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## From the New York Tribune. THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.

U. S. STEAMSHIP SUSQUEHANNA,  
China Sea, Aug. 4.

### ARRIVAL ON THE JAPAN COAST.

At daybreak, on the morning of July 8, we first made land, which proved to be Cape Idzu, a lofty headland on the coast of Nippon, not far south of the entrance of the great Bay of Yedo. The Broken and Vulcan Islands were in sight on our right. After passing Rock Island, we stood in nearer to the shore, which loomed up grandly through the heavy atmosphere. The promontory of Idzu is a group of mountains, rising to the height of five or six thousand feet, their summits scarred with slides, and their sides mostly covered with forests, though here and there we would discern patches of cultivated land. There was a number of fishing junks off the coast, some of them put back again as we approached. The wind was ahead, we had all sails furled and yards squared, and the sight of our two immense steamers—the first that ever entered Japanese waters—dashing along at the rate of nine knots an hour, must have struck the natives with the utmost astonishment.

Leaving the mountains of Idzu behind us, we stood across the mouth to the bay of Kowadzu, (as the southern half of the bifurcate Bay of Yedo is called,) towards Cape Sagami, at the extremity of the promontory which divides the two. The noon observation gave Lat. 34 deg. 57 min. N., and soon afterwards Cape Sagami came in sight. We lay too while the Captain of the Mississippi, Plymouth and Saratoga came on board, to receive instructions, and then resumed our course. The decks were cleared for action, the guns shotted, the small arms put in complete order, and every precaution taken, in case we should meet with a hostile reception. Near Cape Sagami we descried a large tower, and as we came within two miles of the shore, a number of junks, amounting to twelve or fifteen, put off, with the evident intention of visiting us. Each one bore a large banner, upon which characters were inscribed. The rapidity of our progress, against the wind, soon left them behind, no doubt completely nonplussed as to the invisible power which bore us away from them. The Bay now began to be thickly studded with fishing smacks, with here and there a large junk.

The shores of the Sagami are exceedingly picturesque and beautiful. They rise in abrupt bluffs, two hundred feet in height, gashed with narrow dells of the brightest verdure, which slope steeply down to the water, while the country behind rises in undulating hills, displaying a charming alternation of groves and cultivated fields. In the distance rose mountain ranges, receding behind each other until the vapor hid their furthest summits. The eastern coast, belonging to the Province of Awa, now came in sight ahead of us, for we were entering the narrowest part of the Bay, leading to the upper Bay of Yedo. The distance from shore to shore here varies from five to eight miles, but afterward expands to twelve or fifteen.

We kept directly up the Bay, and in half an hour after doubling Cape Sagami saw before us a bold promontory making out from the western coast, at the entrance of the Upper Bay. Within it was the Bight of Uruga, and we could plainly see the town of the same name at the head of it. The Plymouth and Saratoga were cast off, and we advanced slowly, sounding as we went, until we had advanced more than a mile beyond the point reached by the Columbus and the Morrison. We were about a mile and a half from the promontory, when two discharges of cannon were heard from a battery at its extremity, and immediately afterward a light ball of smoke in the air showed that a shell had been thrown up. An order was immediately given to let go the anchor, but as the lead still showed 25 fathoms, the steamer's head was put in toward the shore, and in a few minutes the anchor was dropped.

### NEGOTIATIONS—THE EXPRESS TO YEDO.

Another shell was fired after we came to anchor, and four or five boats, filled with Japanese approached us. The rowers, who were all tall, athletic men, naked save a cloth around the loins, shouted lustily as they sculled with all their strength toward us. The boats were of unpainted wood, very sharp in the bows, carrying their greatest breadth of beam well aft, and were propelled with great rapidity. The resemblance of their model to that of the yacht America, struck everybody on board. In the stern of each was a small flag with three horizontal stripes, the central one black and the others white. In each were several persons, who by their dress and the two swords stuck in their belts, appeared to

be men of authority. The first boat came alongside, and one of the two-sworded individuals made signs for the gangway to be let down. This was refused, but Mr Wells Williams, the Interpreter, and Mr Portman, the Commodore's clerk, (who is a native of Holland) went to ship's side to state that nobody would be received on board, except the first in rank at Uruga. The conversation was carried on principally in Dutch, which the interpreter spoke very well. He asked at once if we were not Americans, and by his manner of asking showed that our coming had been anticipated. He was told that the Commander of the Squadron was an officer of very high rank in the United States, and could only communicate with the first in rank on shore. After a long parley, the Vice Governor of Uruga, who was in the boat, was allowed to come on board with the Interpreter, and confer with Lieut. Contee, the Flag Lieutenant. The Japanese Official, a fiery little fellow, was much exasperated at being kept in waiting, but soon moderated his tone. He was told that we came as friends, upon a peaceable mission; that we should not go to Nangaski, as he proposed, and that it was insulting to our President and his special minister to propose it. He was told moreover, that the Japanese must not communicate with any other vessel than the flag ship, and that no boats must approach us during the night. An attempt to surround us with a cordon of boats, as in the case of the Columbus and Vincennes, would lead to very serious consequences. They had with them an official notice, written in French, Dutch, and English, and intended as a general warning to all foreign vessels, directing them to go no further, to remain out at sea, and send word ashore, why they came and what they wanted. This Lieutenant Contee declined to see or acknowledge in any way. The same notice was taken to the Plymouth by another boat, but it was at once ordered off.

