

Push The Advertiser  
It  
Pushes Your Ads.

# London Advertiser

SIXTEEN  
PAGES.

THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1904.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## IMPREGNABLE PT. ARTHUR GIBRALTAR OF THE EAST

Founded by the Chinese, Captured by Japs and Stolen by Russia  
—Fortress Is Considered Impervious to Assault From the Harbor, But Might Be Carried From the Land Side.

London, March 5. — Port Arthur, the ancient seaport of Lu Chuan Cheng, was until the war between China and Japan in 1894 in the undisputed possession of the Chinese. On Nov. 21, 1894, it was captured by Japanese troops. By the treaty of peace between China and her neighbor which was signed at Shimonoseki on April 17, 1895, it was ceded to Japan with practically the whole of the Liau Tung Peninsula, including all islands appertaining or belonging thereto.

Owing to the action of Russia, supported by France and Germany, Japan was compelled to return it under article 1 of a convention signed at Peking on Nov. 8, 1895, all the territory occupied by her in Manchuria, and by Dec. 21 of that year the Russian soldier had been withdrawn.

It is unnecessary to recall the process by which, in less than two and a half years after its capture by the Japanese, Russia had established her own free will to rule it, and to make the lease been extracted from China by the Russian Government set to work to render their new possession impregnable for all time.

It is not of place here to describe roughly the position and physical aspects of the port. Situated on the southeastern extremity of the Liau Tung Peninsula, Port Arthur is just outside the southern limit of winter ice, this immunity being one of its most valuable features.

The harbor is an oval inlet of the sea, two miles long from east to west, and a mile from north to south. It is surrounded by hills of varying elevation, and its sole entrance is on the southern side by a narrow channel, guarded at the southwestern end by a couple of dangerous reefs, and protected against bad weather by a narrow spit of rocky land known as the Tiger's Tail, which runs diagonally across its northern extremity.

This harbor, however, was so shallow that until extensive dredging operations had been undertaken no vessel of any size could enter; even now there are berths for but three battleships in addition to the smaller craft. For this reason the major portion of the Russian fleet has always been forced to lie outside the harbor, or else enter the large outer basin or wet dock, which lies to the east, facing the entrance to the harbor proper.

**HEAVILY DEFENDED.**  
The approach to the harbor and basin is very confined, and from the nature of its surroundings is very easily defended. To the east, Kwang Chin Hill rises to a height of nearly 250 feet above the sea level, and on its summit has been taken full advantage of by the erection on and around its summit of three powerful batteries mounting, besides smaller ones, a total of 19 guns, loading cannon, weighing 6½ tons, on fortress mountings. On the side facing the entrance and halfway up the slope are two batteries of quick-firers, for the most part Canon 5.5in. and 7.5in. guns, in addition to a torpedo and searchlight station.

phone office; from here a superb view of the surrounding country may be obtained. To the right of this hill (facing seawards), lies the newly-built residence of the Viceroy, the only respectable habitation in that quarter of the town. To the left stretches the new town, reaching almost to the surrounding hills about four miles to the east. Prominent amongst the many buildings are the new barracks, a series of 24 grey stone edifices, built in four rows of six each.

**NO PRIVATE DWELLINGS.**  
Nearer the harbor are the prison, telegraph office, court house, and customs, but nothing in the nature of a private dwelling is to be seen anywhere. Beyond the new town, and divided from the east port by a narrow strip of land, is a large shallow lagoon, and a second smaller one into which empties a river, cuts off the old town from the new. A wide bridge spans this at its narrowest place and leads down a broad road to the gates of the arsenal and dockyard.

Given time, the Russians would have made a model city of Port Arthur; but, unfortunately, more attention was paid (and from their point of view rightly so), to its defenses than to its development along peaceful lines. The administration of the town was intrusted to a committee of officers under the presidency of the Viceroy, and in his absence of the senior naval officer present.

Militarism is, of course, rampant, and, but for a few Chinese who have found the Russian rule bearable, one seldom meets a man clad in anything but a uniform; the "ricksha," typical of the whole of China, has been replaced by the "drosky" driven by "mujiks," of an unusually dirty type. As regards facilities for travel, there was for it is wiser to speak in the positive now), a splendid railway connection with the Trans-Siberian system, and on Sundays and Thursdays, through Pullman express run to Irkutsk, meeting the trans-continentals from Vladivostok. A line of steamers connects Port Arthur with daily trips to Chifu, eight hours distant, and Russian "tramps" had been taking place and a large number of the Korean coast trade away from the Japanese, who, until recently, possessed a practical monopoly.

