

COMPARISON BETWEEN RUSSIAN AND JAPANESE WAR EQUIPMENT.

Japan's Strength Lies in Her Superior Navy and Dock Facilities, and in Her Proximity to the Scene of Probable Hostilities—Russia's Vast Army Her Main Reliance—Her Unsatifactory Financial Condition is Against Her.

The wrangling between Japan and Russia over Korea has at last come to a menacing to the peace of the world. A war between these two powers would in fact be a world-war of intensely and gigantic strength whose outcome no one could forecast and whose entanglements and sequences might make greatly for or against the nations not now involved in the controversy. It would be a contest between two kinds of nations, the old and the new, of strikingly varying types in religion, temper and origin. A glance at the equipment of each nation shows some striking differences.

The sudden recent growth of Japan is now an old story, but there are certain details and aspects of the case worth examining in order to understand the reasons of the growth. The island power today dictates her will to the ear of all the nations and in face of all the wealth and might that this represents. If peace with honor, as she regards it, lies beyond her reach, she is prepared to fight, and in this connection the fact that her marine fighting strength has risen since 1894 from 12,884 to 27,961 men, is extremely interesting. In fact, in twelve years the force has doubled itself. To this number must be added the strength of the two classes of reserves which would afford another 20,000 men for manning a war squadron.

Japan's Big Naval Programme. Lord Brassey states, in his Naval Annual for 1903, that Japan's programme for naval construction in 1904 is to complete the construction of four battleships and six cruisers, besides destroyers and torpedo boats. The annual expenditure involved is above \$10,000,000. In relation to this new programme and to the alliance with Great Britain, the London Times correspondent in Tokyo recently wrote some interesting particulars. It must be understood that very few voices were raised in indorsement of the view that naval construction should be deferred. The general conviction was that the alliance so far from justifying any relaxation of Japan's efforts, imposed upon her the responsibility of maintaining a fleet of the most modern and powerful vessels on sea and on shore, since it was hoped for a continuance of a union so essential to the preservation of peace in the East she must qualify herself to be always counted a valuable ally. There never was, indeed, the slightest chance of the other theory's obtaining public indorsement. It could not find any echo in the heart of a nation so profoundly patriotic as the Japanese.

It is believed that in case of necessity the government would seize the privately owned docks at Nagasaki which are the largest and most efficient in Japan. The majority of these docks are equipped with the most modern American machinery, operated by electric power and lighted by electricity, so that by night or day repairs could be executed with great expedition. The force of mechanics here available is 3,500 men.

Maintenance is another place which owes her importance to the requirements of national defence. In 1901 this point was decided upon as the headquarters of the fourth naval district as affording a base for opposing any attempt of the Japanese to enter the inner Japanese waters. It also provides a base for any attempted landing in Korea or any other point of the continent.

The government is doing all in its power to complete the equipment of Maitsumi with all that is necessary to her usefulness as a first class naval port. In the event of hostilities the European power, which development can be reached, as railroad connection with the main lines of Japan is still wanting.

Umanito, chosen as the fifth naval base, is still entirely unequipped, as no provision has been made by the government for apportionment of the requisite funds.

The Japanese navy with its various equipments, backed by land forces, magazines and arsenals is an effective defensive machine against the power of Russia.

Russia Has Been Busy, Too. But Russia, too, has been developing her local strength of late years. Port Arthur and Dairen have become strong bases for the Russian squadron in Asia, and Vladivostok is her strong fortress from which she had hoped to work her will upon Korea without serious interference from either Japan or England.

A lively discussion is progressing in the European press concerning the relative chances of Russia and Japan in the event of hostilities. The corruption resulting in the ill-equipment of the Russian navy is so notorious that opinion seems to favor the Japanese as having the better chance in case of a decisive conflict.

This extract from the financial report of Japan for 1902-1903, as given in Whitaker's Almanac for 1904:—

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Revenue (budget), Expenditure (budget), Total debt (March), Total imports, and Revenue (roubles).

The difference between these two exhibits is certainly striking. But when we come to the matter of financial credit, we note Russia's weakness.

