

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Italy will fortify her frontier and be ready for war with Austria.

A Chicago physician proposes to use hypnotism for the cure of rheumatism.

Forest fires which have been raging in Hawaii for some time have been extinguished by rain.

Addicks may be given a foreign appointment to end the deadlock in the Delaware legislature.

The Sisseton and Wahpeton Indians in South Dakota are to have \$100,000 distributed among them per capita.

Register Bridges and Receiver Booth, of the Roseburg land office, will be indicted by the grand jury when it convenes in April.

The Isthmian canal commission has erected a large number of good paying positions in connection with the prosecution of the canal work.

Kuropatkin has been replaced by General Linevitch, who will command the Manchurian army until some other man is sent from Russia.

It is now estimated that Kuropatkin's forces at the beginning of the battle of Mukden consisted of 480,000 men. His loss in killed and wounded before the retreat began was 70,000.

Kuropatkin is reorganizing his army at Tse pass.

Assistant Secretary Loomis denies friction with Hay.

President Castro has seized and cut the French cable in Venezuela.

The Colorado legislature is in a deadlock over the governorship contest.

The president will reorganize the Panama canal commission soon and drop a number of useless officials.

The American steamer Tacoma, from Seattle to Vladivostok with a cargo of beef, has been captured by the Japanese.

Arrangements are nearly completed for the erection of a large oil refining plant at Kansas City in opposition to the Standard Oil.

Kuropatkin must now take with him the supplies at Tse pass if he retreats from that place, as there are none between Tse pass and Harbin.

St. Petersburg, dispatches say that Kuropatkin's resignation has been accepted and that Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholasievitch has consented to take chief command in Manchuria.

It is stated that Secretary Loomis will be appointed ambassador to Mexico in succession to Edwin H. Conger, when the latter retires next summer to become a candidate for the governorship of Iowa.

Japan accuses Russia of violating Chinese neutrality.

Menominee, Michigan, has been shaken by an earthquake.

The Porto Rican legislature has adjourned after passing 40 bills out of 198 introduced.

Mexican rural police have run down the band of Yaquis, which robbed the Mazatlan stage of \$15,000.

Some of the war party of Russia favors the raising of a new army to fight Japan, to be personally commanded by the czar.

The Russians are fortifying Tse pass while the Japanese are preparing another turning movement similar to that of Mukden.

From latest reports of losses it is believed that Kuropatkin cannot have more than 100,000 effective fighting men with him at Tse pass.

A caucus of the Republican members of the Missouri legislature has resulted in an agreement to vote for A. P. Spencer, of St. Louis, for United States senator.

Many arms are being smuggled into Russia for use by strikers.

The Colorado supreme court has ruled that the legislature must seat either Adams or Peabody, and cannot adopt the report declaring that neither was elected. Twenty-two members have signed a pledge not to seat Peabody, which means a final victory for Adams.

Mrs. Chadwick has been found guilty of swindling the Oberlin, Ohio, bank.

An extradition treaty has been signed between the United States and Uruguay.

The senatorial deadlock in the Missouri and Delaware legislatures continues unbroken.

St. Petersburg advises say that as soon as the Baltic squadron receives reinforcements it will again start for the Far East.

The sale of very young girls as wives is common in Chicago. The largest per cent of them are Italians, but many are Americans.

Two men found guilty of stealing ballots in Denver at the November election have been sent to the penitentiary for five years.

UTAH LAND FRAUDS DISCLOSED

Great Tracts of Coal Land Filed on as Farm Land by Syndicate.

Salt Lake City, Utah, March 14.—Special agents of the Federal government are reported to have been engaged for some time past in investigating public land frauds in Utah. The Salt Lake Herald today states that hundreds of thousands of acres of valuable coal lands have been acquired by corporations by questionable methods.

