

**ALMOST READY FOR WAR.**

**Russians Threaten to March Men Upon the Korean Capital.**

**Serious Complication in the Settlement of the Far Eastern Question if the News is Correct.**

Tokio, Dec. 9.—A strong Russian squadron, consisting of eight warships, including two battleships, has arrived at Chemulpo, Corea, the port of Seoul, the capital, to support Russia's opposition to the proposed opening of Yonampoh to the commerce of the world.

The Russians threaten to land 3,000 men and march on Seoul should Corea disregard their warning.

London, Dec. 9.—The Tokio dispatch announcing the arrival of a Russian fleet off Chemulpo was communicated to the foreign office here by the Associated Press and was received with apprehension, though it was not confirmed by any foreign office dispatches from the far east. It was said that if the information from Tokio is correct it would almost certainly nullify any negotiations, however pacific now proceeding between Russia and Japan.

The Japanese legation had no confirmation of the Tokio report and Bonar Hayaishi, the Japanese minister, said to the Associated Press that he was inclined to discredit it.

London, Dec. 10.—The correspondent of The Times at Tokio says that the Russian cruisers and two battleships having assembled at Chemulpo, M. Pavloff, the Russian minister to Corea, accompanied by the admiral commanding the fleet, had an audience with the emperor in the course of which it is believed he renewed his efforts against the opening of the Yonampoh to foreign commerce.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Definite information has been received here to the effect that the Czar has signed his approval of the general conditions preliminary to a Russo-Japanese agreement. Further information received shows the same general line of the proceedings as outlined in the dispatches of the Associated Press. It now develops that the overtures were formulated after the conference between Admiral Alexieff, the Russian viceroy of the far East, and the Japanese authorities, the result being entrusted to Admiral Alexieff to forward to St. Petersburg. The Czar's approval of them will be communicated to Japan, when it is expected the negotiations will proceed toward a conclusion.

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A cure sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness, or stomach pests. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome causes. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys and bowels, stimulate the liver, and clarify the blood. Run down systems benefit particularly and all the usual attending aches vanish under its searching and thorough effectiveness. Electric Bitters is only 50c, and that is returned if it don't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by J. F. W. DeLorme, Druggist.

**Christmas Books.**

The Holiday editions that we are showing this season are the products of America's leading book makers. We examined carefully more than a dozen houses' holiday line of samples and from these selected only the best examples of the book makers' art. In stock we have the best books of English and American literature—the masterpieces of many great minds. The typography, press work, paper and bindings are in keeping with the books, rich and dainty, gifts that your friends will value. Also, of new popular novels, a large stock.

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This College ranks second to none in the United States in points of completeness and thoroughness of curriculum, and accoutrements of quarters. It has the largest patronage in the South, annually enrolling over 500 students.

It places its graduates in positions, receiving from fifty to sixty applications monthly from business men for bookkeepers and stenographers.

Write for Catalogue. Address A. C. Bristow, Pres., or L. W. Arnold, Vice Pres., Atlanta, Ga. Dec. 9-25

**QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ESCAPE.**

**Would Have Been Burned to Death but for Her Secretary's Promptness in Arousing Her.**

London, Dec. 10.—A fire occurred today at Sandringham, and Queen Alexandra and her secretary, Miss Knollys, had narrow escapes. It broke out at 5 o'clock this morning in Miss Knollys's bed room, in the chimney flue, where a beam is supposed to have been smouldering for some days, and spread to the bed room of the Queen, who was asleep at the time. She was awakened by Miss Knollys, who raised an alarm. The outbreak caused a great deal of excitement at Sandringham, where a number of guests are staying at present.

The reticence customary at Sandringham was observed in connection with the fire. From later information, however, it appears that Queen Alexandra had a narrower escape than the first accounts of the fire indicated. Miss Charlotte Knollys was, fortunately awakened by the smoke in her bed room, which is immediately below the chamber occupied by her Majesty. Miss Knollys rushed upstairs to the Queen's apartment and aroused her Majesty. Both the Queen and her secretary, who were clad only in dressing gowns, escaped from the burning room not a moment too soon, as the floor of the Queen's apartment collapsed almost immediately, carrying with it her Majesty's bed.

Only a few hundred pounds' damage was done by the fire, which was confined to the two bed rooms. It is now stated that the blaze was caused by an imperfectly insulated electric light wire, which set fire to a beam between the ceiling of Miss Knollys's bed room and the floor of her Majesty's apartment.

**TO IMPEACH A FEDERAL JUDGE.**

**Proceedings Begun in the House Thursday.**

Washington, Dec. 10.—The House today adopted a resolution directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the official conduct of Charles Swayne, Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern district of Florida, and to report whether the action of the House is requisite.

