

IS TALKING FOR EFFECT.

Russian Boasting About Port Arthur Utterly Discredited... Would Not Lose Torpedo Boat Unless Case Were Serious... The Armies at Mukden... Baltic Fleet Proceeding.

London, Nov. 17.—The latest reports from the seat of war show that the torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropy, which arrived at Che Foo with despatches from Port Arthur for St. Petersburg was sunk by her crew. Later three Japanese torpedo boat destroyers entered the harbor, satisfied themselves that the Russian torpedo boat destroyers had been sunk and then departed.

A St. Petersburg despatch says that the message from Port Arthur was received by the emperor, and that while it has not been made public, the reports received from the commander of the Rastoropy are quite optimistic with regard to Port Arthur, and to the effect that the garrison held all the forts and were in good spirits.

Engagement Impending. Lon, Nov. 17.—News from the theatre of war in the east is still scant. The Morning Post's Shanghai correspondent reports that Japanese have crossed the frozen Shakhov river, and that an important engagement is impending. He also asserts that the Port Arthur garrison made a counter attack on the besiegers the night of Nov. 13, and were driven back with heavy losses.

Second Baltic Fleet. Libau, Russia, Nov. 16.—The second division of the Russian second Pacific squadron sailed today. It consists of the cruisers Oleg and Izumrud, the auxiliary cruisers Kuban, Dyak and Orel, the cruisers Rion and Dnieper (formerly the St. Petersburg and Smolensk), and the torpedo boat destroyers Lianya, Rezyt, Gromki, Grozny and Prozorlyk. The division is expected to overtake Rear Admiral Volkensam's division by way of the Suez canal.

Probably the Truth. Tokio, Nov. 17.—9 a. m.—The opinion is expressed here that the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Rastoropy, carried to Che Foo extended despatches explaining to St. Petersburg the situation at Port Arthur, the condition of the Russian squadron and the shortage of food and ammunition, referring the question of further resistance to the Russian government. The nature of the Russian fire indicates a "scarcity of certain kinds of ammunition."

Suffering From Cold. Mukden, Nov. 17.—3 p. m. via Tien Tsin, Nov. 17.—Four days sharp cold has silenced the artillery and infantry fire between the opposing positions, and has driven the soldiers into their dug-outs along the entire trench line. It is apparently impossible for either side to eject the other from their burrows, and the fact that in the event of one side advancing it could not dig the other out of its cantonments on account of the frost, seems to promise a winter's inactivity, although the Japanese three days ago made a small reconnaissance towards the east, and pushed back the Russian cavalry a few miles as though they were investigating the possibilities for a flanking movement.

A Hospital Doctor. San Francisco, Nov. 17. Dr. N. Nogasi, of Tokio, who has personally attended many of the Japanese and Russian wounded in the hospitals of Japan since the beginning of hostilities, is here on a paper to London to read a paper before a society of surgeons there on bullet wounds and their treatment during the present war. He expresses surprise at the

way wounds inflicted by the small bullets used by the Japanese and the small death rate which they cause. The Russian bullet used is far more deadly he says.

Russia and Peace Talk. St. Petersburg, Nov. 17.—The Russian formal reply, says a circular note, regarding the Hague conference is not expected till next week. In the meantime the view of other powers are being ascertained through the Russian representatives abroad. While there is no reason to believe that Russia can agree to participate in a conference during the war there is every indication that Russia will not only not resent the proposal, but that her reply will be of a cordial character. In the course of a conversation on the subject between foreign minister Lansdorff and Charge d'Affaires Eddie of the American embassy, the former spoke feelingly of Russia's great interest in the work, and aims in the work of the peace conference initiated by Emperor Nicholas and the important fact developed that it had been Russia's intention, had the war not intervened to herself invite the powers to a second conference. While the war was in progress, however, Count Lansdorff explained, there was a potent difficulty to fruitful free discussion, and to a decision in a question which might affect the activity of the present belligerents.

