

THE COLUMBIA REGISTER

VOL. I.

HOULTON, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1904.

NO. 8.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Russia has called out more reserves. Many deported union miners are arriving at Denver.

The Russian forces at Ping, south of Niu Chwang have been forced to evacuate.

Russia will not heed the protest of Britain against declaring foodstuffs contraband.

An attempt has been made to kidnap the Italian consul at Tangier, Morocco, by bandits.

All Russian warships at Port Arthur are expected to be ready for service within a fortnight.

The tenth semiannual reunion of Scottish Rite Masons of Oregon is in session at Portland.

Congressman Metcalf, of California, is slated to succeed Cortelyou as secretary of commerce and labor.

The national heads of the Rathbone Sisters and Pythian Sisters, at a conference, have prepared a plan for the consolidation of the two orders.

A cloudburst on the tableland adjacent to Sterling, Colorado, caused a sheet of water 10 to 18 inches deep to cover the lower portion of the town. Much damage was done to growing crops in that section.

The lead office at Oregon City may be moved to Protlend.

Abner McKinley, brother of the late President McKinley, is dead.

The Colorado train robbers have again eluded the posse and are further into the hills.

The man who attempted to kill the Spanish premier has been sent to prison for 17 years.

The wife of Mayor Ballinger, of Seattle, has been warned of a plot against her husband's life.

Chinese report that a battle was fought June 9 within seven miles of the inner forts of Port Arthur.

The Panama commissioners are sure a currency system acceptable to the United States will be adopted by Panama.

More union miners are being deported from Colorado and the work will be kept up until all are taken out of the state.

The Japanese are constructing a railroad from Feng Wang Cheng to Shakedai, 30 miles to the southeast, near the mouth of the Yalu river.

Roosevelt desires Ambassador Choate to succeed Knox as attorney general.

John W. Minto has been appointed postmaster at Portland, to take charge July 1.

Perdicaris, the American held by Moroccan bandits, will soon be released.

The Japanese have dislodged Russian forces in a number of towns along the Liao Yang.

A waterspout in Oklahoma was the cause of three deaths and washed away many houses.

Kansas objects to being made the dumping ground for the objectionable Colorado unionists.

Many union miners are being deported from the Victor, Colorado, mining district every day.

Cripple Creek alliance has decided it will not try to break up the printers' union, fearing that the papers will suspend.

Four hundred school children were thrown in a mass at San Jose, Cal., by the breaking down of a platform in a theater. None were seriously injured.

The secretary of the Mineowners' association says the desire to make all join the union and not the eight hour day is the real issue in the Colorado trouble.

Postmaster Bancroft, of Portland, has resigned.

The American Medical association will meet in Portland in 1905.

The alleged leader in the Victor, Colorado, riots has been captured.

In a battle between Colorado ranchers and train robbers one of the latter was killed.

Russia is not negotiating with Turkey for the passage of the Baltic fleet through the Dardanelles.

General Kuroki's movements are a puzzle to the Russians and they do not know what to expect next.

The mother of Lewis Etzel, the American correspondent killed by Chinese, has filed a claim for \$20,000 with China.

GOOD ROADS.

A Few Simple Rules Which Would Help Our Highways.

Among the elements and forces of nature there are several enemies of good roads, but the greatest of them is water. It washes away the material of the road. It soaks into the road and softens it so that the wagon wheels cut into the surface making ruts and holes. It permeates and softens the foundation so that the surface of the road sinks or breaks up. In the winter the water that is in the road freezes, expands, and loosens and disintegrates the road material.

The most important thing in the building of roads is to lessen or prevent the ravages of water; yet no feature of the work is so neglected as this. Many local road supervisors seem to give no consideration to the question of drainage, and the result is a regular mud blockage during several weeks or months of the year.

The following are a few simple rules the observance of which would go far toward bettering the roads of this country:

First. The road should be so located and constructed as to avoid steep grades down which the water rushes during heavy rains tearing up and washing away the road material.

Second. The foundation of the road should be thoroughly drained by open side ditches which will carry off the water, and where necessary tile drains should be laid in the foundation itself.

Third. The surface of the road should be hard and smooth and have sufficient slope toward the sides to shed the surface water.

Fourth. Ruts and holes on the surface of the finished road should be filled as fast as made so that no water can lie on the surface to be worked up into mud.

