

RUSSIA MUST YIELD.

There is a bluffing match on at Portsmouth, N. H., just now that promises to cast into the shade of insignificance all former records in the great American national game of poker. And we doubt not that some very important events have been "pulled off" in that neighborhood when the politicians were assembled for a brief respite from the cares of the strife which never ceases in the United States. Komura appears to hold the better hand; but the Russians have participated in many such contests of wit and gall, and there is good reason to believe M. de Witte has profited by the experience of his predecessors in the great diplomatic game. The preliminary motions have all been gone through and recorded in the press of the country for the benefit of the plenipotentiaries. The Japanese are an impulsive people. They have doubtless learned by experience and by the teachings of history that all is not absolutely sincere that issues from the mouths of Russians. They understand that what M. de Witte has said and has published in the newspapers was uttered for purely strategic purposes. Komura is doubtless a very discreet statesman or he would not have been entrusted with the delicate mission of laying the Japanese terms before the peace tribunal. The world may rest in the assurance that no one will know anything approaching to accuracy what the Japanese terms are until they are formally communicated to the individual appointed to consider them. We will even venture to express the opinion that President Roosevelt, gigantic figure though he be, has not been entrusted with the secret of what Japan's terms of peace are. So that there is no probability that either the diplomatic protestations of the Muscovite envoy or the alleged friendly remonstrances of the president of the United States have had the slightest modifying effect upon the Japanese heart. Nor is it at all likely that M. de Witte's heart is filled with despair of an agreement being finally reached. The dispatches that are being sent from St. Petersburg are the adamant will of the Czar and the inflexible purpose of his advisers not to grant any terms involving humiliation have been issued for a purpose. Any terms that are likely to prove satisfactory to Japan must involve a certain amount of humiliation to her adversary. Therefore what all the diplomatic fogs evident purpose have been swept away and the true situation as it has been revealed, it may appear that the hopes of a settlement are brighter than the words of the Russian peace messenger would indicate. The truth is that the Russian case is so hopeless that she will be compelled to accept practically whatever terms Japan chooses to dictate.

GERMAN SUCCESSES AND FAILURES.

The Germans are a great people, with an astounding faculty for thoroughness and mathematical exactness in everything to which they put their scientific minds and orderly hands. Every detail connected with their magnificent armies is said to be a marvel of military exactness and precision. Scandals have been revealed which are far from creditable to the morality of the hereditary commanders of this great host of national defenders, but such evils are apologized for as inherent in and incidental to the military profession in all countries. Such complaisant excuses are not exactly complimentary to the habits of the martial classes, but when such an austere and stern disciplinarian as the Kaiser can overlook the faults of his faithful but favorite subjects, it is not for the world to be censorious, is it? Then the adaptability of the Teutonic mind to conditions as they arise is another of the wonders of the modern world. Within the memory of the present generation the Germans were not given to the construction and sailing of ships. They were not a maritime people, their ports being few and their opportunities for the utilization of such ports as they had being limited. To-day the German merchant marine, although limited as to tonnage, is thoroughly up to date as to speed and appointments. German merchant ships are among the fastest that sail the seas, German warships are the finest afloat. And they are all the work of skillful Teutonic hands. The world wonders at the facility with which the Japanese acquire the art of sailing and constructing ships. The extreme adaptability of the Germans is perhaps less to be wondered at because Germany has long been surrounded by nations whose constructive genius could be imitated. Nevertheless the great industrial strides which Germany has made within a comparatively few years as time is measured in the history of nations, the haste she has made to become the chief European competitor of Great Britain in the trade of the world, is one of the marvels of the age. And yet in one particular Teutonic ambition has not been satisfied. As colonizers the Germans are dismal failures. Even in the field in which German genius seems particularly well qualified to shine at home, in the domain of militarism, outside of Europe, the Teutons have not achieved brilliant successes. The Ger-

