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Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 25, 1904.

Friends of the Telegraph
sending in news or letters on
any topic will please send their
names and addresses, not for
publication but as an evidence
of good faith. Unsigned com-
munications of any kind can-
not be noticed.—Ed. Telegraph.

THE RETURN OF CHAMPLAIN

Champlain came up from the sea yester-
day to revisit the country to which he
gave a name on that June morning
three centuries ago. He came, let us say,
to see what had come to pass in the 300-
year interval, and when he had seen his
marvelled much. Events had not been as
he would have forecast them, looking for-
ward from that month when he landed
with priest and soldier, yet, coming again
he found the work good. Time had
brought miracles whose effects flashed
upon him as he moved in from the sea.
The lonely bark of 1604, a leviathan
here in the days when the proudest other
craft was a war canoe, was herself
dwarfed yesterday by scores of great ves-
sels, steam and sail, representing many
nations in this one of the great ports of
the world. Where the forest was, un-
broken save by the tiny Indian village, a
city of brick and stone crowned the rocky
promontory and encircled the uneasy har-
bor and the boiling river mouth which the
yoursager of 1604 marked as perilous on
his rude chart.
The meeting place of the wandering
Malleets had become a populous entrepot
of trade by sea and land, one of the ocean
gateways of a new nation, dividing with
another mighty power the vast continent
of the north. The Champlain of 1604, a
lonely bark, had come about in the
long interval, and foreseeing the
greater marvels yet to come, may well
have wondered and been satisfied.

St. John had seen before no such page-
antry as that of yesterday. From the
early morning, when the strange pinnons
of the Acadia bore her up harbor into a
city alive with hunting and puling with
holiday life, to late at night when the
last rockets spluttered and the searchlights
of the warships played no longer upon the
marine parade, there was no word more
common or more applicable than "suc-
cess." It may be said that while St. John
expected a splendid series of living pic-
tures yesterday, the performance far
outran expectation. The arrival
of Champlain, the unveiling at River-
view Park, the proceedings at the public
library, the fireman's procession and the
marine parade under the searchlights of
the cruisers—each in itself was a spectacle
long to be remembered. The coming of
Champlain and the night pageant in
particular were admirably de-
signed and carried through with
splendid enthusiasm. The vast crowds
were fitting frames for the tableaux.
Enjoyment is contagious, and in
affairs like yesterday's great numbers are
necessary to a full appreciation of the
programme.

Far beyond the famous Loyalist celebra-
tion of 1883 in scope and picturesque ef-
fects, the events of yesterday showed what
can be done in St. John when an under-
taking enlists the hearty good will of all
classes. The streets of St. John, none too
level for the purpose of easy traffic, are
admirable for spectacular effects, and each
feature of the day was a triumph from
the spectator's viewpoint. The plan was
a bold one, and had less earnest prepara-
tion been made the scene of the morning
might easily have been a failure. But each
man's work had been done well, and the
unanimous verdict will be that the Cham-
plain celebration was a credit to St. John
and the province.

Some word should be said here in ac-
knowledge of the public's debt to Sir
Charles Parsons and Sir Archibald Doug-
las, of His Majesty's forces, Captain Au-
drey of the Trombe, Commander Dilling-
ham of the Detroit, Consul-General
Khechowski, Hon. J. P. Baxter, Premier
Tweedie, Lieutenant-Governor Snowball
and others whose participation in the cele-
bration contributed so notably to its suc-
cess.

One hesitates to mention a few of the
St. John men who created yesterday's
pageant when so many are worthy, yet
reference must be made to the work of
Rev. W. O. Raymond who might be termed
the father of the tercentenary celebra-

tion, Mr. D. Russell Jack, the valuable
honorary secretary of the committee,
Mayor White, who had many duties, Mr.
Frith of the Neptunes and Mr. William
White of the R. K. Y. C. The firemen
who worked like beavers and to good pur-
pose, and the other organizations whose
wholehearted assistance was invaluable, are
deserving of public thanks.
"Well done" will be the general ver-
dict. The Maritime Provinces have never
before witnessed a spectacle so admirable
and it may be doubted if anywhere in
Canada there has been an affair of this
nature which was so thoroughly pictur-
esque and enjoyable.

