

The Evening Times

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The Battle of Peking.

The press despatches from China for the past two days have been so contradictory that they have served hardly any purpose except that of confusing the situation almost hopelessly. Not until the Navy Department this morning received the cable messages from Admiral Remy and Commander Tausig, printed in our news columns, have we been able to learn anything definite and reliable as to the movement of the relief column from Tientsin.

From these, however, we are able to glean the fact that the advance had begun, that the column consists of sixteen thousand men, and that it had a severe engagement with the Chinese yesterday at Piesang. In this battle it appears the allied forces sustained a loss aggregating twelve hundred in killed and wounded, most of which fell upon the Russian and Japanese contingents.

Considering the source of this information there can be no doubt of its substantial accuracy, although it is possible that more detailed reports may reduce the number of casualties. In any event Admiral Remy must have been satisfied that the slaughter had been great or he would not have forwarded the report in the shape he did.

One aspect of this late intelligence is encouraging. For days we have been told that the international commanders in Tientsin were working more or less at cross purposes. In the light of our official messages today there is room for hope that if there have been dissensions in the allied camp they have been grossly exaggerated. It is even possible that it may have suited the purposes of the commanders to let the Chinese believe that they were dissatisfied, with a view of concealing an understanding in regard to the time and conditions of the impending movement.

There is another suggestion of encouragement in the story, not yet verified, but possibly also the Japanese have landed expeditionary forces at Shan-hai-kuan, on the upper waters of the Gulf of Pechili, and are moving upon Peking along the old military road which follows the line of the Great Wall of China.

As conditions are reported today, while the Empress Dowager and the Prince of Tuan apparently are ordering officials, who are in touch with the outside world, to speak fair words to the "foreign devils," they are steadily prosecuting their design to wage war for the exclusion of all foreigners from the Empire.

It is a sinister commentary upon the real attitude of the Chinese Government that according to probably reliable information, Li Hung Chang, and the Viceroy Tsung Sih Tsung and Liu Kun Yi, have been impeded for maintaining relations with foreigners. Ordinarily we might expect this story, like all others of Chinese origin, with reserve. But it is made credible by the collateral fact that Sheng, at Shanghai, has begged for an asylum on board of a British warship, as he claims that he would be beheaded should he fall into the hands of the Peking Government.

Amateur Students of Heredity.

The growing interest in problems of psychology and heredity has its good side and its bad side. It is good in so far as it inclines people in general to look for first causes and the logical sequence of events, instead of going on in a blind, unreasoning way to judge, condemn, or endorse. But when it leads to hasty generalization on insufficient grounds it is very bad, and with a careless and inaccurate observer it generally does.

For example, the uninitiated mind grasps the idea that a child inherits certain qualities and tendencies from its parents, or even from its ancestors, and may therefore be expected to resemble them in character. That is all right so far as it goes. The person in charge of the child may thus be able to make allowances for its faults and guard against its weaknesses.

If a mother knows that her boy probably inherits a weakness for intoxicants, she will not do anything which will form his taste in that direction. If she knows that he has a violent and ungovernable temper she will not irritate it unnecessarily, and will do all in her power to help him to govern it; and so through the whole line of human nature. But if she assumes, too hastily, that bad tendencies will make the child bad, or even that the faults of its progenitors will appear in full force, she may hasten the very evils which she is striving to prevent.

It is especially likely to be true of the children of criminals. It is very unsafe to make rash generalizations in this line. It was possible, for example, when one is blamed for a crime not as yet committed, there is often an impulse to give the child, as old-fashioned nurses say of a whimpering child, "something to cry for," and, as another old proverb puts it, having the name, to take the game, and be what one is judged to be.

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Mark Hanna is reported as declaring that nothing but the most affectionate regard for the child would lead a parent to blame for a crime not as yet committed, there is often an impulse to give the child, as old-fashioned nurses say of a whimpering child, "something to cry for," and, as another old proverb puts it, having the name, to take the game, and be what one is judged to be.

At present no great amount of attention need be paid to the story that Li Hung Chang has committed suicide. It is possible that he has been assassinated by orders from Peking. He would always be in danger of such a thing. But he would not refuse to open to him on one of the British war vessels at Shanghai. He could easily find safety in that way as his colleague Sheng has done.

