JAPS JOKE AS WAR PROCEEDS

Little Brown Men Have Their Fun at Russia's Expense.

HUMOROUS SIDE OF THE PRESENT WAR

Mistakes of the Enemy Afford Cause for Laughter and Zeal of Home Patriots is Subject for Merry Jest.

TOKIO, April 4.-The Japa are having their little jokes at the expense of the Here are representative specimens of their wit culled from various

"The Russians in Port Arthur, hearing that we are celebrating our victories, are trying to get up a counter demonstration. They mean to have a celebration called "The Celebration of Defeat.' They have sent out invitations to the czar's officers stating that the glorification will be held in one of the theaters. But the officers, on receiving their invitations, trembled with fear. They had enough of theaters when Port Arthur was attacked."

Americans who have kept up with the war news will have no difficulty in seeing the joke's point, but in order to understand the one following it is necessary to explain that the word "zensho" means "total victory."

"The Russian battleships attacked our transports, Nokonoura Maru and Zensho They succeeded in sinking the Nokonoura Maru, but when the Zensho escaped they were greatly disappointed. The Russians now have no hope, because they let the Zensho escape."

Here is a fling at Viceroy Alexieff: "Alexieff questioned his subordinates as to why their defeat was so great, but no one could find a reason. Finally, when every officer had failed to make a reporclearly explaining the cause, Alexieff drew this conclusion; 'Our forces are neither weak nor to blame. The extraordinary strength of the Japanese alone caused out

At Russia's Army, Another witticism, which naively end

with "and the Russian officer had no other question to ask," runs in this manner: "The Russian civilians in Port Arthur have been much excited since the war. They want to equip themselves with

weapons of defense. "'You don't need to get excited,' said an officer to them. 'The Japa will never get

into port. "The civilians replied: 'If the Japanese are coming, we are at perfect peace. We are so worried because of their not coming. " Why? asked the officer.

" 'Because,' answered the civilians, 'in time of war nothing is more fearful than

our own army." The papers are also having their little laugh at the Japa who are contributing their jewelry to the government war fund.

"The peers, nobles and rich merchants give their gold watches, gold pipes and gold ornaments to the government, but a man who had no gold possessions remem bered that he had gold in his teeth, took it out and gave that to the war fund." As a foreigner will be able to discover after a while, the point in this joke lies in

the last five words. "On the night of February 8, when our Russian battleships attacked in turn and sunk three torpedo boats. The Russians were much gratified over the victory. They were proud that they could handle the big

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Poets Are Pair Game The poets-also the would-be versifiers of Japan are having the time of their lives. They are literally flooding the island with their metrical effusions anent the war, and the newspapers, in lieu of legitimate war news, are bravely trying to keep up with the inspired. The censor doesn't touch poetry, but judging from the majority of the poems published, he certainly ought to.

Time was when the Jap poet, unlike all his fellows elsewhere, took only short trips on his Pegasus. Two stanzas of a few lines each was about his limit, and his ability to condense the tenderest feelings of his soul into so brief a space was his one particular pride.

But that fair time has passed. The poe doesn't breathe in all Nippon today who doesn't cover reams of pink and blue and yellow paper with hieroglyphics from his ink pot in telling the Russians what a barbarous and disgraceful and wicked people they are and what is going to happen to them when the mikado's troops get at

Even the big fellows, who ought to know better, have the long-winded habit bad. Take Ochiha, for example. He is one of Japan's leading contemporary poets. He's just had his latest fancy published, and it takes up a good two-thirds of a page in the Jiji Shimbun, which is about the size of an American newspaper.

Bombards with Words. Like the politician who goes back to the Flood for material to support his argument. Ochiha begins at the beginning. Russia, what art thou?" he asks, and then he ambles contentedly along for a column or more telling Russia all about erself from the dawn of her history. It's a frightful picture this that he paints of poor Russia in the first stanza.

In the second stanza Ochiha details at equal length the causes leading up to the war. To do this he finds it necessary to reach back several hundred years. third stanga warns the "old demon" to look to her laurels, and tells at great length how the heavenly emperor will say, 'Go away, czar, thy country is in ruins, thy subjects tired out, thy throne declining; retreat and fasten the cord of thy crown." Which is the postic way of say-"repent and turn to better deeds."