man campaign in Southwest Africa is proving costly, both in men and money. Their force there, in January, 1904, numbered forty-two officers, seven officials and 772 men, together with 800 horses. Since then reinforcements to the number of 695 officers, 196 officials, and 13,653 men, together with nearly 12,000 horses, have been sent out. The total losses in action up to date amount to forty-one officers, eighty-three non-commissioned officers, and 305 men killed or missing, and fifty-three officers, 100 non-commissioned officers, and 393 men wounded; or a total of 894 officers and men of the regular corps killed or wounded in action. The deaths from disease or in consequence of accidents, include those of eighteen officers, sixty-three non-commissioned officers, and 383 men, a total of 474. In addition, 119 officers and men of the colonial reserves also fell in action. Moreover, the deaths from powder, disease and accidents have accounted for one officer of the local reserve, and 127 men who were either farmers or reservists or both. Thus the rising has so far cost the lives of some 1,100 Germans, and 512 men have been wounded in action. The total percentage of losses in killed and wounded amounts to 8 per cent. of the officers and 19 per cent. of the non-commissioned officers of the force. No fewer than forty-two officers and 841 men, or nearly 4.5 per cent. of the average strength of the force, succumbed to typhoid fever. The total cost so far is estimated at between \$60,000,000 and \$70,000,000.

FIGHTING DISEASE.

The good people of New Orleans have with an unpleasant air been brought to a realization of the fact, oft emphasized in the history of the human race, that eternal vigilance is the price of immunity from the ills that menace animal life in that highly organized creature man. It is said that two youthful medics to whom was entrusted the important duty of inspecting ships arriving from the zones of danger in the hot summer time, either in the assurance too common in years of indiscretion that the older had not sounded the depths of knowledge or in the indifference which comes from familiarity with sickness, allowed suspects to enter the gates of the southern port. The result is that New Orleans is to-day in a panic, and the state of Louisiana has confessed her inability to cope with yellow fever and protect the public health, a duty which under the constitution has been relegated to the individual states. Science claims to have established the fact that the deadly disease known as yellow fever is transmitted through the action of mosquitoes in inoculating human blood with the virus of the disintegrator. Probably the young men who should have been on guard thought science had not established beyond question the proposition of yellow fever transmission. But, whatever the primary cause of the invasion, the fact is that the most important commercial city in the Southern States is today isolated as a provision against contagion and business therein is demoralized.

The state of affairs to which we allude should contain a moral for those who either because of inherent obstinacy or because of a natural tendency to oppose the logic of established facts are ever to be found arranged against the opinions of scientific men. It is on record to-day that many lives have been sacrificed in Great Britain and in the countries which have been peopled by the stubborn British race on account of an illogical and unreasoning opposition to measures designed to guard against epidemics of smallpox. Very effective quarantines have been established at all the ports of Canada against the introduction of this disease from continental Europe and Asia. The principal measures adopted in Great Britain against visitations are internal. But the British people object very strongly to what they deem encroachments upon their personal liberty, and the task set the authorities is therefore a very difficult one. A conference of municipal authorities was held at the London Mansion House lately to consider the best means for the prevention of epidemic smallpox by the enforcement of vaccination. It is notorious that the law on the subject is constantly evaded or neglected in important English centers of population, and often with disastrous results. Sir William Broadbent, the eminent physician, spoke of the needless suffering, interference with trade, waste of public money, and increase of municipal expenditure caused by an outbreak of smallpox. Statistics proved that where there was vaccination and revaccination at a given period, the disease became practically unknown. Unfortunately, the local authorities did not carry out the behests of the legislature. They hesitated to interfere with the liberty of the subject, but the liberty of the subject was interfered with when the outbreak occurred, and there was no reason why it should not be interfered with as a means of prevention. Some one like Mr. Walter Long, who had stamped out cholera, was needed. Sir William Church quoted Germany as a striking instance of the beneficial effects of compulsory revaccination of children in their thirteenth year. Since 1903 the mortality in that country from smallpox had never been higher, he said, than one per million of the inhabitants, and had often fallen to a fraction of that figure. In England it was at present as high as ten per million. He was sure the health-

some disease could be exterminated if the proper steps were taken. The Duke of Northumberland declared that the question of revaccination could only be successfully dealt with through the cooperation of the local authorities, and it was imperative that the question should be kept before the public and the government. Resolutions were adopted in favor of the systematic revaccination of children at the age of thirteen years.

ABOUT A "DIRECTORY."

"Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory, 1905, Vol. XII," has been issued and placed in the hands of subscribers. The title to the work sounds big and magnificent, so great and portentous indeed that one might be excused if he exhibited some diffidence in attempting to criticize or analyze the contents of the assuming volume. We observe that in reviewing the work some of our Vancouver contemporaries, taking the number of names that appear in the list of that city's population, and applying the usual multiple, estimate that there are forty-five thousand people living and moving and doing business in Vancouver. Proceeding on the same principle for the purpose of taking a guess at the population of Victoria, and using the Henderson British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory as the base of our calculations, we should say that roughly this city has perhaps, at the outside, ten thousand people eating and sleeping within the municipal environs.