Vast tracts of coal lands are said to have been filed on and patented as agricultural and grazing land, and then transferred to the coal companies. In many instances, it is said, lands have been filed on as coal lands, under the law which permits every adult citizen to acquire 160 acres of coal lands by purchase, upon payment of \$10 an acre for such lands when situated more than 15 miles from any railroad, and \$20 an acre when situated within 15 miles of a railroad. Later these filings have been allowed to lapse, and the same lands have been acquired as agricultural or grazing land at \$1.50 an acre.

More than 2,000 of these coal entries have been made in the Salt Lake land office, but not more than one in 50 of the persons who made the filings has completed the purchase, the filings lapsing and title being secured as agricultural or grazing land from the state land office through state land selections.

Forty filings made in 1901 within a period of 60 days have recently been investigated, and 30 of the 40 claimants are found to have been represented by an employe of a big coal corporation, exercising power of attorney. The land was filed on and held for 14 months, as is permitted under the law, without being paid for, but in none of these cases was the purchase completed, title being acquired through the state land office at a nominal figure under proceedings instituted while the land was covered by the coal land filings.

DEAD IN HEAPS.

Oyama Reports Results of the Battle of Mukden.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report has been received from Field Marshal Oyama:

"The number of prisoners, spoils and the enemy's estimated casualties against all our forces in the direction of the Shakke follow, but the number of prisoners, guns and spoils are increasing momentarily.

"Prisoners, over 40,000, including General Nakhimoff.

"Killed and wounded, estimated at 90,000.

"Enemy left dead on the field, 20,500.

"Flags, 2.

"Guns, about 60.

"Rifles, 60,000.

"Ammunition wagons, 150.

"Shells, 200,000.

"Small arms ammunition, 25,000,000 rounds.

"Cereals, 15,000 koku (about 75,000 bushels.)

"Fodder, 55,000 koku.

"Light railway outfit, 45 miles.

"Horses, 2,000.

"Maps, 23 cartloads.

"Clothing and accoutrements, 1,000 cartloads.

"Bread, 1,000,000 rations.

"Fuel, 70,000 tons.

"Hay, 60 tons, besides tools, tents, bullocks, telegraph wire and poles, timber, beds, stoves, and numerous other property.

"No reports have been received from our forces in the direction of Singking."

BRIEF LULL IN THE PURSUIT

Resumption of Japanese Advance is Expected Any Time.

Tie Pass, March 14.—The Japanese, it is reported, have ceased their pursuit, at least temporarily. Some of the Japanese are 25 miles below Tie pass. A resumption of their advance is expected. Rumors are in circulation that the Japanese are already attempting another wide turning movement to drive the Russians from Tie pass.

The Russian troops here have been arriving with hopelessly mixed units, in consequence of the change in the front. The troops are being sorted out and organizations reformed and assigned to places to defend the new positions, but whether Tie pass will be held or abandoned probably will not be decided for several days.

Kuropatkin Needs a Rest.

London, March 14.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says: "General Kuropatkin has asked the emperor's gracious permission to hand over his command, alleging that he is in urgent need of physical and mental rest. I learn on the best authority that the Japanese twice have approached Russia on the subject of peace negotiations, but that in each case the proposal failed because Japan demanded an indemnity and a pledge that Russia would not keep warships in the Pacific for 25 years."

Spotted Fever in the East.

New York, March 14.—That cerebrospinal meningitis, or "spotted fever," is killing about 40 persons a week in this city was asserted tonight by Commissioner Darlington, of the health department, and reports received from cities and towns in Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania show that Pennsylvania is not alone in fighting against the ravages of this dread disease, which kills about 50 per cent of those attacked by it.

Iroquois Theater Trial 16.

Chicago, March 13.—March 15 was fixed by Judge McEwen today for the opening of the trial of Manager Will J. Davis on the charge of manslaughter, growing out of the Iroquois fire.

THOUSANDS TAKEN

Loss to Kuropatkin's Army Estimated at 200,000 Men.

TWO ARMY CORPS ARE CUT OFF

Almost Without Supplies and Capture Seems Certain — Will Greatly Increase Number Taken.

