

session of the Dominion house. The freight rates are the monopoly established government. Let the government remove the tariff, which it is directly responsible for, and then the question of rates can be more easily grappled with.

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THE THUNDERER'S OPINION

The Yalu River Great Naval Battle Discussed by the London Times.

The Many Different Routes by Which the Japs Could Reach Pekin.

London, Sept. 24.—In an article discussing the war the Times calculates that the Japanese will certainly reach Wiju from Ping Yang at the end of this week, and that they will meet the Chinese troops that were landed on the Korean bank of the Yalu river by Admiral Ting. It is not clear, the Times adds, whether the Chinese transports had time to disembark their stores. At any rate, the condition of the Chinese column must be precarious, and there seems nothing to prevent a Japanese squadron from revisiting the mouth of the Yalu river and destroying any Chinese transports remaining there. Further, it would be easy for the Japanese to move troops by sea from Ping Yang to the Yalu and then shift their base of operations further north, thus supplying reinforcements to the column marching northward from Ping Yang. This is almost certain to be done if an advance on Manchuria is intended.

With regard to an attack upon Moukden the Times says the Japanese cannot overlook the fact that apart from its presumed sanctity it is a position of little military value. It is not the shortest or best route to Peking. If the naval situation permits the free use of the Yalu river as a base it will equally allow a far nearer point of disembarkation. Whether or not such defenses as Moukden possesses would prove formidable to the Japanese artillery, the fighting power of the Chinese would show to the best advantage in the defence of a walled city. On the whole, difficulties and uncertainties still deter the Japanese commander from embarking on such an adventure. The pacification and administration of Korea would in themselves absorb the energies of a large military force during the winter. With regard to the naval battle, the damage inflicted must have been done as in the days of the seventy-fours. Of ramming we hear nothing, and it is not clear that torpedoes played an effective part, while it is tolerably certain that the story of their defection by Chinese nets is wholly mythical.

As to the political outcome of the struggle, the restrictions which have converted Yokohama into a kind of Gibraltar cannot be much longer maintained against the aspirations of a powerful naval and military nation too long subjected to trammels. Unpleasant as the changed conditions may seem, they may be accepted.

A dispatch from Berlin to the Times states that a member of the Chinese legation in an interview said China dare not abandon Korea, even if the war should last three years. Besides, he added, the Koreans are still hostile to the Japanese, as is proven by their refusal to concede the franchise and stock of the Consumers' Gas Company by the submission. The Japanese, he further said, have done everything to wound the feelings of the Chinese. Directly the Chinese minister had left Tokyo for the scene of hostilities the Japanese destroyed the Chinese legation and Buddhist temple, besides setting fire to and destroying Chinese club houses and residences and murdering helpless Chinese in the streets.

Count Aoki scouts the idea of any cessation of hostilities. In an interview he flatly denied that China had been murdered or their property destroyed in Tokyo. On the other hand, he said the Chinese had insulted the Japanese minister at Tientsin and had massacred the Japanese laborers who were working in the camphor fields in Formosa. It was also untrue, he declared, that the Japanese had demanded that the Koreans cut their hair. The king and people of Korea had been friendly with the Japanese since the battle near Asan. In conclusion the count said the Japanese leaders would perhaps have a hard task to invade China, but they were determined to persevere.

A Shanghai dispatch states that the Chinese government has refused the request of Prince Ching, president of the Tsung Li Yamen, that he be given command in Korea. Prince Ching is a strong advocate of conciliation with Japan. It is supposed that he only wanted to investigate personally the condition of the Chinese forces in the field. The dispatch adds that the British gunboat Pigmy has been dispatched to Newchwang, at the mouth of the Gulf of Leao Tung, in anticipation of a possible Japanese attack upon that place.

