with the mother, who afterwards married Russell Phillips, a contractor of this city. Newlin then took the name of his mother's second husband, and some months ago obtained a position at Philipsburg.

In the lapse brother and sister lost track of each other, and each thought the other dead. Being fond of dancing, Newlin last week accompanied a party of friends to a ball at Tyrone. He was attracted by a comely woman and asked one of his friends for an introduction. After meeting the girl they waited and then sauntered to the seats at the side of the hall. He told her he was from Chester, and then from questions and answers and rapid comparisons of family history the fact was soon developed that they were brother and sister.

The strangest part of the story is that she had lived in Philipsburg, New Jersey, had seen Robert on the street, had often admired him and he her, but they had not met until the night of the dance.

Struck a Snag.

W. A. Rockey, of Boalsburg, was a caller. He informs us that cutting apple lumber is hard on circular saws in the Linden Hall mill; apple trees some times have an old spike in the trunk, and two circular saws have already been ruined. These spikes were driven in the wood years ago, when there was no thought of feeding the apple log to a circular saw. There is a great demand for apple lumber, for manufacturing into tool handles; the stuff is shipped away to some distant handle factory. Mr. Rockey informs us he gets \$10 per 1000 for apple wood on the stump. Austin Dale had an apple tree that measured 4 feet, 2 inches across the stump; Mr. Rockey had one that measured 3 ft. 2 in. across the stump. These logs, after being sawed into plank, cost \$30 per 1000 on board the cars at Linden Hall. At Spring Mills one apple tree furnished 995 feet of stuff. The product of 1000 feet, at factory where the handles are turned out, is said to be worth \$90 from 1000 feet of plank.

A Happy Turn in the Lane.

James McKeague of Rauchtown, who a little over a year ago was bewailing a state of wretched singleness, by reason of which the stock on his farm was as neglected and lonely as he, and who found that he must either sell out or marry, is now thanking his lucky stars that he resorted to the latter alternative, for in his home today there is a happy little wife and a cooing little daughter just a few days old.

Things are looking up for Squire McKeague and he is an earnest advocate of the advertising medium through which his happiness came.

148 Regiment Meeting.

A call has been issued for the surviving members of the famous 148th Regiment to attend a reunion, rather a business meeting, at Bellefonte, Feb. 24th and 25th. The principal reason for assembling is to make the final arrangement for the publication of the story of the regiment which has been in preparation for over a year. The volume will be of about 1000 pages, complete in every detail. The history of several companies is not as complete as is desired and the number to be published must be determined.

Cause of Insanity.

Food Commissioner B. H. Warren is inaugurating a crusade against all retail liquor dealers who dispense whiskey that is adulterated with injurious articles. Many samples have been collected and these have been analyzed by the department's chemist who found in them wood alcohol, red pepper and various coloring ingredients, some of which are of a poisonous character. "No wonder," said the doctor, "that our insane asylums are full, when men drink such deadly poison habitually."

Howard's Canning Factory.

The proposed canning factory for Howard is likely to be realized. Sufficient stock has been subscribed and a location selected near the station. Preparations are being made for the immediate erection of the building. In other parts of the county the project has not been as favorably received.

NEW ROAD LAW NOT APPROVED

No Application From Centre County on fund.

WERE ENTITLED TO \$5246

Amount Too Insignificant for Practical Purposes—Country People Disgusted With Its Provisions—Might as Well be Repealed.

State Highway Commissioner Hunter has completed his apportionment of the good road fund appropriated by the legislature. Of the \$500,000 appropriated for the first year 10 per cent. is for road maintenance and the remaining \$450,000 is for the reconstruction of roads. The apportionment to each county is made in accordance with the mileage of highways within its boundaries as reported to the highway department. The apportionment for Centre county is \$5246 48. Our total mileage 1175 miles, there being 31 miles of turnpikes included in the total.

The County Commissioners inform us that not a single district in the county applied for their part of this appropriation. Under the Act, in addition to the state appropriation, the county and the township must give one half more. If every district had acted, the sum of \$5246 would have been increased to \$7,864 which would have been enough to build about two miles of road according to the specifications, but it would not be a continuous strip, but small sections of from 20 to 30 rods in each district, a year. In other words, it would take about 500 years to cover the 1175 miles in Centre county under the provisions of this bill, and by that time the framers of the bill would either be traveling on hot cinders or flitting from place to place with angelic wings. The fact is, the farmers and country folk have no time for this road law, as it is too trifling and complicated for any practical purposes.

Grand Opera.

Saturday evening, Feb. 13, we are promised a high class Grand Opera treat at the opera house. It will be Leonca vallo's masterpiece, "I Pagliacci" and the Garden and Prison scenes from "Faust." Miss Estelle Ward, prima donna, Miss Jane Boyd Hard, contralto, Miss Marie Ricardi, E. Alfred Danieux tenor, Francis Motley, basso, and Harry Wilson, baritone, will sing the leading roles. New and correct costumes, and special scenery and electrical effects under direction of Charles Brier, of the Metropolitan Grand Opera House, New York City, guarantee, a finished and truly artistic production. Manager Gorman assures the public that this will be a rare attraction.