Tokio, March 11.—All news reaching Japan, both official, semi-official and from some other sources, emphasizes what has been patent to military students for the past week, that the present movement at Mukden is the greatest strategy of the war and is being attended by what is really a series of stupendous battles that will go down in history as one of the bloodiest and most terrific military conflicts of ancient or modern times.

From most closely informed quarters it is learned that conservative estimates of Russian casualties exceed 150,000, while 50,000 Russians were taken prisoners at the culmination of Marshal Oyama's great flanking strategy. While no figures are obtainable here on the Japanese losses, there is no reason to believe that they were much less than the casualties suffered by the enemy, although, of course, no Japanese have been captured. Neither army has spared men in the supreme encounter.

While the present distribution of General Kuropatkin's army, other than that part of the main body which is being harassed in retreat to the north of Mukden, is difficult to determine it was semi-officially reported yesterday that two army corps were still west of Mukden in an isolated position almost without supplies. They have small chances of cutting through the Japanese cordon and will in all probability be added to the great mass of prisoners taken when Mukden fell.

The Russians are attempting to concentrate toward the south and southeast of Mukden with the Japanese occupying the city threatening their rear. In this vicinity, however, where Russians are massing in front of the Japanese right is expected the fiercest fighting for the next few days.

General Nogi is still marching to the eastward completing the circle and cutting off every possible loophole of escape. The disorderly character of the retreat indicates that the rapid movement of Japanese columns caught General Kuropatkin entirely unprepared. The latest news is that a portion of the Japanese center is pressing the Russian main body northward.

FUNDS FOR COLUMBIA JETTY.

As Finally Passed, Bill Allows Expenditure of \$700,000.

Washington, March 11.—From letters which he has received, Senator Fulton finds there is a general misunderstanding in Oregon as to what appropriation was actually made in the river and harbor bill for improving the mouth of the Columbia river. The fact is this:

The bill as enacted carries a cash appropriation of \$400,000 and authorizes the expenditure of \$300,000 additional, which latter amount will be provided in the sundry civil bill to be passed next session. As the bill passed the house, it carried \$300,000 cash and authorized an additional \$300,000 in the next sundry civil bill. Senator Fulton appealed to the senate committee to increase the cash appropriation, but his request was turned down. When the bill was being considered in the senate, he offered and secured the adoption of an amendment increasing the cash appropriation to \$450,000. The bill then went to conference and Chairman Burton endeavored to restore the house appropriation, but the senate conferees would not consent. A compromise was finally reached and \$50,000, one-third of the amount added by the senate, was cut off. As the bill finally passed, it carried \$100,000 more than was provided in the house bill.

Armed Peasants on Warpath.

London, March 11.—A dispatch from Kiev to the Daily Mail says: "An army of 3,000 peasants from the Orlovka district is advancing southwestward. Burning and looting of estates is in progress. Eighteen estates have already been sacked. The Michaeloffsky sugar refinery has been burned and the employes have been robbed. It is also reported that the peasants have burned a refinery belonging to the crown. A strong military force has been sent to suppress the rising, and a bloody conflict is feared."

Demand Their Old Rights.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—The Baltic provinces, the Russification of which was regarded as practically completed, have been encouraged by recent developments to again demand the restoration of some or all of their ancient rights. A well-developed movement, backed by the nobles and intelligent classes, is now openly demanding that the teaching of German in the schools be revived, and that native officials conduct provincial affairs.

Irving Will Tour America.

London, March 11.—Sir Henry Irving has signed a contract for an American tour under the management of Charles Frohman, beginning in October. He probably will open in New York between October 10 and 15, and will make a farewell tour lasting 20 weeks, of all the principal cities.

GERMAN CLAIMS ARE TOO HIGH

Negotiations for Settling the Samoan Indemnity Drag.

