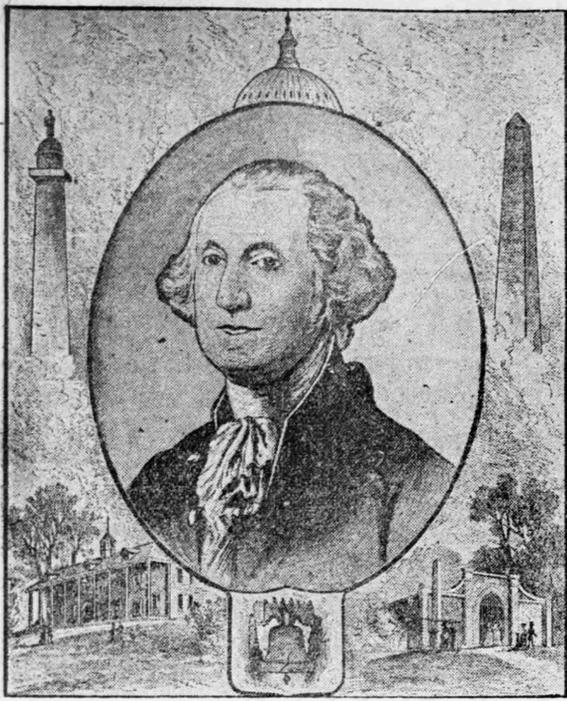


WASHINGTON.



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 contending 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 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 the Cambridge elms 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, of dogged determination under difficulties, of unconquerable 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 man 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 tremulous struggle and gave us our glorious place and opportunity among the nations. No other man on this continent but he 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 and record, 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 centennial 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 drawn



in processions, and its ancient color and venetian 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.



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

RUSSIA HIT THIRD BLOW

JAPAN ABLE TO SCORE AGAIN IN NAVAL STRATEGY.

One of Czar's Cruisers Sunk and Another Disabled or Captured—Formal Declaration of War Issued.

LONDON.—Dispatches to the Daily Mail from Tokio and Nagasaki, dated February 10, report the arrival at Sasebo, Japan, of two large Russian steamers. One is the volunteer fleet association transport Ekatorinostay, which recently landed troops and arms at Port Arthur, and the other is the steamer Argon, belonging to the Chinese Eastern Railway company. Both were captured by the Japanese cruiser Sal Yen and Hei Yen, in the neighborhood of Fusan, Korea. The Ekatorinostay is of 10,000 tons displacement and had been fixed up as an auxiliary cruiser. She had thirty rifles on board and was one day from Vladivostock. The Argon was going to Vladivostock from Nagasaki.

The Russian whalers Glorige, Nicetai, Alexander and Michael, captured by the Japanese have also arrived at Sasebo.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The statement that Secretary Hay had issued a note to the powers asking them to join in assisting on the recognition of the integrity of China and Korea during and after hostilities, created much comment in diplomatic circles, where any action taken with the view of localizing the theater of war is welcomed.

There seemed to be great doubt, however, of the propriety of adhering to the latter clauses of Mr. Hay's note pending more definite advice.

At the foreign office where there is some disposition to distrust the purposes of the United States an authoritative expression was not obtainable.

Foreign Minister Lamsdorff talking to the diplomats, spoke feelingly of Japan's action and declared the czar had done all in his power to avoid a conflict, but the events of the past few days had proved Japan to be bent on war and that no concessions Russia could have offered would have restrained her.

Formal War Declaration.

ST. PETERSBURG.—The Official Messenger this morning contains the following:

"Supreme manifest: 'By the Grace of God, we, Nicholas II, emperor and autocrat of all the Russias etc., make known to all our loyal subjects:

"In our solicitude for the maintenance of peace, which is dear to our heart, we made every effort to consolidate tranquility in the far east. In these peaceful aims we signify our dissent to the proposals of the Japanese government to revise agreements regarding Korean affairs existing between the two governments. However the negotiations begun upon this subject were not brought to a conclusion, and Japan, without waiting the receipt of the last responsive proposals of our government declared the negotiations off and diplomatic relations with Russia dissolved.

"Without advising us of the fact that the breach of such relations would in itself mean an opening of war-like operations the Japanese government gave orders to its torpedo boats to suddenly attack our squadron standing in the outer harbor of the fortress of Port Arthur. Upon receiving reports from the viceroy in the far east about this, we immediately commanded him to answer the Japanese challenge with armed force.

