

ST. JOHN STAR, SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1904.

THE EXECUTION OF TWO
JAP STAFF OFFICERS.

Who Were Caught Attempting to Dynamite a Bridge on the Manchurian Railway.

In the Neuveville, Vaudois, of Lausanne, M. Praxidone gives a remarkable account, furnished by a Russian naval officer from Harbin, of the trial and execution of two Japanese staff officers who were caught attempting to dynamite a bridge on the Manchurian railway. At the court-martial the two men gave their names and rank without the slightest tremor of voice. "Tokuro Joki, 41 years old, colonel of the staff, passed out first from the military academy of Yeddo," said the elder of the prisoners, a short, thick-set man of strong energetic countenance. "Tetsuo Joki, 31 years old, captain of the staff," said the other, taller and slighter in build than his comrade, with a thin and deeply-bronzed face. As he gave his name he turned a rather disdainful look at those in court. A moment later he added: "Buddhism." "And you, colonel," asked the president of the tribunal, "are you of the same religion as your comrade?" "No, sir, I am a Christian."

Seeing the looks of astonishment produced by this declaration, he added quickly, "I am all the same a true Japanese, born of Japanese parents. But in my youth I was won over by the soft words of Christ, and was converted from Buddhism." Col. Jokioka spoke in English, and it was a subject of King Edward employed in the Russo-Chinese bank who translated his testimony. A Chinese acted as interpreter to Capt. Joki.

After a deliberation of half an hour, the tribunal condemned the two officers to the maximum punishment—namely, hanging. The sentence was confirmed by Gen. Kuropatkin, but he ordered that as brave soldiers they should have an honorable death, and be shot.

Jokioka asked leave to write to his family, and embraced Joki. The latter no longer opened his lips. "I die more tranquil than you, colonel," "How so?" asked the other. "I have done my duty to my country and my Maker. You have only earned the thanks of your country." "What do you say, captain?" "I have often thought, colonel, of what you have told me of Christianity. You boast of its superiority to my creed. Well, I find that you are not in accord with your Christ's teachings. I, on the contrary, have nothing to reproach myself with."

The colonel now asked Joki if he would authorize him to perform the really Christian act allowed him in his life, namely, to hand over to the commandant, as a gift to the Russian Red Cross, 1,000 roubles that he had in the Chinese bank. Joki agreed. When the commandant returned to the prisoners, Jokioka handed him a sheet of white banknotes, with red inscriptions, saying: "There are about 1,000 roubles here. We best you to give the money to your Red Cross." "But had I not better send it to your families?" "Oh, no, no!" the condemned man cried with one voice, "The Mikado will not forget our wives and children."

The commandant then accepted the money, and asked the two Japs whether they wished for anything. The Buddhist's reply was: "I should much like a bath; after that we will be at your disposal." A bath room being an unknown article of luxury in Harbin, the commandant could only send for a couple of pails of water, giving orders to the sentinels to turn away so that the unfortunate men might strip without shame.

The Christian colonel earnestly begged to be allowed to see a clergyman before going to his death. As there was no Lutheran chaplain on the spot, the Russian priest of the regiment went to him. Jokioka begged him to read out the sermon in his Japanese Bible, which had been Russian. Jokioka followed the text on the Mount. "This was read and left with him in his cell. When the priest came to the words, 'For if ye love only those who love ye, what reward will ye have?' And if ye welcome only those who welcome the virtue?" Jokioka closed the book, joined his hands, and bowed his head a moment, his lips moving. "Joki," he said, "you are right, you die more peaceful than I for I never felt so strongly how much my life has been in discord with Christ's teachings."

The two Japanese went to their doom impassive as ever. Both lighted their cigarettes, and asked not to be tied to the posts. The commandant took a couple of handkerchiefs from his pocket and handed them to the prisoners. Jokioka himself asked for a glass of water, and Jokioka refused disdainfully to do so, declaring he wished to wait for the operations. Twelve soldiers were posted in front of the colonel, another 12 in front of the captain. "If you have any pity on those unfortunate men," said the commandant to his soldiers, "aim at their hearts, death will be instantaneous." The bullets rang out.