Russia and England. St. Petersburg, Nov. 17.—The facts do not warrant the sensational report that Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador to Great Britain may be recalled on account of the present hitch in the Anglo-Russian North Sea convention (as intimated by the London Telegraph this morning in a despatch from St. Petersburg) Russia has taken exception to the language of the English text of the article relating to fixing the blame and has proposed some modifications but there is no evidence yet that a deadlock has been reached. The admiralty is undoubtedly exercising influence on the foreign office in the matter. The Novoe Vremya contends that the English text goes beyond the Hague conference, which only provides for a commission to determine the facts and in no sense to make an arbitral award.

For the Marines. St. Petersburg, Nov. 17.—As a result of the despatches received from Lieut. General Stoessel (commander of the Russian military forces at Port Arthur) he has officially expressed his confidence that Port Arthur will be able to hold out till the arrival of the Russian second Pacific squadron.

INDOOR SPORTS. The Mohawk Hockey Club, intend holding a carnival of sports on November 24th, in the Queens' Rink. There will be a tug-of-war, between teams representing the Police force, Longshoremen's association and Carleton. Five companies of the Boys' Brigade will give a physical drill and fancy club swinging. A game of baseball will be played by teams from the Y. M. C. A. and Mohawks. There will be tumbling by John Malcolm, Percy Howard, and others. Frank White will referee the tug-of-war.

POPULATION OF SPAIN. According to the census of 1900, the population of Spain was 18,819,574 of which 9,087,821 were males and 9,803,753 females. The number unable to read and write, including children is given at 11,000,000. That the number of illiterates is being slowly reduced is evidenced by the facts that in 1860 only 19.97 percent of the population could read and write; in 1877 the proportion had increased to 24.48 percent, in 1893 to 28.49 percent, and in 1903 to 33.45 percent. The populations of the largest cities are given as follows: Madrid 539,825; Barcelona 533,000; Valencia 231,550; Seville 148,315.

MAXIMS FOR ALL. When a woman says she wouldn't marry the best man alive she speaks the truth. "Tomorrow" is the reef that has cost the life of many a business man. If every woman's face was her fortune, there would be a run on the velvet market. Justice might take your part, but injustice takes your all. Don't take a polite acknowledgement for an encore. Everything comes to him who waits, except the waiter. When you are arguing with a fool, just remember that you are doing the same thing.—Chicago Journal.

THE BATTLE LINE. Steamer Alimera, Captain Grady, sailed from Pinta Arenas, yesterday, for Baltimore, via Montevideo. Steamer Lenetra, Captain Grant, sailed from Cardiff, yesterday, for St. Michaels, at 10 p. m. Steamer Pydna, now at Norfolk, will go to Fuenandina, to load for Europe. Steamer Sallasia, Captain Purdy, arrived at Cebu today, from Manila.

A FOUL FOUL. A local western editor received a fine chicken, presumably in payment of subscription. He took it home for dinner. The following day he received a letter from a rural subscriber. "Dear sir: Yesterday I sent you in a chicken by my man, Hank. He says you wuz out. What I wanted to know wuz what kind of a disease the chicken had. It died last week. Please let me know to settle a bet."

An Irishman, meeting another one holiday, invited him to the nearest saloon to have a drink. "What'll ye have, Jim?" said the host. "I don't know. What are ye going to take?" "I think I'll take a pale ale." "All right," said the other, "give me a pale ale, too."—Lippincott's.

Canadian Pacific steamship left Hong Kong the sixteenth for Vancouver and the Canadian Pacific steamer Noana left Brisbane Nov. 13rd.

DEER HAS A FREAK HEAD.

Portland Sea Captain Lands a Valuable Prize

IN MAINE WOODS.

Only Deer of the Kind Ever Seen... It Tips the Scales at 160 Lbs. and Its Antlers Grow Both Up and Down.

(Portland Advertiser.)