And so the poem runs on, the fourth stanza describing the battles at Port Arthur and Chemulpo, and the fifth, and, happily, the last, continuing the story of the fourth, and winding up with a mighty effort predicting the complete overthrow of Russia. Here is the peroration:

The fate is already fixed!
It is too late to regret, too late to pray!
Let all thy maidens sew the white flagAnd if thou dost not wish for surrender,
Then prepare for destruction. It isn't too late, however, for the censor to get in his good work on the poems, but will he do it? He has his hands full of

trouble already coping with the corre-Geisha Girl's Progress.

The geisha girl is rapidly losing one of her chief charms, and all on account of She no longer universally dresses her hair in Japanese style. Her wonderful native coiffures, at once provoking the wonder and admiration of the foreigner, are giving way to foreign styles or rather imitations that are truly wonderful and give the merrymakers of Japan

a really ludicrous look. The geishas of Osaka, an important business center, are primarily responsible for they, in common with the rest of the torpedo flotilla attacked Port Arthur, the island, began cutting down personal expenses that they might contribute to the war fund. One of the geisha's chief ex-

The supervisors of geisha houses generally have a bylaw prohibiting all colffures except native ones, so the Osaka girls straightway petitioned the supervisors o grant them amnesty during the length of the war, the geishas solemnly pledging themselves to turn every sen thus saved over to the government for its war fund, When the supervisors were convinced that the girls were in earnest they granted the

The geishas in other centers have learned of the success of their Osaka sisters, and they, too, have petitioned and secured the same temporary privilege.

The amount of money that the governnent is receiving by reason of this concession is by no means slight. A geisha pays from 11/2 to 3 yens (75 cents to \$1.50) a month for hair dressing. The girls of Osaka during the past month have turned in over 4,000 yen, or \$2,000, to the war fund. Thus they swallow up the ludicrous in

Example of Patriotism.

The lengths to which the Japanese will go to further the cause of their august emperor cannot be better explained than to tell the story of Saito Okuzo, who lived in Chiba prefecture, near Tokio. It is a trait that is causing many little tragedies to be paralleled with the humors of war. Salto was a crippled old man of 63 years, dependent on his nephew, Yoshioka, who visited him morning and evening and saw that he did not want.

When the war broke out Yoshioka received a pink ticket, his summons as a reserve to join the imperial bodyguard in Tokio. The young man was worried about the future of his uncle, but the old man angrily order a the younger to prepare immediately to obey his emperor's call. "Do not hesitate, but leave at once," was

the elder's command. The next day, when the nephew went to his uncle's house to say goodbye, the old mowed down at every discharge whole man could not be found. Inquiry established the fact that he had been seen hobbling toward the mountains. There, a few hours later, he was found hanging to the limb of a tree, with this message pinned Peter's immense army could not reduce to his breast: "Now you can go to serve

your emperor without anxiety." And one of the newspapers that told this story added: "And when the nephew read the message he went to the barracks with an unclouded face."

Time of Years Ago. The all but forgotten incident that sixtyfive years ago Russia began an invasion of

Japan has been recalled by a bit of news from the island of Tsushima, which is in the Japan sea, about midway between Japan and Corea. At that time a Russan man of war entered the harbor and, without so much as "with your leave," erected barracks on shore, opened roads, surveyed the ports

and began ether military operations. The Russians met no opposition until they attempted to pass the gate marking the domains of the feudal lord, Ofunakoshi. Matsumura Jasugoro, the samurai on guard, refused them passage, and, when the Europeans insisted, attacked them with all the traditional fury of a samural, driving the invaders back at first, but latter getting killed for his fidelity to his lord.

This fracas immediately led to an international hubub that was only quieted by the energetic actions of the English asul at Shanghai, who diplomatically in duced the Russians to withdraw from the

The samural was buried where he fell year the gate and his grateful lord erected an imposing temb over his body and placed on it a glowing inscription of his death Now the islanders, when their country is at last at war with their invader, have at this late date made a hero of Matsumur and are burning incense and holding feati-

WHEN THE BEAR WAS SKINNED

A Leaf from History Detailing What a Small Army D'd to Russia.

