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FIELD MARSHAL YAMAGATA.

The Career of the Foremost Japanese General.

The generals who are leading the Japanese armies against Russia are men who have proved their skill and efficiency. They have seen actual service, and have fought over the very ground where they now meet the Russians. The first on the list in order of service is Field Marshal Yamagata, who is not only first in rank, but easily first in the esteem of the Japanese public and in the judgement of the government. He is a veteran of many wars, having begun service in the struggle that restored the Emperor to power in 1868. In the following year he visited Russia and France, studying military subjects. In 1872 he became Assistant Secretary of War—a position which in Japan is always held by a general officer of the army. In the following year he was made Lieutenant-General, and two years later Secretary of War.

The next year saw Japan in the throes of a fierce civil war. The rebellion was led by her greatest, Field Marshal Saiga who had with him some 50,000 of her best-trained men. The government was compelled to put forth its greatest strength. An Imperial Prince was appointed to the nominal command, but as Chief of Staff, Yamagata was the real General-in-chief, and led the forces which crushed the rebellion. Saigo having been slain, Yamagata became the first military man in the empire, and was promoted to the full rank of General.

Being a man of great mental ability, boundless energy and strong personality, he soon became almost as prominent in the political world as in the military, and shared with Marquis Ito the position of greatest influence with the Emperor. He was several times Prime Minister, and when not in that position always held some portfolio in the Cabinet. He never ceased his active share in the development of the army. Through various official positions, such as Inspector-General, Chief of the General Staff and Secretary of War, he kept himself in close touch with all parts of the army organization.

When war started with China in 1894 Yamagata was immediately given command of the first army that invaded Manchuria. Those who were with the army at the time describe the immense enthusiasm with which the coming of the great general was greeted by his soldiers. The rigors of a Manchurian winter speedily reduced Yamagata to such a condition that the Emperor, fearful of losing altogether the services of his ablest officer, called him back to Tokio to act as his chief military adviser.

After the war Yamagata was made a Marquis and the new military rank of Field Marshal was established, to which he was promoted. The active interference of Russia, backed by France and Germany, which deprived Japan of the fruits of her victory, led the government to seek some understanding that would preserve the independence of Corea. Yamagata was appointed special ambassador for this purpose and proceeded to St. Petersburg, where he effected the treaty which is the basis of Japan's latest demands upon Russia. Not trusting altogether to this, Japan proceeded to double her army and greatly increase her navy. Several officers were promoted to the rank of Field Marshal in the army and equal rank in the navy and organized into a Supreme Council of War. Of this Yamagata was made chief, a position which he still holds. Considering the season of the year and the fact that he is over sixty-five years old and rather frail physically, it is improbable that he will take the field in person, but in any case he will occupy much the same place in this war that Von Moltke did in the Franco-Prussian conflict.

What to Do With Drunkards.

An interesting phase of the temperance question is touched upon in the annual report of the New York state commission of pensions, which asks if some wiser methods than those that now prevail cannot be devised for dealing with drunkenness in its relation to crime. The commission shows that in the last year nearly one third of the commitments to penitentiaries, jail and other corrective institutions were for this offense, while it estimates that fully one half of the convictions in the criminal courts result from excessive use of liquor. It says:

Many of these offenders are laboring men having families depending upon them for support and except when under the influence of liquor are honest and industrious, providing for their families. When such a man is fined and imprisoned, his family suffers rather than himself.

The problem is an old one and has been discussed from so many view-points for so many years and without success that the outlook for its solution appears almost hopeless. The imprisonment of habitual drunkards, as now provided by law, does not seem to materially check the evil and in many instances causes much suffering and distress on the part of those dependent upon the offenders. As the report says:

There is a large distinction between the man who cannot control his appetite for drink and the man who willfully and maliciously

commits an offense against the person or property of another. The law should recognize his distinction. The present practice of sending him to jail or to a penitentiary, branded as a criminal, to consort with thieves, only depraves and discourages him and at the same time inflicts punishment and privation upon his family. Some wiser method of dealing with this offense should be ascertained and adopted.

There is much sound sense in the suggestion that men and women committed for drunkenness should not be classed as criminals and obliged to live in the prisons with persons who have been guilty of greater offenses. But would a change in the place or manner of detention effect a reform? The stigma of being locked up would still remain, and, besides, incarceration of poor men, upon whom others depend for a living, would in nowise, as the report says, relieve their families of hardships. Nor would the simple fining of such men suffice, and this would also entail distress upon dependents.

It is apparent that for the protection of society there must be some punishment of the habitual drinker who makes a public nuisance of himself or violates the laws, but what to do with him seems to be an unsolvable problem. It is feared that the commission's question will long remain unanswered or at least without a practical answer.

Appreciation of Canadian Law.