Commodore Perry had evidently made up his mind from the first not to submit to a surveillance of boats. The dignified and decided stand he took produced an immediate impression upon the Japanese. They were convinced that he was in earnest, and that all the tricks and delays with which they are in the habit of wheedling foreign visitors would be used in vain. Several boats having followed the first one, and begun to collect around us, the Vice-Governor was told that if they did not return at once, they would be fired into. One of them went to the Mississippi, and after being repulsed from the gangway, pulled forward where some of the crew tried to climb on board. A company of boarders was immediately called away, and the bristling array of pikes and cutlasses over the vessel's side, caused the Japanese to retreat in great haste. Thenceforth, all the Japanese boats gave us a wide berth, and during the whole of our stay, none approached us except those containing the officials who were concerned in the negotiations. I may here remark that our presence did not seem to disturb, in the least, the coasting trade which finds its focus in Yedo. Without counting the hundreds of small boats and fishing smacks, between sixty and seventy large junks daily passed up and down the Bay, on their way to and from Yedo.

The Japanese boatmen were tall, handsomely formed, with vigorous and symmetrical bodies, and a hardy, manly expression of countenance. As the air grew fresher towards the evening, they put on a sort of loose gown, with wide, hanging sleeves. As the crew of each boat were all attired alike, the dress appeared to be a uniform, denoting that they were in Government service. The most of them had blue gowns, with white stripes on the sleeves, meeting on the shoulder, so as to form a triangular junction, and a crest, or coat-of-arms, upon the back. Others have gowns of red and white stripes, with a black lozenge upon the back. Some wore upon their heads a cap made of bamboo splints, resembling a broad, shallow basin inverted, but the greater part had their heads bare, the top and crown shaved, and the hair from the back and sides brought up and fastened in a small knot, through which a short metal pin was thrust. The officers wore light and beautiful lackered hats to protect them from the sun, with a gilded coat-of-arms, upon the front part. In most of the boats I noticed a tall spear, with a lackered sheath for the head, resembling a number or character, referring to the rank of the officer on board.

After dark watch-fires began to blaze along the shores, both from the beach and from the summits of the hills, chiefly on the western side of the bay. At the same time we heard, at regular intervals, the sound of a deep-toned bell. It had a very sweet, rich tone, and from the distinctness with which its long reverbera-

tions reached us, must have been of large size. A double night-watch was established during our stay, and no officer except the Purser and Surgeons were exempt from serving. But the nights were quiet and peaceful and it never fell to my lot to report a suspicious appearance of any kind.

The next morning, Yezaimon, the Governor of Uruga, and the highest authority on shore, came off, attended by two interpreters, who gave their names as Tetsunoeko and Tekoshiuro. He was received by Commanders Buchanan and Adams, and Lieutenant Contee. He was a noble of the second rank; his robe was of the richest silken tissue, embroidered with gold and silver in a pattern resembling peacock feathers. The object of his coming I believe, was to declare his inability to act, not having the requisite authority from Yedo. At any rate, it was understood that an express would be sent to the capital immediately, and the Commodore gave him until Tuesday noon to have the answer ready. Sunday passed over without any visit, but on Monday there was an informal one.

From Tuesday until Wednesday noon, Yezaimon came off three times, remaining from two to three hours each time. The result of all these conferences was, that the Emperor had specially appointed one of the Chief Counsellors of the Empire to proceed to Uruga and receive from Commodore Perry the letter of the President of the United States, which the Commodore was allowed to land and deliver on shore. This prompt and unlooked-for concession astonished us all, and I am convinced it was owing entirely to the decided stand the Commodore took during the early negotiations. We had obtained in four days, without subjecting ourselves to a single observance of Japanese law, what the Russian embassy under Resanoff failed to accomplish in six months, after a degrading subservience to ridiculous demands. From what I know of the negotiations, I must say that they were admirably conducted. The Japanese officials were treated in such a polite friendly manner as to win their good will while not a single point to which we attached any importance, was yielded. There was a mixture of firmness, dignity and fearlessness on our side, against which their artful and dissimulating policy was powerless. To this, and to our material strength, I attribute the fact of our reception having been so different from that of other embassies, as almost to make us doubt the truth of the accounts we had read.