COMING TO GRIPS.

The Japanese are crumpling up General
Kurapatkin's right wing. Generala Kuro-
ki, Oku and one or two more, have effec-
ted a junction in spite of the Russian at-
tempts to keep them apart, and already
Kurapatkin has been forced to abandon
the most southerly position he held on
the Manchurian railway. Military critics
say the Japanese generals intend to force
him to fight a decisive action. Apparent-
ly his right is falling back upon the
centre. To extend and support it might
expose him to an attempt to isolate his
southern forces and cut them to pieces.

The Japanese are likely to go to New-
chwang this trip. That port is seemingly
their next objective. They know that the
raime are due, and that land transport
away from the railroad will be extremely
difficult. At Newchwang, near the rail-
road, and the centre of operations, Jap-
anese ships could pour in supplies with
ease and regularity, while the Russians
must depend upon their overburdened
single-track line more than 5,000 miles
long, and with unspanned Lake Baikal
lying across it.

The hopeless condition of that railroad
is of new interest now in the light of the
London Times' report that for the pur-
poses of this war the Baltic fleet of Russia
is a myth. It was to be sent to the
East in August and was to reconquer the
sea. The Times observer says no formidable
fleet can be despatched from the Baltic
for more than a year to come, and
before it could leave Russia's fate in Man-
churia will be settled. London regards
the Baltic fleet story as another Russian
bluff.

The Russian force beaten at Vafangow
grows in numbers. At first it was but
15,000 men. Later estimates made it 30,
000 and now it is 40,000. The plan evi-
dently was to force Oku to actually aban-
don the siege of Port Arthur. Just how
many men the Russians lost when this
army was crushed at Vafangow is not
known, but the losses greatly exceed the
earlier figures and the action takes rank
as the most serious of the war. Superior
artillery there, as at the Yalu, gave the
Japanese the advantage. Their losses were
slight in comparison with the damage in-
flicted.

General Kurapatkin's position now holds
public attention throughout the civilized
world. His military reputation has been
high. He will increase it or lose it ut-
terly in the events to come. There is no
success worth mentioning yet to the credit
of the Russians in this war. They must
stop the Japanese advance short of Muk-
den or abandon Manchuria to the Island-
ers. Meantime Tokyo reports that he has
sunk a Russian battleship at Port Arthur
and damaged two other important vessels.

CIVIL AND MILITARY POWER.

The Scottish-American, a New York
publication which devotes considerable
space to Canadian affairs and which is
usually accurate, wholly misunderstands
the position in Canada of the officer com-
manding the militia and his relation to
the Dominion government. Discussing
the report of the council recommending
the dismissal of Lord Dundonald, the
Scottish-American says in part:

"The report further assumes that Lord
Dundonald was the servant of the Cana-
dian Government, and that the Minister
of Militia, or any one acting temporarily
for him, was his superior officer, whom
he was bound to respect, unquestioningly
obey, and, we suppose, salute in passing.
We have no doubt that Lord Dundonald
was proud to consider himself the ser-
vant of the Canadian people, and was
using all his talent and skill in his po-
sition on their behalf—indeed the unani-
mous opinion is that Canada never had
his equal as a General Officer Command-
ing the Militia; but we seriously doubt
if he ever for a moment considered him-
self a subordinate servant of the Canadian
government, or of any member of it, or
that he would ever have condescended to
fill the position had he thought so. For
the time being he was the servant of the
Canadian people, and in the same sense
so is the Dominion government of the day.
In their respective spheres they are
equals. While they may be charged with
interfering in the proper discharge of each
other's duties they cannot rightly be
charged with insubordination towards each
other as superior officers. In the circum-
stances whatever crime or offence 'the
regrettable failure to appreciate the prin-
ciples of British constitutional govern-
ment' might be twisted into it could not
rightly be construed into insubordination.
Yet of that sub-committee has found
Lord Dundonald guilty, and has got him
dismissed."