The dowager empress of China has donated another three million taels from her birthday fund toward meeting the expenses of the war. Eight foreign volunteers did splendid service during the battle of Yalu, and their conduct did much to instill spirit into the Chinese. Engineers Albert and Hoffmann were the only two of the eight foreigners who were not wounded. The wounded are doing well and will soon be fit for duty.

It is reported a Russian fleet has assembled at Vladivostok preparing for immediate action. The transports of the volunteer fleet as they arrive are detained at Vladivostok.

JAPAN'S ADMIRAL

An Incident During His Term at School.

Washington, Sept. 24.—A humorous incident connected with the earlier career of Admiral Matsunaga, one of Japan's most distinguished sailors, is recalled by that officer's highly creditable service in the recent naval battle between the fleets of the Mikado and China. "Mats" as his former comrades called him, was a member of the class of midshipmen which was graduated from the naval academy in 1873. A graduate of that class laughingly spoke of the incident today. It appears that "Mats" was an enthusiastic classman. To him "73" which was the fourth class at the time referred to, was superior in every respect except rank, to the other three classes, then at the academy. The embryo admiral had no opportunity of exhibiting his enthusiasm and whenever members of his class displayed any notable qualities, especially in the way of athletics, "Mats" was conspicuous for his applause and delight. On one particular occasion the fourth classmen were challenged by third classmen to a pulling race in cutters. The challenge

was accepted, and the fourth class was victorious. At the time of the race sliding seats in boats were unknown, or at least not in use at the naval academy, and the coxswain of the winning crew had, according to custom, thoroughly greased the seat of his trousers, to make easy his forward and backward movements in following the motion of the oarsmen. The day of the contest was one of much moment to the midshipmen at the academy and the youngsters who were not in the racing boats, donned their newest and handsomest uniforms. Matsunaga, according to the story, had only a day or two previously received a specially valuable coat, which was the delight of himself and his comrades. When the winning cutter returned to the dock, and the crew jumped ashore, the great enthusiasm of "Mats" over the victory of his classmates burst forth. Yelling with delight, he rushed for the coxswain and placing his head between the coxswain and the Chinese column must be precarious, and there seems nothing to prevent a Japanese squadron from revisiting the mouth of the Yalu river and destroying any Chinese transports remaining there. Further, it would be easy for the Japanese to move troops by sea from Ping Yang to the Yalu and then shift their base of operations further north, thus supplying reinforcements to the column marching northward from Ping Yang. This is almost certain to be done if an advance on Manchuria is intended.

NEWS OF THE DOMINION.

Consumers' Gas Company Stock Purchased by the Montreal Company.

Two Fatal Accidents Reported From Kingston—Other Canadian News.

London, Sept. 24.—At the Methodist general conference on Saturday the conference committee on missions in Japan showed that the work has been thoroughly canvassed. Changes will be made in the constitution of the mission council. The debate was animated. Drs. McFarland and Rhy and Messrs. Cassidy and Satoh spoke of the importance and progress of the work. The central board of missions meets in Toronto on the 5th proximo. Rev. James Woodworth was elected superintendent of missions in the Northwest and British Columbia.

Windsor, Ont., Sept. 25.—Joseph Trusky, who was found guilty of the murder of Constable Lindsay of Tilbury, Ontario on May 1st, was sentenced to be hanged in Sandwich jail yard on Friday, December 14.

Welland, Sept. 24.—Mr. Vallee, telegraph line repairer, was seriously injured here Saturday afternoon. He is not expected to recover. He fell between two freight cars, and in addition to losing his ribs broken, had his head badly cut. He was engaged unloading telegraph poles. He was removed to St. Catharines marine hospital.

Montreal, Sept. 25.—The long talked of purchase of the franchise and stock of the Consumers' Gas Company by the Montreal Gas Company was settled this morning. At 10:30 the interested parties, accompanied by their lawyers, met according to agreement. The terms of sale, \$387,500 and Montreal stock at par were read and finally approved. This means the sale is worth \$700,000 to the Consumers' Gas Company. The deed was signed by the managing director of each concern and the Consumers' Gas Company ceased to exist.