There is not for the absorbing interest of the Chinese situation, the news that a train flying the American flag and carrying our Consul General at Cape Town north to Pretoria had been fired on and wrecked by the Boers, would certainly have created a commotion in this country. As it is, the incident passes almost as much unnoticed as our despatches which assert that Gen. Christian De Wet has been finally, at a place called Retief, it should be captured at last he will have the proud satisfaction of a great big run for his money. Both, it is reported today, is falling back on Machadorop, where he may make a stand. On the whole, the South African war gives signs of an early and total collapse.

President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, is said to desire direct negotiations with the United States for the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, and is favorable to the abrogation of all existing concessions. There is no doubt that the Administration would like nothing better just now than to carry on a campaign document negotiation on the subject. But should it do so, the fact need not obscure the other one that it is committed to the Panama Canal syndicate, composed of Hanna's friends, and that it means to fight the American Nicaraguan Canal proposition with all its might and main in Congress next winter.

Republican Talk. (From the Savannah, Ga., News.) The Republican is insisting that there is great prosperity, and they would make that claim if half the factories were closed, but the public is not to be deceived by such campaign yarns. It is true that the country is much better than it was a year ago, but it is not so prosperous as it is made out to be. The country is not so prosperous as it is made out to be. The country is not so prosperous as it is made out to be.

General Chaffee. (From the Philadelphia Bulletin.) The country has confidence in General Chaffee. It hopes to hear soon that he has justified the action of the Administration in selecting him for one of the most difficult positions ever filled by an American commander outside the territory of the United States.

Political Notes and Gossip.

Butler Is Threatening.—The Hon. Marion Butler of North Carolina apparently has struck out on the course which The Times has been predicting for more than a week. He is raising a shrill cry of fraud and intimidation, and is calling upon the Republican national managers to witness and repair his wrongs.

The Chamber of Commerce of Frankfort has published a statement about Russia which should be of interest to American traders in Russia. It is summarized below: "Since the operation of the German-Russian commercial treaty, cases have increased in which German firms could not collect payment for their goods without recourse to law, and the losses sustained by them are considerable."

The Hon. Mark Hanna is talking mysteriously about "the old Whig sentiment in North Carolina which ought this year to assert itself." He is preparing a coup in that State. It is believed that Senator Jones and other officials of the Democratic National committee are endeavoring to raise money to North Carolina when they have successfully notified Mr. Bryan of his nomination.

The Hearst Vote.—The Hon. William R. Hearst seems to be stirring up much enthusiasm for Mr. Bryan among the young men of the country who will cast their first vote in November. It is conservatively estimated that there are at least 3,000,000 of such voters in the nation, and Colonel Hearst and his able assistants, the Hon. Max F. Himesen, are exerting themselves as the chief spirits in the National Association of Democratic Clubs to enlist these voters under the banner of that organization.

Mr. Hanna Sets Things Right.—To an eager host of New York journalists, standing with a white paper in each hand, Mr. Hanna yesterday made some important statements. The first in importance was the great man's virtual denial to Mr. McKinley of the privilege to make speeches in West Virginia in fulfillment of a promise to the Hon. Stephen Benton Elkins. In coming back to the subject of this announcement, the President would make a number of speeches in West Virginia. Mr. Hanna said: "That report is unauthorized and untrue. I have no intention to make any speeches in West Virginia or elsewhere. He will remain at his home in Canton—the only one he possesses—until it is time for him to return to Washington."

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Each Opposition to Dr. R. A. Wise Among Virginia Republicans. NORFOLK, Aug. 6.—It is believed here that notwithstanding the alleged hearing of the breach between the winning faction of the Republican party in this (the Second) district, the followers of National Committeeman George E. Bowden will make a strong effort to nominate a candidate in opposition to Dr. R. A. Wise.

Anarchists in America. (From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.) It is brought to our attention today that we are again mistaken, that anarchism is again a fooling in America. If we were unaware of it, the explanation is the same as formerly, that anarchism lives in the dark, that it flourishes in places where it cannot be seen. If the nihilists are unable to escape the watchful eye of the secret service of the United States, what chance is there of the anarchists being known in a country where there are no paid spies, no system of watching, no passport requirements.

In General Disfavor. (From the Chicago Tribune.) "Don't talk to me about this," exclaimed the old politician. "A third party is always a fraud."

