

The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XIII

CHATHAM ONT., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1904

NO 35

Annual... February Carpet AND Curtain Sale.

This is the month in which to buy Carpets and Curtains. Many lines are here that we intend clearing out during the quite seasons. These are choice goods, and if you need anything in Floor Coverings, Lace Curtains or Drapery Curtains you will do well to come in and look the different lines over.

February Carpet and Curtain Sale...

All remnants of Carpets up to 12 yards, including Brussels, Tapestry, Velvet and Unions at

Half-Price.

500 Yards of Tapestry Carpet an Extra Special Bargain, made, laid and lined, at per yd,

68 Cents.

We invite you to come in and let the salesmen show you through the stock and quote prices. You will find there are many money-saving opportunities.

THOS. STONE & SON
IMPORTERS

GEO. STEPHENS & CO.

Stock taking is over. We find too much on hand.

Granite ware with five year guarantee.

Tinware of our own make at prices lower than ever heard of in Chatham before.

Harness from our hand sewed, selected leathers stock.

Trays and servers, silver, nickel, Japan, brass, all styles, exceedingly low.

GEO. STEPHENS & CO.



THE ARK

WE SELL THE
BEST MAKE OF

XXX R.O. improved double gear, regular price \$3.00, Saturday \$2.75.

Standard, 2 x 12 rolls, regular \$5.50, Saturday \$5.

Roll Bearing, easy, a child can turn the crank, regular \$5.00, Saturday, \$4.80.

Tubs, Wash Boards, Tub Stands, Sponges, Brushes, Soap—Everything for the Laundry at a big reduction on SATURDAY. See Window for cut prices.

Big Purse Sale on Saturday Morning, regular at 25c, 30c., 35c., 40c, your choice on Saturday for 19c. See East Window.

H. Macaulay,

89 KING STREET
PHONE 199

JAPAN HAS BROKEN OFF ALL RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA

A Declaration of War by the Former is Expected Momentarily—Japan's First Act Will be to Seize Corea.

Russian Troops are Said to Have Already Crossed Korean Frontier—Japan Weary of Russia's Delay.—Alarm at St. Petersburg.

London, Monday, Feb. 8.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Co. from Tokio says "Japan having broken off diplomatic relations with Russia, a declaration of war is expected soon. The correspondent says that Japan yesterday forwarded to the powers a statement of the events that led to the breaking off of relations with Russia. Baron de Rosen, Russian minister at Tokio is preparing to withdraw from the capital, Friday next having been set for his departure. He will embark at Yokohama, his present plans being to return to Europe by way of the Suez Canal, proceeding direct to St. Petersburg from a Mediterranean port. His family, the secretaries and attaches of the Russian legation and a number of priests of the Russian church will accompany him. The party number 25. The Austro-Hungarian minister, M. Mamuro, will assume charge of Russian interests and take charge of the legation property. The Japanese government is showing the members of the Russian legation every consideration of courtesy. Police guard the entrance and will escort its members to Yokohama. The steamer Yarra, on which the legation is to sail, will also be closely guarded at Kobe and Nagasaki in order to prevent any unpleasantness. All the Russian commercial concerns are preparing to close and transfer their affairs. Japanese Minister Kurino has been instructed by the Japanese government to withdraw from St. Petersburg by Wednesday. It is anticipated here that he will be withdrawn sooner. The government preliminary estimates places the amount of money which it is possible to raise by the sale of war bonds at five hundred million yen. The government is much gratified at the financial prospect there is no popular sentiment in Tokio.

RUSSIANS ENTER COREA.
Cable from Tokio, the correspondent of the Daily Telegraph gives a report that Russian troops have already crossed the Korean frontier, and that an official declaration of war is expected Monday. He adds that Russian interests in Japan have been placed in the hands of the Austrian minister, the Russian minister having declined to undertake this mission. **JAPAN'S MODERATE DEMANDS.**
The Times this morning asserts that the Japanese demands were of a moderation that will astonish the world when they are disclosed. Japan did not even ask Russia to promise to move a single soldier from Manchuria or to remove a single right in Manchuria. The Daily Graphic, dealing with this same subject asserts that the original draft of the treaty submitted to Russia was drawn up by Baron Komura, in consultation with Baron de Rosen.