Jokioka fell to the left, Joki, without having twitched his eyelids, fell forward. Both of them were ridiculed with bullets. The Russian soldiers had taken pity on them.

Bicyclists and all athletes depend on BENTLEY'S LINIMENT to keep their joints limber and muscles in trim.

CRAZY MAN SCARES A GIRL TO DEATH.

Before He is Subdued He Throbbles a Motorman and Spreads Terror Through a Town.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., July 30.—Said with a fit, Joseph Heiser went on a rampage through Andalusia, on the Bristol pike, on Monday afternoon. He frightened a little girl to death, terrorized the bar-room of the Red Lion Inn, smashed furniture at his home, and ended by throttling a motorman on a passing trolley car, who finally succeeded in over-powering Heiser and turned him over to the police.

The body of six-year-old Marian Rankin lies in a small casket in the parlor of her parents' home, on the Red Lion road, the victim of Heiser's dementia. The child had always stood in terror of Heiser, and she fled in flight to her mother whenever she saw him. When Heiser, waving his arms wildly in the air and screaming at the top of his voice, ran toward her in front of the Rankin home, the little girl started to escape from him, but before she had gone a dozen feet she was overcome with terror and fell unconscious in the roadway. She died a few moments afterward.

Robertson, Trites & Co., (Ltd.)

We could devote considerable more space to-night with a story about the exceptional values that we have arranged for Monday's sale,—but we won't,—the values themselves will do the shouting this time. They'll speak louder than words. If you are looking for golden opportunities, read this, the meaty part, and read it all.

Buy Hosiery Now! Lace Curtains.

THE PRICES ARE DOWN.
Three pairs now will cost you no more than two pairs a week ago, the best make, too (Maple Brand). We are really keeping in our stock, we made five weeks ago to offer each week some special seasonal bargain during July and August.
Don't lose time getting here Monday morning, 8.30 the sale begins.
Three pairs regular 20c. Drop Stitch Hose for 40c.
Three pairs regular 40c. Embroidered Hose for 80c.
Three pairs regular 45c. Lace Front Fancy Ankle for 90c.
Three pairs regular 50c. All Lace Thread Hose for \$1.00.
Three pairs regular 55c. Silk Embroidered Hose for \$1.10.
Three pairs regular 60c. Open Work Silk Embroidered for \$1.20.
Three pairs regular 75c. All Lace Lace Thread Hose for \$1.50.
Three pairs regular 85c. Superior Quality All Lace Hose for \$1.80.
Three pairs regular \$1.00 Superior Quality All Lace Hose for \$2.00.
Three pairs regular \$1.10 Superior Quality All Lace Hose for \$2.20.
This special price is only good for three pairs at each price, no more, no less.

20x40 Pure Linen Huck Towels, 25c. Pair, Size, 20x40

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That Are in Great Demand.
Neck-Ribbons—4, 5 and 6 inches wide, black, white, cream, sky pink, navy, in several qualities, at 18c, 22c, 25c, 28c, 30c, 40c, 45c, yard.
Neck-Wear—All the latest ideas in fashionable neck-things. 35c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 60c, up to \$1.00. Face Veils, that are now very popular, black, navy, brown, 45c, 60c, \$1.15 yard.
Black Mourning Belts—the latest style shapes, 45c, 55c, 75c, 90c, each.
Belt Buckles, new shapes, pretty designs in black oxidized gilt.
Two-Tone All Over Laces, 45c, to \$1.50 yard.

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Robertson, Trites & Co. (LIMITED), and 85 CHARLOTTE ST., ST. JOHN, N. B. LADIES' WEAR OUR SPECIALTY.

Why Not Save the Discount? It's 5 per cent. On all regular goods.

SPORTING.

CORRETT WILL BOX O'BRIEN SIX ROUNDS.

Fight promoters and enthusiasts over the boxing game have much to occupy their minds these days. The pugilists are big and little, are waking up and coming out of their quarters, all taking fight.

