

The man that never has to write off a loss has mighty little else to post.

An eastern millionaire has cinched the domestic situation by marrying his cook.

Look out for the woman who says: "You know I never gossip, but did you hear," etc., etc.

Can it be true that Ma is flirting with Mr. Toullisan, chief of the Chinese bandits? We'll tell Pa.

When a man slaps the public in the face he need not expect it to drop on its knees and kiss his hand.

Alfred Austin now publishes an ode entitled "Forgiveness." But if Mr. Austin is really penitent let him keep quiet.

An automobile has caused a St. Louis man and his wife to go into the divorce court. It has now done its worst.

The use of "mustard brown" socks in the United States army will probably result in placing every soldier in the smart set.

At first it is hard to find a name for the baby, but when the poor old man gets to walking the floor at night with it names come easy.

The widow who has scattered the ashes of her husband on two continents may be trying to make extra work for the last day.

A Boston paper says of "dear, delightful Joe Jefferson" that "eternal sunshine radiates from his brow." To all of which Rip will probably say, "O, fudge!"

If you find, in looking through your pile of \$100 bills, one with a poorly executed portrait of Thomas H. Benton upon it, you may know it is a counterfeit.

In the absence of explicit directions in the cook books for eating crow it is recommended that the bird be well cooked, lightly seasoned, and swallowed hastily.

Of course the university of New York, which is going to confer the degree of master of letters on Mrs. Russell Sage at the commencement exercises, isn't bidding.

A certain railroad is trying to determine the value of some Sioux Indians injured in a wreck, but who would not rather be "Comes Last" than "Kills Ahead?"

Joseph Chamberlain foretells a time when "America will have to import its foodstuffs." Evidently Mr. Chamberlain doesn't take any stock in the race suicide bogey.

A French scientist says automobilizing causes consumption. He may not be altogether right, but it can be said that few automobile enthusiasts are likely to die of consumption.

A Wabasha, Minn., paper states that a young woman of that town "is sick of being threatened with appendicitis." And if they don't quit threatening her with it there will be trouble.

A Pittsburg man went home the other night and shot himself because supper wasn't ready. Being afraid of the cook he probably thought that was the only way to get even with her.

If the clergymen of the various denominations keep on agreeing not to marry divorced persons, the justices of the peace will all be buying automobiles and living in brownstone fronts.

A Pawtucket (R. I.) lad batted a ball in such a way that it landed in the powerhouse of a cotton mill near the grounds and stopped the plant for the rest of the day. The boy made a run for home.

The latest educational authority advises parents to "kneel down and pray" before walloping their children. Down this way they generally reach up for a fresh hold on the subject under discussion.

The government of Queensland has offered a prize of \$25,000 for a sure method of exterminating the opuntia, a species of cactus. That's easy. Pull every opuntia up by the roots. We claim the money.

Ants that are fierce enemies of the boll weevil are being brought to this country from South America. In a few years there will be wild appeals for somebody to discover how we may get rid of the ants.

A woman who claims to be the daughter of Cecil Rhodes has been discovered in South Carolina. The wonder of it is that widows and daughters of Cecil haven't been bobbing up in all parts of the civilized world.

Members of the American Medical association have made the discovery that the young men of this country are working themselves to death. This is one of the results of trying to run automobiles that break down every three miles.

JAPS WIN BATTLE

RUSSIAN HOPE OF RELIEVING PORT ARTHUR VANISHES.

CZARS FORCES ARE DEFEATED

Japanese Capture Prisoners and Take Fourteen Guns—Russians Charged with Having Displayed Japanese Flag to Deceive Their Adversaries.

TOKIO—The Russian hope of relieving the pressure on Port Arthur by threatening the rear of General Oku, the commander of the Japanese forces investing the Russian stronghold, came to an end at Tetsu, a point on the railroad fifty miles north of Kin Chou and twenty-five miles north of Vafangow, when the Russians were outmaneuvered, enveloped and sweeping defeated. They left over 100 dead on the field and the Japanese captured 300 prisoners and fourteen quick-firing field guns. The Russians retreated hastily to the northward.

The Japanese charge that the Russians violated the Japanese flag. Certain officers aver that during the fighting a body of Russian soldiers appeared carrying a Japanese flag and that the Japanese artillery, deceived by this flag, ceased firing upon that particular body of Russians. Official dispatches from the Japanese commanders made specific charges of this flag violation.