These rules are simple and easy to follow, and any one who gives any serious thought to the matter can see the wisdom of following them. Still they are almost universally ignored as the condition of our roads abundantly proves.

What this country needs is a radical change, a new era in road building. The people have been moving in ruts in more senses than one, and if each local community is left to work out the road problem alone, they will continue to move in the same ruts, and every year millions of dollars will be thrown into the mud, to say nothing of the losses resulting from the use of bad roads. Lectures on road improvement seem to do very little good. Books and bulletins on road building appear to have very little effect.

What the local communities need is practical object lessons and actual assistance, and these can come only from the state governments and the federal government. It is for this reason that road reformers everywhere are turning toward state and national aid as the only solution of the road problem.

The bad roads of the United States are a blight, a curse, a disgrace and all patriotic, progressive citizens should make a grand united effort to wipe them out and put our nation on a level with the advanced nations of Europe in the matter of roads.

Pestilence in Siberia.

Paris, June 15.—Letters received from correspondents who have investigated the conditions prevailing in Siberia show that the natives are suffering severely as a result of the war. An epidemic has broken out among the laborers who live around Lake Baikal, and it is feared the disease, the exact nature of which has not yet been ascertained, will affect the troops who are passing through on the way to Manchuria. The unfortunates affected by the disease usually die within forty-eight hours after being first attacked, and so far all known remedies have proven useless.

Visits the Bandit's Camp.

Tangier, June 15.—J. W. S. Langerman, commissioner of the Moroccan section at the St. Louis exposition, arrived here today from the camp of Raisuli, the bandit. In an interview given to the Associated Press, Mr. Langerman said: "I met Raisuli and his band fully armed and suspicious of the visit. For a few minutes the situation was critical, but all passed off well. Ton Perdicaris is much better and in good spirits over the prospect of his speedy release."

Guns Drove Back Train.

Tokio, June 15.—Rear Admiral Togo reports that Tuesday a part of the fleet bombarded the west coast of the Liao Tung peninsula, near Kaichau, and drove back a military train that was approaching southward. No trains have been seen since. The enemy was moving in troops and erecting works evidently expecting a landing of the Japanese at that point and making all preparations to prevent it. Small gunboats sent in close by Rear Admiral Togo bombarded the Russians at work.

Russian Prisoners in Japan.

Tokio, June 15.—The Russian prisoners in the hospitals in Japan number 546, including 19 officers. Of these 38 men and 10 officers are wounded while the others are suffering from sickness of various sorts.

FOOL THE RUSSIANS

JAPANESE MAKE FEINT AND KILL 800 OF CZAR'S MEN.

Defeated Troops Fall Back on Kaichou—Show Indications of a Long, Forced March, but Will Give Out No Information to the Correspondents Who are Along Their Line of March.

St. Petersburg, June 15.—It is reported that a naval battle between the fleets of the Japanese on the one side and the Russian fleet and shore batteries on the other side occurred off Port Arthur on June 10. The naval battle was accompanied by the advance of the Japanese troops to the rear of the Port Arthur defense. The Russian forces within the forts were in command of General Stoessel, who, it is reported, is wounded. It was necessary to amputate his leg at the knee.

Niu Chwang, June 15.—Information has been received here through heretofore reliable channels that part of the Japanese force left at Pu Lan Tien to checkmate the Russians' southward movement to relieve Port Arthur was attacked southeast of Shung Mao yesterday. After slight fighting, the Japanese made a false retreat, the Russians hotly following them, when the Japanese made a flank movement, catching the Russians in a trap. The Russian losses are placed at 800 men. They then fell back on Kaichou and began to retreat along the Baimatgu-Tsai Chou road.

About 2,000 Russian infantry from Kaichou passed through Niu Chwang yesterday, accompanied by a large supply and hospital train. Several carts contained bandaged men. The troops appeared to be fagged out, and showed every indication of a long, forced march. The officers refused to furnish any information, but a noncommissioned officer told a correspondent of the Associated Press that all the troops were retreating from Tsai Chou. Before he could say anything further, he was reprimanded by a captain. Stragglers are closely watched by noncommissioned officers to prevent them from talking. The Russians have abandoned the ground mines eight miles south of here.

A native messenger just in from the Russian camp west of here reports that there are many wounded men there.

REVOLT AT PRISON.

Four Condemned Men in Ohio Penitentiary Attempt to Escape.

