

BATTLE WAS IN PROGRESS LAST NIGHT

Firing of Big Guns in Vicinity of Port Arthur Distinctly Heard Left No Doubt That Armies Are Fighting

Russians Claim They Have Ample Provisions and Ammunition to Stand Long Siege.

IN BOMB PROOF HOUSES

Japanese Steamer Pechili Brings News That Plans Were Made to Attack Today—Great Anxiety at Capital.

Chefoo, Aug. 20.—The steamer Pechili, just arrived, reports that she met seven Japanese torpedo boat destroyers. The Japanese informed the captain of the Pechili that they were seeking the Russian destroyers and torpedo boats which had escaped from Port Arthur. Heavy firing was heard by the Pechili all last night. The Japanese stated that a general attack along the entire line at Port Arthur had been planned to occur today.

ST. PETERSBURG ANXIOUS.

But the War Office Asserts Port Arthur Has Ample Supplies.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 19.—Acute anxiety prevails regarding the situation at Port Arthur on account of the desperate character of the fighting reported as taking place there, though the war office does not seem to believe the danger of the fall of the fortress is so imminent as generally asserted.

According to advices received by the war office there is still an ample supply of ammunition and provisions there. While it is realized that the Japanese outnumbered the defenders six to seven fold, the great strength of the fortifications is believed to do much to make up for the disparity in numbers.

BATTLE ON AT PORT ARTHUR.

Firing of Big Guns Distinctly Heard Last Night.

Chefoo, Aug. 19.—Firing at Port Arthur by big guns was heard distinctly here tonight. Later advices from Port Arthur say that Palungcheng, although retaken by Russians, has not been occupied by either side.

Commercial business at Port Arthur is said to be at a complete standstill. People are living in bomb proof houses. The Russian naval officers believe that the Japanese battleship Mikasa was sunk in an engagement August 10. They declare while the Japanese concentrated their fire on the Czarevitch, the Russians centered theirs on the Mikasa, Admiral Togo's flagship.

CHINESE SOLDIERS DRILL.

Provided With Japanese Officers and Up-to-Date Rifles.

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—William Martin, United States consul at Nankin, China, who has just arrived here from the orient on the steamer Siberia, is quoted in an interview in the Examiner this morning to the effect that immense bodies of Chinese troops are now drilling in the central portion of the kingdom under the direction of Japanese officers well versed in the art of modern warfare. The soldiers have been supplied with the very latest of rifles of the Mauser type. In the vicinity of Nankin alone there are about 5000 soldiers drilling continuously. During his absence from Nankin Mr. Martin's post has been filled by Consul General Cheshire, whose station is at Mukden, but who has been obliged to withdraw because of the war, which is centering about that city.

BATTLE EXPECTED SOON.

Contending Armies Only Four Miles Apart Near Liao Yang.

Mukden, Aug. 19.—A battle is regarded as being imminent, as the Jap-

anese on the Russian east front are only 20 miles from Liao Yang.

The advance posts are not more than four miles apart and small skirmishes are of daily occurrence.

On the south the Japanese have retired to Hsicheng.

AFTER SIX YEARS IN COURT.

Litigation Over Quantity of Smuggled Drug Worth \$1 an Ounce.

New York, Aug. 19.—The final act in a bit of litigation which has lasted since January, 1898, and which involved the right of the United States government to sell copyrighted or patented goods which had been smuggled, has developed through two men turned over to the appraisers stores 29,950 grains of phenacetine, to be destroyed in accordance with the direction of the circuit court of appeals. The drug is worth \$1 an ounce. The drug was smuggled into the country, it is said, and sold. The purchasers, two local agents, began preparations to sell it to the trade but were halted by an injunction procured by a representative of the German manufacturers. The latter claimed to have sole right to the name of the drug, having procured a copyright on the word. After six years before the courts, the manufacturers were upheld. The men who bought the drug from the government have now been compelled to turn it back and can only recover their money by a special act of congress.