Kingston, Ont., Sept. 25.—Parts of a cliff have been found on the shore at Chancell Grove. In this connection, I. Morzans, a resident of Wolfe Island, left the city Wednesday night for home and has not been seen since. The friends are of opinion that he is drowned. Dr. Rotts, of Wolfe Island, while looking for a pine last night, fell over a rock, very unconscious and died from his wound.

ABANDONED AT SEA.

The Crew of the Shin Dumbartonshire Picked Up.

London, Sept. 25.—The British bark Ravenscourt, from San Francisco for Queenstown, was spoken on August 1st in latitude 34 south, longitude 53 west, with the crew of the British bark Dumbartonshire, abandoned at sea while on voyage from Iquique for the United Kingdom.

Cable News.

London, Sept. 24.—The Laborers' Chronicle, the weekly official organ of the agricultural laborers' union, of which Joseph Arch, the noted farmer and member of parliament is president, announces in its issue of to-day that its publication will hereafter be discontinued. This step has been necessitated by the serious drain upon the resources of the union occasioned by its publication, together with bad debts, heavy items of postage and inability to obtain advertisements. Simultaneously with this announcement the public subscription has been opened for the benefit of Joseph Arch, who for the last six months has not received a dollar of his salary from the union, despite the fact that he was the pioneer in the movement that resulted in the farm laborers of England being brought out of bondage, and has for years sat in the house of commons as their representative. These disclosures are regarded in trades union circles as having an unfavorable effect upon the movement for the election of members of parliament to be supported by the various trades unions with which they are identified.

The old Fenians and Invincibles of Dublin, because of the delay in acting on the Home Rule question, have formed a secret society called the "Old Guard." They call upon Irishmen everywhere to resist all attempts to lower the Irish flag.

The chamber of commerce is to banquet William L. Wilson of West Virginia, on Thursday next, United States Ambassador Bayard, J. Sterling Morton, secretary of agriculture, Congressman Leodore Strans, of New York, and other prominent Americans will be present.

Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 25.—McKinley opened the state campaign here this afternoon in Tomlinson hall. McKinley was escorted to the stage by ex-President Harrison. Both were enthusiastically cheered. McKinley spoke for two hours. McKinley subsequently lunched with Harrison at the latter's house.

WHAT THE WAR IS COSTING

Japan Is Under a Daily Expense of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.

Japanese-Corran Treaty and What Is Being Done for the Latter Country.

(Per Empress of India to the Associated Press.)

Yokohama, Sept. 14.—No one now doubts that the long delay in Japanese military movements is to allow time for the completion of a great plan of invasion. Any day may bring news of a battle in northern Korea, and of the sailing of 50,000 troops for some point on the inner coast of the Gulf of Pechili. But as the decisive time approaches, the Japanese authorities grow more and more reticent to appeals for information. They frankly declare that secrecy is one of their chief conditions of success. This reticence is not agreeable to the newspaper correspondents who have recently arrived from San Francisco, and who strongly desire to be admitted to the confidence of the government. They are offered transportation to Korea, passports authorizing them to visit any part of the peninsula and letters of introduction to the civil officials at Seoul, and the generals in the field. But they are of opinion that these privileges will avail them little, unless they are told where they should go to look for adventures, and guaranteed the right to accompany all important expeditions. This is more than the government is at present willing to concede and the English correspondents have left for Shanghai, in the expectation of finding better opportunities among the Chinese. Two American journalists one representing the New York World, the other a contributor to the Herald and other papers are now in Hiroshima, on their way to Korea. A writer for the San Francisco Examiner prefers to remain in Tokio. An impression has been conveyed by English newspapers in eastern Asia that abundant and trustworthy supplies of news can be obtained in China. An examination of the telegrams sent from Chinese ports to Europe and America does not sustain this belief. For their various accounts of events since the fight at Asan were scarcely any foundation. The Japanese, if silent, do not attempt to mislead on vital points. One error, and one only, is laid to their charge. They are accused of circulating a doubtful report to the effect that Admiral Frescaud evacuated Japan from technical blame in the matter of the sinking of the Kowshing. The Japanese aver that they had, and still have, reason to believe that the statement is true. Whether true or false it does not appear to be of the gravest moment; yet not a day passes that fresh charges are not rung on this alleged endeavor to practice fraud and deception upon the world. If the imperial government desired to create a sensation by means of Admiral Frescaud's name, there is a strong conviction that they could easily do so by calling attention to that officer's correspondence with Admiral Ito, and pointing out the discrepancy between the British admiral's opinion on the subject; but the Japanese ministry is the embodiment of official discretion, and the popular curiosity will probably never be satisfied from this end of the line.