### SCENERY OF THE BAY—THE SURVEYING PARTIES.

From our anchorage off Uruga, we enjoyed a charming panorama of the Bay. It far surpassed my preconceived ideas of Japanese scenery. The western shore is bold and steep, running here and there into lofty bluffs of light-gray rock, but the greater part of it is covered with turf, copsewood, and scattered groves of trees, all of the brightest and freshest green. From Uruga to another and shallower bight, which makes in nearly two miles below, the shore is less abrupt and shows more signs of cultivation. The hills behind, though not above 500 feet in height, are beautifully undulating in the outlines, and dotted with groves of pine and other trees. From Uruga to the end of the promontory—a distance of a mile and a quarter—there is almost an unbroken line of villages. The houses are of wood, with sharp roofs, some pointed in the Chinese style, some square and pyramidal. A few were painted white, but the greater number were unpainted and weather-beaten. At least a hundred small craft, with a number of junks, lay in the harbor of Uruga, and thence to the headland, there were two hundred boats lying close in shore.

I examined the fortifications frequently and carefully through a glass, and found that their strength had been greatly exaggerated. Two of them appeared to have been recently made, and on a bluff, half inclosing the little harbor of Uruga, on the east, there was another, still in the course of construction. Between this and the headland there were three batteries, and at the extremity one, making five in all. The embrasures were so large that from our position a good workman might in a short time have dislodged every one of their guns. The chief post was the central battery, near which was a village, and several buildings of large size, apparently arsenals or barracks.

(To be continued.)

Why is a man eating soup with a fork, like another kissing his sweet-heart.

Because it takes so long to get enough of it.

How we printers do lie, as our Devil said the other morning when he got up late for breakfast.

## SUNDAY'S MAIL.

### EUROPE.

#### From the London Daily News, Nov. 10. THE WAR IN THE EAST.

THE more recent despatches from the Danube, though still sufficiently laconic, when combined with those which preceded them, enables us now to infer, with tolerable precision, the great outline of the plan upon which the Turkish generalissimo is bringing his army into action. Unless appearances are very deceitful indeed, he is handling the forces at his disposal with consummate skill, showing that to his energy and promptitude he adds a rare gift of skillful and comprehensive combination. Let us glance over the field where the hostile forces are now arrayed. The province of Wallachia approaches in its superficial configuration to a parallelogram of nearly 300 miles in length by about 150 in breadth. On the south-west, south and south-east it is bounded by the Danube. From the neighbourhood of Orsova to a little beyond Widdien the course of that river is nearly from north to south; from the latter point to the vicinity of Silistria its general course is from west to east; and thence to Galatz it flows from south to north. The northern boundary of the province, for a distance of some 200 miles from its western extremity an affluent of the Sereth, which flows eastward from where the mountains terminate, and the Sereth itself to its embouchure in the Danube. The portion of the province which is enclosed on three sides by the Danube is generally low and flat; to the north, it gradually rises to the base of the mountains. The western part of the province, between the western frontier and the river Argish—comprising fully two-thirds of the whole—is divided into three pretty equal parts of the valleys of the Schyl and Aluta, flowing from the northern mountains at right angles to the Danube. The Schyl and the Argish rise on the southern declivity of the mountains; the Aluta rises to the north of the chain, and breaks through it. The part of Wallachia which lies to the east of the Argish is bisected by the Jolomeritza, which flows from west to east. The Turkish or southern bank of the Danube, from Csova to where it again turns northward, after flowing nearly 300 miles from west to east, is high and abrupt; the Wallachian low, and apt to be overflowed. A little to the north of the point at which the course of the river turns from south to east is Widdien on the Turkish bank; commanding the mouth of the Schyl is Rahova, on the Turkish bank; commanding the mouth of the Aluta is Nikopolis, on the Turkish bank; midway between Aluta and Argish is Roustchuk, on the Turkish, and opposite Giurgewo on the Wallachian bank. Bucharest is situated nearly north of these places, at a distance of some sixty miles, on an affluent of the Argish, which intervenes between it and them. Turtukai is situated on the Turkish bank opposite the mouth of the Argish; Altenitza on the east of the Argish, in the angle formed by that river and the Danube at their junction. Silistria stands on the Turkish bank of the Danube, near the point where the river turns to the north, and Schumla is some eighty miles to the south of it.