Dr. Lamar, Democrat, of Florida, offered the resolution, announcing that he desired to impeach Judge Swayne. There was a lively debate before the resolution was adopted. A number of the members on the majority side sought to have the resolution referred to the judiciary committee, that a recommendation might be obtained from that committee before voting on its adoption. The minority solidly supported Mr. Lamar in his opposition to the motion to refer, and several Republicans voted against reference. There were but few dissenting votes on the motion to adopt the resolution.

**Hoar Hits Roosevelt.**

Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Hoar today introduced a resolution, asking the President to communicate such facts as will show whether at the time of the ratification of the canal treaty Panama "had successfully established its independence; had lawfully adopted a Constitution, and had given authority to persons with whom said treaty purports to have been made, to negotiate and ratify same; also the population of said Republic of Panama at that time; its capacity for self-government, and the race and character of the persons composing it; also whether the official negotiating or ratifying the treaty on the part of Panama had any personal or private interests in or relating to the construction of a canal across the isthmus of Panama; also whether the Constitution of the Republic of Colombia authorized the secession of Panama therefrom, and whether Colombia was prevented by the action of the United States from attempting to assert its authority or to prevent such secession."

**Be Quick.**

Not a minute should be lost when a child shows symptoms of croup. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, will prevent the attack. It never fails, and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by China's Drug Store.

**A Common Error.**

**The Same Mistake is Made by Many Summer People.**

It's a common error To plaster the aching back To rub with liniments rheumatic joints When the trouble comes from the kidneys Doan's Kidney Pills cure all kidney ills And are endorsed by Sumner citizens.

Mrs. O. E. Bostick residing at 118 S. Main street says: "I suffered greatly for some time with pains across my loins, in my limbs and a dull heavy aching in my loins. The pain in my limbs was sharp and shooting, sometime in one place and then in another. When I would sit for a while and get up to walk it would strike me in the knees and then the ankles so severe as to make me cry out. I thought it was rheumatism and was doctoring for that but after rubbing with everything I knew of and trying blood purifiers etc. I did not notice any apparent benefit. Seeing Doan's Kidney Pills very highly recommended by well known citizens I went to Dr. A. J. China's drug store and obtained a box. The result of their use as directed was very gratifying indeed. The aching in my back ceased. I do not have the shooting pains in my limbs and for the past two or three months I have been free from the trouble. I must say Doan's Kidney Pills brought about these results."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-McIlburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name Doan's and take no substitute

**SMOOT, THE MORMON SENATOR.**

**The Contest for Seat in the Upper House Promises to be Excitingly Interesting.**

Washington, Dec. 10.—The congressional callers at the White House are manifesting increasing interest in the case involving the seat of Senator Smoot of Utah, and the indications now are that the contest which, it is asserted, is certain to result from the present agitation, will rival in importance and in earnestness the case of Brigham Roberts before the house of representatives a few years ago. While the president is familiar with the developments thus far in the Smoot case, no effort is being made by either side to draw him into the controversy, the realization being general that it involves a question which the senate must determine itself.

That a thorough investigation of the subject will be made by the senate committee on privileges and elections now appears to be beyond doubt. By those who are pressing the investigation it is said it will be more comprehensive than any similar inquiry ever has been. An effort will be made to ascertain accurately the attitude of the Mormon church toward the government of the United States and to learn whether or not a member of that organization is bound by any pledge or oath, the taking of which is incompatible with his oath as a senator of the United States.

It is believed by some at least of those who are opposing Senator Smoot that any effort made to prove that he is a polygamist would result in failure, and while that point cannot be said to have been abandoned absolutely, it is quite certain that the position he holds in the Mormon church is incompatible with the oath of allegiance he has taken to the United States. That proof must be ample, in the opinion of senators, before he can be unseated.

As to the ability of the opposition to Senator Smoot to establish such a proposition there is wide spread divergence of opinion among senators, but there is a pretty general agreement that if it should be established its result would be the unseating of the Utah senator.

**CASES OF SMALLPOX.**

**Several Patients of State Board of Health in Mars Bluff Section.**

It will surprise many people to know that there are a number of smallpox cases within a few miles of the city. On Black creek, near Mars Bluff, is said to be infested with the disease. A few days ago Dr. James Evans went down there and examined several persons and found as many cases of small pox. He has gone to Columbia to confer with the board of health on the situation. Most of the disease is said to be on the Johnson place.

Dr. P. B. Bacot went out there today on an inspection tour and will likely begin a general vaccination all in that section. Since Dr. Evans visit it is said that several more cases have developed and that the disease is spreading.

