

THE WAR FROM A RUSSIAN STANDPOINT

"Russia in the Far East," is the title of an article contributed by Count Cassini to the last number of the "North American Review," in which many phases of the war between Russia and Japan are discussed. The writer says:

"A common belief is that war comes only when diplomacy fails. As a general proposition this idea is correct; but it must be remembered that there are instances on record where diplomacy has been invoked for the specific purpose of precipitating war. Russia's diplomacy has ever made for her peace and that of the world. It was in this spirit that she entered into negotiations with Japan last summer, in the fervent hope that an understanding satisfactory and honorable to all concerned might be the result. Russia believed that Japan's diplomacy was directed to the same end. She saw her mistake only when Japan, without fair warning, substituted arms for diplomacy. It was then that my country realized that her patience in the negotiations had been abused and that Japan was using diplomacy as a time-gaining device that she might better equip herself for the war upon which she appears all along to have been determined.

"When I was in Paris last summer a prominent Japanese remarked to me:

"Before we meet again our countries probably will be at war."

"Why do you say that?" I asked. "Russia's desire has always been for peace, and the war would not be of her making."

"Certainly not," he replied. "It would be what my country has so long been hoping for and expecting. She needs a war to place her in the front rank of nations; and while your diplomats may stave off hostilities a little while longer, Japan will get a war with you before a year has gone."

"I hoped my Japanese friend was wrong; my government hoped so; and yet even then there were many evidences that he spoke the truth. The correctness of his statement was not fully appreciated, however, until the treacherous midnight attack on Port Arthur by Japanese torpedo boats while the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg was still enjoying the protection and the courtesies of the Russian Government to whom he had only a short time before expressed the confident hope that war might be yet averted.

Russia has never ceased to wonder why the idea she was willing and anxious to make war with Japan became so prevalent in the United States. Prejudiced minds, or those having nothing beyond a superficial knowledge of my government's position preceding the unexpected and dishonorable attack upon our fleet at Port Arthur may dispute the statement that Russia hoped for, and tried to maintain peace, but I have no hesitation in making it. If proof of the assertion be demanded, it lies in the simple but uncontradicted answer, Russia was not prepared. For the personal representative of the Russian Emperor to make an admission seemingly so humiliating to national pride may appear strange and remarkable to the people of the United States, but it is made with full appreciation of its importance and significance. I repeat that Russia was not prepared for war because she had no reason to expect war. In her faith that the negotiations with Japan were being conducted by both parties with the object of reaching an amicable and an honorable adjustment of their differences, she was not conscious that the outcome was to be other than peaceful.

Faithfully adhering to the terms of her treaty with China respecting Manchuria, she had withdrawn the major portion of her troops from that province until between sixty thousand and seventy thousand only remained. Such a proceeding makes ridiculous the allegation that Russia, actuated by designs upon not only Manchuria, but Korea, was from the first determined to possess this territory by force of arms, and that negotiations were prolonged for the purpose of giving opportunity for the concentration of the Russian forces upon Manchurian soil. Had Russia desired war, or even had she expected it, no consideration would have induced her to evacuate Chinese territory, and thus lose the opportunity of ending the war quickly.

It should not be supposed that

Russia is at war for the purpose of gratifying the ambition of her opponent to become a great nation. Russia is fighting to defend her position in the Far East; for vast interests which it would be foolhardy for her to abandon. That Russia, foremost in developing Manchuria, holds a privileged position in that vast expanse of territory, will not be denied by fair-minded men. It is a popular impression that Russia has attained her present foothold in this Chinese province through the right of virtual military conquest. No idea could be more erroneous. Through the pacific channels of diplomacy my government acquired privileges which, accepted in good faith, have been exercised in a spirit of true modern progressiveness, until now the flower of enlightened civilization blooms throughout a land that a few years ago was a wild, and in many parts a desolate seemingly unproductive waste. Before the signing of the treaty which I had the honor to negotiate on behalf of my sovereign, giving to Russia railroads and other concessions in Manchuria, no white man could have ventured into that province without danger to his life.