This comment makes the mistake, which
is not made in Canada, of assuming that
the officer commanding is supreme in his
department and that the government's
power does not go beyond paying the
bills. It gives Canada two equal authori-
ties—one civil, the other military. There
is no such arrangement. The officer com-
manding is the subordinate of the Minis-
ter of Militia, responsible to him and to
the government, and any other arrange-
ment would not now be tolerated. This

question has been settled in Canada. Like
many outsiders who have discussed the
Dundonald incident the Scottish-American
writer simply does not know what he is
talking about.
He might as well assume that, before
an American general staff was organized,
General Miles, who was the officer com-
manding the American Army, was indepen-
dent of and equal in authority to the
Secretary of War. He knows how soon
any secretary would have corrected any
such impression had an officer shown by
his conduct or public utterances that he
was not. The government approves or
disapproves any act of the general
commanding. He has no independent
jurisdiction. If he had the government
would be in a thoroughly foolish position,
were it American or Canadian.

THE OPPOSITION BEGINS.

As was to be expected on a night when
the whole town was at play, the local op-
position convention, held to nominate a
man to contest the vacant county seat,
was thinly attended. It was a business
session, and it was successful in the
found in Mr. Miles E. Agar, a man willing
to sacrifice himself. Mr. Dean was also
willing, it appears, but, fortunately for
him, the delegates turned to Mr. Agar,
and Mr. Dean—with considerable cheer-
fulness, no doubt—graciously accepted the
convention's verdict and made the nomi-
nation unanimous.

Mr. Agar no doubt knows his business.
He has no doubt counted the odds. He
has had one experience as a candidate,
and whatever befalls him hereafter no
man can say that he did not go into the
contest with his eyes open. That is to
say, he courts what is coming to him. If
the government cannot name a man to
will beat Mr. Agar two to one it must
have lost ground since the last election,
and while Mr. Dunn was a very strong
candidate there is good reason to believe
that the government stands much better
with the people today than at any time
in the history of the Tweedie adminis-
tration.

Mr. Hazen evidently intends to keep up
his hopeless effort to discover the "main
body" of his supporters which mythical
force was lost beyond discovery in the last
local campaign. If Mr. Agar has leisure
and ambition, and is deceived by Mr.
Hazen or entertains delusions of his own
regarding the state of public opinion in
the county, there is no reason on earth
why he should not have another fling at
politics, albeit his last one was much cal-
culated to discourage a hard headed man
of business from listening to the siren song
of the bee of candidacy.

Mr. Hazen, in this contest, as in the last
general elections, unfurls his flag early in
the game. The memory of that other
premature and abortive campaign has
taught him no useful lesson, evidently,
but memories of its amusing features linger
in the public mind. The coming contest,
at this date, looks too one-sided to promise
much interest.

CONVENTION THUNDER.

Two features of the Republican pro-
ceedings at the Chicago convention are
of passing interest in Canada. The as-
sertion of the military spirit in the speech
nominating President Roosevelt, and the
ignoring of the reciprocity wing of the
Republican party. "Protection and more
protection" is the tariff plank adopted.
The reference to reciprocity, intended to
recognize the existence of a sentiment
favoring reciprocal trade amounts to a
declaration that no such form of recipro-
city as Canada could accept is possible.
The platform expresses the party's belief
"in the adoption of all practical methods
for the extension of foreign markets,
including commercial reciprocity wherever
reciprocal arrangements can be perfected
consistent with the principle of protec-
tion, and without injury to American agri-
culture, labor or any American industry."
The recent action of 35,000 business men
of New England in favor of free trade
with Canada must come to naught as far
as the Republican party is concerned in
the face of this declaration. Senator
Lodge has had his way.

Of wider interest is the declaration of
ex-Governor Frank S. Black, of New
York, in nominating Mr. Roosevelt, that
the United States must always be pre-
pared for war and that the Rough Rider
has shown himself to be the right man in
the right place in point of the country's
foreign policy. Instead of attempting to
administer a sedative to those who have
expressed the fear that Mr. Roosevelt's
impetuosity might involve the nation in
foreign strife, Governor Black exalted
the president as fitted above all others to
lead in time of peril. He said in part—