Why, it will be asked, should Russia, with her enormous mineral wealth and her abundant financial aid in the furtherance of her designs? Just for this reason that she has not the knowledge nor the appliances necessary to the liquidation of her enormous debt.

Here as the Korea is every accommodation for rebuilding and fitting out ships of all types, but it is pointed out by another authority that the dry docks erected at this point in 1897, and planned by Verney, the French engineer, have only a capacity for vessels up to 5,000 tons and therefore will hardly suffice for all the requirements of today.

Naturally in the event of a continental expedition, Saesbo would fill an important part. It is only 150 nautical miles from Fusan, the southern terminal of the projected railway from Fusan to Seoul in Korea, and 450 miles from Shanghai.

Not so with Russia. She seems it sufficient to give only the broadest outlines of her financial condition. Two items of the budget for 1903 are of interest. They are:—

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Various expenditures and Amount for next year.

The same budget includes large sums under the heads of reserve credit for the minister of war, and for unforeseen expenses, and the total expenditure is over \$37,000,000.

There is another serious side to the question of Russia's financial condition. It is the enormous sums unpaid under the head of taxation. In 1902 this figure in the budget was \$10,717,000, and in 1903 with \$69,000,000. This indicates that the tax collector has been unable to collect his taxes in the past has been chronic; is there any ground for expecting better things in the future?

London has long kept closed doors when Russia has followed the lead of Germany and said to France in 1898 the czar visited Paris and warned the inhabitants that he would have a deep speech between the two peoples.

But if in the situation she finds herself today Russia's pressing need is money she needs to follow the line of least resistance in managing the interests of her poverty-stricken folk.

Russia must follow the line of least resistance in managing the interests of her poverty-stricken folk. War would mean a tenfold exaggeration of all her many problems and the employment of her bread-winner to make the czar's war a deep significance, to say nothing of the number who would go to death.

But how shall these fighting men and machines be supported? In other words, what are the financial resources and credit of the two nations? The financial standing and economic condition of Japan are well known, and an admirable resume of them was given in the Transcript recently by Arthur May Knapp, editor of the Yokohama Daily Advertiser. It will, however, be interesting for purposes of comparison to publish

P. E. ISLAND WOMAN SLAIN BY LOVER

Mrs. Sadie Peters Shot Dead in Boston by Ray C. Johnson.

Victim Who Was Very Beautiful, Was Only 24 Years Old, and Had a Husband Living in Nova Scotia—Her Desire to Break With Her Slayer Caused Tragedy.

Boston, Jan. 6.—Disappointed because the woman with whom he was in love had decided not to encourage his attentions any further, Ray C. Johnson, of Burlington (Vt.), a well dressed, fine appearing young man, aged twenty-one, was arrested by the police shortly after midnight, a self-confessed murderer.

In a fit of anger, Johnson fired four shots from a thirty-eight calibre revolver at Mrs. Sadie Peters, a waitress in a Washington street restaurant, causing her instant death. Johnson made no attempt to escape, and when the police entered the room where the tragedy occurred, he found the young man sitting with his face in his hands, and repeating incessantly: "I did it, I did it."

Mrs. Peters, the victim of the tragedy, was a native of P. E. Island. She was twenty-four years of age, very pretty, and is said to have a husband living somewhere in Nova Scotia. She was employed at a restaurant in a Washington street.

The police claim that Johnson and the Peters woman had been living together in Roxbury for more than a year, part of the time at 75 Circuit street, and lately at 20 Dana street.

Today Mrs. Peters told Johnson that she could no longer put up with existing conditions, and that she had decided to leave. Thereupon she went to the room of her admirer, Jennie McLeod, a waitress in the same restaurant, where she herself was employed, and told her that she intended to live there for a while.

Early this evening Johnson went to Mrs. McLeod's room at 1225 Washington street to see Mrs. Peters. He and the two women spent the evening in the parlor conversing pleasantly. During the evening Johnson dropped no hint that he contemplated any violence.