"China, of her own free volition, conferred upon Russia permission to build a railway through Manchuria to Port Arthur, and it was to Russia that China turned when, forced to assent to Japan's demand for one hundred million dollars as a war indemnity, she found herself unable to meet this enormous obligation imposed upon a defeated country, bankrupt, or practically so, by the exactions of a costly war. China's appeal was not in vain; she received the loan from Russia. I claim it to have been another friendly act on the part of my government in co-operation with France and Germany, to save China the Liaotung peninsula which Japan had seized as part of the spoils of victory. How much more serious even than it is to-day would have been the menace to Europe and to the whole world, if Japan had secured a firm foothold upon the Asiatic mainland.

Upon the basis of the rights to commercial exploitation thus peaceably obtained, Russia built a railway into and through Manchuria. She built bridges, roads and canals. She has built cities whose rapid construction and wonderful strides in population and industry have no parallel, certainly in Europe and Asia, perhaps even in America. Harbin and Dalny are monuments to Russian progressiveness and civilization. These great undertakings, wonderful even in a day of marvellous human accomplishment, have cost Russia more than three hundred million dollars. To have abandoned them in the face of the menacing attitude of an ambitious and daring nation would have been an act of stupendous folly that would have made Russia not only the laughing stock, but the object of the scornful pity of the whole civilized world. Had the menace not existed, however, had China not failed to offer satisfactory guarantees of adequate protection to Russia's interests in Manchuria, Russia would cheerfully have continued to carry out her arrangements with China for the withdrawal of the Imperial military forces from Chinese territory.

It may properly be asked, and doubtless is asked: Why was a Russian army sent to Manchuria at all? The answer involves only a simple explanation. Initial successes achieved by the Boxers in the anti-foreign uprising of 1900 emboldened them to cross the Amur river, which divides Russian territory from Manchuria, and attack the Siberian city of Blagovistchensk. There were regular Chinese troops in this attacking force, commanded by officers of the Chinese Imperial service. That fact gave Russia cause for war. It was an act of war. But Russia, with a fortitude that contradicts the charges against her of a desire to dismember the territorial integrity of the Chinese Empire, took no such advantage of the situation. Her military forces in Siberia vigorously repelled the invasion, and punished the invaders, and then, in accordance with that high law of self-preservation, crossed the frontier to protect the vast Russian material interests in Manchuria from the destructive designs of the fanatical hordes of soldiers and Boxers whose rallying cry was "Death to all foreigners."

Had not Russian troops gone into Manchuria that province would doubtless have witnessed scenes of carnage, pillage and wanton destruction that would have created a sensation

throughout the world. Russia restored order in Manchuria. She held her military forces there pending an adjustment of the differences between China and the Powers. When enquiries were made as to Russia's intentions towards Manchuria, assurance was promptly and cheerfully given of her willingness to evacuate as soon as China had furnished guarantees absolutely necessary to the preservation of Russia's vast interests.

"In accordance with her expressed purpose, Russia negotiated an arrangement with China which provided among other things for the evacuation of Manchuria by the Imperial troops, and more than half of these troops had been withdrawn when the failure of China to furnish the required guarantees produced a halt. In failing to complete her evacuation of Manchuria on October 6 last Russia is charged with the violation of her agreement with China. It requires but a reading of every Russian note on the subject to prove the injustice of this charge. Russia in all her diplomatic exchanges, written and verbal, on this subject, has qualified this pledge with the condition: "if action of others Powers proves no obstacle thereto."

Jealous of the growing interests of Russia in Manchuria, the Japanese government long ago endeavored to establish a parallel between its position in Korea and that of Russia in the Chinese province. The justice of this contention my government has never for a moment admitted. To consent to the establishment of such a parallel would be to surrender a principle which the Powers, Japan included, have repeatedly recognized, and the same powers have stood, or claimed to have stood, for the absolute integrity of the Korean Empire and for its independence. Having promised protection to the interests of foreign Powers in Manchuria, Russia refused to enter into a bargain with Japan by which that country might secure certain rights that in themselves would affect the political and territorial integrity of Korea.