Just a day or two ago James J. Corbett and "Philadelphia Jack" O'Brien chanced to meet on Broadway—entirely by accident, let it be understood. "Jack" and "Jim" greeted each other cordially, and passed up the line arm in arm like two old cronies. After a short talk on mere trifles, such as the personal campaign and other matters of state, the two clever fighters proceeded to come to matters of real and general interest. Fight was the topic into which the two masters of the art drifted. "Pompador Jim" started the ball rolling by congratulating O'Brien on the grand battle he had fought against "Fitz" a few days ago.

Following the congratulations O'Brien said to Corbett: "Well, Jim, don't you think I have got the reputation you were talking about some time ago?" "Jim" allowed that he had, so the pair adjourned to the Criterion Cafe, where they sat for an hour or more discussing pugilistic problems, with the result that each thought he could whip the other in a six-round bout, and then there the preliminary arrangements were made.

This week the two clever pugilists will meet and sign detailed articles for a six-round battle to be fought in the open air at Philadelphia, under much the same conditions as was the Fitzsimmons-O'Brien fight a few days ago. A meeting between these two men would undoubtedly prove a great drawing card. O'Brien within the past year has come to the front with great show, his ability to go a fast pace in the clever boxer—one to be rated along with the best in the country. He has shown his ability to go a fast pace in short bouts, keeping all his vitality throughout.

On the other hand O'Brien will have to contend with the most pugilistic proposition he has ever met with in the way of a boxer. While Corbett is a defeated champion, he is generally acknowledged to be the fastest and most scientific boxer that ever played at the game of the padded mitts. In all his battles Corbett has shown his ability to hit and get away, as well, but has not the quality to withstand a hard blow. A boxer with a punch who can withstand Jim's onslaughts

The Ring, Etc.

knocked O'Brien out. Another punch would surely have settled him. There was no way of knocking him. There was no way of knocking him. There was no way of knocking him.

With Jeffries' massive frame and strength to back up his wonderful ability as a boxer and ring general, Corbett would be, without question, an undefeated champion. Never, in the history of the sport, has Corbett seen his equal as a boxer. Though he was by accident, let it be understood, "Jack" and "Jim" greeted each other cordially, and passed up the line arm in arm like two old cronies. After a short talk on mere trifles, such as the personal campaign and other matters of state, the two clever fighters proceeded to come to matters of real and general interest. Fight was the topic into which the two masters of the art drifted. "Pompador Jim" started the ball rolling by congratulating O'Brien on the grand battle he had fought against "Fitz" a few days ago.

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Bob Fitzsimmons will not pay any attention to the deft issued by Jack O'Brien, of Philadelphia. Not because he is afraid of O'Brien, but for the reason that "Lanky Bob" is now tied up with theatrical contracts which will carry him away into next summer. Bob is going to be a real actor this season. Not a "your carriage awaits you" sort, but a thespian of the first water. The name of the Cornishman's new play is just now a secret, but it is said that it is as euphonious as any of the ballads Fitz is credited with having composed and sung. The ex-champion will be supported by his wife, who was formerly Miss Julia Clifford, a talented actress and singer. Fitz says that he does not have to play any stereotyped heroism in the drama, but will win the praise and plaudits of the audience through his ability.

Regarding his fight with O'Brien Fitz said to the Sun reporter: "If the police had not stopped the combat when they did I would have surely

HOW ENGLISH ATHLETES DIFFER FROM AMERICAN.

American athletes do not, as a rule, continue their activity in the different branches of sport for any length of time. The college athletes are practically out of sport for keeps when they graduate. The professional baseball player is in demand up to his 40th year, but many fall by the wayside long before they reach that age.

In England it is different. Over there many athletes continue to engage in active sports long after they have reached middle age. A notable example is G. W. Grace, a famous cricketer, who celebrated his 56th birthday on July 19 by scoring 61 not out at the Crystal Palace for London county against the M. C. C. It was suggested to him after stumps were drawn, that play should have ceased when he had made 50, but he said he would not stop until he had made 60. The match was not one of great importance, but it was a happy circumstance that he should have done so well.

In commenting on Grace's performance, the London Telegraph says: "It is 40 years this month since he played his first matches at the Oval and Lord's, but he seems to enjoy the game almost as much as ever. In those distant days he was a very slim lad, who had to some extent outgrown his strength, but, potentially he was already a great batsman, his first innings at Lord's being one of 30. At

THOMAS F. KIELY CHAMPION ATHLETE.