Prompted by curiosity, instigated by numerous wealthy circles over the telephone, we opened up the wondrous volume which is the subject of this review, and proceeded to find out how many of the names of the employees of this establishment were on the list of the Messrs. Henderson. This proved to be a work of considerable research. After a careful examination, however, we discovered that four persons all told were conducting the business of the Times Printing & Publishing Company. That is an average of about half a person to each room in the establishment. And from what we can gather that about the quota allowed by this unique compilation to every business establishment within the city boundaries. On going deeper with our investigations it appeared that the names of no less than twenty permanent employees of the Times had been left out of the directory.

We are informed that our investigations might be pursued to an unlimited extent among the business establishments of the city, and that revelations of an equally astonishing character would be the result. We took the case of the Times to illustrate the value of the work as a book of reference simply because for us that was the speediest way of applying the test. If any person feels disposed to pursue inquiries on his own account, doubtless he will readily discover that the names of many well-known men and of whole families who have resided in Victoria all their lives do not appear in the directory. We are convinced that up to last night there were a number of members of the Beaven family domiciled in the city. Yet there is not a Beaven in the Victoria section of Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory.

We do not know what action the subscribers to the work will be moved to take as a protest against the "fake" that has obviously been thrust upon them. We do know that if the publishers value their reputation and have any regard for the connection they may have established in the course of their many years of business they will immediately withdraw the work from the market. It is of little value for the purposes for which it purports to have been compiled.

The intensely active part Emperor William of Germany is taking in international affairs is not pleasing to the French. Secretary of State, and his Majesty but seemed to remind the secretary of the Gallic race of the events of the past—events which it were well to forget. M. Paul Desroches, the French political exile, who refused to accept an executive pardon when the Chamber refused general amnesty, is a popular favorite in Paris, and all the papers are publishing "interviews" with him. When asked what he thought of a Franco-German rapprochement, he said it was not for the morrow of the day on which William II. held his fist in the face of France that such a thing could be thought of. Germany's action reminded him too much of the motto of the reign of terror—fraternity or death. "Yet in spite of the vigorous attitude of William II.," he remarked, "I do not believe that he will kill us." On being asked his opinion as to Germany's motives, he said that Morocco was but a pretext permitting her to see for herself and to show England how much France would tolerate. "At first our attitude, particularly in parliament, did not produce a very good impression. In my opinion this attitude was largely due to the approach of the general elections and the ignorance of the deputies as to the resources and courage that are still to be found in the French nation. They felt afraid for the country before they had examined it, and it was only afterwards that they found it heartier than they strongly than they had imagined. The position of a commercial vessel is as degrading as that of a military vessel. We will not tolerate the realization of the German dream of a universal Zollverein whereby they would impose upon us a peace tribute by their merchandise

as they formerly did a war tribute by their arms." To another reporter he said that "a maldroit threat from across the Rhine had sufficed to unite all Frenchmen, placing them shoulder to shoulder, and to cause all patriotic hearts to beat in unison."

The New York Evening Post, which in truth is not an enthusiastic admirer of the tariff system of the United States and seems to almost glory in the prospects of a fiscal war with Germany when that country's new policy of extreme protection comes into effect in the spring, says: "One can easily picture the satisfaction of a wheat grower in North Dakota as he reads the assurance from Washington that the new German tariff will not, after all, hurt anybody in this country. He notes that the duty upon wheat will be 4 cents a bushel instead of 23. The corn grower, too, will know how to appreciate the rise in his product from 10 cents to 31 cents a bushel. Though Germany raises the duty on fresh beef from \$1.62 a hundred pounds to \$4.87, and on salted or pickled beef from \$1.84 to \$6.45, the farmers are rejoiced, for their corn, that copper and cotton are still admitted free. The duty on lumber is to be increased about 75 per cent, on machinery very materially, and on mineral and cottonseed oil also. Still, there is a fractional reduction in the tariff on builders' hardware, to cheer the lumbering, milling, farming, and live stock interests. Crude phosphates for fertilizers will still be admitted free of duty, so no wonder that the Tribune's Washington correspondent's optimism is boundless. He should be asked to speak before the coming reciprocity convention at Chicago, where an imperfect understanding of the beneficence of our retaliatory tariff policy is likely to be betrayed."

