

## The Evening Times and Star

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## EMPEROR MUTSUHITO

Emperor Mutsuhito of Japan, whose dangerous illness was announced on Saturday, is described by one writer as "one of the most kingly figures in history."

His name will be forever associated with the "era of enlightenment" in Japan, which was the wonder of the world in the last half of the last century.

When Mutsuhito was born in 1852, Japan was still a hermit nation, having practically no communication with the outer world. It was not until 1854 that Commodore Perry forced the opening of Japanese ports to United States trade.

Flattered by Japan to other nations, and by a granting of young Japanese nobles to the western world, to absorb western ideas of government and return later to lead a revolution in Japan.

At the time of the birth of the future emperor the nominal ruler, his father, lived in the sacred city of Kyoto, in a great seclusion as that which then and later surrounded the Grand Llama of Tibet; but the real governing authority was vested in the shogun, who lived in Yedo. The royal line to which Mutsuhito belonged had ruled Japan since 800 B. C. The emperor was a sacred personage, to whom prayers were addressed, but who was never seen by the common people. The shogunate had also become hereditary, and had taken the form of a military dictatorship. There were civil wars, and the people gradually became more enlightened and more determined to bring about a change. The shogunate was really discredited when Commodore Perry and the representatives of other nations appeared on the scene, and after the year 1865 the young nobles who were leading the revolution determined to depose the shogun and call upon the emperor to resume active leadership. They were at first unsuccessful, but in 1867 the emperor died. The foreign powers had been treating with the shogun, but they were now informed by the young nobles that the real ruler was the emperor, and they encouraged the revolution. Kyoto was captured, Mutsuhito, then only fifteen years old, was carried away to Yedo, the name of which was changed to Tokyo; the shogun abdicated and the boy emperor was set upon the throne. Up to this time he had been a recluse, who knew nothing of the outer world, and he was too young to know much about the art of government.

Around him, however, were wise and able men, and he proved so eager and apt a pupil that in many years he was the real leader in the great forward movement which in less than half a century transformed a hermit nation into one of the world's great powers. His greatest gift to his people was that of responsible government. One writer says:—

"Crownless, Washington and Dismal refused crowns, but to Mutsuhito belongs the singular distinction of resigning despotic power."

He gave the country a constitution in a time of peace, when there was no pressure or coercion, and throughout his long reign he has been in the truest and best sense a leader of his people. The various stages of his wonderful career are thus summed up by the writer already quoted:—

"The first was the hermit life. In the second the revolution stripped him of spiritual but restored his family to temporal power. In the third he was engaged in directing national consolidation and evolution into a constitutional government. In the fourth he deliberately limited his own prerogatives and powers, and launched the new ship of self-governing state. In the sixth he waged war with China over a threatened protectorate in Korea, relieved his empire from continental courts and recovered the right to regulate foreign trade. In the seventh his armies defeated one of the greatest western powers, and he sees Japan dominant in the far east and admitted among the world's great nations."

Of the emperor's personal appearance and character the same writer says:—

"In person Emperor Mutsuhito is tall, as compared with the Japanese people. In mind he is described as sagacious, progressive, ardent, in manner he has the traditional affability of the Japanese, a student of history, politics and literature, and is a poet whose verses are frequently translated for their beauty of form and thought. Thoroughly in sympathy with the ideas and ambitions of modern Japan, he has co-operated in forwarding them with rare intelligence and patriotism. Voluntarily resigning the right to rule, he has won from a grateful, loyal people whose task he made easy, the right to reign over them, has secured peace to the empire and peaceful succession to his descendants."

## THE NAVAL QUESTION

The difficulties which surround the naval problem of the Empire cannot be brushed lightly aside. The situation is very well stated by the London Daily News, in the following paragraph:—

"If we look at existing practice there are three modes in which the colonies participate in Imperial naval defence. South Africa makes a yearly monetary grant. New Zealand has presented a battleship to be used as the Admiralty thinks fit. Australia is building a local navy. Any one of these three courses is open to Canada, and there are others. Of late a concerted campaign has been conducted in favour of an Imperial squadron. The idea is that the colonies should make an annual grant towards the maintenance of a squadron which shall be stationed wherever most needed or be sent to show the flag throughout the world. There are certain concrete advantages in this scheme, but there are very weighty objections to it. In the first place, it is incompatible with the existence of local navies, and is indeed advocated in place of them. Australia is committed to the local navy because it fits in with Australian national ambitions. The majority of Canadians and South Africans probably have national sentiments similar to those of the Australians. They may not yet be anxious for a local navy; but they have a strong prejudice against denying themselves the right to build one when they think fit. The second objection to the proposed Imperial squadron is that it would raise the most delicate of constitutional problems. By what authority is the squadron, maintained partly or wholly from colonial funds, to be controlled? We should be driven to experiments in formal Imperial machinery, for which public opinion in the Dominions or the Mother Country is not the least bit ripe. And there is the third objection that the Imperial squadron involves unanimity of policy among the Dominions. That does not exist, and an enforced submission of a minority to a majority would be an Imperial disaster."