Thomas F. Kiely, by many regarded as the greatest all-round athlete of the world has ever known, and winner of the Olympic all-round championship held at St. Louis, has won 1,500 prizes. Kiely has won nine gold international medals in the annual contests with the hammer, and over sixty gold championship medals in Ireland.

A few of the best performances are as follows: Created a new world's record with the 44-pound weight, Irish style (one hand), at the G. A. A. championships, held at Cork in 1898, distance 28 feet 11 inches. Kiely threw the 16-pound (straight handle) hammer from the circle 151 feet 11 inches. In 1899 he jumped 23 feet 2 inches. At the Darrow sports in 1898 he made a record of 20 feet 2 inches in the running hop, step and jump. He holds the Scotch record in the broad jump from a grass

take-off with an actual jump of 23 ft. 10 inches. At the championships in 1899 he won the 120-yard hurdles in 18 seconds on a grass track, and ten minutes afterward threw the 56-pound weight 27 feet 7 inches. At the Celtic sports held at Belfast in 1898 Kiely put the 16-pound shot 42 feet 1 inch.

He had practically given up athletics since 1899, but acting upon the advice of friends, both here and in Ireland, he decided, in the early part of the year, to try for the A. A. U. all-round championship held in the world's fair stadium. This championship he won from five of the best athletes in America. To accomplish this was no easy task.

He is the champion all-round athlete of Great Britain, Ireland, Scotland and the United States. He has been champion of Great Britain, Ireland and Scotland for many years. He won the American championship by taking the A. A. U. all-round championship at the Stadium, July 4.

Kiely never had any trouble in winning the Irish championships. In fact it was such an easy accomplishment for him to carry off the honors that it was finally abolished when no competitors would face the Carrick giant.

Kiely's record is phenomenal. He is the holder of eighty championships, the creator of forty records, the possessor of 1,500 prizes. His best record with the hammer is 151 feet 11 inches from the nine-foot circle and he has sent the 56-pounder 38 feet 11 inches with one hand, which is the world's record.

Kiely was born in Ballynash, near Carrick-on-Suir, county Tipperary. He is thirty-three years old, stands 6 feet 1 inch, tips the scale at 196 pounds, and has a chest measurement of 42 in.

STRUCK IN THE SAME SPOTS. UPPER SANDUSKY, Ohio, Aug. 4.—Scott and Joseph Tong, living near here, were struck by lightning and rendered unconscious for hours. The bolt burned both young men in the same spots on the left arm and leg. A pitchfork in Joseph's hands was shattered, the lightning passing into the ground through a singletree on a wagon, which it shattered in many places. The boys will recover.

INFANT PRECOCITY. (Dublin Warden). The Evening Citizen (Glasgow) refers to the honor of knighthood conferred upon Professor Devay, "the eminent scientist, who, while occupying the chair of chemistry in the royal institution, London, was born in the little town of Kincardine-on-Forth." This, we believe, is a record in infant precocity.

NOTED SIEGES IN HISTORY.

Alexandria Reduced After Brief British Bombardment—Paris Long Besieged—German-Santiago a Case More Like That of Port Arthur.

(From the Chicago Chronicle.) In shortness and decisiveness it will be difficult to beat the record of Alexandria, every gun of which was effectively silenced within 19 hours by a British fleet under Admiral Seymour. But these few hours witnessed such a destructive deluge of shot and shell as might have laid a big city in ruins. No fewer than 10,000 projectiles were hurled against the forts of Alexandria, many of them monsters of 1,100 pounds weight, fired from 81-ton guns. Singularly enough, this murderous hail of iron did little damage to the fortifications, the majority of the shells burying themselves harmlessly in the parapets of sand which had been raised to protect the batteries.

But so terrible was the havoc and slaughter wrought among the adherents of Arabi Pasha by the flying fragments of the shells which exploded that the forts were quickly evacuated, while some of the shells started a fire which destroyed almost the whole of the town.

