

**The War in the East.**

The week ending April 3 opened with the second attempt of the Japanese to close the entrance to the harbor of Port Arthur by sinking merchant vessels. It was unsuccessful. The Russians were on the alert, as they have been since the enemy made his first dash and caught them napping. The Russians had one torpedo boat destroyer damaged. The Japanese are out the cost of four vessels, which were sunk to little purpose.

The persistency of the Japanese in the attempt to block the channel at Port Arthur is ascribed to their desire to have the Russian squadron safely shut up there while their transports, laden with soldiers and supplies, are on their way to the coast of the gulf of Liaotung, where it is their intention to make a landing.

If the Russians believe that to be the Japanese program the proclaiming of martial law at Newchwang is easily understood. That place is the most obvious point of attack and it becomes proper for the Russian general to get ready for hostilities, even though the interests of some neutrals suffer thereby.

The outposts of the Russians south of the Yalu and the van of the Japanese troops advancing from Pingyang and Anju have had their first serious encounter. According to the Russian report some squadrons of Japanese cavalry occupying an advanced position were attacked sharply. When reinforcements came up the Russians fell back after having killed many men and horses. According to the Japanese account the Russians did not attack, but were attacked, and were driven from the position they held. It is evident from the point where the encounter took place, only forty miles from the Yalu, that the Japanese, in spite of bad roads and bad weather, are pushing steadily forward towards that river and the important town of Wiju situated on it. Unofficial reports are to the effect that the Russians are about to send more troops to the Yalu, and that the Japanese are still advancing and are only fifteen miles from Wiju. Nothing is known positively as to the strength of the Russian and Japanese armies in northwestern Korea, but it is the general opinion that there is a large Russian army on the line of the Yalu which will defend it obstinately and that the Japanese have about 100,000 men ready for action in that quarter.

While the Japanese are hammering away at Port Arthur and are pressing forward in Korea the Russians must be receiving considerable reinforcements for their armies. It took General Kuropatkin twelve days to travel from Moscow to Harbin. Presumably troops would not be carried in anything like that time. The general had the right of way. But the fact that he could get through in less than two weeks proves that the road is in working order. There does not appear to have been any of that blowing up of bridges of which much was said at the beginning of the war. It is reported that 4,000 soldiers arrive daily at Harbin from the west.

Last Thursday the foreign correspondents who have been waiting at Tokio for leave to go to the front got permission to do so. Where the "front" is to be is unknown. They will set sail next Wednesday on a transport for some unknown point. Evidently the serious work of the campaign is about to begin. Whether it will be on the Yalu or near Newchwang may not be known for two weeks.—Chicago Tribune.

**Church Relations of Governors.**

The collection of a \$20,000,000 thank offering is not the only thing in which the Methodists of the United States are ahead of other denominations. Ac-

ording to a list compiled by the Chicago Tribune the Methodists have "landed" more men in gubernatorial chairs in this country during the last few years than any other denomination, there being no less than eight states with Methodist governors at the present time. This list leads off with Governor "Dick" Yates of Illinois and closes up with Governor Sayers of Texas, all of the eight being republicans except Sayers and Governor Dockery of Missouri. The Presbyterians come next with a score of seven governors to their credit, two democrats and five republicans, this number including Governor Odell. The Baptists come in third with six executives, all democrats, which would indicate that water and the democratic party are better friends than some have been led to suppose. But perhaps a better explanation would be found in the fact that all the states with Baptist governors are in the extreme south. The Quakers are credited with one governor, John Hunn of Delaware; the Episcopalians with four and the Unitarians with one. Twelve governors are entered in the list as men with no professed church connections.—Leslie's Weekly.

**Dare Not Investigate.**

It was John Sharp Williams who stated on the floor of the house that he had not sworn to obey the rules of a republican majority which prevented an investigation of the notorious scandals in the postoffice department, but he had subscribed to the oath requiring him to do his duty to the country, and he was ready to suspend the rules so that he could discharge that duty. An investigation would kill every chance for republican success in the coming national campaign.—Natchez (Miss.) Democrat.

**NOT RUNNING AMUCK.**



The game is treed, the gun is loaded, but the mighty Nimrod slumbers on.

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