The most feature is worthy of notice — the so-called impregnability of Port Arthur. From the sea I think it would be almost impossible to capture it as Gibraltar, and ships moored in the inner harbor would lie in perfect safety. Further it is a moot point whether the dockyard could be damaged by high-angle fire; the works and arsenal lie so closely under the Kwang Chin Hill that any projectiles so discharged would most probably range far into the town at the back. From the land side it is difficult to judge of the value of the defenses, but it appears to me that a determined foe might very conceivably be able to rush the place by a concerted attack from several points. But for these and other matters we must await the course of events.

**AN ENGLISH LADY AT PORT ARTHUR**  
Tells of Flight From the Besieged Fortress and of the Sufferings Endured.  
St. Petersburg, March 4. — The flight of the non-combatants from Port Arthur was no dramatic affair. Accounts have just reached here by the last train that left the besieged stronghold. A young English woman, who was but recently married and settled in Port Arthur, thus described her thrilling adventures:

"I was seventeen days in a train packed in with 90 women and 40 children, and not a chance of changing a single garment all that time. It was a fearful journey. I had to leave everything behind—house linen, furniture, silver and even my trousseau. We were given 20 minutes' notice. The Russians were totally unprepared for the attack, and the Japanese first shelled the town. The commander-in-chief was giving a ball, and when they heard guns he said it was only their own ships at maneuvers. Before they realized what had happened half their officers were drunk, and when I left no orders had been issued even for sharpening swords. "A shell fell into the next garden to mine and created a fearful panic. Women ran with children in all directions for shelter. One poor woman, demoted with fear, dropped her child down a well for safety. The unfortunate mite was, of course, killed."

"Our worst sufferings, however, came when we had to cross Lake Balkan. The cold was intense. At length we reached St. Petersburg, tired, dirty and utterly miserable." The intense cold in mid-Siberia is accompanied by blizzards, snow blizzards and is causing the Russian soldiers on the road to the seat of war terrible suffering. At Irkutsk, as much as 56 degrees of frost is being registered, while all along the line the progress of troops trains is constantly being impeded by snowdrifts.



It May Prove the Only Route Home, Too.

## HONGKONG THE GEM OF THE EAST

English Port On China's Coast  
Most Beautiful in World.

### S SET IN SAPPHIRE SEAS

City Built on Island Hills, Terrace Upon Terrace, of Blocks of Solid Brick and Stone.

Hong Kong, Jan. 18.—Hong Kong is one of the most picturesque places and one of the most imposing, if not strictly beautiful, cities of the world; its harbor between high hills something that should have worldwide fame. One hears and hears of the harbors of Sydney and Rio de Janeiro as the most beautiful harbors in the world, and all who travel agree to rave over hillside Genoa and Naples, but on these mild, radiant, winter mornings he would be souless and blind who could not appreciate Hong Kong's claim. A sale of north wind and wet snowflakes drove us down from the mouth of the Yangtze River and through the Formosa channel, the big Canadian mail steamer making a record trip of the 890 miles in 48 hours. The Empress cut through the heaving, gray-green waves, the air following after, and the Chinese passengers joyfully sent off firecrackers and scattered "the money" or "joss paper" at one dangerous place of evil spirits as we rolled down the dreaded channel.

After that somber sky and sad water the intensely bright blue sea and the rich coloring of this south coast of China were a delight to the eye. Miss Bay, where Admiral Dewey's fleet lay, benevolently ignored when ordered out of neutral Hong Kong, and there finished war preparations at a burnt opium setting, in the clear light of a winter's morning. The ship sailed on over a sunlit bay, where the water was warm and amber tones completed a color combination unrivaled.

Besides a forestation, Hong Kong has accomplished prodigies of reclamation, and solid stone buildings stand in blocks where steam launches float at bays a few years ago. One stepped from the jetty across a narrow street to the hotel doorway, and that doorway is two streets away from the water-front now, the hotel on a far back street, without harbor views or moonlight scenes to justify an exorbitant price for front rooms.

The price realized from the sale of this reclaimed land more than paid for the work itself, and a surplus went to other public improvements. To the building of reservoirs there is no end, since this barren, rocky islet receives all its rainfall within a few weeks, and must store this precious water supply for a population of 10,000 Europeans and twenty times as many Chinese.

## RUSSIA IS AT SAME OLD GAME

Tries to Dupe the Tibetans As She Did the Chinese.

### CLEVERLY BLOCKED BY BRITAIN

Russians Discovers Back of the Resistance Offered to Rapprochement With English.

London, March 2. — The correspondence of the Times with the British mission to Tibet, in a recent letter to his paper, says: "The advance of Colonel Younghusband to Tannu and the undisputed refusal of the Tibetans to allow him to advance further towards Lhasa, mark the close of the second phase of our present attempt to come to an amicable settlement of the long-standing difficulties with the Dalai Lama. For the moment things have come to a standstill."