Some negroes in that section are somewhat excited over the appearance of small pox among them and perhaps these exaggerated reports of the situation have given current to many vivid rumors.—Florence Times.

**A Railroad Project.**

For several years past the people of Manning have been entertaining hopes that at sometime they could induce Mr. Thomas Wilson to bring his railroad to Manning. Recently he talked as though he would consider the matter seriously, and looking to that end, some work was undertaken last Saturday, with a view of properly presenting the matter to him.

Acting under the direction of Mr. D. M. Bradham and Maj. A. Levi, Mr. E. J. Browne made a survey last Saturday from the railroad crossing at Bananza, this side of Jordan, to a point on the Central railroad, east of Ox Swamp, and opposite the residence of Mr. J. H. Timmons. The route is almost due north, and is only a fraction over five miles, and would be easy territory to build a road, there being no cuts, high embankments or extensive trestle work. A petition will be drawn up and presented to Mr. Wilson at the earliest day possible, when it is hoped he will see the way clear to build the road here, which as before said would be only five miles.—Manning Farmer.

**Rector of St. Luke's,**

Ashburnham, Ontario, Testifies to the Good Qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Ashburnham, Ont., April 18, 1903.—I think it is only right that I should tell you what a wonderful effect Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has produced. The day before Easter I was so distressed with a cold and cough that I did not think to be able to take any duties the next day, as my voice was almost choked by the cough. The same day I received an order from you for a bottle of your Cough Remedy. I at once procured a sample bottle, and took about three doses of the medicine. To my great relief the cough and cold had completely disappeared and I was able to preach three times on Easter Day. I know that this rapid and effective cure was due to your Cough Remedy. I make this testimonial without solicitation, being thankful to have found such a Godsent remedy.

Respectfully yours,  
E. A. Langfield, M. A.,  
Rector of St. Luke's Church,  
To Chamberlain Medicine Co.  
This remedy is for sale by China's Drug Store.

**The Financial Break-Down.**

New York, Dec. 10.—Members of the syndicate which underwrote \$30,000,000 of 4 per cent bonds and \$5,000,000 on stock of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, at the time that company acquired control of the Louisville and Nashville Road, have asked for a fourteen months' extension of the syndicate agreement, to February 28, 1905. J. P. Morgan & Co., syndicate managers, will agree to the extension providing a majority of the parties to the syndicate agreement assent. It is understood that the request for an extension is due to adverse market conditions.

**LEVER'S SEAT IN DANGER.**

**Election Committee May Declare Place Vacant.**

Washington, Dec. 10.—Elections committee No. 1 today announced that it would take up Monday the contested election case of Dantzer against Lever. Chairman Mann said that it involved questions of the constitutionality of the laws under which the election occurred and ought to be taken up and disposed of.

Mann's remark indicated that the Republicans are going to make some capital out of suffrage laws of the South. If possible they are going to use the case of Lever as an example and they will spout and froth for campaign purposes, but will not undertake to enact any general laws relative to Southern seats. The unfortunate part is that Lever may be used as an example. While Dantzer will probably not get the seat, Lever may lose the seat by his seat being declared vacant. Testimony will be given Monday, and it will be submitted to the House before long.

**Drs. C. H. Judson and J. H. Carlisle.**

Mr. J. Frank Foshee, editor of the Winsboro News and Herald, and an educator of ability and experience, in commenting upon Dr. Judson's gift to Furman University, writes as follows: "Not only would Furman and the Baptists be greatly helped by the consummation of this noble enterprise, but it would be a great thing for the whole of the educational interest of the State. But it should not be lost sight of that as great as is the financial gift that Dr. Judson now makes to the institution with which he has been connected for more than half a century, yet he has already given to that institution what has been of far greater value than any amount that may be named, and that is more than a half century of the very best work of his life and that when he was getting calls from many other institutions for a larger salary. What Furman owes to this great teacher that has stood with her in the midst of all her trials is not to be measured in dollars and cents. The true teacher, and surely that is what Dr. Judson has been in the greatest sense of the word, is of far greater value to an institution than any financial consideration. It is men that make an institution, and all the accumulation of endowments and appropriations are naught if the men are not the moving factor."

"We never think of the work that Dr. Judson has done so well for Furman without thinking of the life that Dr. Carlisle has given for Wofford. There are many parallels in their lives in connection with the institutions in which each has spent half century or more. So thoroughly have their lives been given for these institutions that one can not think of Wofford without thinking of Dr. Carlisle; and it is equally as impossible to think of Furman apart from the man who, after a life of unselfish service and abundant labors, comes in at this trying hour, to prepare Furman to take a stand that would not be possible for her otherwise. All honor to Dr. Judson for his great devotion to Furman in the years that are past, and for this crowning act of devotion to an institution that stands for the largest denomination in South Carolina and for what is best in all educational work."