Early estimates of the Japanese loss say that 500 men were killed or wounded. The Japanese attacking force was divided into right and left

SHIPS ARE ACTIVE.

The Vladivostok Squadron is Busily Engaged.

TOKIO—The Vladivostok squadron is reported in the Korean straits. Firing has been heard on Esano Shima, a small island lying off the southwest of Honshu island. It is possible that an engagement is progressing.

LONDON—The Central News has received a dispatch from its Liao Yang correspondent under Tuesday's date saying that heavy firing between the Russian and Japanese vanguards commenced at 1:40 o'clock in the afternoon. The fighting extended along the entire front assuming the dimensions of a general engagement. The correspondent says that no details are available.

ST. PETERSBURG—The Novoe Vremya's military expert authoritatively denies the report that General Stakelberg is on the march south. He declares that the only Russian forces on the Liao Tung peninsula above Port Arthur consist of cavalry and railroad guards, and adds that it is scarcely possible to interfere with the siege operations before Port Arthur. The chief mission of the Russian cavalry detachments, he says is to hamper the movements of the Japanese columns from the south to the north.

The Novoe Vremya devotes a long editorial to arguing that wireless communication with neutral territory does not constitute a breach of neutrality, the enemy having practically the same remedy, as in the case of cable communication, namely as previously cabled in one case of cutting the cable, and in the other of stationing a vessel rigged with wireless apparatus

"HUMPHI - NOBODY SEEMS TO WANT THIS."



—Chicago Inter Ocean.

columns and began the advance on Tuesday along both sides of the railroad. They encountered the Russians east of Vafandien and drove them back. At a late hour in the afternoon the Russians held a line between Lung Wang Tiao and Tafang Shen. The Japanese artillery opened on this line and the Russians responded.

The shelling continued for two hours and it was followed by the advance of the Japanese line to a position extending from Lung Chia Tung to Yuhotun. Darkness put an end to the fighting. The Japanese dispatched a column to the westward toward Fuchau for the purpose of covering the Russian right wing and to protect their left and rear.

During the night it became apparent that the Russians were being reinforced and it was decided to make a general attack in the morning and force the Russians into a definite back of Tetsu. When morning came it was discovered that the Russians held a line extending from Ta Fang Shen to Cheng Tsu Shan with a force estimated at over two divisions.

The Japanese commander makes no estimate of the Russian losses, but says they probably were great. Among the Russians captured by the Japanese is the colonel of the Fourth regiment of rifles.

The Japanese planned to envelop the Russians near Tetsu and they succeeded admirably. While the main Japanese force was moving north along the railroad columns were swung to the left and to the right and finally converged at noon on the main Russian position. The Russians in this position were at a disadvantage, but they held it with determination until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At this hour they were routed. The Japanese cavalry continued to pursue the enemy and probably inflicted considerable punishment.

Senator Quay's Last Will. BEAVER, Pa.—The will of Senator Quay was probated on Friday. Not only does it disclose the amount of the estate, but provides that the executors shall not file an accounting. The will says Mrs. Quay is provided for. Matthew Stanley Quay, the senator's grandson, is given a farm in Chester, Pa. The remainder of the estate is to be sold and divided into five equal parts. Four of these go to his children, Miss Susan, Miss Cora and R. R. Quay and Mrs. Mary Davidson.

between the sending and receiving stations, thus interfering with communication. The calling out of the army reserves in the Kazan, Kief and Moscow military districts was announced Tuesday. This step is for the purpose of filling up the skeleton reserve corps and to replace the regular troops already gone or going to the front. It also foreshadows the dispatch of four Volga corps, which was predicted in these dispatches a month ago. The latter would give General Kuropatkin 200,000 more men.

Emperor Nicholas has received the following telegram from Lieutenant General Bron Stakelberg: "A battle began at noon around the Russian position, four and one-half miles south of the station of Watanhoon, the enemy making repeated attempts to dislodge our left flank. The attack was repelled and we retained our position.

The first regiment occupying the left flank of our position sustained severe losses. Its commander, Colonel Khavastouff, and Adjutant Sub-Lieutenant Dragostaff Nodochinsky were killed. General Gerngross was wounded, a shrapnel bullet shattering the right side of his lower jaw, but he remained on the field."