Washington, March 13.—The negotiations between America, Great Britain and Germany looking to a settlement of the Samoan indemnity claims, have practically come to a standstill, owing to a wide difference of opinion as to the extent of damage sustained by the German subjects in the Samoan group as a result of joint operations by the American and British naval forces in 1900 to suppress a rebellion.

The question of the liability of America and Great Britain for the damages sustained by German plantation owners was decided by King Oscar of Sweden, in favor of the claimants in 1902, but the arbitrator did not attempt to assess individual damages, leaving this to be adjusted by negotiation. These negotiations have dragged along ever since 1902, and the principals now find themselves no nearer an agreement than at the beginning. The German claims amount to about \$65,000. The British and American negotiators insist that this sum is excessive and that \$25,000 is a good price for the property destroyed.

It is probable it will be necessary to appoint a commission to take testimony as to the extent of the actual damage, though the smallness of the amount involved would seem to make this an unduly expensive undertaking.

Meanwhile the claimants are becoming restive and are bringing pressure to bear on the German government to secure settlement.

WILL NOT GIVE UP.

Czar Will Send Another Army to the Far East.

St. Petersburg, March 13.—The immediate answer of the Russian government to the defeat at Mukden is the announcement that a new army will be raised and the forces in the Far East reorganized; that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky will be ordered to sail on and try conclusions with Togo, and that the war will be prosecuted to the bitter end.

This is the present temper of Emperor Nicholas and his dominant advisers, voiced in a firm official announcement that the position of Russia is unchanged, and that the initiative for peace can only come from Japan. Should the island empire choose to tender "moderate" terms and recognize its adversary as the power in the Far East, peace could be easily arranged; but the voice of her diplomacy in various parts of the world indicates that she is not ready to do this, and the Russian government, with the full magnitude of the disaster at Mukden still undetermined, but with the 1905 campaign seemingly already hopelessly compromised, retreat to Harbin inevitable and Vladivostok practically lost, declares that the time has not yet come when Russia can be forced to humble herself.

HE HAS DODGED OYAMA'S TRAP

Kuropatkin's Line of Retreat Secure, Though Japs Pound Both Sides.

St. Petersburg, March 13.—Russia still has an army in the Far East and its line of retreat is not cut. Field Marshal Oyama's trap was again sprung too late to bag the prey he desired, and, though pounded on the rear and both flanks, and losing heavily in killed, wounded and prisoners, General Kuropatkin with the main portions of his forces intact is falling slowly back to Tie pass, where a considerable part of his army has already arrived and joined hands with the reserves in preparing a position behind which the beaten army may find shelter.

General Kuropatkin himself, with the rear guard, was reported Saturday afternoon in the vicinity of Syanzia, 25 miles below Tie pass, having accomplished some 15 miles of his retreat, and being already beyond the jaws of the trap as originally set. How many of his men he was obliged to leave behind, and whether any of the units of his army were cut off or captured before the retreat began is not stated.

Arizona Has a N w Climate.

El Paso, Tex., March 13.—The whole territory of Arizona is covered with water as a result of the heavy rains and snows and in many places the desert that has not known water for a decade is now a lake. At Silver City there has fallen 28 inches of rain during the last eight months, and rivers heretofore dry are now crossed by ferryboats. All records for moisture have been broken in this entire section. Railroads are demoralized, not only from washouts but from soft tracks and many miles will have to be rebuilt.

Investigate Railroad Rates.

Washington, March 13.—Railroad rate legislation was the subject of a talk today between the president and Senator Elkins, chairman of the interstate commerce committee of the senate. Senator Elkins said it was the purpose of the committee to begin its investigation of the rate question next Tuesday. Senator Elkins suggested that November next would be early enough to call an extraordinary session if one were called at all.

Only Awaits Third Squadron.