"Making known this, our decision, we, with unshaken faith of the Almighty, and with firm expectation of and reliance upon the unanimous willingness of all our loyal subjects to stand with us in defense of the fatherland, ask God's blessing upon our stalwart land and naval forces. 'Given at St. Petersburg, January 27, 1904, A. D. (New calendar, February 9, 1904) and in the tenth year of our reign.

"Written in full by the hand of His Imperial Majesty.

"NICHOLAS."

Japan Master of the Sea.

BERLIN.—Naval men were doing little else at the admiralty today than talking about the Japanese-Russian engagements and the education to be drawn therefrom. One conviction was that Japan had acquired such a superiority that her command of the sea practically results.

Consternation At Paris.

PARIS.—The news of the first Japanese attack with torpedo boats on the Russian fleet off Port Arthur created consternation here. The officials of the foreign office were among the first to receive the information, and these advices were similar to those of the St. Petersburg Official Gazette, showing that two Russian battleships and one cruiser were damaged and also that four torpedo boats made the attack.

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 Retvizian and Czarevitch 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 Poltava and the cruiser Novk each had a hole knocked in her side below the war line. The forts were slightly damaged. (signed) MAJOR GENERAL FLUG."

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 serve six months in jail. Sentence was deferred.

JAPAN IS SCORING

TWO NAVAL VICTORIES FOLLOWED BY CAPTURES.

STEAMERS IN CUSTODY

RUN DOWN IN KOREAN WATERS AND TOWED TO PORT

One of Czar's Cruisers Sunk and Another Disabled or Captured—Confirmation of Russian Defeat at Chemulpo.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Japan has captured two and perhaps five Russian steamers used as transports, one an auxiliary cruiser.

A formal declaration of war was issued by the czar of Russia. Japan will issue a declaration today.

A gale is raging at Chee Foo, which threatens the destruction of disabled Russian warships.

Demoralization reigns at Port Arthur.

M. Kurino, Japanese minister at St. Petersburg left that city. Russians watched the leave taking but he was not molested.

Japanese troops have arrived at Seoul.

Japan has seized the port of Masamho and will establish a naval and military base.

President Roosevelt will today issue a declaration of neutrality.

Secretary Hay's note looking to the localization of the war is favorably received.

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TOKIO.—It is reported that two Russian battleships and one cruiser were destroyed during the torpedo attack at Port Arthur Monday night. The navy department does not confirm the report that the Japanese fleet is still off Port Arthur. Advices of a general naval engagement are hourly expected. The success of Japan on the sea would carry enormous advantage and practically decide the war. On paper the fleet are almost equal, although the Japanese are confident that their personnel is superior. They say that a drawn battle would be really a Japanese victory on account of Russia's lack of facilities to dock and repair her larger craft.

BERLIN.—A dispatch to the Vossische Zeitung from Yokohama says the greater number of the Russian warships at Port Arthur have already been disabled, and that several Japanese warships have been sent home for repairs.

It is learned here tonight that the request of Russia for permission to send warships through the Kiel canal, has not yet been considered by the foreign office. Confidence was expressed at the Japanese legation that Germany would not grant this permission before informing the legation.

TIENTSIN.—The Russian garrison was withdrawn yesterday to Shao Hai Kwan. The postoffice was transferred to the French authorities. Yuan Shai Kai, governor of Chi Li province and commander-in-chief of the army, has issued a proclamation forbidding meetings of secret societies or seditious movements.

Kills Mother and Herself. DES MOINES, Iowa.—Miss Hilda Nelson, a young woman school teacher of Ft. Dodge, Ia., in a moment of insanity, brained her mother with hatchet while the latter was sleeping and then jumped into a cistern, drowning herself. The young woman was about twenty-six years of age. She had been teaching in the Wabasha school at Ft. Dodge and had to relinquish her school work on account of ill-health.

NEBRASKA NOTES

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

A small bridge burned near Mar keil 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 Hargees of Beemer township, Cumby county, occurred at West Point recently.

Representative Kinkaed has recommended the appointment of G. F. Hicks as postmaster at Wellsfleet, 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 Dumler and Miss Mary Beck of Russe county, Kansas, and Richard Fisher and Miss Alice May Pike of Barnestown.

A three days' meeting of the Sarpy County Poultry association was held at Papillion beginning February 3. Eaters 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. Mary E., John J. and William F. Pope, minors, against George Oberle a saloonkeeper at Greenwood, for selling liquor to them as minors.

At Plattsmouth County Judge H. T. Travis has appointed Isaac D. Hamer of Aovca administrator of the estate of Barton 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. Bejole. 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 Areott was chosen.