FIVE FIRES NEAR SEATTLE.

Large Forces of Men Trying to Save Threatened Destruction.

Seattle, Aug. 19.—Five serious forest fires are raging in this county tonight. Fires are destroying all the snowsheds from Lester to Burrot and moving rapidly east toward west portal of the Northern Pacific. The railroad has 50 men fighting fires. Another fire is raging in Pierce county near South Prairie. Another is burning at Snoqualmie, and threatening the plant of the Snoqualmie Coal and Coke Company. A big force is fighting this blaze. Vashon Island is the scene of still another, while others are raging in the foothills of the Cascades.

BRITAIN REMEMBERS.

Grateful for Russia's Non-Interference in South African War.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 19. 7:25 a. m.—Referring to the British expedition into Tibet, the Novoe Cremya today says: "Russia is now being paid for the forbearance shown Great Britain during the South African war. Had we taken advantage of Great Britain's preoccupation then to cross Persia, the Baltic fleet might now have a base on the Persian gulf from which to operate."

HELD ANNUAL MEETING.

National Association of Manufacturers and Distributors of Food Products.

New York, Aug. 19.—The National Association of Manufacturers and Distributors of Food Products has held its annual meeting here. Addresses were made by W. H. Wiley, chief chemist of the agricultural department at Washington; Prof. E. Ward, W. Duckall, bacteriologist, Aspinwall, Pa., and President Fraley of the association. Delegates were present from all parts of the country.

GOOD FOR SON-IN-LAW.

Governor Terrazas of Chihuahua Steps Down But Keeps Office in Family.

El Paso, Tex., Aug. 19.—Louis Terrazas, governor of Chihuahua, Mexico, has secured an indefinite leave of absence and his son-in-law from his state, Enrique Creel, formerly Mexican commissioner to the International Monetary congress, has been elected his successor. It is generally understood that General Terrazas will not again take up the reins of government.

Leishman Replied to Porte.

Constantinople, Aug. 18 delayed.—Minister Leishman has replied to the porte's note. The American minister takes note of the formal declaration of the government to accord like treatment to American citizens as to those of other powers regarding schools in Turkish territory and expresses in his note the hope that the porte would not raise difficulties over executing the promises. The minister's reply ignores the porte's reservation relative to departmental formalities.

WILD STORMS DEVASTATE WIDE AREAS AND SPREAD DEATH AND DEVASTATION

Tornado Struck St. Louis And Illinois Towns--Reaches Down Like Giant Hand from the Clouds.

Arizona Experienced the Worst Cloudburst in Many a Year and the Extent of the Damage Is Not Yet Known--The Storm Spirit Was Also Active in the Far North, Where Hail and Thunder Added to Destruction.

St. Louis, Aug. 19.—A terrific thunder storm broke over St. Louis early tonight and rain fell in torrents, accompanied by heavy wind. Within 10 minutes .67 of an inch of rain fell.

The atmosphere became murky and dark, a cloud was noticed in north St. Louis approaching from the southwest. Suddenly an arm seemed to shoot down like a gigantic cable, twisting and turning. One end touched the ground with incredible swiftness and force and swept east for four blocks. Then it turned north and swept three blocks, when it jumped eight blocks northwest to the river. The tornado then jumped to about the middle of the river and encountered a ferry boat, which was turned and tossed about, but not sunk. The tornado once more lifted and struck the Illinois shore near Madison, where it demolished several buildings. Severe damage was done to buildings at Venice and Granite City, which adjoin Madison, and a number of persons were injured. So quickly did the tornado sweep through north St. Louis that the citizens scarcely comprehended what had happened.

CLOUSBURST IN ARIZONA.

Six or More Persons Drowned and All Wires Down.