MILITARY IMPORTANCE OF QUICK ACTION

How 8,000 Swedes Defeated Peter the Great and 80,000 Troops-Victory Not Always with the Strongest Numerically.

Will history repeat itself? The successes that has so far attended the arms of Japan in its struggle with Russia gives pertinency to a short account of how Charles XII., the young king of Sweden. at the head of a heroic little army of 8.000 loyal subjects, a little over 200 years ago, defeated Peter the Great and his army of 80,000 men.

History in this case, as in many others proves that victory does not always attend the army numerically the strongest but that success more often depends on resourcefulness, decision, quick action and the fact of knowing how and when to follow up advantages gained. The following incident further shows that Charles XII. whom the great Voltairs called "the most extraordinary man, perhaps, that ever appeared in the world," was not only a most generous and noble hearted foe, but also a most strenuous exponent of what has been styled in these latter days "shirtsleeve diplomacy." He placed but little faith in the nice and intricate peace propositions of his own diplomatic representatives and those of his enemies, and fusisted on conducting peace negotiations himself at the place where he had gained the victory. The following historical in cident also shows the double dealings of the Muscovite ambassadors attached to it lodged in the folds of his black neck-Charles's court, who had sworn to pre-

serve "inviolable peace" Peter the Great, was ambitious of being a conqueror, and he wanted a port on the east side of the Baltic, to facilitate the execution of his numerous schemes. He wanted the province of Ingria, to the northeast of Livenia. The Swedes were in possession of it, and from them he resolved to take it by force, and he therefore made a league with the king of Poland suit of nearly 40,000. The bridge broke unto wrest from young Charles XII. all the der the fugitives and the river was imterritories bounded by the Gulf of Finland, the Baltic sea, Poland and Muscovy. Voltaire described the Swedes as "well made, strong and active, and capable of some barracks, they took post behind them high spirit, they are more brave than in- cape, but at last their generals, Dolgordustrious, having long neglected, and even ovki, Golovkin and Federovitch, surrendat present but little cultivating, the arts ered themselves to the king, and laid their

A Fight to a Finish. Realizing the danger which beset his untry, Charles, who formerly had been fond of gayety and dress, resigned his magnificence and indulged no longer in sports hardly ever assisted at the council of state, happened to hold a deliberation in his presaffairs. Some of the members proposed to avert the storm by negotiations, when all of a sudden Charles arose, with an air of the change. On the outbreak of the war gravity and assurance, like a man of superior consequence who has chosen his side. "Gentlemen," said he, "I am resolved never to begin an unjust war, nor ever to finish a just one but by the destruction of my enepenses is her hair; the geishas of Osaka hit mies. My resolution is fixed. I will attack upon the idea that if they would wear the first that shall declare against me, and, guns so skillfully. But when dawn came their hair foreign style they could dress after having conquered him, I hope I shall old councillors were astonished at this declaration of their king, but they dared not reply. They received his orders for the war with admiration. Charles at once took the offensive, dispatched a fleet to Copenhagen, the Danish capital, and defeated the army and navy of the king of Denmark, who was in league with Peter the Great against Charles, in a war which lasted less than six weeks. Charles was then 18 years old.

Exactly at this time the king of Poland invested Riga, the capital of Livonia, and the czar was advancing on the east at the head of nearly 100,000 men. Riga was defended by the old Count Dalberg, a Swedish general, who, at the age of 80, joined all the fire of youth to the experience of sixty campaigns. He baffled all the efforts of the enemy, and the king of Poland, after laid hold of an honorable pretext for raising the siege, which he did. The only thing that Charles had now to do toward the finishing of his first campaign was to march against his rival in glory, Peter Alexiovitch, He was the more exasperated against him as there were still at Stockholm three Muscovite ambassadors who had lately sworn to the renewal of an inviolable peace. Posseased of the most incorruptible integrity, he could not conceive how a legislator like

the cgar should make a jest of what ought

to be held sacred. Russian Reasons. The emperor of Muscovy had just published a manifesto, in which he alleged as the reason of the war the little respect that had been shown him when he went incognito to Riga and the extravagant prices his ambassadors had been obliged to pay for provisions. Such were the mighty injuries for which he ravaged Ingria with 80,000 men. At the head of this great army, he appeared before Narva on October 1, and Charles XII at once advanced to its relief. The Muscovites had 150 cannon, but were hardly able to make a breach, while the artillery of Narya