(Philadelphia 'Public Ledger.') The Canadian administration of the law in the Northwestern territory would furnish a good model for the United States to follow. These new territories are being invaded by settlers in large bodies. The nationalities from every corner of Europe are rushing into the country. Peace, law and order prevail, the law is honestly administered, there is no talk or suspicion of 'graft,' or 'pull,' and Americans who go to the new land are among those who are ready to admit that Canadian rule is admirable. The famous North-West Mounted Police are model officers, chosen for their 'moral record' as well as for their bravery and energy. They enforce the law; lynching, rioting and whitecapping, with which we are afflicted, are unknown. The reason for this happy condition is not far to seek. Politics does not enter into the administration of the provinces. They are ruled by the Minister of the Interior, whose party would suffer grievously if he were to prove inefficient. That is an admission, to be sure, that they order these things better in Canada than with us; but there is another side to the story. The Canadians of the North West have no cramps to deal with; no roving negro criminals; no mines with the scum of the earth which frequent the new camps. The settlers are the picked of the earth. They comprised last year nearly 50,000 American farmers from our own North-West, and the settlers from England, Germany, Scandinavia, like the American settlers, are the genuine homesteaders who build commonwealths. So much is to be said in defence of our lawless Montana and Colorado, and yet the fact remains, worth pondering, that Canada knows how to enforce the law.

National Association of Canadian Stockmen.

For some years stockmen throughout Canada have felt the necessity of a National Association of Canadian Stockmen which would convene at least once a year and debate questions of national importance in relation to Canadian Stock breeding and keeping. In the United States an Association of this sort has been in existence for a number of years, and annual reports are issued by it. Great influence has been exercised by this Association, not only in Congress but in the legislatures of the various states. In Canada an Association of this sort does not exist, nor was it possible until the present time, but now through the instrumentality of the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner, strong and useful live stock associations exist in each Province in Confederation, and steps are being taken to organize a National Association.

I. C. and C. P. Railways will issue tickets on the certificate plan three days previous to March 7th, and on the certificate being signed by Mr. Westervelt at Ottawa, will be honored by Ottawa Agent for return journey free for three days after closing date of Association. Sunday excepted in each case. These rates available to all who may desire to attend.

Besides the meeting of the National Association will be The Eastern Ontario Live Stock and Poultry Show to be held in Ottawa from March 7th to 11th inclusive. The Auction Sale of imported and Canadian bred Ayrshire and dairy cows will be held Thursday the 10th March.

The First Annual Central Canada Spring Horse Show will be held on the Exhibition grounds, Ottawa, March 7th to 11th. Programmes can be had on application to E. B. Elderkin, President Maritime Stock Breeders Association.

The best man living has enemies enough to keep from getting lonesome.

A friend you can buy with a present is soon purchased away from you.

The man who believes in nobody's honesty knows that he, himself, is not to be trusted.

The British Mission To Tibet.

Last summer a British mission went by appointment with the Chinese government to a spot in Tibet just across the frontier to endeavor to secure an observance of a treaty negotiated in 1890 with the Tibetans. China, as the suzerain of Tibet, signed the treaty. When, early in the year, the intention of the British to insist on respect for its provisions became evident, the Chinese minister in Lassa told the Dalai-lama that unless the British were met in a friendly manner "the consequences would pass conception."

The Dalai-lama did not heed the warning. A pretty official, instead of a duly qualified commissioner, met the British at Kamba-Jong in the autumn, and told them that they must retire from Tibetan territory before negotiations of any kind could be undertaken. Thereupon an armed escort was sent for the protection of the British commissioner, Colonel Younghusband. When this body had advanced about fifty miles along the road to Lassa, one of the five great lamas—a high official this time—met it and ordered it back with threats of force unless they obeyed. This was late in January, and the British then had no intention of retreating.

There is more at stake in the success of this expedition than the boundary or than the sale of tea from British India, although these are important matters. For several years the Chinese influence in Tibet has been waxing and the Russian influence has been waning. The Russian statesmen believe that if they can control Lassa, the seat of the Buddhist faith, their influence over Buddhist China, and even Buddhist Japan, will be powerful, and that it will not be without effect upon the sentiment of the Buddhists even in British India. When Peking was in the possession of foreign troops, at the time of the Boxer uprising, Russian agents in Lassa were wooing the lamas, and in 1900, and again in 1901, Tibetan missions was sent to St. Petersburg. There are rumors of a secret treaty with Russia.

