

WASHINGTON.



The difficulties which encountered Washington when he took up his great trust as commander-in-chief of the continental army were most complicated and immense. The theater of the struggle was a vast one, geographically stretching along the Atlantic coast from Massachusetts to South Carolina, while the whole population was only three millions—not very much greater than that of the State of Michigan, and not so great into a million as that of Illinois. Out of this small, scattering and peaceful population an army was to be raised, organized and equipped capable of competing with the chief military and maritime power of the globe. And it was not to be a struggle between government and government, between one nation and another. It was a rebellion, and there was really no central authority, no arms or warlike stores, no navy, no treasury or financial system or responsibility. It

presence, a splendid horseman, carrying with him ever the port and air of an authority and native majesty—an ideal commander.

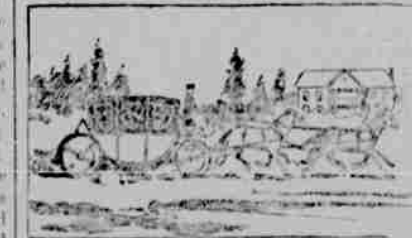
So when this noble Virginian appeared before that northern army and drew his sword as their commander under those Cambridge skies his fame had preceded him and he was received with shouts of welcome and of confidence. Then all men knew it was to be a struggle to the death.

Hardly a better instance does history afford of patience under provocation, or lodged determination under difficulties, or incomparable will and courage, holding on so long and coming out triumphant at last over such mighty opposition. These great qualities, as we have already seen, belonged to the man more than to the soldier. It was indeed the great and behind the soldier, the man with the great patriotic heart, with the wise head and the lofty, unshaken soul, that brought us through that long and tremendous struggle and gave us our glorious place and opportunity among the nations. No other man on this continent could have done it. Greene, among the generals of the revolution, would have come nearest to it, but he would have failed.

But in looking over the whole field of history, in the light of all the facts and history, it will be seen that Washington made no military mistakes, that he improved all his opportunities, that his generalship will stand the test of criticism. He struck whenever he had the chance, his plans were good, and when compelled, his retreats were masterly.

WASHINGTON'S COACH.

The coach which bore George and Martha Washington from Mount Vernon to Savannah has been removed from the premises of Augustus Frey in New York to Mount Vernon, where it will remain hereafter as an example of what a first-class long-distance vehicle was in the eighteenth century. The coach was purchased twenty-five years ago at the auction in Philadelphia by Benjamin Richardson of Harlem. After his death, twelve years ago it was purchased by Mr. Frey, who has had it on exhibition ever since. Occasionally it was driven



in processions, and its ancient color and conical blinds always attracted attention. Some time ago Superintendent Dodge of Mount Vernon came to New York, made a careful examination of the coach and pronounced it genuine. It was suggested to the "Ladies Association of the Union" that they secure the coach for the museum at Mount Vernon, and Mr. Frey notified Mr. Dodge that it could have the ancient carriage. The vehicle is said to have been used by Washington on his journey to New York for his first inauguration.

GEORGE WASHINGTON UP TO DATE.



Last cherry tree episode with a few modern variations.—Philadelphia Ledger.

FIRE IN BALTIMORE

LOSS ESTIMATED AT BETWEEN 30 AND 40 MILLIONS.

BLOCK AFTER BLOCK GO

BUSINESS SECTION OF TOWN ENVELOPED IN FLAMES.

ferociousness of Conflagration Without a Parallel, Block After Block Burned, Flames a Shock High in Air.

BALTIMORE, Md.—The most destructive conflagration in the history of Baltimore occurred here today, raging practically unchecked during many hours, completely destroying scores of the largest business houses in the whole district, involving losses which cannot yet be estimated as the fire was still burning fiercely when night fell. Owing to the wide extent of the calamity it will be a day or two before even an approximate estimate can be made, though it is certain that it will reach \$40,000,000.

The fire broke out shortly before 11 o'clock this morning in the wholesale dry goods store of John E. Horst & Co., on Hopkins place, in the heart of the business district, with a series of loud explosions which were heard in the remote parts of the city and spared with fearful rapidity.

In a half hour there were a dozen big warehouses in the wholesale dry goods and notions district burning furiously. The entire city fire department was called out, but was utterly powerless to check the spread of the flames, which were aided by high winds, and by noon there were savage fires in at least thirty big warehouses, and the conflagration was steadily eating its way into successive blocks east, north, west and south.