There may be happier men in Portland at the present time than Capt. Chas. B. Morrill of the Harpswell steamer Aucoisco, but where they are is unknown. The whole facts of the matter are that he has just returned from a trip to the Maine woods and not only brought back with him two deer, but one of them has a freak head, the like of which has never before been known in the annual Maine hunting. Strangest of all, this is the first deer hunting trip Capt. Morrill has ever been on, and yet he secured a prize that many hunters would be glad to sacrifice their right hands for.

Capt. Morrill told the story of his trip as follows: "I left Portland on Saturday morning, Oct. 29, and that night arrived at the Wytopitlock House, Wytopitlock, 50 miles beyond Bangor, where I spent the night. Sunday I got in a three-seated buckboard with some lumbermen going into the woods and drove with them 12 miles to the foot of Wytopitlock lake, where I stayed at the sporting camp of F. G. Staples. He used me fine, and while I was there I saw several large buck but got no chance to shoot at them.

"The lake was too rough for me to go up, so I waited for it to calm down. Monday it was still rough and I decided to wait, so started out Tuesday morning. It was five miles to the head of the lake where I was going, and I arrived there just at noon.

"Here I was the guest of G. F. Stratton, the superintendent of the lumber camp. Just as I arrived, the men, about 50 of them, big strapping fellows, were sitting down to dinner, and I tell you it was a sight to see them at the three tables eating.

"The next day, I started out hunting and though I saw several deer, I didn't get a shot at one. They were too quick for me. The woods were dry so that every step I made could be heard. I was really getting somewhat discouraged. On the first Monday after I reached the camp there was a little flurry of snow. I was going through the woods when I saw a deer and up with my gun and landed him.

"It proved to be a 'her', however, but a good sized doe weighing over 100 pounds. I brought this out to the camp on my shoulders and the next day went back again to see if I could not get a buck.

"I had to get a buck, for I didn't even see any or if I did they were not within range or I was real disappointed, and some of the men in the camp would go me a deer, but I would have none of that. If I couldn't get my own game I wouldn't have it.

"I kept on tramping around and on Saturday last when about two miles from camp and three from Staples', I saw a buck in a swamp. I didn't wait, but drew a bead and shot him through the throat. He was too heavy for me to carry so I returned to camp.

"Sunday Mr. Stratton with a 'scoot' and a heavy horse started out with me to bring back my prize. He drove as far into the swamp as we could with the heavy horse and we walked the rest of the way. We had to lug that deer fully half a mile back to where the horse was, and we were glad to get him there.

"When we reached camp, we found the buck weighed a good 165 pounds and had 13 points on his antlers. Not only that, but it was a freak head. The antlers grew both up and down. The men about the place said they had never seen anything like it before. They had seen some growing down, but never any growing both ways at the same time. One old fellow who said he had probably killed and seen killed as many deer as any other man in Maine, said he had never seen anything like this head. The men on the train said the same thing when I brought it out.

"Sunday it began to snow, and when we started out of the woods, Monday morning a regular blizzard was raging. The snow was a foot deep on the ground, and so fiercely was the wind blowing the trees were being knocked over and were lying leaning all along the path. We had all we could do to dodge them. It was impossible to see our way and several times we got off the right road. We finally managed to get out all right, and I came home last night.

"I never had a better time in my life and the men at the camp treated me in first-class shape, doing everything they could for me. This snow will make it good hunting for the deer have been coming off the ridges and taking to the swamps. It will now be possible for a hunter to track them."

Who is it that holds our lives in fee, And makes us hot or cold, doth he? To whom we crook the servile knee? The janitor.

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"LET ALL MEN GIVE THANKS."

AIRSHIP BROKE DOWN.

The French Monster Failed to Work Well.

AT ST. LOUIS.

Went Up All Right but Had to be Pulled Down Out of the Clouds... The Inventor Says the Damage Can be Repaired.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 16.—The airship of Hippolyte Francois, of France the largest flying-machine in the world, was taken out of the aerodrome of the World's Fair yesterday for the first time since coming here, and at 3:42 p. m. ascended with Francois, the aeronaut, and Engineer Snyder on board. Prof. Langley, of Washington, D. C., and Count Henri de Lavautax, of Paris, were interested spectators.