Columbus, O., June 15.—An attempt was made by four of the nine condemned men at the penitentiary to escape at 1 o'clock this morning by overpowering the guard. The guard was badly beaten, but two guards from the hall came to his assistance and the prisoners were forced back into their cells and locked up.

The prisoners in the plot to escape were Moses Johnson, of Scioto county; Phillip Nagle, of Wyandotte county; Lewis Harmon, of Franklin county; and Ben Wade, of Lucas county.

Guard Richards, of Williams county, was in charge of the prisoners. He was unarmed, no weapons being allowed in the annex. The prisoners beat him down with their fists, and secured the key to the cage in the annex, but failed to find the key to the outer door.

Guard Richards made such an outcry that two guards in an adjoining hall were attracted, and they came to his rescue. The prisoners were overpowered and locked up. Guard Richards was badly beaten, but his condition is not considered serious.

It was evidently the purpose of the prisoners to get out of the door of the annex which leads into the prison yard and scale the walls. They had no weapons, but expected to secure them from the guard. It is not believed that the five other men in the annex were a party to the plot to escape.

Whipping-Post Regime Revived.

Lexington, Ky., June 15.—Police Judge John J. Riley today revived the old whipping post regime when he sentenced Simon Seearce, a 15-year-old negro lad to be whipped in the public square. Seearce had struck a white boy. The court decreed that the boy's mother take the boy to the public square and give him 20 lashes with a buggy whip. The mother, in the presence of a large crowd, administered the punishment as directed. This is the first time such an incident has been witnessed since the Civil war.

Dowie Coming Home.

London, June 15.—It is announced that John Alexander Dowie has decided to return to the United States by the first steamer. In strongly-worded denunciatory editorials, the London papers this morning express unbounded satisfaction with Dowie's speedy departure.

FORCE WIPED OUT.

Two Battalions of Japanese Ambushed on Feng Wang Cheng Road.

Haicheng, Manchuria, June 14.—A flanking movement of the Japanese around the Russian left from Feng Wang Cheng, June 9, was repulsed with a loss of two whole battalions.

A large Japanese force moved out in the morning along the Feng Wang Cheng and Haicheng road. The Russians had a force strongly posted in a ravine 30 miles southeast of Haicheng. The Japanese were preceded by two battalions, who walked into the Russian ambushade.

They received a murderous rifle and artillery fire at close range and were wiped out, only one or two escaping.

The main Japanese force, which was greatly superior to the Russian force, tried to outflank the Russians who drew off without losing a man. The Japanese, closing in, found the ravine vacant, save for their own dead.

RUSSIAN ARMY SWELLING.

Exultation Over Victory on the Feng Wang Cheng Road.

Liao Yang, June 14.—The army here is increasing rapidly, a fresh squadron arriving daily.

There is no fresh news from Port Arthur, nor has any confirmation of serious events having occurred there been received. On the contrary, according to the best information, everything is going well.

The officers and men here are very enthusiastic over the driving back of the Japanese on the road between Feng Wang Cheng and Haicheng June 9.

Only a comparatively short distance separates the Japanese and Russian armies and the soldiers are all anxious for active operations to begin.

KUROPATKIN RESTS LITTLE.

How Famous Russian General Directs His Campaign.

Liao Yang, June 14.—The entire Russian plan of campaign is directed from a railway carriage here, in which General Kuropatkin works, eats and sleeps. The car is divided into a saloon, a study and a bedroom. The commander in chief passes the most of his time in the study at work, surrounded by his aides. Although small of stature, Kuropatkin is at once distinguishable among his entourage, however brilliant may be their uniforms, by his determined gestures and sturdy figure. He has the reputation of being just and his word is law. His officers repose the fullest confidence in him and he is the idol of the common soldiers, and the foreign attaches find him most pleasant. He takes little or no rest except a half hour's siesta after lunch, when the heat is excessive, and he occasionally indulges in the distraction of reading literary works. Dispatches from the scene of operations are brought to him at any hour of the day or night. The general eats well, of simple dishes, but he seldom remains at the table more than a half hour. He drinks wine, smokes a cigar or two after breakfast and sets an example of abstemiousness to his officers. He rises at 7 o'clock and retires at midnight.

SQUADRON WILL BE READY.

America Can Send More Ships to Tangier if Emergency Arises.