Narva was almost without fortifications; Baron Horn, who commanded there, had not a thousand regular troops; and yet it in six weeks. On November 15 the czar learned that the king of Sweden had crossed the sea with 200 transports and was advancing to the relief of Narva. The Swedes were not above 20,000 strong. Not content with 80,000 men, the czar resolved to oppose to Charles another army still, check his progress at every step. He had already given orders for the march of about \$0,000 men, who were advancing from Pleskov with great expedition, and resolved to shut up Charles XII between two armies. A detachment of 38,000 men from the camp before Narva was posted at a league's distance from the city, directly in the king of Sweden's road; 20,000 and that the Swedes were so many ma same road, and 5,000 others composed an advance guard. Before reaching the and double fosse, Charles must necessarily force his way through all these troops. The king of Sweden had landed at Pernau, in the gulf of Riga, with about 16,666 foot and a little more than 4,000 horse. From Pernau he made a flying march to Reval, followed by all his cavalry and by only 4,000 foot. He always marched in the van of his army, without waiting

had to engage. The Muscovites, seeing the Swedes come upon them, imagined they had a whole army to encounter, and the advanced guard of 5,000 men, posted among rocks, a station where 100 resolute men might have stopped the march of a large army, fled at their first approach. The 20,000 men that lay be-

for the rear. He soon found himself, with

hind them, perceiving the flight of their fellow soldiers, took the alarm and carried their terror and confusion with them into camp. All the posts were carried in two days, and what upon other occasions would have been reckoned three distinct victories did not retard the king's march for the space of one hour. He appeared then at ast with his 8,000 men, exhausted by the fatigues of so long a march, before a camp of \$0.000 Muscovites, defended by 150 pieces of cannon, and scarcely allowing his troops any time for rest, he instantly gave orders for the attack. The signal was two musket shots, and the watchword in German, "With the aid of God." A general officer, having represented to him the greatness of the danger, he said: "What? Do you think that with my 8,000 brave Swedes I may easily beat 80,000 Russians? But soon after, fearing that what he had said might savor too much of gasconade he ran after the officer and said to him; 'Are you not of the same opinion? Have not I a double advantage over the enemyone, that their cavalry can be of no serv ice to them; the other that the place being narrow their number will incommode them and thus in reality I shall be stronger than they?" The officer did not care to differ from him, and thus they marched against the Muscovites about midday on November 30, 1700. As soon as their cannon had made a breach in the intrenchments the Sweder advanced with fixed bayonets, havng a furious shower of snow on their backs, which drove full in the face of the The Russians stood the shock for enemy. half an hour without flinching. The king made his attack upon the right of the camp, where the canr's quarters lay, hoping to come to an encounter with him, as he did not know that Peter the Great had gone in quest of 40,000 men, who were daily expected to arrive.

King Stops a Bullet.