"In the progress of the negotiations begun last summer between St. Petersburg and Tokio, Russia showed at all times a most conciliatory spirit. She modified her terms again and again so intent was His Majesty the Emperor upon preserving the peace of the Empire. At all times, however, my government insisted upon a mutual and unconditional guarantee of this principle of the independence and integrity of Korea; on an undertaking to use no part of Korea for strategic purposes, as the authorization of such action on the part of any foreign Power was directly opposed to the principle of the independence of Korea, and finally upon the preservation of the full freedom of navigation of the Straits of Korea.

The Japanese Government declined to accept these conditions, and replied by demanding again that Russia incorporate in a separate treaty between the St. Petersburg and Tokio governments a declaration defining anew the rights which Japan was to enjoy in Manchuria, and a reiteration of the statements of my government's future intentions in that province. First, because such a subject was irrelevant to the negotiations, in progress, and for the additional reason that Manchuria was a question to be settled between Russia and China in which Japan was no more legitimately concerned than any other power, my government refused to accede to these demands. To have entered into a separate arrangement with Japan regarding Manchuria would not only have been a violation of good faith with China, but with the Powers which, with Russia and Japan, signed the peace protocol of 1900. However, in another effort to bring the negotiations to a peaceful conclusion, my country did all that dignity would permit and offered to give assurances again that the sovereignty of the Emperor of China in Manchuria would be recognized. Such a declaration had already been addressed to the powers. Having made this marked concession solely in the interests of peace, my government waited the Japanese answer in the expectation that it would at least be diplomatic in character, and would furnish the basis for the furtherance of the negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion. Before the Russian Minister at Tokio could deliver this reply, the Japanese answer came not through the regular channels, but as a torpedo attack at midnight. And now that war has come, Russia does not doubt the issue.

It is not a thoughtless statement that were Japan to obtain supreme control in Manchuria, the dominant military spirit of the Japanese would lead them to organize the Chinese into a modern army of such proportions that Europe and America would

RAILROADS. CANADIAN PACIFIC SPECIAL TRAINS FOR ST. AGATHE, TRINITY. Will leave Place Viger at 4.30 p.m. on FRIDAYS, June 3rd and 10th, 1904. Commencing with change of time June 13th this train will run daily, except Sunday, to Nominie. Change of Time takes effect June 13th. TICKET OFFICE: 129 ST. JAMES STREET, Next Post Office.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM THE KEY NOTE OF TRAVEL-HARMONY IS SOUNDED BY THE Grand Trunk Special Equipment for the World's Fair Season Through Trains Direct to St. Louis. Excursion Rates in Effect during its progress. The World's Fair is by all accounts the most wonderful in all history. It is the greatest of the creations of modern man. Fifty Nations and all the States and Territories of the United States have combined their efforts to make a twentieth-century wonder. CITY TICKET OFFICES: 137 St. James Street, Montreal, or Bonaventure Station. Telephones Main 460 and 461.

Catholic Sailors' Club ALL SAILORS WELCOME Concert Every Wednesday Evening All Local Talent Invited: the finest in the City, pay us a visit. MASS at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday. Sacred Concert on Sunday Evening. Open week days from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. On Sundays, from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tel. Main 2161. ST. PETER and COMMON STs.

stand aghast at this menace to their peace and well-being. That is a phase of what has been called the "Yellow Peril" that it would be well for the thoughtful and intelligent classes to consider carefully. The Chinese make good soldiers. To suppose them to be pusillanimous in character is erroneous. They are easily trained by competent instructors, and with a population of more than four hundred and thirty millions to draw from, an army could be raised that, co-operating with Japan, might, with a reasonable show of confidence, defy the civilized world. You in America should pause to contemplate the result of a union of the two great Mongol races — one progressive, aggressive, alert, ever-ambitious, dreaming dreams of standing dominant not only in the Far East, but in the Councils of the Powers; the other imitative, easily influenced, ready if not anxious to have a stronger hand mold its flaccid character into whatever shape would be best suited to carry out a scheme of national aggrandizement. You of America as well as we of Europe have this to confront. It is not Russia alone that the danger threatens but the whole family of Caucasian nations.