A dispatch from London says the Royal Commission, under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, appointed in April, 1902, to study the question of the importation of food in time of war and other similar subjects, has just presented its report to Parliament. The contents of the report have not yet been published, but it is understood that on the whole they are reassuring. The main report, which is concurred in by all the Commissioners, concludes that there is no cause for apprehension or uneasiness because it would be virtually impossible, in view of the adequacy of the fleet, for the whole of the British coast to be blockaded and completely cut off. At the same time, the commissioners do not discourage an experiment in the direction of the storage of grain for times of emergency. An important reservation, almost amounting to a minority report, signed by the Duke of Sutherland and some others of the commissioners, points out that at certain seasons of the year there is only a six-weeks' reserve of grain stored in England, and strongly urges the adoption of a national system of grain storage.

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Our London Letter.

London welcomed the news of the birth of another son to the Prince and Princess of Wales with unqualified delight. According to custom notification of the auspicious event was intimated at once to the Lord Mayor by the Home Secretary and the message posted outside the Mansion House on the board which has proclaimed many events of stirring history to the nation. Memory goes back and recalls the subdued crowds that gathered near the Mansion House to read the news of the death of Queen Victoria, or the throngs that pressed at every hour of the day later on to read the first proclamation of King Edward, and one realizes how sincere and how far-reaching is the interest of the people in their royalty. All the Princess of Wales' children, except Prince Edward, have been born at York Cottage, Sandringham, where Her Royal Highness has been staying for some time and will stay until the elaborate arrangements in connection with the princely visit to India necessitates her presence in town.

Her Majesties the King and Queen have during the present season attended many unique records in royal functions. When visiting Sheffield on the 12th of July to open the splendid new University buildings they also condescended to find time to perform several other interesting duties. After the formal opening of the University, which has been raised at a cost of £200,000, His Majesty attended a military ceremony in Weston Park and presented new colors to the 2nd York and Lancaster Infantry, proceeding later to the old parish church to unveil a memorial tablet to the memory of the loyal sons of Sheffield who fell in South Africa. The interesting but fatiguing day's tour terminated with a visit to the great Vickers & Sons works, where their Majesties watched the rolling of armor plate. Everywhere their reception was of the heartiest, for Sheffield had striven to give expression to the honor they considered had been given to their town. Thirty years ago the King and Queen, then Prince and Princess of Wales, occupied the first park in Sheffield and received a right royal welcome, intensified in the present occasion and it possible more enthusiastic. The town returned grateful thanks for the charter constituting and founding the University, and gave all for the royal presence and favor. King Edward, in a gracious speech gave expression to his appreciation of the demonstrations of loyalty and the pleasure it gave the Queen and himself to be able to be present to inaugurate a work which would tend to promote the advancement of knowledge and the spread of culture among all classes in Sheffield.

A score of peculiar but national incidents have been disturbing the equanimity of the national mind during the past few days, and led to some very direct questions being asked in the House. The idea that a foreign syndicate has been formed to buy up certain Welsh coal mines has gained ground. Mr. Balfour was asked in the House whether any truth governed the rumor, and the Prime Minister's reply was reassuring although evasive. He said the matter was one which the government would consider

with all the seriousness it deserved, which assurance is significant since, as one of the leading dailies said, no British administration could view with unconcern a transaction which placed in foreign hands the control of that steamcoal on which the mobility of our fleet so vitally depends. During the debate it was stated that none of the collieries which would be affected by the transaction, if it ever came into operation, supplied coal to the navy. If this is the case the rumor is deprived of much of its seriousness, but the whole question demands immediate and thorough attention, and this, since the government realize the importance of the settlement, is certain to be accorded to it.

Another terrible disaster has been added to the appalling catalogue of colliery catastrophes, more than 120 men in this instance losing their lives. The village of Watsstown, in the busy Rhondda valley, in Wales, is the scene of the disaster, which has devastated the homes of more than half the village and which has put grief in the hearts of the whole mining community. As yet no feasible explanation as to the cause of the explosion has been arrived at. The few survivors are too exhausted to be able to offer any explanation, and the main efforts of the managers and experts are directed to recover all the victims from the wrecked mine. No hope, however, is entertained that any of them will be found alive, but the dread work of satisfying the demerited relatives must proceed till all the missing fathers and sons are accounted for. The scenes at the pit mouth have been heartrending. One distraught woman recognized the disfigured remains of her husband and two of her boys. The saddest feature of all maybe is that a large percentage of the victims are ladies new to the district. Investigations are being pressed forward by His Majesty's inspector of mines and other mining engineers and experts. With commendable promptitude the Lord Mayor has started a relief fund asking the benevolent public to take the opportunity of expressing promptly and liberally their sympathy with the afflicted.