A Volcano Under the Sea. (From the New York Post.) The British cruiser Ringhams, while practicing reefing drills, was struck by a volcanic eruption which suddenly at 17 fathoms. Three divers attempted to descend and recover it, but were killed. The water below the surface was reported to be boiling, and a large amount of volcanic ash was seen. The vessel was damaged and the crew was injured.

Great Care Necessary in Employing an Attorney.

Richard Gueldner, Consul General to Frankfort, has transmitted to the State Department an interesting report on Russian business methods. He writes: "The Chamber of Commerce of Frankfort has published a statement about Russia which should be of interest to American traders in Russia. It is summarized below: 'Since the operation of the German-Russian commercial treaty, cases have increased in which German firms could not collect payment for their goods without recourse to law, and the losses sustained by them are considerable.'"

"The other ministerial statement, which seems to me to be of serious importance to American manufacturers, is the declaration that the Government will not be answer to an attack upon him for having purchased a number of Baldwin locomotives for the use of the state railways of the Empire. He is, however, a member of the working establishments of France had orders for several years to come, so that the only means by which the roads could be supplied with the material was by the purchase of American machinery, who alone were able to fill such orders."

"It is probable that both of these causes have something to do with present conditions. It is not unlikely that the demand for military services which requires from one to three years of every able-bodied man's time between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-eight has resulted in a steady generation, and must have greatly reduced the number and ratio of such laborers. This reduction is naturally most marked in the higher grades of skilled manual workers, whose preparation for constructive work requires a longer period than any other. While the use of machinery and appliances has increased, the number of such workers required to meet a specific demand, it has made imperative a much higher degree of skill for the profitable operation of the machinery."

"The mode of compensation for an attorney's service in Russia is very different from that in Germany. The Russian law prescribes that attorneys have to make an agreement with their clients before taking a case. Often reimbursement for costs is agreed upon, varying between 5 and 20 per cent. In Russia all debts exceeding 27 and all protested commercial papers are subject to attachment by creditors. The losing party is assessed only a very portion of the costs of suit. The foreign claimant has therefore to stand by the defendant, and even when the plaintiff has purposely increased the costs."

"It must also be borne in mind that on demands denied by the court, a fine of 3 kopecks per ruble is to be paid, and for failure to appear 10 kopecks per ruble in favor of the defendant. The Russian law prescribes that attorneys have to make an agreement with their clients before taking a case. Often reimbursement for costs is agreed upon, varying between 5 and 20 per cent. In Russia all debts exceeding 27 and all protested commercial papers are subject to attachment by creditors. The losing party is assessed only a very portion of the costs of suit. The foreign claimant has therefore to stand by the defendant, and even when the plaintiff has purposely increased the costs."

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ECONOMICS IN FRANCE.

A Short Wheat Crop and a Demand for Steel Ships. According to a report received at the State Department from Albion W. Tourge, Consul to Bordeaux, there will be a large deficiency this year in the wheat crop of France. In his report Mr. Tourge says: "During the past two weeks two very significant economic statements have been attributed to the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Public Works of the Republic of France. Both are said to have been made from the tribune in the Chamber of Deputies and are reported in all the daily journals."

"The former is said to have declared that the deficiency of the present wheat crop in France, in excess of the surplus remaining over of the crops of 1898 and 1899, will amount to about 30,000,000 bushels. This is of course a matter of importance to the American wheat grower as a factor in the price of his product. Its value is elevated to some extent by the demand for the present crop depends on two things: (1) the reliability of the estimate of the surplus still on hand at the last two harvests; (2) the reliability of the forecast with regard to the amount of the deficiency of the present crop. There are not lacking those who question the accuracy of the latter estimate."

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A SHREWD SWINDLE.

Leroy Harris' Impersonation of a Postoffice Inspector. A former postoffice inspector yesterday, in discussing the Hamlet case, recalled an imposture by means of which a man named Leroy Harris, who pretended to be an inspector, got possession of large sums of money. In six days he obtained more than \$4,000 and then disappeared. He was arrested later and has just finished his term in Joliet prison. The story as the ex-inspector told it follows: "Leroy Harris obtained possession of an inspector's commission and other papers and visited the little town of Norton Heights, Conn., where it so happened the postmaster was the keeper of the general store. Harris told the postmaster the purpose of his visit was to close the money-order business of the postoffice, as it was doing such a small business that the department was not justified in continuing it. The postmaster, however, told Harris that the country had been afflicted with a first-class blizzard and the worthy Connecticut farmers had just succeeded in burrowing their way to the general store at Norton Heights. In consequence the postmaster was very busy, and as he was making more money on the orders or calls and sugar than he was on the postoffice and his money orders, he declared he didn't care if the department closed the money-order business and the postoffice along with it."