At the Imperial Defence Conference, Sir Wilfrid Laurier undertook that Canada should contribute her share of naval defence in the form of a local squadron, and the Canadian parliament approved of this plan and voted for the construction of a number of vessels. Mr. Borden was swept into power on the crest of a brainstorm, and abandoned the Laurier policy, chiefly at the dictation of the no-navy Nationalists of Quebec. It should not be surprising if he came back to the Laurier policy, with some variations to serve as an excuse for his course; but he is still pledged to refer his scheme to the people, which means further delay before Canada makes any practical contribution to Imperial defence.

Premier Asquith, home from Dublin, declares that Home Rule will enormously strengthen the Empire.

For variability and real earnestness in the matter of change, the weather of this summer is making a record quite without parallel in local history.

The attempt of the Italian torpedo fleet to reach the Dardanelles resulted in failure, but it was not due to the parsimony of the Turk, who appears to be a very bad shot.

The sacred concert yesterday afternoon on King Square gave pleasure to great numbers of people, who highly appreciated the innovation and conducted themselves with the utmost propriety.

All the municipalities in Cape Breton have approved of the erection of a sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, and a joint committee will at once prepare plans and submit an estimate of cost.

The number of harvesters going west this fall from New Brunswick will be smaller than usual. There is something doing in their own province this year. The only men not engaged in work of some kind are the some rest, who never work if they can prevent it.

The ultra-Protestant allies of Mr. Henri Bourassa will be interested in what he says about them in his recent article in Le Devoir. The flag-drapers will also be interested in his reference to the United States and the subject of annexation.

The Toronto Globe says:—"Some British suffragist leaders seem determined to make it impossible for any law-abiding citizen to continue to support their cause at present. Every form of violence which can be imagined short of murder has been resorted to, with the result that no bill including female suffrage could pass the House of Commons. Now murder is openly advocated, and attempts at fire-raising and using dynamite have already been made. The men who have stood for women's suffrage are becoming disgusted, and unfortunately the conduct of the militant suffragettes is leading to retaliation by men, and the form of retaliation is not of the 'pink tea' order."

During the last year 164 brides received the \$50 due them by the will of Oliver Smith. He was the uncle of Sophia Smith, founder of Smith College, and on his death in 1845 left his property, amounting to \$370,000, to be used for various charities, one of which was the giving of \$50 to every bride who was a resident of Northampton, Amherst, Hadley, Hadfield, Deerfield or Whately. Since 1845 \$282,000 has been distributed to brides. In many instances the bridegroom received \$800 because of a provision in Mr. Smith's will giving that amount to a young man when he completes learning a trade.

John Wollaston, a telegraph boy of Brookham, Surrey, Eng., was intrusted with a telegram addressed to the foreman of a firm of contractors who were repairing the village church spire. When the boy arrived at the church the foreman was at the top of the scaffolding which surrounded the spire. The lad would not part with the telegram, but ascended the scaffolding and delivered it to the man to whom it was addressed. The reply was written at an altitude of some 150 feet and Wollaston made the descent without assistance.

WAS VERY PATIENT.

Reggie Deewell (to his tailor):—"Well, I think I have been very patient with you, I promised again and again to pay you; but if you keep on behaving me I simply won't promise any more."

## THE ABANDONED SEALER

(By C. L. Armstrong.)

There she lies in the placid cove,  
Her decks awash, her caulking wide,  
She that was known from Horn to Pole,  
The cruiser's thorn, the "Sea Wolf's" pride;  
She that was one of "Three Black Crows"  
How well she guards the things she knows!  
She whispers not of northern mist  
That wrapped her close when chase was warm;  
She never breathes of brush-grown bay  
That hid her safe from swift alarm,  
She lies with mouldy sheets astir,  
The evening of her day has come;  
The heat of noon has left her old,  
Her cabin funnels caked with rust,  
The rats have fed her stinking hold,  
She knows the things I long to know,  
The secrets of the long ago.

## IN LIGHTER VEIN

A HOT ARGUMENT

"Who's getting scolded in your house now?"

"Nobody. That's just me telling pa a few reasons why women ought to vote."

## A MILLIONAIRE TUG.

Said a maid, "I will marry for lucre."  
And her scandalized ma almost sneered;  
But when the chance came,  
And she told the good dame,  
I notice she did not renege.

## SPOILED BY KINDNESS.

Customer—"The man who killed this chicken had a soft heart."  
Waiter—"Why so, sir?"  
Customer—"He must have spent three or four years hatching before he wrung its neck."

## OBEYING ORDERS.

Employer—"You're late again?"  
New Clerk—"Well, you said you didn't want a man who watched the clock."  
Life.