Building after building fell a prey to the flames, and apparently there was no check to the onward sweep of destruction.

On Baltimore street Liberty and Sharp was soon a blaze, then came the next block east to Hanover, and after that the block on the south side to Charles street broke out in flames, the Consolidated Gas company's building and Oehm's Annual burning furiously.

Meanwhile there were stores north of Baltimore street being similarly consumed. Mullin's hotel caught, and other buildings near it. West of Liberty street, on the south side of Baltimore the block was doomed, and the big Baltimore bargain house also caught.

Resents Action

ST. PETERSBURG.—Although the fear was general here yesterday that the presentation of the Russian note to Japan might be followed by an act on the part of the Japanese government which would plunge the two countries into war, the startling action of Japan in serving diplomatic relations with Russia before the actual delivery of the Russian note, came like a bolt from a clear sky. It was believed that the receipt of the note might have unmasked an ultimatum, but that Japan would serve diplomatic relations, a step little short of a declaration of war, was almost like a blow in the face under the present circumstances and it is resented there accordingly. The authorities believe this action places Japan distinctly in the wrong before the world, and moreover after such a "piece of impudence," as it is designated here, makes easy an appeal to the patriotism of the Russian people.

The news that at any moment Japan had drawn the sword and that the first clash had occurred would not be surprising. The events leading to Japan's abrupt action have marched with great rapidity. The Russian note was already in the hands of Baron De Rosen, Russian minister at Tokio, for the delivery to Baron Komura, the Japanese foreign minister, when at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon M. Kurino, the Japanese minister here, presented him if at the foreign office and informed Foreign Minister Lausdorff that his government, in view of the delays in connection with the Russian answer and the futility hitherto of the negotiations, considered it useless to continue diplomatic relations and would take such steps as it deemed proper for the protection of Japan's interests. In obedience to instructions, therefore he asked for his passport.

BOSTON.—The supreme lodge Ancient Order of United Workmen, brought a bill in equity in the United States circuit court to compel the grand lodge of Massachusetts to continue making contributions to the guaranty fund of the supreme lodge. The Massachusetts lodge claimed that the guaranty fund, established by the supreme lodge for the different jurisdictions was unlawful.

WIN BATTLE WITH FIRE

BALTIMORE FIGHTERS TRIUMPH BUT AT FEARFUL COST.

Final Stand Made by Fire at Jones Falls, and Heroic Work Carried the Day—City Over-Cast and Dark.

BALTIMORE.—Baltimore is staggering tonight under fire loss which no one has the temerity to put in figures, although insurance men think it will surely be over \$100,000,000. The important commercial district is blackened ruins, laid bare by conflagration which raged without a momentary check from 10:45 yesterday until late in the afternoon today.

At 3 o'clock the city officials again breathed. It was agreed that the flames were under control. They had raged twenty-eight hours in spite of almost superhuman efforts put forth by the best fighting which more than half a dozen cities were able to muster.

The city is overcast with gloom. The only lights in the burned district are those from the smoldering ruins. The only lights in that section which escaped destruction are from corner gas lamps. The stores are closed in nearly every street.

The darkened avenues are full of jostling people talking of one subject. Apparently there is some cause for gladness and that that there are no homeless. The residence section of the city escaped. This phase of the situation relieved the officials from any thought other than that of saving property.

Moves On Enemy.

LONDON.—The Chefoo correspondent of the Daily Mail cables that sixty Japanese transports are landing troops at various ports in Korea, from Masamp and Fusan, on the south to Kusan, Mokpo and Chemulpo on the west.

Seoul is to be occupied and the landing is being covered by the torpedo division. The main body of the Japanese fleet, the correspondent concludes, will sail in the direction of Port Arthur.

A dispatch received here from Port Arthur says news has been received there that Japanese troops have landed at Masampo.

BERLIN.—The Cologne Gazette defines Germany's policy in east Asia, in an article which is evidently inspired, as follows:

"We must direct our attention to see that further complications do not arise from this quarrel, and that the regions in China adjacent to the theater of war are not drawn into the outbreak. We can best subserve this purpose by a policy which will leave no doubt of our fullest neutrality."

The German foreign office has been advised that a portion of the Japanese fleet sailed from Saseo yesterday. Its destination is unknown, but is supposed to be Chemulpo, Korea.

PORT ARTHUR.—In response to instructions from the Japanese government many Japanese sailed from here for Nagasaki today. The Chinese in Manchuria are greatly excited and numbers of them are preparing to leave for Chefoo.