Shortly before midnight Mrs. Peters told Johnson that she would have to excuse her, as she was going to retire, and leaving her action to the word, went upstairs to her room. Johnson, it is claimed, insisted upon following her. A few minutes later Johnson returned to the room, and the police were called to the scene.

Johnson was immediately notified and when Sergeant Manning, of Station Square, accompanied by a couple of patrolmen, entered the room, he found Johnson sitting beside the woman's body.

An examination of the woman's body showed that in all probability death was instantaneous. Johnson had fired four shots, and all of them had taken effect, causing wounds which were fatal.

Johnson is a native of Burlington (Vt.), and is said to be of good family. His mother is Mrs. Emaline Johnson. Mrs. Peters' maiden name was McPhee.

Had to Give up and go to Bed. Several Doctors Attended But Did No Good. Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills CURED.

CONSERVATIVES NAME FOWLER FOR KINGS-ALBERT.

The great question during the past session was the Grand Trunk Pacific Bill. It would also be the main issue in the approaching general elections. He had proposed the bill. He had introduced certain amendments, but they had been voted down.

Respecting Hon. Mr. Blair's action relative to the bill, it was now a matter between the honorable gentleman and his conscience. Concluding, Mr. Fowler said in part:—

"I believe I will be your representative. This will not be because of any personal virtue which I may have but because I have behind me the mass of intelligent electors within the confines of the Conservative party in Kings and Albert."

Mr. Sproul heard. Fred M. Sproul, in the course of a twenty minute talk, endeavored the work for Mr. R. L. Borden, leader of the Conservative party, and Geo. W. Fowler, M. P. Mr. Sproul moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Thos. Fraser, and carried:—

Resolved, That the Liberal-Conservative of Kings and Albert counties in convention assembled hereby express our hearty confidence in our honored leader, R. L. Borden, and further, that we support the action of Geo. W. Fowler, the present representative of Kings county, and approve the action of the people who have represented to the people whom he has represented.

An Albert County Speaker. C. A. Peck, K. C. of Albert county, expressed his satisfaction at seeing so large and unanimous a convention. He could not say much that might tend to supplement Mr. Sproul's remarks.

He moved the following resolution:—"That the delegates of the Liberal-Conservative association of the county of Albert avail themselves of the opportunity of placing on record their hearty approval of the work and hearty support of Mr. W. Fowler, who for two consecutive terms ably and acceptably represented the county in the parliament of Canada and is a member of the Liberal-Conservative party of the Dominion."

Of wide culture, undoubted ability and conspicuous attainments, he was ever the exponent of those high ideals which make for the purity and elevation of the electoral life of this country.

His distinguished public career, his personal character and his devotedness to the cause of the consistency of Albert will ever be held in admiration, and in remembrance by those whose interests he so jealously guarded and to whom he has so ably and acceptably represented the county as independent representation.

The recent redistribution act passed by the Laurier administration cut this county as an independent electoral district no longer exists, and we further record in the most emphatic terms our unqualified condemnation of the action of the Laurier administration, by which this county has been so arbitrarily deprived of the right and privilege, so long enjoyed and so highly prized, of independent representation as a county.

Mr. Steeves was followed by Dr. Pierston and then arose for speaking D. O'Connell. Mr. O'Connell commenced speaking but was urged to take the platform. He waved his hands for silence, then pointing to the platform said:—

"If you know how I fear that you would not mind me to ascend it." This explanation was unsatisfactory, so after he had recognized the wish of the convention he went on to tell how, on March 3, while speaking from the platform, he had faced accusations of falsehoods and facts. However, he was now a Conservative and would speak as his thoughts dictated. He had been a good Liberal but in face of what the administration had done he was compelled to withdraw his support. If the Conservatives came into power he would desert them also should their conduct be similar to that of the Liberals at present.

He was a good friend and had enemies. Other speakers were J. M. Moore, P. Palmer, W. Weyman, J. Prescott, W. B. Dickson and W. M. Burns.

Mr. Weyman moved the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Palmer and carried:—"Resolved, That this convention deplores that corrupt practices have crept into the political life of Canada, and pledges itself to support any practical measure or enactment for suppressing the same."