At the first discharge of the enemy's

muskets the king of Sweden received a

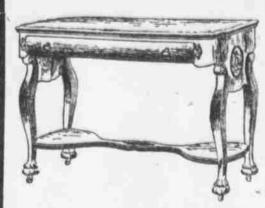
shot in his neck, but as it was a spent ball cloth and did him no harm. His horse was killed under him, and, mounting another horse with great agility, he said: "These fellows make me go through my exercises," and continued to fight and give orders with the same presence of mind. After an engagement of three hours the intrenchments were forced on all sides. The king pursued the right of the enemy as far as the River Narva, with his left wing of about 4,000 men, who were in purmediately filled with dead carcasses. The remainder returned to their camp, without knowing whither they went, and, finding enduring the greatest fatigue, want and There they defended themselves a while, Born with a military genius and as they were not able to make their es arms at his feet, and while they were presenting them to him the Duke de Croy, the commander-in-chief of the Russian forces, came up and surrendered himself with thirty officers. Charles received all these prisoners of distinction with as much and recreations, but henceforth never clad civility and politeness as if he had been otherwise than as a common soldier. He paying them the honors of an entertainment in his own court. He detained none but at this critical moment his councillors but the general officers. All the subalterns and common soldiers were disarmed and ence concerning the dangerous situation of conducted to the River Narva, where they were supplied with boats for passing over, and allowed to return to their own country. In the meantime eight came on, and the right wing of the Muscovites still continued the fight. The Swedes had not lost more than 600 men. Eight thousand Muscovites had been killed in their intrenchments; many were drowned, many had crossed the river, and yet there still remained in the camp a sufficient number to ut off the Swedes to the last man. "But says Voltaire, in his description of the battle, "the loss of battles is not so much owing to the number of the killed as to the timidity of those who survive." The king employed the small remains of the day in seizing upon the enemy's artillery. He took possession of an advantageous post between the camp and the city, where he slept a few hours upon the ground wrapped up in his cloak, intending at daybreak to fall upon the left wing of the enemy, which was not yet entirely routed. The Crowning Triumph.

But at 2 o'clock in the morning General Vede, who commanded that wing, having heard of the gracious reception the king had given to the other generals and of his having dismissed all the subaltern officers and soldiers, sent a messenger to him, begdespairing of being able to take the town, ging he would grant him the same favor. The conqueror replied that he should have it, provided he would come at the head of his troops and make them lay their arms and colors at his feet. Soon after the general appeared with his Muscovites, to the number of about 20,000. They marched, both soldiers and officers, with their heads uncovered, through less than 7,000 Swedes. The soldiers as they passed the king threw their guns and swords upon the ground. and the officers presented him with their ensigns and colors. He caused the whole of this multitude to be conducted over the river, without detaining a single soldier. Had he kept them, the number of prisoners would at least have been five times greater than that of the conquerors. After this Charles XII entered victorious into Narva. accompanied by the Duke de Croy and other general officers of the Muscovites. He ordered their swords to be restored to them all, and, knowing that they wanted money and that the merchants of Narva would not lend them any, he sent 1,000 ducats to the Duke de Croy and 500 to every Muscovite officer, who could not sufficiently admire the civility of this treatment, of which they were incapable of forming the least conception. An account of the victory was immediately drawn up at Narva and sent to Stockholm and the allies of Sweden, but the king expunged with his own hands every circumstance in the relation that tended too much to his own honor or

seemed to reflect upon the czar. Before he had proceeded halfway at the head of 40,000 troops, hoping to surround the youthful Charles XII on all sides, the czar received intelligence of the utter rout of his troops at Narva. He returned home with a determined resolution of disciplin ing his troops at the same time that he civilized his subjects. Moscow, his capital, was in the utmost terror and consternation at the news of this defeat. Such was the pride and ignorance of the people that they actually imagined that they had been conquered by a power more than human Strelltz were placed further off, upon the gicians. This opinion was so general that public prayers were ordered to be put up to St' Nicholas, the patron of Muscovy, on the camp, which was fortified with a rampart occasion. While the Muscovites were thus complaining of their defeat to St. Nicholas Charles XII returned thanks to God and prepared himself for new victories.-New



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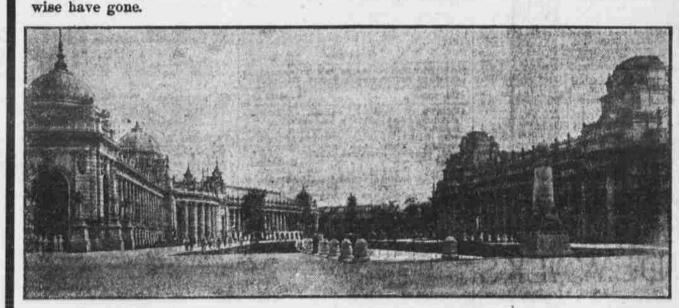
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"Exposition Department,"

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