RUPTURE COMPLETE.
St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—It is officially announced that Count Lamsdorff, the Russian Foreign Minister, has informed the Russian representatives abroad that Japan has decided to break off negotiations with Russia, and to withdraw her minister and the entire Japanese legation staff from St. Petersburg and that upon the receipt of a note to this effect from the Japanese minister, Russia had ordered Minister Baron de Rosen and the legation staff to leave Tokio.

PLACES RESPONSIBILITY ON JAPAN.
The Official Messenger publishes the following circular telegram, dated Feb. 6, which has been sent by Count Lamsdorff, the Russian Foreign Minister to Russian representatives abroad:—"Acting under instructions from his government the Japanese government breaks off further negotiations, and of the recall of her minister and the whole staff of the legation. In consequence of this His Imperial Majesty has been pleased to order that the Russian minister at Tokio, with the whole of the imperial mission shall leave the capital of Japan without delay. Such an attitude on the part of the Japanese government which has not even awaited the

arrival of the answer of the Imperial Government, which was sent off during the last few days, throws the whole responsibility for the consequence which may arise from a rupture of diplomatic negotiations between the two empires on Japan."

A STEP TOWARDS WAR.
Tokio, Feb. 7.—The severance of diplomatic relations between Russia and Japan appears to be only a step towards war, although when the ministers of Russia and Japan withdraw from their respective posts quick and decisive action is expected. When Minister of Foreign Affairs Komura, on Saturday notified Baron de Rosen, the Russian minister, of Japan's determination to sever diplomatic relations he is reported to have declared to him that Japan is tired of Russia's delays, evasions and insincerity, and has decided to take independent action for the conservation of Japan's Oriental interests. During the final negotiations Japan's repeated requests for an answer were treated in a most unsatisfactory manner. Japan waited until convinced that it was useless to wait longer, and has now ended the discussion. The indications are that there will be no formal declaration of war, but Japan will publicly define its position and purposes, and the Foreign Office has prepared a new statement. On Monday Japan will unquestionably seize Corea, and although Russia has previously intimated that it would not interfere, in view of that country's present attitude, developments are eagerly awaited.

RUSSIA STARTLED.
St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—Although the fear was general here yesterday that the presentation of the Russian notes to Japan might be followed by an act on the part of the Japanese government which would plunge the two countries into war, the startling action of Japan in severing diplomatic relations with Russia before the actual delivery of the Russian note, believed that the receipt of this note might have unmasked an ultimatum; but that Japan should sever diplomatic relations, a step little short of a declaration of war, was almost like a blow in the face under the present circumstances, and it is resented accordingly. The authorities believe this action places Japan distinctly in the wrong before the whole world, and, moreover, after such a "piece of impudence," as it is denominated here, makes easy an appeal to the patriotism of the Russian people. The news that at any moment Japan had drawn the sword and that the first clash had occurred would not be surprising.

EVENTS FOLLOWED RAPIDLY.
The events leading to Japan's abrupt action here come with great rapidity. The Russian note was already in the hands of Baron de Rosen, Russian minister at Tokio, for delivery to Baron Komura, the Japanese Foreign Minister, when, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon M. Kurino, the Japanese Minister here, presented himself at the Foreign Office and informed Foreign Minister Lamsdorff that his government, in view of the delays in connection with the Russian answer and the futility hitherto of the negotiations, considered it useless to continue diplomatic relations, and would take such steps as it deemed proper for the protection of Japan's interests. It is known that Count Lamsdorff expressed surprise and regret at this move. M. Kurino received his passports and after consulting with Sir G. S. Scott, the British Ambassador, returned to his legation where the preparation for his departure has been started.

"ROBIN HOOD"
A full rehearsal of all interested in the production of the opera "Robin Hood" will be held this evening, commencing at eight o'clock, in the auditorium over the Standard Bank. A full attendance is specially requested. All the principals will be present at this rehearsal.

THE VACANT JUDGESHIP

On Thursday last our local Liberal contemporary published an excellent editorial comment on the vacant Judgeship, with which The Planet is in hearty accord.

The Banner then said:—Chatham's claims to a share of the judicial honors going, if they have not already been disposed of, cannot well be ignored at the present time. Since the appointment of Mr. Woods over eighteen years ago, under a conservative administration, Kent has received nothing in the way of a judgeship, although its bar is equal to any in the province.