Just before adjournment, Col. Campbell spoke briefly. He trusted that Mr. Fowler would receive the full support of the electors. The convention adjourned with cheers.

FERRY TRAVEL WAS GREAT LAST YEAR.

Passenger Fares More Than a Million and a Half. INCREASING RAPIDLY.

West Side Turnstile Alone Showed 67,653 More Fares Than in the Year 1902—Decrease in Only One Month—Means 10 Per Cent. More Work for Collectors.

The year 1903 just closed has seen another great increase of travel on the ferry. The west side turnstile shows a total of 787,706 as against 720,053 for 1902, an increase of 67,653. In two years there has been an increase of 127,457.

As the east side turnstile, for various reasons, always registers more passengers than the west side, it may safely be assumed that the total ferry travel has reached fully 1,380,000 for the year, a total increase of about 140,000 for the past year. The monthly record of passenger travel is as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Month and Passenger Count. Shows monthly totals from January to December for 1902 and 1903.

In 1902, 457,994 tickets were taken on the west side and \$5,609.18 cash received. In the year just closed 491,145 tickets were taken, an increase of 33,151, and \$5,931.22 in cash, an increase of \$272.04. The daily average of travel on west side in 1902 was 1,470, and in 1903, 2,188, an increase daily average of 38.

The total average of daily travel for 1902 was 3,998 for 1903, about 4,528, an average daily increase of about 530. This will be seen that the collectors have an increase of about 10 per cent in their work over the previous year. The receipts from team travel will also show a material increase over 1902.

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure DOES NOTHING IF IT FAILS. Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to try this cure. For years I searched everywhere to find a specific for Rheumatism, but I found none. I tried many remedies, but I found none. I tried many remedies, but I found none.

The report was enthusiastically accepted by the convention. Messrs. Hart, Clark and Grimmer, M. P.'s, were appointed a committee to wait on Mr. Ganong.

On return to the hall Mr. Ganong was given a great reception and was then in a neat speech tendered the nomination by Chairman Chipman.

Mr. Ganong in accepting the nomination, thanked his voice was not in as good shape as he wished, but in a rattling speech assured the delegates of his appreciation for the confidence reposed in him as their representative in the past as well as for the future.

The speaker then presented his views on the political questions affecting the people of the Dominion and alleged income tax, and then presented his views on the part of the government and claimed that with Mr. Blair out of the battle the prospects were much brighter in New Brunswick than in 1896.

He said the Conservative aspect to carry two seats in St. John as well as Charlotte, Carleton, Sunbury and Queens. He said Kings and Albert and Northumberland were safe. There will be a strong candidate in York as well as Restigouche, Gloucester and Kent. "We will," he said, "carry eight or nine seats in New Brunswick."

He said that in P. E. Island the Liberals don't expect to carry more than one seat. The Conservatives are sure of two seats in Cape Breton, and other gains in Nova Scotia. In the other provinces, he said, the opposition are making gains all along the line, so that every indication points to a return to power of the Conservative party.

After this G. J. Clarke and W. C. H. Grimmer made brief but eloquent speeches on the question of the day. A number of resolutions were unanimously carried embodying the views of the convention on the different questions affecting the Dominion and Charlotte county in particular, and pledging each work for the return of their candidate at the coming election.

MANITOBA GOVERNMENT FAVORS CHAMBERLAIN.

Winnipeg, Jan. 7.—(Special)—Lieut. Governor Sir Daniel McArthur formally opened the first session of the Manitoba legislature promptly at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Before the delivery of the speech from the throne the members of the legislature gathered in the chamber to elect a speaker. The speaker of the chamber was announced as Mr. Chamberlain. The speech from the throne was read by Mr. Chamberlain. The session promises to be the shortest in the history of the province, there being no important legislation to discuss.

FREE! Ladies and Girls, You Can Have This Handsome Fur Scarf In 10 Minutes.

SENSE your own and your mother's and you will find you possess a large, beautiful, and well-made fur scarf. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.

It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe. It is made of the finest quality of fur, and is guaranteed to last for years. It is a beautiful and useful accessory for your wardrobe.