**Wanted Postal Cards Sent.**

A well-dressed woman went to the stamp window of the Brooklyn post-office yesterday afternoon and placing a dollar bill on the window she said: "Will you please let me have a dollar's worth of postal cards? I would like them sent up to the house, as I am not going straight home."

"All right," said the stamp clerk. "If you give me your address I'll have it manifested on all of the cards and you'll get 'em by first mail in the morning."

"Gracious!" exclaimed the woman, "Do you mean to put my address on each and send them to me by mail?"

"I do," replied the clerk.

"Now, see here," said the woman, "I'm not in the habit of writing letters to myself. I want those cards to mail to my friends for a euchre party."

"Then you had better carry them away with you," replied the clerk. So she picked up the cards and flounced out of the office.

"Department store habit," he sighed, as he turned to wait on another customer.—New York Sun.

**The Pope Bicycle Daily Memorandum Calendar.**

The re-issue of the Pope bicycle daily-leaf calendar may be considered the opening gun proclaiming the natural and healthful return of bicycling. Col. Albert A. Pope, the founder of our bicycle industries and the pioneer in the Good Roads Movement, is again at the head of the bicycle industry. Upon the 266 calendar leaves are freshly written lines, from the pens of our greatest college presidents, doctors, clergymen, statesmen, and other eminent men and women, all of them enthusiastically supporting bicycling. Half of each leaf is blank for memoranda. This calendar is free at the Pope Manufacturing Company's stores, or any of our readers can obtain it by sending five 2-cent stamps to the Pope Manufacturing Co., Hartford, Conn., or 143 Sigel street, Chicago, Ill.

**RYDALE'S TONIC**

A REAL CURE FOR MALARIA.

It has recently been discovered that the germs that produce Malaria, breed and multiply in the intestines and from there spread throughout the system by means of the blood. This fact explains why Malaria is hard to cure by the old method of treatment. Quinine, iron, etc., stimulate the nerves and build up the blood, but do not destroy the germs that cause the disease. Rydale's Tonic has a specific effect upon the intestines and bowels, freeing them from all disease breeding microbes. It also kills the germs that infest the veins and arteries. It drives out the blood all poisonous matter and makes it rich and healthy.

**RYDALE'S TONIC**

is a blood purifier, a nerve restorer, and a Malaria destroyer. Try it, it will not disappoint you.



[CONTINUED.]

"I do not think this wound is mortal," the surgeon reported as he carefully felt his way along the course the steel had taken. "It has passed below the right lung and only severed some of the smaller blood vessels. I think, with proper care, he may recover."

"Thank God!" fervently ejaculated Ruric, with his hands clasped.

"But why so anxious?" asked Urzen. "You were ready enough to accept his challenge."

"Aye, else you would have called me coward," returned the gunmaker, with a flashing eye. "Had I refused to meet him that fatal wound would have met me at every turn. I knew that such a man as he was no cope for me at any game where strength of arm and sleight of hand were required. So I meant to disarm him and then give him up his life, believing that such a move would end the combat. You know how I labored to spare him. But I could not. Yet I would not have the life of a fellow being, a countryman, upon my hands in such a quarrel. My father died fighting for his country, and so would I die if my death must come from the hand of man. But to die thus would be a curse upon my name, and to inflict such death upon another would be a curse in my memory."

"I believe you, my son," the monk said. "Only if the count dies you should not allow such feelings as you mention to overcome you. In no way are you to blame for this."

"True, father. You speak truly," added the surgeon. "The young man has acted most nobly, and no blame can be attached to him."

Ruric seemed somewhat relieved by these assurances, and, having seen the count's wound dressed and assisted in bearing the insensible form to the sledge, he took Alaric's proffered arm and proceeded to his own team.

"Who is that monk?" asked the lieutenant as they entered their sledge.

"I only know that he is called Vladimir," returned Ruric. "I have only seen him once before. Have you ever seen him ere this?"

"Yes; several times about our barracks. He has been there when some of our poor fellows have been sick and dying. He seems to be a good hearted man and, I judge, quite intelligent."

"I agree with you there," our hero said. "I think he is a good man, but there is nevertheless a mystery about him which I cannot solve. His countenance is familiar to me, and yet I cannot tell where nor when I have seen him."

"Aye," added Alaric quickly and eagerly; "that is precisely the case with me. I am very sure that I have seen that man under different circumstances. And others of our company have thought the same."