Apostleship of Prayer. None of the religious movements of the last half century surpass in their rapid development that of the Apostleship of Prayer. When we imagine that the membership now rises to thirty millions of souls scattered over the whole world, we cannot but perceive the hand of God in the work. Since, however, of all the inhabitants of earth only about one fifth have ever heard of Christ, we can form some idea of the stupendous work that still awaits those who have consecrated themselves to the glorious work of the Apostleship of Prayer. The aims of it are thus graphically pictured: "In this holy crusade the Apostleship seeks to enlist all who can pray, young and old, men as well as women. It united them in an organization, thus imparting that se-

S. GARSLEY CO. LIMITED FANCY OUTING SUITS Smart, Stylish, Low Prices. Perhaps you are planning an excursion or a picnic next week; if so, these pretty Outing Suits will add to your enjoyment, because they are cool, comfortable and good looking, moderately priced: Ladies' Summer Suits, in black and white muslin, pleated yoke and sleeves, black piping, double stole collar. Ladies' Shirt Waist Suit, in Linen, waist is made with deep box pleats and rows of Cluny lace, full sleeves, trimmed lace fancy tab collar; skirt is made with separate hip flounce and trimmed Cluny lace. Price \$6.65 FANCY OUTING SKIRTS Light in Weight and Price. These Dainty Summer Skirts are crisp and new, with a charm of style that you will admire. Prices indicate their economic value. Ladies' Summer Wash Skirt, in black and white duck, made with three deep tucks, piped in white, finished with inverted pleated back, finished with a very Smart Summer Skirt, in white colored linen, is a distinguished creation, each one trimmed self-colored insertion, a beautiful, useful Skirt, well made and finished. Special price \$3.05.

Men's Fine Clothing Man Tailored—Economically Priced. To the critical buyer and smart dresser there's a wealth of meaning in offering such remarkably fine Suits as these at \$7.90, made of hard twisted diagonal serge, in navy and black, in sacque or double breasted style, cool and easy for hot weather. They are away up in point of fit and finish, style and tailoring unequalled in point of value; they are the finest in the city at this price. Come in and try them. 150 Men's and Young Men's Tweed Suits, fancy stripes and checks, the newest materials in the smartest of new style, good linings, best of finish, tailor-made early selection. Price \$11.00

BOYS' NAVY BLUE SERGE SUITS, \$2.75 These splendid Suits at this price take the edge off most Bargain Suits you read about. We have never found their equal at the price; made in the usual perfect CARLSLEY manner, with special care to every detail. Boys' 2-piece Suits, in navy blue serge and dark gray tweed, pleated and Norfolk style, lined best farmer's satin, and worth at least \$1.25 more than they're marked. Boys' 3-piece Suits sacque or double breasted Coats, lined throughout, cut, workmanship, trimmings and finish equal to any made-to-order suit, splendid variety of excellent material to select from, and in all sizes, too. Prices from \$4.50

S. GARSLEY CO. LIMITED 1765 to 1788 Notre Dame Street, 184 St. James Street Montreal CARPETS. Just put into stock, an immense range of Novelties in Carpets, Rugs, Curtains, Made up Carpets, richly bordered and ready for immediate use; also, Beds, Bedding and Mattresses. A large consignment of Japanese and Chinese Matting just opened up at exceedingly low prices, and in all designs and colorings. Just the thing for Country and Seaside Homes. MAIL ORDERS CAREFULLY EXECUTED. THOMAS LIGGET, EMPIRE BUILDING 2474 and 2476 ST. CATHERINE STREET