El Paso, Aug. 19.—A cloudburst at Globe, Arizona, has resulted in several deaths and the destruction of much property. Wires to the section affected are down but a messenger who arrived at Bowie, Arizona, says six people have been drowned. One report says nine were drowned. The Southern Pacific shops were demolished. This cloudburst is the worst Arizona has experienced in 20 years. There are seven known victims of the storm. A special from Bowie says: One wire worked into Globe for a short time today and the operator confirmed the report that seven bodies have been recovered. The property damage is heavy, and practically in Gila valley.

NORTHERN CROPS INJURED.

Violent Wind, Hail and Thunderstorms Experienced.

Winnipeg, Aug. 19.—Reports of a disastrous storm have been received from Pierson and Moosomin, but so far nothing has been heard from the intervening country, 70 miles wide.

For violence and velocity the storm surpassed anything ever seen in this neighborhood. It is impossible to state the extent of the damage to standing crops. Lightning struck at Lyleton, causing a loss of a thousand dollars. A heavy thunderstorm, accompanied by hail, passed over Melita. Crops suffered much damage and barley in stack was discolored.

IRON MEN HOLD PRICES.

Prevailing Schedule Reaffirmed by Eastern Bar Iron Association.

New York, Aug. 19.—Practically all of the members of the Eastern Bar Iron Association have been represented here at the meeting of the association, at which it has been decided to reaffirm prices. Members of the nut and bolt association have also confirmed the prevailing schedule. Unusual interest was centered in the outcome of these meetings owing to the fact that they followed so closely the cut in wire products. The meetings were more protracted than usual. The whole iron and steel situation was discussed at great length and in the end prices were reaffirmed.

SHOT HIS HOUSEKEEPER.

Chicago Man Crazy by Jealousy Guilty of Double Crime.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Frank Mitchell has shot his housekeeper, Bessie Smith, because he was jealous of her; then he turned the revolver upon himself and fired a bullet into his left temple. Both were taken to the county hospital, where Mitchell died. He was 33 years old. The Smith woman is 19. Her condition is critical.

to be assisted to his dressing room. Burns was unscratched.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

Presidents of Central American States Engage in an Unusual Exercise.

New York, Aug. 19.—President Zelaya of Nicaragua, started on Thursday for Corinto, says a Herald dispatch from Managua. He will prepare to meet the presidents of Salvador and Honduras, who will arrive on Saturday next to hold the proposed peace conference. It is hoped that some practicable results will be reached in the conference relative to former President Policarpo and Bonilla, and several other political prisoners who have been for several months confined in Tegucigalpa.

WHEAT CROP ESTIMATE.

Latest Advices Indicate a Shortage in Quantity.

New York, Aug. 19.—R. G. Dunn & Co.'s review of trade tomorrow will say:

It is becoming evident that the estimated wheat crop must be reduced, although other agricultural news is much better. In so far as the purchasing power of the farmer is concerned, prices have risen so sharply that any loss in quantity promises to be made up.

YESTERDAY'S MARKETS.

Liverpool—September wheat, 7s 5 1/2d.

Chicago—Wheat—September opened, \$1.08@1.09; closed \$1.09; flax, \$1.16; Northwestern, \$1.24.

Rains on wheat fields ready for the reaper, shot prices over 5 cents a bushel today to figures not heretofore reached in this year's trading. Wheat for September delivery went to \$1.10; a bushel, December went to \$1.12; and May touched \$1.14. Closed strong.

San Francisco—Cash wheat, \$1.45.

Portland—Wheat—Shipping Wails, 80c; bluestem, 84c; valley, 84c. Tacoma—Wheat—Bluestem, 85c; club, 77c.

A British Question.

London, Aug. 19.—A Times correspondent at Shanghai says the dock there occupied by the Russian cruiser Askold belongs to a British company and is not subject to Chinese jurisdiction. The question therefore arises, the correspondent says, whether it is the duty of the British authorities to enforce neutrality?

Ex-Tank Line Treasurer.

New York, Aug. 19.—James E. Turrell, who recently resigned as treasurer of the Union Tank lines of the Standard Oil Company, is dead at his home in Plainfield, N. J. He was 67 years of age and was born in Pittsfield.