"When the crash comes or the flames break
out, a moment's time will single out the
hero in the crowd. A flash of lightning in
the night will reveal what years of daylight
have not discovered to the eye. And so the
flash of the Spanish war revealed that lofty
courage and devotion which the American
heart so loves and which you have not
again to decorate and recognize. * * *
Fortune soars with high and rapid wing,
and whoever brings it down must shoot with
accuracy and speed. Only the man with
steady eye and nerve and the courage to
pull the trigger brings the largest opportu-
nities to the ground. He (President
Roosevelt) is no slender flower
swaying in the wind, but that heroic
figure which is the rock of the nation,
the snow. He spends little time
in review, for that he knows can be done
by the schools. A statesman grappling with
the living problems of the hour he gropes
but little in the past. He believes in going
ahead. He believes that in shaping the de-
stinies of this great republic, a higher
impulse than regret. * * *
The fate of nations is still decided by their wars.
You may talk of orderly tribunals and learn-
ed referees; you may sing in your schools
the gentle praises of the quiet life; you may
strike from your books the last note of every
martial anthem, and yet out in the smoke
and clunder will always be the tramp
of horses and the silent, rigid, upturned face

Men may prophesy and women pray, but
peace can come here to us only by the sword
on each other. Then the dreams of child-
hood are the accepted charts to guide the
destinies of men. Events are numberless
and mighty, and no man can tell which
will rule around the world. The nation
basking today in the quiet of contentment
and repose may still be on the deadly dis-
suit and tomorrow writing in the toils of
war. This is the time when great figures
emerge from the shadows. The pressure is
great the material to resist it must be gran-
ite and iron. Whether we win or lose, the
age have been tested and approved. And in
the man whom you will choose, the highest
sense of every nation in the world beholds
a man who typifies as no other living Ameri-
can does, the spirit and the purposes of the
twentieth century.

The great convention roared approval of
these sentiments. It accepts the doctrine,
recently enunciated by the president, that
the countries of South America must be
have themselves or the United States will
shake them out of their boots. This part
of the Monroe Doctrine has been joyfully
accepted in Europe. But in Governor
Black's characterization, the country
and its president there is scant comfort
for American anti-imperialists, and those
who heed Washington's warning to be
friendly with all nations and embrace en-
gaging alliances with none.

Perhaps Governor Black's happiest
periods were those in which he pictured
the cross-bird now going on in the ranks
of the Democrats.

The enemy has neither guns nor ammuni-
tion, and if they had they would use them
to the disadvantage of the weapons of
effective warfare, the only evidence of ap-
proach would be in the smoke and the
bulletins. There is discord among the
generals, discord among the statesmen,
and the world is in a state of confusion.
The only way to the future is by the
discovery of America to do honor to
the memory of the discoverer of the St.
John; and the cordial words of friend-
ship for England and Canada which were
spoken by the representative of the French
people were not less gratifying to the
people of this city.

AN AMERICAN VIEW.

A Portland (Me.) paper takes a se-
rious view of the proposition that the
preferential tariff in Canada should apply
only to importations through Canadian
seaports. It says:

The proposition is that goods from
Great Britain by way of Portland shall be
taxed full rates, and that importers can
get the benefit of the preference only by
shipping by way of St. John or Halifax.
It is an attempt to force British trade
to take the longer route by way of those
ports by means of a process of discrimina-
tion against American ports. Under pre-
sent arrangements a bonding privilege is
allowed by which goods in transit bill-
of lading may pass through the territory of the other
under the payment of the duties. This im-
ports from Liverpool come to Montreal
and are shipped to their destination
without any further payment of duties.
If the new policy is enforced by the
import trade will probably cease, so far
as Portland is concerned, or be seri-
ously diminished, unless the discrimina-
tion should be overcome by the greater
cost of transportation from the Canadian
seaport. This is possibly indeed, for the
Canadian authorities have all the power
and with all their jealousy and dislike
of the United States, are not able to alter
geographical facts or make the distance
from St. John to Montreal a mile shorter
by dint of resolutions and statutes.