When released from the ground the airship immediately rose to a height of about 75 or 100 feet. A rope held by several men kept the craft, which was steered by the engineer, about the aerodrome, from rising higher.

An iron support beneath the rear of the airship broke after the machine had been in the air ten minutes, and the framework raised upward, throwing one of the rear fans into the rigging. The fan broke, and several of the upper supporters were splintered. Francois stopped the motor, and signalled those holding the rope, and they pulled the airship to the ground. The airship was then taken back into the aerodrome, where, after a casual examination, it was announced that the damage could be repaired in about a day.

THE JANITOR. Who is it that holds our lives in fee, And makes us hot or cold, doth he? To whom we crook the servile knee? The janitor.

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The Day Set Apart For Thankful Acknowledgment of the Gifts of the Year Quietly Observed in St. John... Church Services and Entertainments.

Today is one of annual recognition throughout the Dominion of Canada. It is Thanksgiving day and is accordingly being observed from coast to coast. In the churches the well known hymn "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" is being sung with even (if possible) more feeling than usual.

The day is one set aside for returning thanks for kindness and benefits received during the past twelve months and is accordingly characterized by suitable observances.

In St. John as in every other Canadian city the event is generally observed. Business is suspended and flags are flying over the prominent business establishments. Friends interchange visits at homes and in every avocation of life past differences and difficulties are forgotten. It is truly a day of thanksgiving.

A chill wind but sunny weather marked Thanksgiving Day in St. John. It has been generally observed as a holiday, and few were abroad until late in the morning.

The services in the churches were well attended, the theatres are crowded this afternoon, and this evening will be one of general festivity, with numerous suppers and entertainments. The town has relaxed itself for a day of thorough enjoyment. The hotels have special number of guests, and have special bills of fare for the occasion. Up to the time this paper went to press the streets presented the appearance of Sunday rather than a week day.

Rev. J. de Soyres. At the Thanksgiving service in St. John's (Stone) church this morning, the pastor, Rev. J. de Soyres, preached an eloquent and scholarly sermon. He took for his text First Timothy II, 1-2. He contrasted the present conditions of law and good government with ancient times, and pointed out the many reasons for gratitude to God for mercies received. Reference was made to the imminent departure of Mr. Ezekiel B. Ketchum, one of the most respected and loved members of the congregation. It was learned later that Mr. Ketchum died during the service.

In Leinster. The Thanksgiving service in Leinster street Baptist church, this morning, was largely attended. The opening service was conducted by Rev. C. Burnett, assisted by Rev. Dr. Gates. Rev. A. B. Cohee, preached a very able and eloquent sermon, from the 107th Psalm, 1st verse.

He said many are thankful for material benefits, but they should be more thankful for the love of a heavenly father, who gives all things to those that love him. We should be thankful for health and strength and clothing and food. There are men who have had trials and cares, many have lost loved ones, fathers and mothers have wayward sons, and daughters, for whom they have been praying, and with all their troubles and cares, they thank God for his great goodness to them.

"We do not worship the wisdom of a Socrates, we do not worship the greatness of a Caesar, but the goodness of that Jesus of Nazareth who do worship."

"I could not prove to you that God is good, you will have to find it out for yourself."

He spoke of the poor and unfortunate among whom we should remember at this time of year.

A collection was taken in aid of the Protestant Orphans' Home.

In St. Andrew's. A special Thanksgiving service of the united congregations of St. Andrew's, St. David's, St. Stephen's and Calvin Presbyterian churches, was held at St. Andrew's church. The choir rendered special thanksgiving music.

The pulpit was occupied by Rev. A. Wicher, who took for his text Colossians III, 15.

"This annual festival," said the speaker, "celebrated by national proclamation, is a token of the character of the nation. All good gifts are God's gifts and He has blessed our land more abundantly than ever."

"Canada has a brief, but noble history. We have to remember our forefathers unexcelled endurance for which we have every reason to be thankful. We have only to look at the constitution of the country to the south of us to recognize its defects, and we can meet difficulties which they seem to have been unable to cope."