"So Harris took possession of the money-order business of the postoffice, balanced the books, and asked the postmaster in sight, and quietly disappeared with the money, books, stamps, and other paraphernalia employed in the business. "Stumped with respect to the order was received by a citizen of Norton Heights and presented it to the postmaster for payment. When refused, he insisted, until the postmaster, under the request of the Postmaster General demanding that he should remove the postoffice from his territory, finally yielded. He then issued the letter to the Post Assistant, who sent a rat and put a bona-fide inspector on the case."

"The Hon. Mark Hanna is talking mysteriously about 'the old Whig sentiment in North Carolina which ought this year to assert itself.' He is preparing a coup in that State. It is believed that Senator Jones and other officials of the Democratic National committee are endeavoring to raise money to North Carolina when they have successfully notified Mr. Bryan of his nomination."

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NOTES OF THE DAY.

Oklahoma now has a population of about 400,000. The Boers are losing many horses from cold and lack of food. India, it is said, is well able to spare 20,000 more active troops. There are about 500 Europeans in the land of the Zulus, out of a population of 150,000. The mackerel fishing on the south and southwest coast of Indiana has been a failure this year. The so-called shipwreck, which bores holes in the wood of ships, is in reality a form of shellfish.

A boy in Cleveland was recently killed by a kernel of corn which lodged in his throat and was aspirated. New Zealand shares with Iceland the distinction of being parts of the earth in freedom from all forms of cattle disease. At Coventry, England, recently all the tools in a watchmaker's shop were magnetized during an electrical storm and rendered useless. Canada has been awarded the grand prize for forestry, fish, and game, and mineral and agricultural products at the St. Louis Exposition. The jellyfish has no teeth, but kills itself as if he were a piece of paper when he is hungry, getting his food and then wrapping himself about it.

The requirements of health can be counted on the fingers of one hand. They are: Good air, good food, suitable clothing, cleanliness, and exercise and rest. Naturalists have discovered that if the voice of an elephant were as loud in proportion to size as that of a nightingale, it would be heard around the world. Wet, cold weather has led to the appearance of the Minister of the Interior lying dead in Ireland, with the result that several cattle have died from eating it. It is officially estimated that the wheat crop of the United States is 184,000,000 bushels, or 600 bushels last season, and 227,000,000 bushels, the average of five years past.

The game of Russia frequently plays tennis with his ministers and the officers of his household, and is qualified to pose as a champion. The tennis player is a man with him. A royal English standard made of silk will cost \$10 and a Union Jack of the same material \$25, but if made of ordinary worsted bunting a royal standard will not cost more than \$10. Of the \$18,000,000,000 worth of commerce done by all the nations of the world Great Britain's share is 18.3 per cent, Germany's 10.6 per cent, and 7 per cent falls to the lot of the United States. A complete list of all the vessels launched in Maine during the six months ended June 30, 1900, shows that the net register tonnage aggregated 497,772 tons. There were 100 in the stocks vessels aggregating 43,759 tons. Australians are migrating in large numbers to South Africa on account of the drought in Western Queensland. It is estimated that not less than 40,000,000 bushels of wheat have been lost by droughts during the past seven years. A landlup occurred some time ago in Sattel, Switzerland. An inn and its garden and outbuildings were struck by lightning, and a number of thirty-foot chimneys in the garden were also moved with the force of the wind.