The principal Russian force is concentrated between Bucharest and the Danube, but parties had been thrown out in advance as far as Kalafat. Some of these parties were pretty strong, but still this was dispersing the army over a longer line than its numerical amount warranted. We observe attempts are being made to palliate this mistake of the Russian commander by alleging that he had been led to expect support from Austria, which is now withheld. When the faithless Jesuitical character of the Austrian Government is taken into account, this story looks plausible; it may, however, be a mere invention an afterthought to screen the strategical blunder of the Russian general. The main body of the Turkish army was concentrated in the region between Silistria and Schumla; a strong body of troops was posted at Sophia, in the rear of Widdien; and the communication was kept up by a chain of posts. The Turkish troops have hitherto been healthy; according to the latest accounts from Bucharest, there are at present 12,000 Russian soldiers in hospital there. The advanced period of the season and the want of roads render it difficult, if not impossible, for the Russians to receive speedy reinforcements; the communication of the Turks from Silistria with Varna—either direct or by Schumla—is open and easy.

Keeping in view the outline sketch we have given of the country and its principal positions, and the account of

the relative position and condition of the two armies, we are in a condition to appreciate the movements that have been made by Omer Pacha. From Widdien a corps d'armee has been thrown into Western or Lesser Wallachia, amounting, according to the most recent accounts, to 12,000 men; and the force stationed round Sophia is stated to be advancing to support them. The Russian troops in that part of Wallachia have fallen back without offering any serious resistance. There is a talk of their making a stand behind the Schyl, but at present they appear to be in full retreat towards Bucharest. On the Eastern or Lower Danube, a strong body of Turkish forces has been thrown across near the mouth of the Argish. No less than 18,000 men crossed from Turtukai to Altenitza; they were attacked by the Russians, but made good their footing; after a combat of three hours the Muscovites retreated, with a loss of several officers and 200 privates killed, of six superior and eighteen subaltern officers, and 470 privates wounded, leaving the Turks (whose amount of loss is unknown) to entrench themselves on the north bank of the Danube. In addition to this 200 Turks are said to have occupied Kalafat, a small town or village in Wallachia, opposite to Silistria, and 2000 from Roustchuk have taken possession of an island in the Danube, between that fortress and Giurgewo.

It appears, then, that in every affair between the Turks and Russians in Wallachia, the latter have been worsted. The Turkish force advancing from Widdien is forcing the Russian detachments in the western parts of the provinces back upon Bucharest, with a fair prospect of beating if it can catch them, or, at all events, of cutting them off from the main body in front of that city. Again, the advance of the main Turkish army has made good its footing on the Wallachian side of the Danube, and holds both banks of the Argish, which lays the approach to Bucharest open to it. To all human appearance, therefore, it will be comparatively easy for Omer Pacha, by pushing on his main force towards Bucharest, to form a junction with the Turkish troops advancing from Kalafat; to break the line (as they say in naval warfare) of the enemy; to isolate the body of Russians in front of Bucharest from that which is retreating upon it from the west, and beat both in detail, if that have not been already done to his hand in case of the latter crops.

This view of affairs can only be presented with the hesitation which the brief and fragmentary character of the reports from the seat of war, and the yet imperfect development of the strategy of the generals on both sides, render necessary; but on a deliberate view of what has been written, it does not appear that any unwarranted or partial inference, or coloured fact, has been stated. It deserves to be kept in mind that the communications of the Turkish army, with the sources whence they are to derive reinforcements and supplies in their rear, are much more open and easy than those of the Russians; that the Turkish troops are in better health than the Russian; and that the success which has as yet attended the Turkish arms will inspire the Ottoman soldiery with more confidence in themselves than the Muscovites, all things considered, can be expected to feel. A knowledge of the real weakness of Russia, and of the traditional tactics of that Empire, when it discovers a task it has undertaken to be beyond its power, would warrant our inferring from these facts that peace is likely soon to be restored; but, on the other hand, there must be taken into view, as an obstacle to this desirable consummation, the obstinate ambition and vanity of the Emperor Nicholas, which appear to have stimulated him to a state of frenzy. His breathless war, and if he can make war successfully, will be ready enough to wage it.

### From the London Times.

If we may venture upon translating into anything like a circumstantial exposition of events the reports flashed across the continent by the wires of a telegraph, we must prepare our readers for intelligence yet more unexpected than any hitherto received from the seat of war on the Danube. 'A battle,' it is said, 'has taken place, and the Russians have retreated with loss.' This might possibly mean nothing very decisive, but, from the additional information which has reached us, we are almost compelled to conclude that the encounter was nothing less than a regular engagement between the main bodies of the Russian and Turkish armies, in which the Ottomans, though greatly inferior in number, succeeded in completely routing the forces of the Czar.

We observed yesterday that no accounts were furnished of the strength or the