The happiest auguries are attending the visit of the British fleet to French waters. The duties reported to be performed extend the entente cordiale that this diplomatic visitation could have been devised, and the enthusiasm which it has created among the French people of every class may safely be taken as of the happiest augury for both countries. Nothing, at any rate, could exceed the cordiality of the French reception to the most-welcomed present harbored in Great Britain. Everywhere the direct outcome of the delicate diplomacy of King Edward, and in the streets of the French coast town, people now by one Jack Ter, the cry of "Vive le Roi" is constantly resounding. Mr. DeLacaze, freed now from the restraint of public office, has given expression to views which go a long way to explain the French appreciation of the situation. To his thinking the extent of the relations between the two countries and the coalition of their navies create so terrible a war power would dare to risk annihilation of the sea. In the event of war with Great Britain, England would side with France. Mr. DeLacaze says, was what the carefully prepared and calculated visit of the British fleet to Brest signifies, and the

apostolic blessing, (Signed) Cardinal Merry Del Val, papal secretary of state.

Officers of Assistance.

Liverpool, Aug. 7.—Sir Alfred Jones, president of the Liverpool school of tropical medicine, called to-day to Mayor Behrman, of New Orleans, offering the services of the school during the prevalence of yellow fever, and saying the faculty would be pleased if desired to send to New Orleans Major-Surgeon Ronald, professor of tropical medicine, and Dr. Hubert Boyce, professor of pathology and dean of the school.

WILL SAIL FOR JAPAN.

Warships Bailed by Japs at Port Arthur Will Start This Month.

Tokio, Aug. 7.—News received from Port Arthur says that the former Russian cruiser, the Sashimaru, will start from that place under tow for Japan about August 15th. The Poltava and Peresviet will have in a week under their own steam. It is reported that the Russians are vigorously fortifying the mouth of the Amur river. A mixed division has been dispatched from Hahalovalo to Nicolaisk to reinforce the garrison in the vicinity. It is understood that the Chinese are approaching the river have been mined.

Message From Lincolnton.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 7.—Telegraphing August 6th, General Linevitch confirms the report that the Japanese after destroying all the posts at Castries had returned to their ships.

Kaneko Interviewed.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 7.—Baron Kaneko, financial adviser, visited Sagamore Hill to-day by appointment for a conference with President Roosevelt. Assurance was given both by the President and Baron Kaneko that the visit had nothing to do with the pending peace negotiations or with the raising of money by a loan for either Japan or Russia. Baron Kaneko during a chat said: "The noble work President Roosevelt has done in the interest of peace will be remembered always. It is the prayer of all of us that his efforts may be crowned with success."

"What do you think of the possible result of the peace negotiations?" he was asked. "I am expressed whether the envoys can reach an agreement," he replied, cautiously.

The following has been displayed in the streets of the principal town in Russia: "We, the thieves of this town, announce that this morning we go on strike. For every stolen rouble we have hitherto paid a tax of fifty kopecks, whereas the police now demand seventy-five. It is impossible to support our families honestly on the remainder."

At the Monday of the party on the waterwork conference very few will be present. The question proposed is whether it was desirable to bring forward a law proposal. The question is whether it was desirable to bring forward a law proposal.

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It was reported that on Wednesday the Paris Chiefs as chief of the shooting contest at the National Rifle Association meeting at Bristol are giving quite a creditable account of themselves. Mrs. Wray, one of the fair ones present, is practically speaking, a Boer, but having taken the oath of allegiance may fairly claim to be a Britisher. Her tent in the Blisley enclosure is a home with the most. The spirit of my friend is always with me," fluttering from a penant. Her dress is maybe too conspicuous, but certainly workmanlike. Her Russian coat, her shooting cap are fashioned of a bright yellow leather. The women have not achieved any very sensational scores, but they are maintaining a very good average. Mrs. Chapman, another fair one, has at any rate eclipsed the record of Miss Leslie and Miss Lewis, two predecessors for honor at Blisley. Mrs. Wray presides over the rifle to the miniature, and certainly makes a good show with it.

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Conference Held

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