Some years ago one of the biggest railroad corporations of this country employed a confidential penman, with the idea of preventing suits, but he was so successful in his personal demands. It has proved a profitable innovation, and is being taken up by other railroads. Competent authorities assert that South America has undeveloped resources than any other portion of the globe. The country where can be duplicated there, and the country abounds in mines of coal, silver, and gold, most of which are owned by the United States. "The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle," which has just been conferred upon the Earl of Hopetoun, is the smallest of the three great orders of knighthood in point of numbers, and the longest in the world, as it consists of the sovereign and British princes, and sixteen knights. W. B. Ward claims to be champion wolf catcher of the country, having killed one on the farm that he appeared in Rapid City, S. D., recently with 322 pups, 24 of the gray wolf, and 88 of the black wolf. The bounty on the lot amounted to \$800, which is the highest bounty ever paid to one man so far as is known. There is an idea in India that a lion cannot be induced to attack royal personage. At the same time it is a fact that no section of the country ever got on a lion hunt without a sufficient number of about him to frighten all the lions in the jungle. Princes are no more likely to attack the king of beasts than they are to attack the king of the forest. Wallpaper does not hang, and yet the person whose business it is to paste it up is called a paperhanger. The reason is simple. Long before the introduction of paper, the country was famous for its tapestries called arras. These were used as wall coverings and the man who was employed to put them up were called hangars.

Some one stole a copy of oatmeal from the editor of a paper in Oswego, Kan., and next week who are investigating a case of oatmeal, even from the fact that the sack of oatmeal from our house owing to the sifting of the meal from a hole in the sack was easily traced. The man who stole the oatmeal is now in jail, and will be better when what is left of the provender or there will be more soon. The Chinese are remarkable as a nation for their carefully preserved traditions, even from the most remote period of antiquity. The first mention of pottery is found in the reign of the Emperor Houngti in 2698 before the Christian era. Pottery was first used in the reign of the Emperor Shun, in 2237 before the Christian era, and in 18 B. C., but in 1860 years before it was known to the western countries of the globe. In France a series of grand maneuvers will take place this year in the eastern part of the country, in which a number of different types of automobiles will be tried, such as petroleum and electric vehicles, besides a number of heavy Scotch tractors. The transportation of freight and baggage. The experiments in the use of the motor car for the purpose of reform schools, 97,737 in kindergarten. It came out in reports of the recent Methodist conference that only two of the fifteen official journals of the church, published in different sections of the country under the common name of the "Christian Advocate," had been conducted at a profit. The net loss on the others—\$108,000 in one year. The net loss on the others—\$108,000 in one year. The net loss on the others—\$108,000 in one year.

Chicago is rapidly becoming tired of some of the noises that have increased with the city's growth. Noisy cows and crowing chickens are no longer tolerated in the residence part of the city. This is a thing that might be expected in other places with great comfort to citizens. Even in Washington, though there are no looting cows to awaken their neighbors, the city is full of plenty of crowing chickens to usher in the dawn and numerous dogs of low degree to bay at the moon the entire night long. A man in Pratt, Kas., was convicted of selling liquor without a license and sentenced to jail. The sheriff, however, permitted the prisoner to remain with his family for a time and then had him locked up. At the expiration of the prisoner's term the prisoner's wife used the sheriff for the wife of the sheriff, and the sheriff has appealed to the District Court. The astonishing report comes forth that the Americans are gradually, but surely, relinquishing their: "Why, that man who has a springing record in that line that simply cannot be matched. There is nothing else that he will run for."

Happy the Husband Who Can Do It. (From the Chicago Tribune.) Mr. Hawley—I wish you wouldn't interrupt me every time I try to say something. Do I ever tell you when you are talking? Mrs. Kawley—No, you wretch, you go to sleep! The Backyard Farmer's Chief Crop. (From the Chicago Record.) "Just look at that garden, David; look at the corn! It's a wonder when you are talking! What, what's the matter with you? Ain't they thirties?" He Gallops. (From the Chicago Post.) "Has he ever run for office before?" "Why, that man who has a springing record in that line that simply cannot be matched. There is nothing else that he will run for."

Drawing the Line. (From the Chicago Record.) "Sammy, grandma wants you to be a preacher when you grow up." "Well, grandma, maybe I'll be a preacher, but I tell you now I won't be a missionary!" Did He Dare to Tell Her So? (From the Philadelphia Press.) "Query—If wonder if anything will ever be invented to take the place of bread as the staff of life?" Mr. Newlived—Well, my wife baked something yesterday that she offered as a substitute. It certainly wasn't bread.

Comparisons are odious; yes, when you compare Heurich's superior beer with inferior beers sold in this country. The Heurich Beer Bottling Company, for a case of Maizen, Senate, or Lager and become acquainted with a pure beer.