Cold Weather Cure.

The treatment which Mrs. Alfred Baker, of Williamstown, N. J., is undergoing for consumption has created widespread attention, especially among physicians in that section. Mrs. Baker's treatment is under the supervision of a Philadelphia physician. The patient sleeps each night with two windows wide open, even on the coldest night, and spends most time outdoors. When she lies down through the day the windows and doors are wide open, and most of her meals are taken outdoors when pleasant. During this treatment Mrs. Baker has gained twenty-two pounds, and physicians claim she will be entirely cured.

Haines-Goodlander Case.

The Haines-Goodlander case, with which many eastern Pennsylvania readers of the Centre Democrat are conversant, was tried the third time in Fort Scott, Kansas, last week, and a verdict rendered in favor of Mrs. E. C. Goodlander, administratrix of the estate of her late husband C. W. Goodlander. The suit involved \$28,000. At the first trial the jury failed to agree. At the second trial verdict for the estate. Testimony in the case was taken at Millheim over a year ago. Mrs. Haines is a daughter of Solomon Ettinger, dec'd, of Woodward.

Corsets Cause Divorce.

Because her husband was too fond of female finery, Mrs. Lucius Milton Moody secured a divorce from him at Cleveland, O. Mrs. Moody testified that her husband wore a corset and opera stockings and even lace trimmed underwear. He lavished numerous dollars on fancy nighties trimmed with lace and blue ribbons with ruffles around the cuffs and neck. Lucius was also fond of bargain sales of female finery and would go into raptures over especially fine articles of feminine attire. The pair were married in 1883. Mrs. Moody was given \$250 alimony.

The love of money may be the root of all evil, but how about an aching tooth?

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

The married man is seldom older than he looks.

The fellow who sings his own praise is a soloist.

The more friends a man has the more money he lends.

The girl who has never been kissed doesn't boast about it.

When a fellow has his leg pulled he generally has a lame excuse.

A man and his liver are pretty closely allied. One won't work unless the other does.

Few months ago a Lancaster lady wrote her name in a cigar box, and now she is engaged to the man who bought the box. Is this to be taken as another warning against the pernicious habit of smoking?

A man went to an Arkansas physician to get a prescription to cure himself and wife of chills. The doctor prescribed equal parts of whiskey and quinine. The man took the whiskey and gave his wife the quinine and says the results were satisfactory.

If you are 20 years old when your baby is one year old, then you are 20 times as old as the baby. When you're 25 years old, baby is five, then you are five times as old as the baby. When you are 40 years old, baby is 20, and you are but twice as old. When you get to be 80, instead of being twice as old as your daughter you are only one-third older. Now, at this rate how long would you have to live before your daughter is as old as you are?

An exchange says that not long ago a merchant in a neighboring town received a letter from a large distilling firm asking for a list of names of citizens who might be interested in the literature issued by the firm setting forth the merits of a new brand of whiskey and promised him a commission on all sales. The merchant being somewhat of a joker, sat down and made a list of the prominent Prohibitionists of the place and forwarded it. He forgot all about the matter until about a month later when it was called to his attention by a letter from the distillers enclosing a draft of \$16 50 with thanks for the list, which has been found peculiarly remunerative.

ADJOINING COUNTIES

One night last week an old lady named Betsy Teighe, supposed to be 90 years old, was burned to death at Brisbin, Clearfield county. She lived alone, her house took fire and she perished in the flames.

It is claimed that while drilling for gas at well No. 3 in the Hyner district, in the northern part of Clinton county, a flow of oil astonished them and the well was immediately sealed up as important real estate deals may follow.

About two hundred and fifty persons visited the Millin county jail on visitor's day. It is the duty of the sheriff to search all visitors, and in doing so three gallons of whiskey, besides knives and revolvers, were found in the pockets of the visitors.

During the coming summer the Pennsylvania Railroad company will finish all of its proposed improvements in and near Altoona. These include the big foundry plants at South Altoona, the roundhouse and shops at Blair Furnace, and the roundhouse and the classification yards at Hollidaysburg. For these improvements at least \$5,000,000 will be required.

State Pays Only Half.

The Attorney General's Department furnished Auditor General Hardenbergh with an important opinion relating to forest fires.

The commissioners of Potter county have refused to pay their share of one-half the expense of extinguishing certain fires, on the ground that the forest in question belongs to the state, and that the State should pay the entire expense.

The Attorney General's Department holds that the state in this matter stands in the same position as the individual and can only be required to pay one-half the expense, the county to pay the other half.

More Room Needed.

A bill providing for the enlargement of the government building in Williamstown at a cost not exceeding \$50,000 has been introduced in Congress by Congressman Deemer. The idea is to extend an addition along government place, south, making an L-shaped building. The district court will be moved back and away from the noise of the street offices occupying the front of the second floor. This will also give the working force of the postoffice more room. Some months ago a government inspector was there and he recommended the improvement.