## DISTINCTION.

First Chicago Child—"My father is connected with some of the best families in town."  
Second Chicago Child—"Pooh! That's nothing. My father is separated from three of them."  
Life.

## WHEN PA LEAVES HOME.

Pa leaves home each blessed morning with this ringing in his head:  
"Don't forget to bring a spool of No. 60 cotton thread."  
Stop and tell the plumber surely that our pipes have sprung a leak.  
Ask the grocer for those berries that he promised us last week.  
Stop and buy some meat for supper; don't refer his scheme to the people, which means further delay before Canada makes any practical contribution to Imperial defence.

Stop and ask about those photos, see if you can get a proof,  
Tell the tinmith to get busy and come up and fix the roof.  
There's no coal left in the basement, better order up a ton.  
See if fish are in the market. Get a trout if they have one.  
Bring three yards of baby ribbon; ask them for an Alice blue.  
Get a small can of pimientos and a cucumber or two.  
If there's any nice head lettuce, bring along a pound of that.  
On your way home stop and see if they have finished my new hat.  
Get a teething ring for baby and a half a pound of those fine things to repair the garden hose.  
Take my glasses, have them tightened; they won't stay upon my nose.  
Get a chicken if they're nice.  
Better stop in, sure, this morning, and tell them to start our ice."

## THE WORST YET TO COME

The mercury, in maddened flight,  
At altitude attempts a fling;  
It's hot by day, and hot by night,  
In fact, too hot for anything.  
Too hot to work, too hot to play,  
Too hot to sing, too hot to talk,  
Too hot to sleep, too hot to lay,  
Too hot to ride, too hot to walk,  
Too hot to read, too hot to write,  
Too hot to hunt, too hot to fish,  
Too hot to swear, too hot to fight,  
Too hot to dream, too hot to wish,  
Too hot to eat, too hot to drink,  
Too hot to sell, too hot to buy,  
Too hot to set, too hot to think,  
Too hot to live, too hot to die,  
Yet must I linger in the town  
And grind the festive, subtle quip:  
For I must earn, and then plunk down.  
The cash for wife's cool, restful trip.  
—A. W. Utting in N. Y. Tribune.

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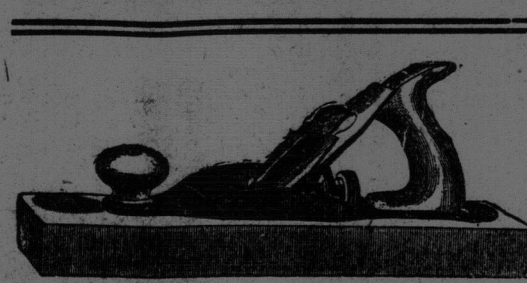
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## OTTAWA IN THROES

OF TYPHOID EPIDEMIC

A Repetition of Last Year's Experience is Feared.

Ottawa, July 20.—The Ottawa Journal said last evening:

"The water situation in Ottawa has suddenly assumed a most serious aspect. A typhoid epidemic is abroad in the city. Only a few days have gone by since the medical health officer issued his warning to the people to 'boil the water,' and already the situation is perilously near that of last year in the beginning of the epidemic. It will be remembered that matters ultimately became so grave that about 1,200 cases of typhoid developed and about sixty deaths resulted."

"Only a few days have elapsed since the water was declared polluted, and already there are at least sixty cases of typhoid in the city. There are twenty-three certain cases in the hospital and several suspected cases. Besides these there are many cases being treated at home."

"It is probable that there are many more cases, as the Journal was unable to reach all the doctors of the city this morning, and one doctor refused to say whether he had any typhoid cases or not. In addition there are many suspected cases."

POSITIVE PROOF

An Irishman was once serving in a regiment in India. Not liking the climate, he tried to fix up some excuse whereby he would be sent home. Accordingly he went to the doctor and told him that his eyesight was poor. The doctor looked him over for awhile, and then said: "How can you prove to me that your eyesight is poor?"

The man looked about the room, and at last said:

"Well, doctor, do you see that nail on the wall?"

"Yes," replied the doctor.

"Well, then," replied the man, "I can't."

## DIAMONDS

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## PROGRESS IN CHINA

"CHINA Republic makes Chinaman out of queue; China lady now wears it!"

## AND THEN HE WENT OUT

Mrs. Nagg—"Don't you think it's about time that girl of ours was getting married?"

Mr. Nagg—"Aw, let her wait until the right man comes along."

Mrs. Nagg—"Why should she? I didn't 't' New York World."

THE TENDENCY

She—"What's the matter with the woman's club?"

He—"It's always hitting the men."

—Baltimore American.

APT TO GET OUT OF BREATH

"I believe honesty pays in the long run."

"So do I, but I often wish it were not such a mighty long run."

—Chicago Record.

OUT OF PROPORTION.

"I'm a self-made man," said the proud individual.

"Well, you are all right, except as to your head," commented the other part of the conversation.

"How's that?"

"The part you talk with is out of proportion to the part you think with."

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