Continuing, the correspondent says the Chinese Viceroy (Tibet is nominally a vassal state of China) has intimated to the British mission his opposition to the proposed rapprochement with Britain, and was chiefly responsible for the treaty signed eighteen months ago between Tibet and Russia.

The terms of that treaty provided for the protection of Tibet and religious autonomy, and the full recognition of the Tibetan government and the concessions granted were of so extensive and exclusive a character as practically to hand over the development of the country to their new protectors.

The existence of this treaty has been formally denied by the Russians. But, apart from the fact that its stipulations are in the possession of the Indian authorities, they have never been denied by the Russian government, and Russian policy in Manchuria seems to offer so close a parallel that there has been little doubt from the outset of its authenticity. The game that had outwitted the legations in Peking was to be played again with the Indian government.

## COMMISSION FOR FISCAL QUESTION

Ceylon's Governor Says It Must Be Settled Irrespective of Parties.

### WINTER HURTS FRUIT

Buds in Many Localities in Ontario Seriously Injured.

Hamilton, Ont., March 5.—It is feared that not only the fruit buds, but the trees in many localities have been injured by the severe winter. In the Ancaster district peach trees suffered much and many are dead, and even the pear buds have suffered, although they are said to be very hardy. Grapes and cherries and strawberries will likely be all right. The American farmer without his white pine, for they depend upon it not only for their chief building material, but for ropes, mats, kitchen utensils, etc.

For centuries the Japanese and Chinese have raised the bamboo and reed crop. The natives of tropical India and Malay archipelago would be as much at a loss without it as the American farmer without his white pine, for they depend upon it not only for their chief building material, but for ropes, mats, kitchen utensils, etc.

**AWARD ANGRERS VENEZUELA**  
"Tribunal Has Veiled the Goddess of Peace," Says One Paper.  
Caracas, March 4. — The news of the decision of The Hague tribunal of arbitration giving preference to the blockade powers in the payment of the claims against Venezuela has caused much excitement here. The newspapers unanimously condemn the decision. The Monitor says: "The tribunal has

## THE REAL RULER OF KOREA; MONARCH'S SOLE ADVISER

Unkempt, Illiterate Favorite of Emperor Whom Japs Deported  
Last Week Had Practically Seized Reins of Power, Attracting Monarch's Attention by Wringing Cash From People.

Seoul, March 5. — It is difficult to imagine a more ignorant ruler of any country than is the Emperor of Korea, who, although he recently celebrated the 40th anniversary of his coronation, has scarcely ever set foot outside the palace walls.

The Emperor has to assist him in governing his country, a council of state and a cabinet of ministers, but none of them are suffered to decide the slightest item without first consulting their majesty. As it often occurs that the Emperor refuses to see his ministers for weeks at a time, matters fraught with grave importance remain unsettled and unprovided for.

The foreign minister may have received a most urgent communication from the official representative of a foreign country, and yet be unable to obtain an audience of the Emperor, who at the same moment, perhaps, has received a letter from someone who has a new amusement to suggest or a new dance for the dancing girls, who are almost nightly on duty.

It has been stated with considerable truth that his majesty possessed but little idea of the present crisis between Japan and Russia, in which Korea is so largely involved, until the knowledge of the arrival at Seoul of foreign guards to protect the various legations (a necessary measure, as the people were becoming excited and an uprising was threatening) was brought to his ears. He then, and then he became immediately alarmed for his personal safety.

**RELIES ON LONE ADVISER.**  
For several years the Emperor, of Korea has relied upon the advice of Ye Yong Ik, and such is the power wielded by this man that no one now dares to oppose him. Those who have done so have often forfeited their lives or have been deported after being deprived of all their possessions.

His majesty, but of course, known of the dispute existing between Russia and Japan, and from time to time has been in the audience of his advisers, but he has been so long deferred he was finally compelled (to grant), received some very pressing messages, and Ye Yong Ik has advised him that there was nothing to fear, that while possibly those nations might enter upon a war, he, Ye Yong Ik, would arrange so that no trouble would result to Korea.

The business relations between Korea and the other countries should be conducted through the office of the foreign minister, but as Ye Yong Ik controls that, as well as all other departments, it has been found impossible to accomplish more than Ye Yong Ik was willing should be done. Every avenue of approach to his majesty is carefully guarded by this man, who has thus practically become the ruler of the kingdom.

Ye Yong Ik is an illiterate, uneducated man, and, although unable to read or write, he succeeded several years ago, in obtaining an unimportant appointment in the Government service. In this position he succeeded in attracting the Emperor's attention by the wonderful ingenuity he displayed in devising new plans for squeezing the people in order to enrich his majesty's personal coffers. It is impossible to enumerate the various schemes adopted by Ye Yong Ik, but perhaps the one most generally used has been to create false accusations of treason and then confiscate all of the property of the accused and of his family.