"But above all, we are thankful for our religion, we have received from our forefathers a priceless heritage."

Amid all the changes in national life the truth of God stands unchanged. We rejoice for these and many other blessings. We pour out our hearts in gratitude to God for both temporal and spiritual blessings. All of which came from His abundant mercy.

"We are also thankful for our homes and friends. It is much to be regretted that this festival has become so secularized. People seek the matinees and other amusements and seem to have forgotten the goodness of God."

"Still we are grateful for many blessings which God has bestowed upon us."

The oratory was devoted to the Protestant Orphan Home.

Rev. Dr. Fotheringham. A thanksgiving service was held at St. John's Presbyterian church this morning. The choir rendered the anthem "Great is the Lord," by Watts, and hymns especially chosen for the occasion.

The pastor, Rev. Dr. Fotheringham, preached from Psalms CXLV, 15 and 16. "The eyes of all wait upon thee: and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."

Our national "thanksgiving," said the preacher, "is a distinct acknowledgement of God as the source of all temporal blessings. Men of all creeds and degrees of civilization are substantially agreed on this matter. The atheist and the agnostic are the only exceptions. Without assuming that their views call for a formal refutation, it may be well for us on such an occasion to consider the wonderful testimony which nature herself bears to the character of her Creator, whose influence we gratefully remember to-day. That every effect must have a cause is an axiom of philosophy, and the intuitive conclusion of common sense, and unless the world be eternal or self-caused, we must refer it for its origin to the great uncaused First Cause. What does nature tell us of Him? We are all familiar with the evidence of Divine power, majesty, wisdom and goodness, as illustrated in the skillful adaptations and conditions of nature. He whose goodness we gratefully remember to-day has done everything to awaken in our breasts by a contemplation of His works around us, not merely moral respect for His justice, or intellectual admiration of His wisdom and skill, but reverence, admiration and love. He yearns for our love, and in His lavish bounty to us, His unworthy and ungrateful children, He is ever saying, 'My son, my daughter, give Me thine heart.'"

WHEN MAN IS REALLY OLD. (Chicago Journal.) There has been very little, if any change in the duration of man's life since the days of the patriarchs—that is, some 4,000 or 5,000 years ago. Every one did not attain to great age in those days any more than they do today, for various reasons stated in the Bible. Abraham lived to be 175 years old, (but his two younger brothers appear to have died before him); Isaac's wife, Sarah, lived to be 127 years old; Isaac lived to be 180; Ishmael lived to be 137; Jacob lived to be 147; Joseph lived to be 110; Kohath lived to be 133; his son, Amram, lived to be 137; his son, Moses, lived to be 120; Aaron was three years older than his brother, and died some years before him; Joshua lived to be 110.

The number of persons reported, in 1900, as centenarians and over was: England 170; Ireland 578; Scotland 4; Sweden 10; Norway 23; Belgium 2; Denmark 2; Switzerland none; Spain 40; Serbia, 575; France 213. This is not a very means a complete list, as only some countries are given; but it helps to prove that we should live to be 120 years or over, and that we do not do so was not the plan or intention of the Almighty.

Does it amuse you we inquired, to have your wife keep you waiting while she is dressing for the theatre or other place of amusement?

Not at all, replied the great man, cordially for I invariably employ that time in turning out a complete novel.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Pa, what are the authorities? They are the fellows who at critical times claim that they have no authority.—Cleveland Leader.

He looks rather seedy, but he must have money to burn. He's evidently close to 80 years of age. But that's no sign of his wealth. But the sign of his young wife is.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Miss Passay—My fiance is so different from other men.

Miss Pert—Of course he is, since he proposed to you.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Jailer—I'm sorry you can't have a better bed, but that's the only sort allowed here.

—Oh, that's all right, boss. I don't mind. You see, I've spent a month in summer resorts every year.—Baltimore American.

—But above all, we are thankful for our religion, we have received from our forefathers a priceless heritage.