The two men watched the movements of the monk while they thus spoke, and they noticed that he entered his sledge and drove off toward Borodino.

"Ruric," said the lieutenant after they had ridden some little distance and at the same time gazing wonderingly into his companion's face, "you handle the sword like a magician. By my soul, I'd give all I own at this present moment, my commission and all, if I could handle the sword as you can."

"I do understand the weapon passing well," returned the youth modestly, "but I have worked hard to gain the science."

"Ah, 'tis not all science," the officer added. "That wondrous strength of yours is a host in itself."

"And yet," said Ruric, "I have seen weaker men than myself who would overcome me easily or, at least, who might overcome me."

"But they were not in this city," suggested Orsa, with a peculiar shake of the head.

"True, Alaric. I am not in the habit of mentioning my own powers, but yet I may say that there is no man in Moscow who is my superior in the use of any sort of offensive arms."

The lieutenant readily admitted the truth of this, and then the conversation turned upon the subject of the count and the course he had pursued with respect to the event which had just transpired. This conversation lasted until they reached the door of Ruric's residence, and, having thanked his friend for his kindness and expressed the hope that at some time he might have opportunity to return some adequate favor, the gunmaker entered the house.

The widow sat in her great chair by the fire. She was pale and anx-

ious. Her brow was supported by her hands, and at every sound from without she would start up with a frightened expression and listen. At length the sound of bells struck upon her ear. They came nearer and nearer, and they stopped at her door. She would have arisen, but she could not. With her hands clasped she bent eagerly forward and listened with a frantic interest. Soon the door opened. Surely no one but he would enter without knocking. She started to her feet. The inner door opened. A male form stood before her.

"Mother!"

"Ruric! My boy! Safe?"

She tottered forward and sank upon the bosom of her noble son, and while she wound her arms tightly about him she murmured her thanks to God.

By and by the widow became more calm, but still there was an earnest, eager look of fear upon her face. Ruric saw it, and he knew well what it meant.

"Mother," he said, "the count is not dead."

"Nor wounded?" she uttered quickly and eagerly.

"Yes; badly. But, listen, I could not help it." And thereupon he related all the circumstances connected with the conflict. When he had concluded, his mother pondered a few moments, and then she said:

"Surely, my son, I will try to suffer nothing from this, even should the wicked man die. In all you acted upon the defensive. From the first he has only been intent on attacking you, and on the battleground he would have killed you if he could."

"Most surely he would, mother. Aye, he would not have hesitated to stab me in the back could he have gained the opportunity. He was mad beyond all self control, and his eagerness to kill me was only equalled by his chagrin at being overcome by one whom he had hoped easily to conquer."

After this Ruric went to his shop, but Paul manifested no great emotion upon beholding him.

"You seem to take it as a matter of course that I should return alive and well," said the gunmaker, with a smile.

"Why, of course," returned the boy composedly. "What would a score of such men as he be to you? Conrad Damonoff hold a sword before Ruric Nevel? No. I only smiled when I heard his challenge. I should have as soon thought of being anxious about your return from a marten hunt."

Ruric smiled at his boy's peculiar eagerness of expression, but he felt a degree of pride in his words nevertheless.

It was toward the latter part of the afternoon that Ruric was somewhat startled by seeing some of the imperial guard approaching his house, and ere long afterward his mother came to him, pale and trembling, and informed him that he was wanted by the emperor's officers.

"Oh," she groaned, with clasped hands and tearful eyes, "they will take you from me now!"

"Fear not, my mother," the youth confidently returned. "The emperor will not blame me when he knows all the particulars. But come, let us go in."

Ruric found the officers, three of them, in the kitchen, and he asked them if they sought him.

"We seek Ruric Nevel, the gunmaker," replied the leader.

"I am the man, sir. May I know what is wanted?"

"Cannot you guess?"

"Why, yes. I suppose it must be on account of the duel which was fought this morning."

"Exactly."

"And who wants me?"

"Who should want you but the emperor?"

"Oh, they will not take my noble boy from me!" cried Claudia, catching the officer by the arm. "Tell our good emperor that Russia has taken my husband from me; that he fell in his country's cause. Tell him my boy was not to blame!"

"Hush, mother," interposed Ruric. "Fear not yet."

"Come," said the leader. "It is growing late, and Peter will not brook delay."

"But they will not harm him!" the mother frantically cried, clinging now to her son.

"No, no, my mother. Rest you easy here until I return." And then, turning to the guard, he added, "Lead on, and I will follow."

"Now rest you easy, my dear mother." And with these words Ruric gently set her back into her chair and then hastened out after the officers. In the entry he put on