The John Murphy Co., LIMITED OUR GREAT MID-SUMMER CLEARING SALE Recognizing the fact that our customers make a much earlier exodus to the country NOW than formerly, we have decided, as a matter of fairness, to afford them, as far as possible, the economical purchasing of OUR GREAT MID-SUMMER CLEARING SALE before leaving. Beginning this week, therefore, we will offer a succession of clearing bargains drawn from the various Departments that will rival in price-cheapness and high-grade quality and "specials" hitherto offered in Montreal. The underlined list will partially indicate what a money-saving opportunity this will really prove. Other lists will appear from time to time in our advertising columns. Price-Values that speak louder than words: Great Dress Goods Offerings. LOT No. 1. 1,000 YARDS ALL WOOL DRESS GOODS. Colors, black with white flake, navy blue with white flake, brown with white flake, royal blue with white flake. This line All Wool and worth 50c. To clear the lot at once, Our Price will be, per yard.....25c LOT No. 2. A LOT OF BLACK WOOL GRENADES. Usual prices, 60c, 65c and \$1.00. Choice of this lot at HALF PRICE. 60c for.....40c 65c for.....32c \$1.00 for.....50c LOT No. 3. COLORED SKIRTING MOREEN, assorted colors, 30c, 50c, 55c & 60c. All HALF PRICE. 50c for.....15c 50c for.....25c 60c for.....37c 60c for.....35c LOT No. 4. 500 YARDS FANCY FRENCH DRESS GOODS. This lot in Costume lengths. No two alike. The original prices were \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.25, \$3.00 and \$6.00 per yard. Choice of any Costume length at, per yard.....50c LOT No. 5. 25 Pieces FANCY FLAID DRESS GOODS. Regular prices, 60c, 75c and \$1.00 per yard. Out this line must go, so the price will be marked at, per yard, 35c The JOHN MURPHY COMPANY 2341 & 2343 St. Catherine St., Corner Metcalfe. Tel. Up 2740 Terms Cash.

THE TRUE WITNESS IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE S. GARSLEY CO. LIMITED. Vol. LIII, No. 1. THE TRUE WITNESS IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE S. GARSLEY CO. LIMITED. "If the English-speaking interests, they would powerfully Catholic papers work" NOTE CAP DE LA MAI Holy Father has just able evidence of his the Catholic people Friday last, Rev. Dozias, O.M.I., Superior of the Holy Father's la Madeline, announced from Rome, announcing has accorded the privilege, with the usual status of the Blessed old sanctuary at Cap. Rev. Father Lemistive of the Oblates See, has worked long ly to secure this favor applied to the Roman and finally to the Pope. The Holy Father, Oblates were destroyed rating the fiftieth an proclamation of the Immaculate Conception, to issue a brief crowning of the Most Holy Rosary at the of the coronation he fixed, but it is expected in September. The he exceptionally impo Holy Father will be the Apostolic Delegation. A rich crown on the statue in the In France the only Blessed Virgin solemn those of Lourdes, Lette and Ste. Anne. In Canada there statue of the Sacred rite. ROMAN RUMORS this "Roman Rumors no other authority for a section of the press rally well and correct which, after all, is no "Seide" says that a tholic represented to many Catholics could the meeting of Cardinal King Victor-Emmanuel on the 30th May last Pope's pontifical presence Loubet's visit. King. The Holy Father: "The note in question rected against France renounce the unprescribed as long as no arrangements reached. I do not touch with politics. I simply that which Leo XIII. He ordered Cardinal have the "Marsillaise" episcopal palace. I be al Svampa to listen March at the City Hall That is all." American despatches a mild sensation at These despatches asked that Dr. Lapponi had ed as Papal physician Pope wanted to have a Venetian doctor. A if it is true that Dr. a Freemason, had ins Pope should leave the tending that the Pont ger a prisoner. In an Lapponi authorized Press to state that been asked to resign, dreamed of and has n resigning, since he en entire confidence. He Pope's Venetian doctor. The Pope had onl adviser, when in Venice muzzed—and that he Lapponi was appointed sician to the Pope thr the election of Pius X was never a Freemason