Adjacent places on the contrary seem to have been in high favor with the department of justice, for no apparent reason. Take London, for example. In the past few years it has furnished about half a dozen men to the bench, among whom are the two Merdiths, Street and MacMahon, the high court, and Fitzgerald, county, while McGee is mentioned for elevation. Goderich, whose bar is far from ranking as high as that of Chatham, has furnished Garrow to the court of appeal, and Holt to the county. Essex has been equally well taken care of. It furnished O'Connor to the high court, McHugh about eleven years ago to the county bench, Patterson to a lieutenant-governorship, and lastly Killam to the supreme court. And so on with other places.

It is of course not necessary that a Kent man should be appointed to the local vacancy—it is considered good practice to import a man who is untrammelled by local prejudices or antipathies—but it would be only fair by way of compensation to give at least one of the outside appointments to Chatham.

To all of which The Planet adds a hearty amen. The Kent bar has an enviable reputation throughout the entire Province and is certainly entitled to the recognition suggested.

But on Saturday the Banner has something else to say. It comes to the News from a well-informed source that it is extremely, if not altogether improbable that the vacant junior judgeship of Kent will come to a local man. It would seem a misdirection of energy, therefore, for the one or more members of the Chatham bar who are "looking" for the appointment to seek to force the hand of the department and wiser to direct that energy in an outside direction.

The policy of the department with few exceptions has been to appoint an outside man on the county bench, and the wisdom of this is apparent at a glance. A practitioner of long standing has his relatives and a wide circle of friends in the district, and it would be a miracle if he had not a few enemies. Sooner or later in the administration of justice he would come into contact with these opposing elements—perhaps in the relation of plaintiff and defendant, etc., etc.

What does all this mean? and by whom was it inspired? If the government intends to again ignore the claims of this county they are making a serious mistake. The Kent bar is entitled to the appointment on its merits and should be given it. The gentlemen whose names have been mentioned seriously in connection therewith are all able to grace the position with ability and dignity.

LAID TO REST

The funeral of the late Mrs. Cornelius Purser took place Saturday afternoon, from her late residence, 3rd Con., Dover, to Maple Leaf Cemetery, and was very largely attended. Mrs. Purser was one of the most highly esteemed ladies in the township, and was beloved by all who had the privilege of her acquaintance. She was of a very kind and generous disposition and endeared herself with many warm friends, who will deeply regret her demise. She had borne with Christian fortitude a wasting and painful disease for a considerable length of time and death must have been a happy release to the sufferer, whose life, although comparatively short, was one of blameless purity.

Deceased has but one sister, Mrs. Salem Arnold, of Chatham township; two nieces, Mrs. C. B. McDougall, of Wallaceburg, and Miss Gertrude McLean, who has resided with her since childhood, and three nephews, James McLean, of Loraine, Ohio; W. McLean, of the C. B. C., and James McLean, who has also resided with her.

The pall-bearers were, Geo. Smith, Robert Smith, John Bachelder, John Terry, Thos. Guttridge and Mr. Bechard.

DAMAGED BY WATER

The rain on Saturday damaged a lot of underwear at Gordon's Dry Goods Store, which will be sold at half-price, as advertised, and a lot of wet colored muslin will be sold at the low prices of from 31-2 to 12 1-2 cents per yard.

YOUR TRIP TO NEW YORK.

If you desire a nice comfortable journey to New York, consult Mr. Rispin, of King street, and he will tell you that the Wabash West Shore Route is the one to use.

YOUR CHOICE FOR 25c.

When I was in Toronto last week I bought 400 books that were slightly damaged or imperfect. These are now in stock and placed on our

Bargain Table at Less Than One-Quarter the Regular Prices.

Among them are "Letters of a Self-made Merchant," "Lovely Mary," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," and many other up-to-date books.

Your choice of 200 titles,

25c. Each.....

Call early and get first choice as there is not more than three of any one title.

This is the greatest book bargain ever offered in Chatham.

Sulman's Beehive

Opp. Garner House.
King and Sixth Sts.

FOR
\$2.00

You can buy
**Men's Box
Calf Bals.
Goodyear
Welt Shoes**

Regular \$3.50
and \$3.00...

In the following sizes

8-6, 4-7,
5-8, 8-9,
and 4-10

THESE SHOES ARE
ALL ON GOOD SHAP-
ED LAST.

TURRILL
The Shoe Man

Repairing done
at store.
King Street

THIS IS THE
THIRD DAY
before the presentation of
"ROBIN HOOD"
The Greatest Classic Opera Comique.
Don't Miss Dun-
dowd Night...
Thursday, Feb. 11