Bids on Bonds. LINCOLN, Neb.—The state board of educational lands and funds will advertise for \$100,000 of state bonds to be purchased for the investment of the permanent school funds.

Reserves Are Called Out. ST. PETERSBURG—The calling out of the reserves in several districts was announced today. It foreshadows the dispatch of four Volga corps, which was predicted in these dispatches a month ago. The latter would give General Kuropatkin 200,000 more men.

Japanese Sink More Mines. LONDON—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says that while flotillas of torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats were supporting the military bombardment of the forts at Saoping Tao (on the Kwan Tung peninsula, between Port Arthur and Port Dalny), Tuesday morning, the Russian protected cruiser Novik and ten torpedo boat destroyers made a sortie from Port Arthur. The Japanese warships retired, unsuccessfully endeavoring to lure the Russians into the open sea.

SIX HUNDRED DIE

CHICAGO HORROR RIVALED BY BURNING OF A BOAT.

EXCURSION STEAMER IN FLAMES

Loaded with Women and Children on a Sunday School Outing—Disaster Occurs on the East River at New York City.

NEW YORK—One of the most appalling disasters in the history of New York tragic in its intensity, dramatic in its episodes, and deeply pathetic in the tender age of most of its victims, took place today in the East river, within a short distance of the New York shore and within sight of thousands of persons, the majority of whom were powerless to minimize the extent of the catastrophe.

By the burning to the water's edge of the General Slocum, a three-decked excursion steamer, the largest in these waters, more than 600 persons, the majority of whom were women and children, were burned to death or drowned by jumping overboard or by being thrown into the whirlpools by the lurching of the vessel and the frantic rush of the panic-stricken passengers.

Approximately 483 bodies have been recovered and are now being tagged at the morgues of Bellevue hospital and Harlem. Divers were still busy at a late hour taking bodies from the hold of the vessel, which they say is choked with the remains of human beings, while the bodies of scores who leaped or were thrown into the river had been recovered.

It is the season of Sunday school excursions in New York bay and the Long Island sound, the latter one of the most picturesque bodies of water in the country.

Great preparations had been made for the seventeenth annual Sunday school excursion of St. Mark's German Lutheran church, the congregation of which is drawn from the dense population of the lower East and West Side, and the General Slocum had been chartered to carry the excursionists to Locust Grove, one of the many resorts on Long Island sound.

It is variously estimated that there were between 1,500 and 2,000 persons on the General Slocum when it left the pier at Third street, East river, though the Knickerbocker Steamship company, which owns the Slocum, officially states that the number of passengers was 873, that being only one-third of the vessel's capacity. It is thought, however, that there were several hundred children in arms, for whom fares are not usually charged on these trips.

On board the decks of the steamer as it passed up East river the scene was one of merry-making. A mass of flags fluttered in the June breezes, the bands were playing and the children were singing, dancing and waving handkerchiefs and flags in answer to the salutations of those on shore or from passing steamers.

At the extreme eastern end of Randall's island, off One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street, there is a stretch of water known as the Sunken Meadows.

At this point, just as the crowds were watching the gaily decorated steamer from the shore, the General Slocum took fire, and as the age of the vessel (it was built in 1891) had resulted in the well seasoning of the wood, with which it was almost entirely built, it was soon a mass of flame. The fire is said to have broken out in a luncheon room on the forward deck through the overturning of a pot of grease. The wind was high and all efforts to subdue the fire were futile.

The Death List Grows.

NEW YORK—With unceasing effort search is going on for the bodies of those who perished on the General Slocum. What the list of victims will total scarce any one dare venture a guess, but whatever the number may be there is hardly a parallel in the history of disasters where death came to so many in so brief a period of time.

Police and health department officials have placed the number at a figure as high as 1,000 and more, but it would seem that the maximum fatality will not largely exceed 700. All day long, from sunrise until darkness, shut off even the melancholy satisfaction of watching for the dead, anxious searchers kept up their vigilance and at dusk there had been recovered 536 bodies, for the greater part women and children.

Operating Towards Port Arthur.

LONDON—A correspondent of the Daily Chronicle at Yinkow, in a dispatch dated June 17, says that General Kuropatkin left Liao Yang on Wednesday to assume command of the army operating toward Port Arthur.

Attendance at World's Fair.