Paris, June 14.—Information has been received from Lisbon concerning the plans of the American battleship squadron. Rear Admiral Barker expects to leave Lisbon June 16 for Gibraltar, where the squadron will remain until the Moroccan incident is settled. On the arrival there of the Illinois and Missouri, the squadron will consist of six of the most modern battleships, besides the two squadrons of cruisers and gunboats now at Tangier. Although Admiral Barker does not expect that the necessity will arise of taking the battleships to Tangier, yet he will remain at Gibraltar for the purpose of meeting any possible contingency.

When the American squadron leaves Gibraltar it will not go to Villefranche, as at first intended, but will go to Piraeus and cruise through the Grecian archipelago. Later, the squadron will go to Corfu and Treeste.

Of Great Strategic Importance.

Tokio, June 14.—The town of Siyuen, now occupied by the Japanese army, is of great strategic importance, being situated about 40 miles east by south of Kaiking and 45 miles southeast of Haicheng. It commands perfectly the roadstead of both places. Saimata is also an important point, as it controls the roads to Liao Yang and Mukden. By following this route, the Mao Tien Lin pass, a strongly fortified and almost impregnable Russian stronghold will be avoided on the advance of the Japanese army northward.

Russians Killed Number 700.

Tokio, June 14.—The military commission assigned to bury the Russian dead in the battle of Nanshan hill at Kinchoo May 26, presented its final report today. It was found that ten Russian officers and 664 men who fell in the battle, had been carefully buried, and 30 men were buried by the outposts, making the total number of killed left behind by the Russians 704.

TO BLOW UP CZAR

INFERNAL MACHINES DISCOVERED IN ROYAL PALACE.

Machinery Was Working and Explosion Would Have Occurred in a Short Time—One in Dining Salon About to Be Entered by Imperial Family and Another in Audience Chamber.

St. Petersburg, June 13.—Two infernal machines were found concealed in tobacco boxes in the Tsarskoye Selo palace near this city, where the czar and his family reside. One of the boxes was found in the dining saloon, to which room the imperial family were shortly to enter for the evening meal, and the other in the audience chamber. The machinery in both boxes was working, and would have exploded within half an hour.

Had the machines not been found in time it is probable that the entire palace would have been wrecked, and all its inmates killed.

War Paralyzes Trade.

Odesa, June 13.—Reports from most of the manufacturing districts of Russia state that the output is much limited. Factories are struggling along on half time, and the Lands are being discharged for lack of orders. Trade of the leading Black sea ports with the Far East by sea has been temporarily abandoned altogether by the Russian lines. So far as the trade with Vladivostok and Singapore is concerned, the Russian volunteer fleet, the leading subsidized shipping of Russia, is in a still worse plight. The Ekaterinoslav, of over 10,000 tons, has been captured by the Japanese. The Kzan is shut up in Port Arthur, and no fewer than 12 more cruisers and transports, including ships of 12,000 tons and 20 knots speed, are lying in Russian home ports, with scores of officers and hundreds of men waiting orders.

The Russian sea trade with the Far East was her only foreign shipping trade of any magnitude, and the present paralysis is a severe blow to it.

RUSSIA RISKS NOT.

Japanese Attack on St. Petersburg Being Guarded Against.

St. Petersburg, June 13.—Remote as now appears the chance that the Japanese fleet will ever be in a position to venture up the Baltic and make a demonstration against the Russian capital, or that a European power will be drawn into the war, Russia is evidently taking nothing for granted. The possibility of the fall of Port Arthur or a disaster to the Baltic squadron after the later sails for the Far East have been considered, and no precaution will be omitted to protect St. Petersburg against attack. The fortifications of Riga, in the southern part of the gulf of Riga, and Reval, at the entrance of the gulf of Finland, have been strengthened. Some new guns of the latest patterns have been mounted in the fortress of Cronstadt, and a chain of water batteries, running out on either side of the shores of the gulf of Finland, will guard the entrance to the mouth of the Neva.

This system of fortifications was sufficient to discourage the attack planned by the British fleet during the Crimean war. In addition, however, shore batteries have been constructed near Cronstadt, on the gulf of Cronstadt, 19 miles from St. Petersburg, and Sestroyetok, on the Sestra river, and 17 miles from St. Petersburg, probably as a precaution against landings, as the forts are able to stop the advance of a hostile fleet. The approaches to Cronstadt are also being mined, and merchant ships are being forbidden to enter port without a pilot to conduct them through the mine fields.

Turkey Will Be Neutral.