Our neighbors are not to be blamed
of course for looking out for their selfish
interests, but it is not clear that the pro-
posed policy is for their best interests.
It is likely to cause a feeling of irritation
on this side of the line, and sure it is
for the good of both sides to ally rather
than to add to that feeling. Then, too, it
is likely to cause loss and inconvenience to
Canadian importers. Halifax and St.
John have not at present the facilities for
handling a larger import trade, though
that is an obstacle to be overcome in time
and by expenditure. A more serious ob-
jection to the scheme would be the pos-
sibility of loss to importers in central and
western Canada. For ex-
ample, some wholesale house wants British
goods in a hurry and cables for them and
they are sent by the quickest route and the
most dependable. It would be a hard-
ship to the merchants to compel them to
wait for their goods by the slower
route on penalty of a fine, equal to a
third of the tariff rate. The government
should consider well the effect of such a
law on trade before putting it into force.
Another thing to be considered is the dan-
ger of provoking retaliation. The United
States desires no tariff war with Canada,
but if Canada is bound to have one she
probably can be accommodated; and if
she should unfortunately be provoked there
can be no doubt as to which can
stand it better.

Our friends in Portland apparently
have not learned that goods via St. John
are landed in Montreal by the C. P. R.
practically as fast as cargo from Portland
via the Grand Trunk. It is interesting,
however, to get their point of view, to
say nothing about the suggestion of retali-
ation. This country is not seriously
alarmed by talk of tariff war.

A REMARKABLE GROUP.

Never before in the history of New
Brunswick has there been gathered to-
gether so widely representative and no-
table a company of distinguished men as
that which met in St. Andrew's church
Thursday evening to do honor to the
memory of Champlain and De Monts.
England, France, the United States, the
French Canadians of Quebec, the Acadians
of these provinces, their brethren who
live across the border, the Loyalists of
New Brunswick and those of Ontario, as
well as the English Canadians who do not
claim Loyalist descent, were all ably re-
presented; while with clergymen of vari-
ous Protestant churches, were prelates
and priests of the church to which Cham-

plain belonged. The assembly in this last
respect was in harmony with the
spirit of that expedition three hundred
years ago, which brought Catholic priest
and Protestant minister to these shores.
The admirable spirit which prevailed the
addresses of last evening, and the hearty
responses of the audience at every refer-
ence to international harmony and race
friendship, are indicative of much that is
intensely gratifying to the citizens of St.
John, and to the people of Canada at
large.

The Hon. Mr. Longley does not over-
estimate the importance of marking the
great milestones of our history. Such a
series of events as those at Annapolis, St.
John and St. Croix must draw into closer
sympathy the three great nations in-
terested. Mr. Charles Francis Adams is so
optimistic with regard to the future of
two of them that he anticipates a great
Anglo-Saxon reunion on this continent;
and, though he did not so express himself,
he may even dream, as others have done,
of an Anglo-Saxon federation that would
not be confined to a continent. Looking
at the achievements of even a century,
it is permitted us all to indulge in wonder-
ful fancies without having our sanity
brought into question. One immediate
effect of these celebrations should be a
strengthening of the bond of sympathy
between French and English in Canada.

It was very pleasing also, Thursday
to hear from the lips of men, who were
brought up to believe the Loyalists traitors,
so fine a tribute to the integrity and
high character of that devoted band
of exiles. The message of Commander
Dillingham, who came from the tomb of
the discoverer of America to do honor to
the memory of the discoverer of the St.
John; and the cordial words of friend-
ship for England and Canada which were
spoken by the representative of the French
people were not less gratifying to the
people of this city.

Thursday night's symposium was an affair
of international interest, and many a year
will elapse before we see its like again.

**A REGRETTABLE MISUNDER-
STANDING.**

Some months ago when the editor of
the Sun and the editor of the Miramichi
Advance began to pursue each other with
editorial scalping knives this peace-loving
journal endeavored to bring about an
armistice. Either The Telegraph's efforts
or the passing of the fever of provincial
politics, which was then raging, led these
learned gentlemen to bury the hatchet,
which weapon, terrible to relate, was
stained to the handle as a result of the
editorial activities. It is with some alarm
that we now note a disposition on the
part of the Advance to shatter the peace
pipe, put on the black paint which
signifies war and take to the underbrush
of truculent discussion. Recently the Car-
leton Sentinel, discussing a news article
printed by the Sun, charged the latter
newspaper with misrepresenting a Car-
leton county community, brought into
add the following beligerent comment—

"The Sun's article was, it is said, sug-
gested by its political editor, after he had
been led to believe that the Carleton
politics was not in accord with that paper's
policy, and like the Carleton polling place
in York, generally went 'one way'; still,
the Sun will learn in the end that it can gain
nothing for either itself or its party by
representing whole communities as crimina-
ls."