In view of these circumstances the British are seeking to checkmate the Tsar, and have taken advantage of the occasion when Russia's attention and energy are directed toward Japan and Korea. Tibet itself is only a pawn on the world's chess-board, which rival kings are striving to use for their own purposes;

And For This 200 Canadians died.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican: The policy of importing Asiatic coolies to dig and delve in Transvaal mines appears finally to have won the day, now that the so-called Asiatic labor bill has passed its second reading by a large majority in the Legislative Council of the Transvaal Colony. The battle over Chinese labor is evidently ended; and the great capitalists have triumphed. This is the first important revolutionary event in the life of South Africa to follow the crushing out of the Dutch Republics. It comes, be it noted, while the Transvaal is under despotic crown colony rule. It is by no inadvertence that the Chinese labor policy is being pushed at this time, for under self-government, with the local authorities responsible to Dutch and English alike, the capitalistic program could not easily be carried through. The economic revolution is being literally imposed upon the Transvaal by the power that conquered it with sword and fire. Imperial Englishmen, generations ago, confronted a labor problem in colonial America; and, in their blindness and greed, they solved it by introducing African slaves, whose descendants have remained, a distinct ethnic type among the white population to vex our civilization with race difficulties of the gravest sort, after tearing the republic itself almost asunder. Imperial Englishmen now face another labor problem in South Africa. Slavery in its old form has passed away, and the use of black slaves in the Transvaal mines is no longer a device possible for the ending of capitalistic worriments. But exactly the spirit survives in these imperial Englishmen of to-day which gave to America its dark legacy of civil war and problem of problems. In now forcing Chinese coolie labor upon the Transvaal, for no other reason than to increase the production of mineral wealth, those responsible are guilty of as vast a crime as were their ancestors in opening up the slave trade in America. When we consider the small white population in all South Africa, it will be seen that the importation of some 200,000 Asiatic laborers in the next five years alone would be an event of immense magnitude in its effect upon racial and economic conditions. Yet the Transvaal labor commission has reported that that number is needed in the Rand mines alone. About 120,000 more coolies are to be distributed among other industries, such as the railroads and the Government irrigation works. Once the tide of coolie importation begins, and the "boom" is felt in all fields of enterprise, the demand will grow in intensity. Already many large farmers call for their share of Chinese labor, if it is to be introduced; and the cry is heard even at the Cape ports for coolies to work on the wharves. Rhodesia also is putting in a claim to share in the new labor supply. So one hazards little in saying that in 10 years the labor market in all South Africa will be wholly dominated by Asiatics and that Hawaii itself will be no more hopeless for white labor than the African continent south of the Zambesi.



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The undersigned offers for sale his valuable farm containing 250 acres more or less, 175 acres cleared, well watered, the balance well wooded, five barns, two houses, woodshed, carriage-house and other out-buildings, also a good orchard; situated five miles from Woodstock, seventy rods from school house and Post office. Sold with or without stock and farming implements, and at a bargain. HENRY BLACKMORE, Plymouth, N. B. Feb'y. 10-3 mos.

FARM FOR SALE.

Situated in Parish of Woodstock nearly five miles from town, one quarter mile from school house and post office. Contains 150 acres more or less, 90 acres cleared, well watered, fine growth of hard wood. Large orchard, good dwelling house, three barns, carriage house, sheds etc., all in good repair, and land under excellent state of cultivation. Sold with or without stock, farming implements etc. ROBERT PERRY, Plymouth, N. B. Jan. 27 3 mos.

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In effect October 11th, 1903.

DEPARTURES—Atlantic Standard Time. (QUEEN STREET STATION). 6.45 A. MIXED—Week days—for Houlton, McAdams, St. Stephen, St. Andrew, Fredericton, Saint John and East Hanger, Portland, Boston, etc. Palace Sleeper car McAdam to Halifax. Dining car McAdam to Truro. 9.05 A. MIXED—Week days—for Aroostook, M. Jct. and intermediate points. 11.28 A. EXPRESS—Week days—for Presque Isle, Edmundston, and all points North. River du Loup and Quebec. 12.30 P. MIXED—Week days—for Fredericton, M. ton, etc., via Gibson Branch. 2.20 P. MIXED—Week days—for Perth Jct., M. Plaster Rock and intermediate points. 5.59 P. EXPRESS—Week days—for Houlton, M. Saini Stephen, Saint Andrews, Fredericton, Saint John and East; Vancouver, Sherbrooke, Montreal, and all points West. Northwest and on Pacific Coast; Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc. Palace Sleeper McAdam Jct. to Montreal. Pullman Sleeper McAdam Jct. to Boston. ARRIVALS. 11.12 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, Fredericton, etc., via Gibson Branch. 11.28 A. M.—EXPRESS—Week days, from Saint John and East; Fredericton, St. Stephen, Houlton, Boston, Montreal, etc. 1.15 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Plaster Rock and intermediate points. 5.59 P. M.—EXPRESS—Week days, from Presque Isle, Caribou, Edmundston, etc. 7.29 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Aroostook Jct. 11.19 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Houlton, Fredericton, St. John and East; St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc. C. B. FOSTER, D. P. A., St. John.