**NO CRUELTY TOO ABHORRENT.**  
No form of cruelty has been neglected by Ye Yong Ik in his determination to extract the last farthing from the miserable wretch who fell into his clutches. Sex made no difference, nothing deterred this man when he was in need of funds for his master. It was by this means that the continued to wield the power he possesses.

Personally an ill-favored, unkempt man, he is careful to live in very humble quarters, well knowing that many favorites have fallen through yielding to habits of luxury and pleasure. Such is the character of the government of Korea today, by reason of which its independence is nearing its close, although it is not improbable that a Korean Government may continue in existence, but advised and directed by Japan or by an international council.

Owing to its geographical situation it is but natural that the commercial interests of the Japanese in Korea should be greater than those of any other country, but, next to Japan, America has done most to develop the resources of Korea.

The first American was the first to secure conditions under which modern mining could be inaugurated, and today there are two thousand or three thousand men employed in developing the American mines and operating the milling machinery.

The first steam and the first electric railways and lighting service were established by Americans and the material for their construction and equipment of their operation all came from America.

The first steel bridge (one nearly half a mile in length, crossing the Han River just below Seoul), came from America, and now it is an exception for a steamship to leave San Francisco for a port that does not carry Americans and supplies for Korea, and it is from America that the capital city, Seoul, will receive its first system of waterworks, and which, when completed, will undoubtedly prove to be a material blessing to all the inhabitants of the city.

### POLICE WATCH KENNEDY

May Be Wanted In Connection With Brantford Perjury Case.

### MORMON WOMEN

ARE NOT PRIESTS

### President Smith On the Doctrine of Plural Marriage—Says It Was Revealed.

Washington, March 5. — President Joseph F. Smith, of the Mormon Church, was called by the Weber State Senator Hoar at the opening of yesterday's proceedings before the senate committee on privileges and elections, in the investigation of the charges against Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah.

Senator Hoar wanted to know the rights of women in the church and whether they held any priestly authority.

Mr. Smith said the women are regarded as equals of the men in all matters of voting, but that in holding "priestly authority" women are not regarded on the same plane. He explained that the women have a charitable association known as the Woman's Relief Society, in which they have authority confined to relieving distress, but women are not ordained high priests, apostles, or elders.

Reading from the Deseret News, of June 23, 1903, regarding a speech by Mr. Smith at the Weber State Reunion, Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Smith if he was correctly reported in saying that the doctrine of plural marriage was a revelation by God to Joseph Smith, jun., and to reject that would be equivalent to a rejection of God himself?

Mr. Smith said he believed he was correctly reported, and when a list of names of those present, including Senator Smoot, was read, Mr. Smith said the list was correct. He declared that he would not have had the article published if he had been consulted. Pressed for a reason he said he was under injunction not to teach the rightfulness of polygamy, and that he had refrained from so doing in public.

President Smith testified that if the principle of plural marriages should be attacked, it would be defended by the church. Intense feeling was exhibited by President Smith against the domestic and marital relations of high officials of the Mormon Church, and for that reason he had favored the passage of the Evans bill to prevent prosecutions for polygamy, unless complaints were entered by husband or wife and the wife was a resident of Utah.

This bill was passed but vetoed by the Governor of Utah. It was brought out that all of Mr. Smith's predecessors, as presidents of the Mormon Church, had been polygamists, and that the man chosen to succeed him has more than one wife.

Mr. Smith was asked which he would obey—the law of the land or revelations from God, if the two were in conflict. He said he might obey the revelations, though it was not compulsory. He added: "I should not like to be put in a position where I would have to desert my children. I could not do that."

Lots of men only get religion when they get sick.

Dr. Charles Stegall, who retired from the organ at Lincoln's Inn Chapel in London, is 75 years old, and had made music in the chapel for nearly half a century.

### MORMONS FOR CANADA

Between Four and Five Hundred Families For Alberta.

### BIG LUMBER CUT

Demand From the West Unprecedented—Exceeds Last Year's Cut.

Toronto, March 5. — Owing to the prosperity of the west, the demand for lumber is unprecedented. In the bulk of the West and in the Marquette, crown lands agent at Rat Portage, reporting to the department, that the cut would be 100,000,000 feet more than in 1903.

The amount of lumber cut in the Rat Portage and Ebeewah mills will be about 100,000,000, and at the other 30,000,000. There has been a proportionate increase in ties, telegraph poles and cedar posts. There is great activity in all railway shops, and the people in the district are eagerly looking for the coming of the Grand Trunk Pacific, which will cause great development in the districts.

Dr. Charles Stegall, who retired from the organ at Lincoln's Inn Chapel in London, is 75 years old, and had made music in the chapel for nearly half a century.