ST. LOUIS.—World's Fair Grounds.—The following are official figures of attendance at the Louisiana Purchase exposition for the week ending June 18: Monday, 66,143; Tuesday, 75,143; Wednesday, 74,188; Thursday, 83,346; Friday, 87,994; Saturday, 87,024; totals, 475,187. The attendance during the week, while not quite equaling the total of preceding week, shows a substantial gain over each day save Wednesday. That was Liberty bell day, when school children attended.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

ASSESSMENT OF RAILROADS.

Board Increases Total Value 70 Per Cent.

The Nebraska state board of assessment announced officially an increase of 70 per cent in the assessed valuation of railroad property. Operating under the new revenue law the board increased the assessed valuation from \$27,077,353 to \$46,018,635.

The manner of arriving at the franchise values of the roads will not be made public by the state board of equalization.

The total assessed valuations were reached on a modification of the stock and bond theory and then the average per mile was obtained by dividing the total by the mileage. When the final figures are made known they will lump the tangible and intangible values, so that no one will be able to say just what the franchises were assessed at.

Auditor Weston and Secretary of State Marsh have favored the valuation of franchises separately, but Governor Mickey, Treasurer Mortenson and Commissioner Follmer, who compose the majority, did not think it a good plan.

Now that the grand total assessed valuation of railroad property in Nebraska has been finally decided upon by the state board of equalization, the members of the board are trying to adjust the average values per mile of the several systems.

The entire session on Wednesday was given up to the consideration of Union Pacific property. It was decided to assess the Kearney & Black Hills branch at \$5,000 per mile and the Omaha & Republican Valley branch at \$6,700 per mile. This, with the \$16,000 per mile for the main line, will give the average valuation of \$11,000 per mile agreed upon.

After disposing of the Union Pacific the Burlington was taken up. There are sixteen subordinate lines in the Burlington system and the members of the board disagree as to the mileage valuations to be placed on each of the branches. The assessed valuation of the Burlington main line will be \$17,000 per mile for a portion and the average on the entire system will stand at \$7,700. The average valuation of the Chicago & Northwestern will be \$6,500 instead of \$7,500, as agreed upon previously.

Tax Commissioner Woodward of the Great Western interviewed the members of the board. For some reason the figures on the Great Western property in Douglas county had not entered into the previous calculations. Mr. Woodward stated that the property of his road in Nebraska had cost the company just \$140,000 and that it consisted principally of real estate, lots, etc. He thought that its assessed valuation should be \$28,000.

Smallpox at Soldiers' Home.

GRAND ISLAND—Three cases of smallpox have developed in one of the hospitals at the soldiers' home. Those afflicted are George Warrens, Harry Burchard, the hospital steward, and Mr. Lindley. A temporary building was at once erected on the prairie, a safe distance from all other buildings, and the sick, all of whose cases are very light, are there being cared for.

Splendid Crop Prospect.

WOOD RIVER—The prospects for all kinds of grain has never been better than it is this year in this vicinity. Small grain is looking fine and corn has made a remarkable growth in the past two weeks. The outlook for fruit of all kinds is very promising, and indications are that an extraordinarily large yield is in store. Potatoes will be very plentiful and of good quality.

Assessment in Dakota County.

DAKOTA CITY—The precinct assessors of Dakota county have completed their work and turned their books over to County Assessor Dorn. The total valuation of real and personal property of the county is \$1,595,419.72, an increase over last year of nearly \$149,000.

Will Meet at Franklin.

FRANKLIN—The members of the G. A. R. of this county held a convention at this place for the purpose of deciding where a county reunion will be held this year. Franklin secured the prize and the date of the reunion will be August 22 to 25 inclusive.

Women Want Land.

NORFOLK—Of the 400 inquiries being daily received at railroad offices with regard to the opening of the Rosebud lands, over 40 per cent of them are from women. Teachers, stenographers and business women who have heard of the success of a number of their sex in the Oklahoma rush, indicate a desire to register for the drawings at Bonesteel and Fairfax.

Arrest of Robbers.

SEWARD—Marshal Berry and Night Watchman Lawsha on Wednesday arrested three men who were wanted by the sheriff of Fillmore county for robbery. The men robbed a car at Exeter, Neb., occupied by two freight train and while the train was at Seward the officers here arrested them. The robbery occurred on Wednesday afternoon and on Thursday the sheriff and marshal of Fillmore county took them to Geneva, where they will be tried.