The Japanese army headquarters, now centered at the imperial palace at Tokio, will be transferred on Sept. 15th to the town of Hiroshima, on the inland sea, from which most of the troops and supplies are shipped to Korea. The transfer will be completed on the 13th, accompanied by Count Ito, the minister president, the minister of war, marine and the household. It is not expected that any other departments will be transferred, and the general staff of the government will continue at Tokio.

The average daily expenditure of the Japanese government, in connection with the war, is estimated at three hundred thousand yen—about \$150,000 gold. On the 24th of August the Japanese voluntary contributions to the naval fund, on the same date, amounted to over two hundred thousand yen.

At the summit of one of the most prominent hills in Tokio, a shrine is dedicated to the memory of the soldiers who were killed in the Satsuma rebellion of 1877. In this edifice an exhibition was opened, Sept. 12, of the flags, cannon, musical instruments and other spoils captured from the rebels at Sonchewan and Asan. More than one hundred thousand citizens attended on the first day, and nearly double that number on the second, great multitudes of visitors coming to the capital for the purpose from a radius of fifty miles around.

The press of Japan hails with delight the apparently well-founded report that the official censorship is to be greatly relaxed, and that the press will be free to measure, if carried through, will be due to the influence of Count Inouye, who has strongly advocated a complete revision of the existing press laws.

The expedition of organizing privateering expeditions by Japanese, to harass the coast of China, is discussed in the newspapers of Tokio, and it is stated that several wealthy noblemen are preparing to supply the funds required for the undertaking.

The following treaty of alliance between Japan and Korea has been signed by Mr. Otomi, the Japanese minister in Korea, and Mr. Kim-Inshoku, the Korean minister for foreign affairs: "The governments of Japan and Korea, since the Korean government entrusted the Japanese minister at Seoul, Korea, on the 25th July, 1894, with the task of the expulsion of Chinese troops, are already in the position of mutual assistance, offensive and defensive. And to define this fact more clearly and to accomplish the object that both countries should act in concert, the undersigned ministers, having received full authority in the matter, enter into the following agreement:

Art. I. This alliance has for its object the expulsion of Chinese troops from the Korean peninsula, the strengthening of the independence and self-government of Korea, and the furtherance of the interests of Japan and Korea.

Art. II. While Japan shall wage war, offensive and defensive, against China, Korea shall render every facility for the movements of the Japanese troops and the preparation of their operations.

Art. III. This treaty shall become null

and void as soon as peace is concluded with China.

In witness whereof this treaty is signed by both the plenipotentiaries. OTORI KEISUKE.

Branches of discipline on the part of the Japanese soldiers in Korea, and all offences against the natives, are punished with rigorous severity. For attempting to steal a pair of brass chopsticks from the house of a peasant a hospital guard was condemned by court martial to three years' imprisonment. For robbery, with threats of violence, of five melons and a pig, another private was condemned to thirteen years' penal servitude.