ST. PETERSBURG.—An advance detachment of Russian cavalry is leaving Mukden for Korea. The telegram from Mukden announcing the departure of the cavalry adds:

"Russia's love of peace has been exhausted by Japan's demands. Troops, therefore, have been concentrated at the Yalu river. The Russian troops are in the best of spirits. The Japans everywhere are hurrying homewards."

Affairs in San Domingo.

WASHINGTON.—Advice received by the state department from Santo Domingo as to the effect of the Morales government about two days ago raised the blockade of the ports of Puerto Plata and San Domingo declared against the United States on February 1, presumably to prevent the entry of cargoes intended for the insurgents.

Word reached the navy department today that the cruiser Minneapolis had sailed from Guantanamo for San Domingo City, where Admiral Wise will make a personal investigation into affairs there. The Columbia also has left Guantanamo for San Domingo. The Hartford has returned to Guantanamo from Puerto Plata and her commander reports to the navy department everything quiet in that locality.

Turkey Growing Audacious.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—Increasing tension is noticeable between the ports and Bulgarian connection with the Macedonian reform plans. The Bulgarian commercial agent to the St. Louis exposition has been detained at Adriaople by Turkish custom officials, who insisted upon examining his baggage. Mateef refused to permit this examination and later the ports apologized to Bulgaria for the error.

WAR IN FAR EAST

FIRST BLOW STRUCK BY JAPAN IN A NAVAL BATTLE.

SURPRISE FOR RUSSIANS

THREE WAR SHIPS DISABLED IN A NIGHT ATTACK.

Extent Not Fully Known, But War Craft Reached Countries of Europe Stirred by News of Actual Warfare.

ST. PETERSBURG.—An official dispatch received here says that Japanese torpedo boats have attacked the Russian squadron in the outer roads at Port Arthur and that three Russian ships were damaged.

Admiral Alexieff's official report of the attack by the Japanese is as follows:

"I most respectfully inform your majesty that at or about midnight of February 8-9 Japanese torpedo boats made a sudden attack by means of mines upon the Russian squadron in the outer roads of the fortress of Port Arthur, in which the battleships Retvizan and Czerevitch and the cruiser Pallada were damaged. An inspection is being made to ascertain the character of the damage. Details are following for your majesty."

PORT ARTHUR.—Japanese torpedo boats attacked the Russian fleet during the night and three of the Russian ships were badly damaged. The Japanese, who thus secured the first success of the war, escaped undamaged.

In consequence of the attack by the Japanese torpedo boats martial law has been proclaimed here.

BERLIN.—A special telegram from St. Petersburg says three Russian ships at Port Arthur were severely damaged last night by torpedoes discharged from Japanese torpedo boats while the latter were passing this harbor. Subsequently a large fleet of Japanese battleships and cruisers appeared before the port.

CHEFOO.—The Japanese fleet attacked Port Arthur at midnight on Monday. Two Russian battleships and one cruiser were disabled by torpedoes.

The battle was being continued this morning at a range of three miles. There has been no further damage.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The following official bulletin has just been issued in the form of a telegram from Viceroy Alexieff's chief of staff, dated February 9th.

"By order of the viceroy, I beg to report that this day at about 11 o'clock in the morning, a Japanese squadron, consisting of about fifteen battle ships and cruisers, approached Port Arthur and opened fire. The enemy was received with a cannonade from the shore batteries and the guns of our squadron which also participated in the engagement."

"At about mid-day the Japanese squadron ceased its fire and left, proceeding south."

"Our losses in the fleet were two officers wounded, nine men killed and forty-one wounded. On the shore batteries one man was killed and three were wounded. The battleship Pallada and the cruiser Novk each had a hole knocked in her side below the war line. The torpedoes were slightly damaged. (Signed) MAJOR GENERAL FLEG."

Bryan Gains in Will Case.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—In two decisions handed down today Judge Thayer, in the superior court, sustains counsel for William J. Bryan, in certain contentions growing out of the refusal of the probate court to admit to probate as a part of the will of the late P. S. Bennett the sealed letter giving \$50,000 to Mr. Bryan. One decision sustains a demurrer entered by counsel for Mr. Bryan to a plea in abatement filed in behalf of Mrs. Bennett, widow of the testator, from Mr. Bryan's appeal from the probate court's decision. The other decision overruled a motion by counsel for Mrs. Bennett and to her heirs to expunge certain portions to the answer of Mr. Bryan to the appeal bought by Mrs. Bennett.