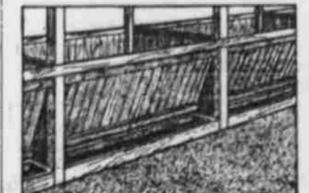
Paris, March 13.—Vice Admiral Doubaoff, who has arrived here from London on his way to St. Petersburg, in an interview with the Echo de Paris, says Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron is not returning to the Baltic sea, but is simply cruising and awaiting the arrival of the third squadron under Admiral Nebogatoff. When this junction is made they will proceed immediately to the Far East.



Convenient Pig Pen Front.

The illustration herewith shows a convenient pig-pen front. The feed trough is securely fastened at the front side of the pen, and the side or wall of the pen is hinged at the top so it will swing over the trough. An iron rod is passed through the bottom cross-piece and inserted in another hole in either edge of the trough.

When feeding, the rod is lifted, the gate swung back, and the rod is dropped in the hole in the back edge of the trough. To let the pigs eat, the gate is swung toward the feeder, and the rod pushed down into the hole in outside edge of trough. Such an arrangement will save much annoyance and give each pig a chance to get his



SWINGING FRONT PIG PEN.

share of the meal. The illustration shows the front swung back so that the feed can be put into the troughs.—Exchange.

Paris Green and Weevil.

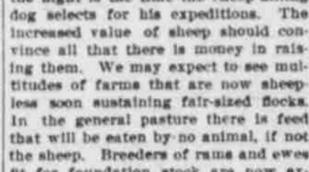
That the boll weevil is not to be driven out of our Southern cotton fields by the use of paris green is the conclusion of the Bureau of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture after extensive observations and experiments. This conclusion is based upon the following facts: "1. Persistent use of paris green from the time of chopping until picking (in some cases as many as fifteen applications) has failed to materially reduce the numbers of the weevils or to increase the yield. 2. Careful examination of very many experiments with the poison made by planters in Texas has failed to reveal conclusive instances of its successful use. 3. Reasons for the impossibility of poisoning weevils successfully are to be found in the facts that only a very small percentage emerge from hibernation before the squares are set upon the plants, that they do not drink the dew on the leaves at night, and that as soon as squares are set all feeding is done within the shelter of the bracts (shuck) beyond the reach of any poison that might be applied."

Place for the Sheep.

A place for the sheep should be found in the plans of nearly every farmer. A small flock of sheep, while a large flock would prove hard to manage and care for. When the flock is small it may be sheltered every night, and thus losses from dogs avoided, and the night is the time the sheep-killing dog selects for his expeditions. The increased value of sheep should convince all that there is money in raising them. We may expect to see multitudes of farms that are now sheepless soon sustaining fair-sized flocks. In the general pasture there is feed that will be eaten by no animal, if not the sheep. Breeders of rams and ewes fit for foundation stock are now experiencing a season of prosperity due to the increasing number of farmers that have concluded to keep a few sheep and are looking for material with which to begin.—Farmers' Review.

Post Puller.

The post puller illustrated is a strong and durable one. It will pull any fence post. The two uprights are 2x6 inches and 3 feet long, mortised



EFFECTIVE POST PULLER.

In 12x36-inch scantling, and 2 inches thick and braced. Bore a 1-inch hole in upper end of uprights, in which insert a small pulley wheel. Take a chain, fasten around lower end of post; put chain over wheel; hitch horse to end of chain. By this device you can pull a more solid post than by hand.

Productive Island Farms.

In some respects, American farmers might take a lesson from those of the Jersey Islands in the English Channel. On one farm of say forty acres, a man expects to keep thirty cows, a large herd of swine, and employ five or six men. The climate is very favorable for fodder crops, but a part of the success of the Channel island farming is owing to the excellent stock kept and the care taken in saving manure and tilling the land.

Progress and Cost of Irrigation.

The Census Bureau has issued a report on the condition of irrigation in the United States in 1902, showing that 33,415 systems with 59,311 miles of main canals and ditches were irrigating 9,487,077 acres on 134,093 farms. The amount expended in constructing

Illinois Farms Sell High.