On the western shore of Korea are now gathered nearly one hundred ships of war of various nationalities. Japan has between twenty and thirty, England fifteen, France six, Russia eight, the United States three and Germany seven; while hovering at a little distance, though not easily found, are between thirty and forty Chinese vessels. Further additions from Russia are presently expected. Marquis Satonji, the Japanese emperor's personal messenger to the court of Korea, has been received by the queen, who has never before been seen face to face by any foreigner. At a ball given by the Japanese minister to Marquis Satonji, the present, together with the full diplomatic corps, excepting the representative of England, whose failure to attend was much remarked.

A Japanese educational society has been formed by several distinguished scholars, with the purpose of introducing a substantial system of public instruction into Korea. A considerable sum has been subscribed for preliminary investigations, and it is proposed to set in operation a number of primary schools in the large towns as soon as permission can be obtained from the government. The expenses at the beginning will be paid by voluntary donations. The society recommends the schools of a higher order be introduced by the Japanese authorities with as little delay as possible, and that the people shall be practically encouraged to take full advantage of these institutions. It is expected that before the end of the year regular courses of study will have been introduced in the capital, and the government is urged to use its influence in making them attractive to the Korean community.

The mouth of the Fello river is closed by a barrier which is opened only once each night and morning for the passage of ships. The obstruction consists of heavy logs, fifteen feet long, pointing up and down the river, lying four feet from each other, and fastened with two heavy chain cables. The bed of the stream is also thickly strewn with torpedoes.

The report comes from Peking that the government, fearing the entrance into Chinese ports of Japanese ships in disguise, has asked the foreign ministers to consent that all foreign men-of-war, under whatever flag, shall be stopped and held to await a thorough inspection by Chinese naval officers.

The Chinese authorities believe that Formosa is to be the scene of a serious conflict. Detachments of troops and munitions of war are constantly sent thither from Foo-chow, and the entire Chinese part of the island is in a state of uncommon military activity.

After many contradictory reports, the news is declared confirmed that fifty Japanese emigrants engaged in collecting camphor in Formosa, were murdered by Chinese at the beginning of the war.

Though it has been declared contrary to the laws of war, the Chinese band of war by Chinese vessels laden with that munition are permitted to leave Hong Kong for Chinese ports; while the shipment of rice, which England refuses to consider contraband, is forbidden from Hong Kong to Japan.

Shanghai, Sept. 25.—It is understood that the government of Manchuria is concentrating all the troops raised in that province upon Moukden, and on the route to Wiju extensive earthworks are being raised. The entire force composed of hardy northern Chinamen, and are excellent material, but they are badly armed, only about four thousand of them having good military rifles. Further supplies, however, are being hurried up from the southern arsenals. The Chinese force on the Yalu river is estimated at 2800. Many of these are raw levies and are also badly armed. The loss of guns, rifles and ammunition at Pingyang has greatly demoralized the Chinese. It is recognized that a battle must be fought on the Yalu, and the Chinese are straining every nerve to retrieve the disaster at Pingyang.

The island of Yantanta, in Corea bay, has been made a coaling station, whence the Japanese can keep constant watch upon the mouth of the Gulf of Pichili, nine Japanese gunboats being stationed there.

Condensed Dispatches.

Justin McCarthy, leader of the anti-Parnellites in the house of commons, has an article in the latest number of the New Review, in which he expresses surprise and regret that the government did not, before the close of the session, declare its attitude towards the house of lords. The Irish people are not to blame, Mr. McCarthy says, if they are beginning to lose faith in the assurances given them, seeing that the government has delayed dealing with the house of lords. He hopes and believes that during the autumn campaign such assurances will be given as will clear up the situation.

The Ost Deutsche Zeitung says that the Emperor William, when bidding adieu to the burgomaster of Thorn, the other day, thanked him for the enthusiastic manner in which he had been received, and added: "What I have said to-day may well be borne in mind. I can also be very disagreeable."

Sir Donald Smith has purchased the Highland estate of Glencoe for £15,000. The shooting on the property is excellent.