St. Petersburg, June 13.—The Associated Press is informed officially that no negotiations are taking place between Russia and Turkey concerning the passage of the Black sea fleet through the Dardanelles. The Turkish government has affirmed positively its intention to maintain neutrality and to observe strictly the obligations of the Berlin treaty. While diplomatic circles do not believe in the existence of danger in the Balkans, yet it is thought Russia will not consider a reduction of the Black sea fleet at this time.

China Will Investigate His Death.

Tien Tsin, June 13.—Viceroy Yuan Shai Kai has sent the Taotai Liu to Niu Chwang to investigate the death of Lewis Etzel, correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, who was recently shot by Chinese imperial soldiers. It is now reported that he was foully dealt with.

CANNOT AID PORT.

Kuropatkin Says It is Impossible to Relieve Port Arthur.

Paris, June 9.—A St. Petersburg dispatch quotes a general officer of the Russian army as follows:

"Two days ago there was a conference between the Emperor and the chief partisans of General Kuropatkin and Admiral Alexieff. The latter were active in an attempt to influence the Czar to send an order to General Kuropatkin to advance at once and relieve Port Arthur. The intention, of course, was to upset the disposition of troops, made by the military commander-in-chief and compel him to give battle, even at the risk of defeat.

"Fortunately the good sense of the emperor prevailed and he contented himself with inquiring of General Kuropatkin if the situation permitted of his advancing to relieve the beleaguered stronghold, saying he wished it could be done, but leaving it to his general to decide. General Kuropatkin replied it was impossible at present to do anything for General Stoessel and his command. Knowing him as I do, I am certain that the commander-in-chief would sooner have resigned than to have executed an order which might have brought disaster upon his troops."

RUSSIANS DESPERATELY BOLD.

Reconnoitering Parties Go to Any Length to Get Information.

Tokio, June 9.—According to the Japanese correspondents with the first army in Manchuria (Kuroki's), the active Russian operations are limited to a series of skirmishes fought by Cossacks and mounted infantry, but which accomplished little else than to occupy the attention of the Japanese outposts. The Russians engaged number hardly more than 600 men, supported by a mountain battery. Their operations extend through the districts of Aiyang and Saimat, and their object is to interfere as much as possible with the Japanese provision train. Their efforts have proven futile, and no damage has been done except the killing of a number of Japanese troopers.

The Russian reconnoitering parties are bold to the point of desperation. They consist chiefly of a young officer and a handful of men who are willing to go to any length to secure information. They will ride boldly within the Japanese lines, and, if discovered, shoot their way out, endeavoring to do as much damage as possible before being killed or taken prisoner.

BELIEVE FLEETS MET.

Steamers Passing Gulf of Pechili See Flashes at Sea.

Chefoo, June 9.—An impression prevails here that a naval battle took place last night in the Gulf of Pechili. Passengers on steamers passing the Liao Tse Shan promontory at the time did not hear any firing, while reports come from Teng Chow of heavy firing being heard there from 11 o'clock last night until 2 o'clock this morning. Vessels from the Miao Tao Islands confirm this report and so do the residents of hills in the vicinity of this city who heard the firing and saw flashes out at sea during the night.

The fact that the Russians were endeavoring, June 4, to clear the roadsteads off Port Arthur of mines indicates an intention upon their part to give battle outside the harbor upon the first favorable opportunity.

A Japanese correspondent returning from Tallenwan says there is a persistent rumor there that the Japanese battleship Yashima struck a mine off that port recently and was sunk. Chinese arrivals from Tallenwan are unable to confirm the story.

Japanese Punishing Bandits.

Chefoo, June 9.—A fleet of junks which has arrived from Dalny for the purpose of buying stores for the Japanese report having heard continuous firing between Dalny and Port Arthur for several days. Japanese warships are making Dalny their headquarters and are coming and going continuously. They take turns guarding the entrance to Port Arthur. The junks report Chinese are no longer allowed to leave Port Arthur, and that the Japanese are punishing the bandits who raided Dalny and Tallenwan.

Third Pacific Squadron.

St. Petersburg, June 9.—Grand Duke Alexis, commander-in-chief of the navy, according to an apparently reliable report, which, however, is not officially confirmed, has obtained the permission of the emperor to create a third Pacific squadron from the ships of the Black sea fleet, and permission has already been obtained from Turkey to take the ships through the Dardanelles on the condition that they will not return.