There is only one reply to this. The
war post having been beaten on the North
Shore it may be expected that there will
be an immediate defiance from Canter-
bury street.

WELCOME THEM.

An important convention will be held
in the city on Tuesday Wednesday and
Thursday of this week. The school teach-
ers of the city and province have a work
to do, the value of which cannot easily be
overestimated. We have heard a good
deal in St. John of late on the subject
of national development, and the need
of right beginnings. More interest should
be taken by parents in the work that is
done in the school room. This is a true
remark, but one that needs to be empha-
sized. The school teachers of New Brun-
swick are a fine body of trained men and
women, who take a very active interest
in their work. Too often they must be
content with indifference where they
should have hearty co-operation. It is
probably true, however, that closer and
more cordial relations exist between
teachers and parents than existed some
years ago; and yet the teachers may just-
ly claim that there is still great room for
improvement.

It is estimated that nearly five hundred
teachers and school officers will meet in
the city tomorrow. Many parents should
find time during the three days' sessions
to attend some of the meetings, and in
that way, if not by spoken words, man-
ifest their sympathy with the teachers' work.
Some important questions will be
up for discussion and there is no better
way of getting at the teachers' point of
view than to listen to their debates.

THREE-FOLD SUCCESS.

The tercentenary celebration which be-
gan at Annapolis last Tuesday and was
continued at St. John later in the week,
closed at St. Croix Island and Calais on
Saturday.

The barrier people had made great pre-
parations for the event, and there was the

same hearty participation by the ships and
the representatives of three nations.

The Telegraph's correspondent suggests
that St. Croix Island might be made an
international park. There is something
fascinating in the suggestion, although for
some years to come the island would prob-
ably not attract many visitors.
The celebration on Saturday was a suc-
cess, as it should be, for at St. Croix the
great voyagers spent their first winter in
these parts and suffered terrible hardships.
In every particular the commemoration
has been striking, and marked by en-
thusiasm. People will tell the story to
their children a generation hence, with
a sense of pride that they had a part in
it.

THE NEXT EVENT.

The fact that there is to be an exhibi-
tion in St. John this fall did not affect
the attendance at the Tercentenary cele-
bration. Neither will the latter affect
the former. With fine weather the ex-
hibition will attract the people.

Having concluded the summer event the
citizens will now think about that of the
autumn. It will not be contended that
the decorations last week were the best
that could be provided in this city, or
that the street department did very much
to impress strangers with the clean con-
dition of the streets.

There is abundance of time to make the
city far more attractive in exhibition time.
The city has done well; it can do
better.

THE TORPEDO BOAT AGAIN.

While 300,000 men are face to face in
Manchuria and a decisive battle is pre-
dicted, sensational events at Port Arthur
divert attention from the more important
land operations and once more bring sharp
criticism of Russian blunders. The Lon-
don Times Tokyo correspondent, after
praising the Russians for uncoiling the
harbor mouth and getting their entire
fleet into open water, charges that the
Russian admiral courted disaster by the
most costly stupidity. The Russians, he
says, failed miserably to take advantage of
their unexpected success in leaving the
harbor. "Either the strain of navigating
the passage out of the harbor proved some-
what, or the admiral, in spite of bitter lessons
he had, failed even yet to appreciate the
keystone of Japanese naval training. He
committed the same folly his predecessor
committed when war was imminent in
February, and anchored for the night in
the outer roadstead. Through their own
good signal stations on Golden Hill, the
Russians must know the Japanese blockad-
ing flotilla would be cognizant of every
movement, and a very few hours' stand-
ing would suffice to bring the whole Rus-
sian's fleet to their ears. Yet they
anchored and invited an attack. Wireless
telegraph gave Admiral Togo information,
after which the history of the naval
struggle repeated itself."