Why do Illinois farm lands sell for \$125 to \$200 an acre? Because they are productive. This year one Christian County farmer gathered a field of corn which yielded 119 bushels to the acre. The corn was sold for 37 cents a bushel, a gross return of \$43 per acre. Taking out the cost of growing the crop, there still remains a big interest on the investment, even if the land be valued at \$200 per acre. While yields as large as this are exceptional, they are becoming more and more common. With improved seed and improved methods of culture, the average yield on good land is increasing. This is one of the reasons land is going up.

all these systems was \$98,320,452. The average cost of construction per acre in the arid region was \$9.14, and the average per irrigation system was \$2,710. The report says that the great obstacle to the development of irrigation in Texas and New Mexico is the present treaty between Mexico and this country, which prohibits the impounding of the waters of the Rio Grande.

Owners Want More Money.

A farm exchange says: It is reported that in some sections where there are many hogs their owners are positively refusing to take less than 4 cents a pound for them on the farm, and buyers are finding themselves "up against a hard proposition," as they put it, for the packers' price will not allow the farm price demanded. But it looks as if the farmers are standing pat, judging by the receipts of hogs at the big markets. For instance: For the week closing with the writing of this the receipts at Chicago alone were 22,000 head, against 98,000 head the previous week, and 92,000 head the corresponding week last year. It will not be necessary to keep up such light receipts more than a week or two to bring the packers to terms. And at this season that much more feeding can doubtless be done without loss to the feeders. At all events, with feeding stuffs at their present price, hogs cannot and should not be sold at less than 4 cents, if cost of production is considered a factor in the business.

Handling the Apple Crop.

If apples are picked too early they are apt to lose their firmness and color; and if too late, the keeping quality is greatly affected. The proper time to pick is when the color is brightest and while the fruit is yet hard. Do not let the apples stand out after picking, any longer than is absolutely necessary, especially if they are to go to the cold storage. The investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture show that the keeping qualities of apples depend as much on the handling before being stored as on the conditions after storage. If you want your fruit to reach the fancy markets, the straight and narrow way of delivering the best in the best condition is the only way to realize that aim. Careful picking at the right time, careful sorting and packing and careful delivery are essential steps in catering to the fancy apple trade.

Handy Farm Cart.

I have found that a cart with two wheels made as shown in the illustration



HANDY FARM CART.

tion by using the rear wheels of an old buggy with the axle clamped to the frame by clamp bolts to be a nice cart for almost any purpose, and especially for garden use. I recently took the milk to the cheese factory when all the horses were in use.—H. F. Jahnke, in Iowa Democrat.

Bad Way to Break a Colt.

A great many people believe that the only way to break a colt is to throw him, hobble him or tangle him with straps or ropes. An Indiana horseman tells how he prepares a colt for his first visit to the blacksmith's shop by putting a strap around his neck, passing it along the near side and between the hind legs, then up and through the strap around the neck and back to his hind leg. The idea is to hold on to this strap while you lift the colt's leg, and if he kicks or struggles pull on the strap until he falls down. This is an excellent way of frightening a colt half to death, and rendering him vicious. Every colt ought to be handled in such a way until, by the time he is a year old, his feet can be picked up easily and without the aid of straps or ropes. The best appliances for breaking colts are the flaked hands and a good halter.

Checking Root Galls.

When new apple trees are received from the nursery they should be carefully inspected to make sure that they are not affected with root gall. This disease is now very prevalent in some nurseries, and great care must be exercised. It is a disease that spreads through the soil, and a single tree may introduce it into an orchard, where it may undo the work of years. We have several times illustrated root gall in these columns, and it does not seem advisable to repeat the illustration at this time. Suffice it to say that it is a gall appearing on the roots, and any tree affected with a protuberance of this kind should be discarded. This is the first thing to be looked out for in planting trees. The shape of the tree is important, but it is less important than to know whether or not the tree has a disease that will prove deadly to itself and to other trees in the same orchard.

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