THE STATE AT LARGE.

The postmaster at Lincoln will be allowed three additional letter carriers on September 1.

Farnam is to have another bank. The corporation is organized and the charter applied for. The cash capital will be \$5,000.

C. F. Wilbur of Beatrice sustained severe injuries by falling down an areaway at the rear of his meat market on North Fifth street.

From 250 to 300 Indians of the Sioux tribe are camped on the hill east of Chadron. Their kind Uncle Sam has just sent them \$5 per head.

A company has been formed in Cambridge for the manufacture of hydraulic stone. Rankin Bros., local grain merchants, have purchased the county right.

The receipts of the postoffice at Omaha for the month of May were \$42,090, against \$38,122 for the same month last year, an increase of \$3,968. The receipts of the Des Moines office were \$35,523, against \$33,313, an increase of \$2,210.

Ernest Shurtleff, a young man living near Humboldt, was kicked in the face by a horse. One foot of the animal struck him squarely in the face, smashing the nose and reducing the flesh to a pulp, the other hoof striking a glancing blow on the chin and doing little damage.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Folden, old residents of Beatrice, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in the presence of about fifty relatives and friends at their home in West Beatrice, quite a number being present from different parts of the state to assist in celebrating the memorable event.

The Adams Lumber company of Beatrice has filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk. The capital stock of the company is placed at \$8,000 and the principal place of doing business is at Adams, Gage county. The incorporators are Bird Critchfield, G. W. Pickering, H. A. Reese of Lincoln and Walter Garrison of Adams.

A levy of 19 mills was made for city taxes at the council meeting in Seward. The assessed valuation this year on city property, both real and personal, is \$365,261. Last year a 30-mill levy was made on an assessed valuation of \$214,425. On a 19-mill levy this year \$300 more will be raised than was raised on the 30-mill levy last year.

The annual picnic of Sarpy County Old Settlers' association will be held at Bellevue, July 4. On that date there will be a celebration at Bellevue of the fiftieth anniversary of the first Fourth of July celebration ever held in Nebraska, which occurred at Bellevue, and the Old Settlers' association will merge their celebration with this.

While in the act of turning on the battery to the cigar lighter at his billiard room, Edward Hamblin of Beatrice happened to strike his arm against a large needle which penetrated his right wrist to the bone, breaking the needle in two. In order to remove the piece, which was buried in the flesh, it was found necessary to use an X-ray machine.

The assessment of York county for the year of 1904, which has just been completed by the assessor, is a large per cent more than the returns of one year ago. The valuation of York county is \$22,012,670, which is nearly \$7,000,000 more than what France received for its entire territory lying west of the Mississippi river. The value of real estate for the city of York, town and county is \$16,891,720, and the assessor found \$5,116,175 of personal property.

According to the statement of Game Warden Carter, the pike is a naughty fish. The streams of Nebraska have been liberally stocked with pike and the fish have been devouring the small trout.

On complaint of Libni Garriss, John Brillhart, a farmer and fruit grower who lives east of Tecumseh, has been brought into the county court on the charge of illegally selling vinous liquors. The complainant avers that his 17-year-old son, Willis Garriss, and two companions went out to the Brillhart farm last Sunday and bought two quarts of wine of Mr. Brillhart, and they proceeded to get intoxicated on the same.

F. W. Samuelson, for many years we known in commercial circles of southeastern Nebraska and who was up to about year ago president of the First National bank in Humboldt, has filed a petition of voluntary bankruptcy with the referee, James W. Eaton of Nebraska City and fixes his liabilities at over \$70,000, with assets of about \$50,000. The hearing of creditors has been set for June 21 at Falls City where Mr. Samuelson has been making his headquarters since his retirement from the bank here.

The preliminary trial of E. C. Lewis, charged with shooting Ed Sharp with intent to kill, was held in Harrisburg before County Judge Hoke. Lewis was bound over to the district court and not being able to furnish the \$3,900 bond he was remanded to jail.

Everett Long of Bellevue, upon the complaint of Miss Lucretia Gow of the same place, charging him with statutory assault, has been arrested. Long was arrested by the South Omaha officers and brought to Papillion, where he was released under \$700 bonds.