Problems For Authorities.

BALTIMORE, Md.—With the great fire which ate up property variously estimated at from \$25,000,000 to \$150,000,000 slowly burning itself out Baltimore awoke this morning to face the ravage question of civic and municipal readjustment.

Found Guilty of Assault.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Col.—John M. Glover, a former Missouri congressman, who has been on trial in the district court on a charge of having assaulted Sergeant Dittmore of the Colorado national guard with intent to kill on December 28 last, when resisting arrest by the militia, was today found guilty of simple assault by the jury and was sentenced to pay \$100 fine or to serve six months in jail. Sentence was deferred.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Frank Oereman and Miss Adelaide Wiegand were married at Petersburg. The last case of smallpox has been stamped out at Aida and the quarantine has been raised.

A small bridge burned near Markeil and passenger trains were delayed on the Union Pacific.

The annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian association of the state will be held at Lincoln.

The Nebraska state conference of charities and corrections began its eighth annual session at Lincoln this week.

The marriage of Miss Sena Jensen and Fred Hargreaves of Bermer township, Cumina county, occurred at West Point recently.

Representative Kinkaid has recommended the appointment of G. F. Hicks as postmaster at Wells, vice R. Bicknell, resigned.

Governor Mickey returned to Lincoln from Holland, where he assisted in dedicating a church erected by the people of Hickman and Holland.

Henry Hartz and Miss Blanche Speer of West Point were married at the Congregational church in that city, the Rev. H. A. Hanson officiating.

The Rev. Henry R. Smith of Fond du Lac, Wis., accompanied by his family, arrived at Falls City to take charge of the Episcopal church at that place.

The Rev. Elmer Cole delivered his farewell sermon as pastor of the Christian church at Falls City to a crowded church. He will go to Hutchinson, Kas.

Elder J. D. Lemon, recently of southern Kansas, has accepted the pastorate of the Christian church at Table Rock, and with his family has arrived to assume his duties.

An entertainment will be given by the pupils of the Nebraska School for the Blind at Lincoln. The guests will be members of the state board of corrections and charities.

The county commissioners at Fairbury appointed Frank A. Houston county clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. S. Diller. Mr. Houston has been deputy clerk for three years.

J. C. Burke, a farmer residing near Pickrell was injured while shelling corn by being kicked on the head by a horse. His right ear was nearly torn off and he was badly bruised about the head.

A charge of embezzlement has just been filed at Nebraska City against Archie T. Davis, a traveling man for the Morton-Gregson Packing company of that city. The whereabouts of the man are at present unknown.

Mrs. John Kopp of Plattsmouth was injured while coasting Tuesday evening. The sled she was riding collided with another and in the mixup she received an ugly gash on her right limb, which required fifty stitches to close.

Judge Bourne of Beatrice performed two marriage ceremonies recently. The couples were Jacob Dambler and Miss Mary Beck of Russell county, Kansas, and Richard Risher and Miss Alice May Pike of Barnestown.

A three days' meeting of the Sarpy County Poultry association was held at Papillion beginning February 3. Enters have been booked from Omaha, South Omaha, Fremont and Weeping Water. A number of valuable prizes are offered.

Suit has been commenced in the district court at Plattsmouth for \$5,000 by B. F. Laughlin as next friend to Louis A. May E., John J. and William E. Pope, minors, against George Oberle a saloon-keeper at Greenwood, for selling liquor to them as minors.

At Plattsmouth County Judge H. T. Travis has appointed Isaac D. Harmer of Aovca administrator of the estate of Burton W. Harmer. The personal property is valued at \$100,000 and the real estate at \$450,000. There are four heirs.

The Beatrice chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held an interesting meeting Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. B. H. Begole. There were short addresses and a musical program, after which a light luncheon was served.

The regular help at the Home restaurant in Columbus walked out on a strike Tuesday because a colored waiter had been employed. The trouble was anticipated and another force of cooks, waiters, etc., was on hand to take the places of those who walked out.

Harry Priest of Homer has been arrested charged with being a fugitive from justice in the state of Iowa. He is said to be wanted on the charge of seduction.

At a meeting of the school board at Fremont a successor was elected to succeed Superintendent Laird, who was not a candidate for re-election. While it is not positively known who was selected, it is generally understood that County Superintendent Charles Azzoti was chosen.