An Egg Within an Egg.

Oregon City Enterprise: The people of Oak Grove never do anything by halves and the animals of that locality seem to be striving to emulate the example. Monday, E. D. Olds of Oak Grove, brought to Oregon City a double egg, that is an egg within an egg. The egg was laid by a Brahma hen and was abnormally large. When the housekeeper went to prepare the product for a meal she discovered that there seemed to be something within the egg. She made an opening at either end of the egg and having emptied its contents, which were complete in a natural state, she was surprised to find within the shell, another perfect, hard shell egg.

BASEBALL.

Pacific Coast.

At Portland—Los Angeles, 6; Portland, 11.

At San Francisco—Tacoma, 3; San Francisco, 2.

At Seattle—Oakland, 6; Seattle, 7.

Pacific National.

At Salt Lake—Spokane, 9; Salt Lake, 3.

At Butte—Boise, 4; Butte, 16.

American.

At New York—Chicago, 1; New York, 6.

At Boston—St. Louis, 5; Boston, 2.

At Philadelphia—Cleveland, 2; Philadelphia, 1.

At Washington—Detroit, 5; Washington, 6.

National.

At New York—Pittsburg, 3; New York, 2.

CHICAGO PACKERS WORSTED

In a Legal Opinion Given by the Corporation Council They Are Charged With Violating the Law.

Mayor Harriman Has Notified the Chief of Police to Look Into the Matter.

NO RIGHT TO BOARD THE MEN

As the Packing Houses Where The Non-union Men Are Housed And Fed Are Unsafe.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Corporation Council Tolman has given Mayor Harrison an opinion declaring that packers at the stockyards have no legal right to house men in their packing houses. The opinion was given in response to the request of the mayor, who was informed by the Chicago Federation of Labor that packers were boarding men contrary to law. The opinion declares that the packers are not breaking any provision of the ordinance regulating lodging houses, for the reason that they are not letting lodgings for hire. The opinion does hold, however, that regulations calling for fire escapes and exits in buildings where large numbers of people are housed, have not been complied with, and suggests that the packers be given a period of three days to commence alterations in their buildings, or find new quarters for the men. Mayor Harrison sent the opinion to the chief of police with instructions to see that the packers obeyed the law.

CHEFOO AFFAIR SERIOUS.

Ryeshitelni Incident May End World's Agreement for China's Neutrality.

New York, Aug. 19.—In an interview with a Herald correspondent telegraphed from Bar Harbor, Maine, Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, discussed at length the Ryeshitelni incident at Chefoo. The question instead of being closed, is just opened, and in an international sense, it is regarded by the ambassador as far more serious than any problem which has been before the world since the adjustment of the boxer troubles.

"I regard the matter in such a serious light," he said, "because it is in a fair way to terminate suddenly and finally the international agreement for the maintenance of the neutrality of China. That would be a calamity because of the dangers with which it would threaten not only China, but every nation that is interested in China."

A few incidents of similar character, the ambassador believed, might possibly force a war upon China, as at present the entire matter stands where it did before Secretary of State Hay sent his note to the powers on the subject of China's integrity and neutrality being respected by the combatants.

FOUND \$6000 GOLD NUGGET.

Stolen in Pieces From a Big Manufacturing Concern.

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 19.—A nugget of gold weighing nearly two pounds, worth \$6000, has been found by the police who arrested David Eber, a jeweler, on the charge of receiving stolen property.

A short time ago a firm of opticians notified the authorities that their inventory of gold showed a shortage, used in manufacturing eye glass frames covering a considerable space of time and amounting to several thousand dollars. An employe was suspected who had access to the vault, and the police obtained a confession. They were told that an employe stole scraps of gold regularly each week, selling it to Eber for \$10 gold worth \$125. These scraps, Eber, it is alleged, melted together and formed the nugget, so the police claim, which was seized. The total amount of gold missing is estimated at \$29,000.