And at last accounts St. Petersburg fear-
ed to acknowledge the truth of the bad
news. The Japanese are the first nation
to apply torpedo boat theories in active
practice. They play at war as at a game.
The officers plan and the men move, as if
the enemy were using blank cartridges.
Torpedo boat service is the most desper-
ate that naval men know. Yet we read to-
day more than a dozen separate and distinct
attacks were made by torpedo flotillas
upon the anchored fleet of Russian battle-
ships. The fleet was protected by many
searchlights and hundreds of machine
guns, yet the Japanese scored. Such de-
spite courage as is theirs would not be
denied. If by losing one or two torpedo
boats they could sink a battleship or two,
they would think the sacrifice well worth
while. The battleship carries as many
men as ten torpedo boats and costs as
much as a score or more of such craft.
The Japanese deliberately count the cost
and accept the risk. There is no service
which these men will not undertake with
both coolness and audacity. The Russians
must have learned by this time how
courageous and resourceful is the enemy.
The course of the Russian fleet, after leav-
ing the harbor, is therefore inexplicable in
the light of such information as is now at
hand.

At sea Russia is shown to be brave but
remarkably incompetent. Ashore she
has been considerably discredited. It
is for General Kurapatkin to turn the tide
if he can. He carries Russia's fortunes
now, and if he fails—what then? Russia
declares that peace is out of the question
until her military prestige has been re-
gained. That would make it look like a
very long struggle. But if General Kuro-
patkin meets disaster, Russia will have no
force in the theatre of war capable of dis-
puting the Japanese advance to the Siberi-
an boundary.

A FEARSOME FAMILY.

The British newspapers cannot agree
whether the terrific secret plan of Thomas
Cochrane, tenth Earl of Dundonald, died
with him about the time of the Crimean
war or is still to be found in one of the
many pigeon holes of the British War
Office. No one has suggested, so far as
we have seen, that the present ear, lately
commander of the Canadian militia, pos-
sesses his ancestor's secret; yet he may know
all about it, and in case he does,
the Canadian ministers, and through them,
this country generally would appear to
have been playing with the lightning.
The tenth earl, according to the Graph-
ic, invented a terrible engine, or method,
by which slaughter so widespread and
awful was possible that its use would put
an end to all warfare against the country
utilizing it. Stories of this plan have
been frequent recently. In 1810 a select
committee of lords investigated the mat-
ter at the instance of the Prince Regent
and wrote to the inventor "that in their
opinion 'such a mode of attack would be
irreversible and the effect of the power
and means proposed infallible,' adding,
however, that if the plan was divulged
it 'might become perilous to our colonial
possessions.' It is said that the members
of the committee were so appalled at the
destructive nature of the plan that they
persuaded the Prince Regent to extract a
pledge from Cochrane that he would never
use it without the sanction of the Crown."
The terrible earl, during the Crimean
war, "offered to destroy both Constantinople
and Sebastopol in a few hours, with per-
fect security to our own forces." (Of-
ficially he said: "I will undertake to sit
on a cushion and to subdue every fort
within the space of four hours." Here,
evidently, was the first of the famous arm-
chair strategists. The authorities pos-
sively refused to permit the gentleman to
press the button, although the war was a
mighty burden, and presumably curiosity
was as strong in those days as now.
It is likely the inventor gave the re-
quired promise never to put his plan in
operation without the consent of the
Crown. Positive assurance that the pre-
sent earl regards his ancestor's promise
as binding now would go far to make
Ottawa feel more secure.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

Senator Charles Warren Fairbanks, who
has been nominated as the Republican
candidate for the vice-presidency, is
known in Canada. He was a member of
the Joint High Commission which met in
Quebec in 1888, and was chairman of the
United States commissioners.

Senator Fairbanks was born in Ohio
in 1832, and graduated from the Ohio Wes-
leyan University in 1852. Two years later
he was admitted to the bar. He has
since practiced his profession in Indian-
apolis. Although active in politics for
years, he did not hold public office until
his election to the United States senate in
January, 1897, to which body he was re-
elected in 1903.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The remark made by Dr. Slocum last
week, that the Champlain De Monts
memorial should have as a companion a
tablet in honor of the Loyalists, might
very well be seriously