Sebastopol, with its grim, massive forts, was quickly evacuated, while some defended by 700 guns, many of them heavy caliber, held out against the combined armies of France and England for 327 days. When, however, the place was evacuated, it was found that the town was in ruins, and to complete the work of destruction such docks and forts as still remained standing were blown up by the engineers of the allied forces.

It took 122 days for the Germans to bring Paris to her knees a generation ago. During January, 1871, no fewer than 10,000 shells were rained onto the doomed town every day, and of these 600 fell into the city proper. During a single day, Jan. 8, the Prussians hurled 25,000 projectiles at Paris at a cost of \$300,000. The havoc they wrought was fearful and the resultant fire threatened to destroy whole districts. During the siege no fewer than 40,000 of the inhabitants succumbed to disease and hunger.

For 94 days Plevna defied the pick of the Russian army, although its defenders were hopelessly outnumbered, and on Dec. 10, 1877, after the last grain of rice had been eaten, the indomitable Turks sallied forth and drove to their way through Russian legions. Osman Pasha commanded his gallant regiment in person, charging the trenches were pierced, but the odds against them were too great. Surrounded by almost countless hordes of the enemy, his men mowed down by sweeping torrents of bullets and shells, the brave leader at last yielded to fate and allowed the white flag to flutter from the roof of the hut near which he was lying mutilated and in agony.

Khartoum withstood the mahdists for 141 days, under the brave direction of Gordon, and in Kars, General Williams, with 15,000 men, with provisions for three months and ammunition for three days, kept an investment of 50,000 at bay from June to November.

Gibraltar, as all the world knows, stood impregnable against all the assaults of Spain and France for 374 days, although week after week, 6,000 shells were hurled at it every day, and, in spite of the combined attack of 46 ships of the line, a countless fleet of gun and mortar boats and floating batteries which had cost \$2,000,000 to construct, Richmond, Va., was defended by General Lee through a year of terrible fighting until the seizure of his lines of supply compelled him to evacuate it on April 2, 1865. Lucknow held out for 45 days, when General Havelock came to its relief, and Strasburg, with all its strength, defended by a garrison of 11,000 men, had to surrender to the Prussians after a siege of 45 days. Among other notable sieges, Mafeking survived seven months, Kimberley 123 days, Ladysmith 115, Potchefstroom 94, Metz 72, Gaeta 77 and Chitral 47 days.

A much closer parallel to the siege of Port Arthur can be found in the bombardment of Santiago during the recent war between Spain and the United States. The United States warships, Texas, Indiana and Brooklyn, opened fire on the town at a range of six miles and for three hours poured shells into it with such deadly effect that, although the gunners could not even see their target, 57 buildings were wrecked and set on fire, and it was said that a few hours' more would have laid the whole place in ruins. Even more effective was the demoralization caused by the shelling of the city, which directly led to the surrender of the town.

BRUTALITY IN GERMAN ARMY.

Large Number of Cases Reported Said to Show Little Success Attending Efforts at Improvement.

BERLIN.—A government return has just been made of prosecutions for brutality to soldiers in the German army. The number of cases in which punishment was dealt out in 1903 was 773, in 1902, the number was 777, and in 1901, 770. This similarity in figures, says the Vossische Zeitung, shows that very little success has attended the efforts to prevent the ill-treatment of soldiers.

The greatest number of prosecutions took place in the Sixteenth Army Corps in Lorraine, where sixty-nine non-commissioned officers were convicted of ill-treating their inferiors.

The number of cases of ill-treatment of men in the navy is small. In 1901 there were twenty-five convictions, in 1902 thirty-three and in 1903 thirty-two.

WANTED—A case of Headache that KUMFORT Powders will not cure in ten to twenty minutes.

ATTEMPTED EXTORTION.

(Argonaut). "Economy," said Governor Chatterton, of Wyoming, "is always admirable. Cheyenne hatter, though, was disgusted the other day with the economical spirit of a visitor to his shop. The visitor, a tall man with grey hair, entered with a soft felt hat, wrapped in paper, and said: 'How much will it cost?' 'About a dollar,' the hatter answered. 'All man wrapped in paper? The hat won't pay it,' he said. 'I can get my hair dyed to match the hat for a quarter.'"

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