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W. F. LAMEY, Editor and Publisher

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

**Port Arthur's Place In History**

Port Arthur may find a place in history similar to that of the much disputed Gibraltar. Like Gibraltar, it commands a marine gateway and at least three nations Japan, Russia and China, are vitally interested in its control. Whatever the outcome of the present contest, Russia will be untrue to her past if she leaves Port Arthur in Japanese hands peacefully without guilding an equivalent. Gibraltar was taken by capture four times in four centuries, and its last capture, the English, withstood two memorable sieges during the first century of their control.

The fierceness of the struggle at Port Arthur will also serve to give it a place in history. The Russian garrison was perhaps itself inspired not alone by Sevastopol, but by Plevna and Kars, the first named being defended by Russians and the others holding out heroically for months against Russian assaults. Sevastopol was defended 327 days, at the end of which time the town was a mass from the fire of the French and English guns. The Malhakoff fortress held out against assault and close siege from June to September.

During this war in the Crimea the Russians, under Muravieff, laid siege to Kars, in the Caucasus, defended by 15,000 English and Turks, commanded by General Williams. The garrison had three months' food supply and ammunition for three days only, but held out off 50,000 men for five months. Muravieff said of the foes gallant defense, "Yesterday will stand amazed at to-day's duranse, the courage and the discipline which this siege has called forth in the Prussian of army."

The Russians also heroily outnumbered Osman Pasha at Plevna. At the end of a three months' siege, when the last morsel of food had been devoured, Osman Pasha led his remnants against the swarming besiegers and was not held up until he had broken through three lines of trenches. Farther back in Napoleon's day, the Russians, together with their Prussian allies, had numered many at Danzig. In six months before the transfer of Prussia defenders that had been reduced by pestilence, famine and battle, surrendered.

The sieges of Sarajevo, Servia, in 1806-7 were attended with sight of phenomenal fierceness. The French invested the city twice within less than twelve months, and each time were lost in defending the walls, men and women in concentrated rally around the colors. The exploits of the Maid of Saragossa, who engaged in both sieges, called forth this tribute in Byron's Childe Harold:

And she whom none the fondness of a sire
Approach, or awe's harsh chilled with dread,
New views to columns scattering bayonet bar,
The fakchion flash and o'er the yet warm dead
Stalks with Minerva step where Mars might quake to tread

This famous heroine, like the American Molli Pitcher, served the gun in the stend of her fallen lover. She was exceedingly pretty and in a soft style of feminine beauty and at the time twenty-two years old. She was given military rank, and Byron saw her on the Prado at Seville decorated with medals and orders.

**The Realms of the Coming Americans.**

Columbia university's brain expert, Dr. E. A. Spitzka, is out with the proposition that the future Americans will have bigger and better brains because of the mixture of races going on here. The old dominant types of Puritan, cavalier and Scotch-Irish will lose their individuality, becoming merged with new foreign blood into a new composite type, preserving and restoring the best strains of the civilized world.

Composite races have dominated the world. Romans were all conquering until they got to be too proud of their name to marry outside of the pale. The Gaul, the Frank and the Norman combined to make the French stock, and the Norman invasion lifted England up from the trencher and the ale butt. Spain and Russia have preserved their race units and are laggards in progress. Canada has two strong races, kept apart by religion and clannishness—the French and English

In the coming American type will be fused the blood of Germany and France, of Ireland and Scotland, of England and Italy, and our own parent strain will give to the new being its moral conscience and its love of liberty.

The center of the shoe manufacturing industry moves westward with the center of population. Twenty-five years ago the first shoe emfactory was started in St. Louis, and now more shoes are manufactured in that city than in any other city in the world. An output of 30,000,000 in 1904 is reported by one St. Louis concern.

The decision by a Philadelphia judge that the theft of a tiae is larceny recalls the old ditty, "They hang you for an apple up in New Jersey." One person in the purlieus of the Philadelphia law may if the ruling stands, will be that the culprit cannot square the offense by returning the goods.

**Getting In Trim For Battle.**

It must be taken for granted that if the saloon, "in time of peace prepare for war," is being strenuously lived up to in one spot more than another just at present that spot is about the center of southern Manchuria. When the spring campaign opens the Japs will have several hundred miles of communications to keep clear of Kuropatkin's cavalry. This arm of Russia's outfit has been heavily reenforced of late Cossacks have been called in from holding down disaffected subjects at home and sent to the front.

On the east the Japs have a long expanse of country to traverse before they and thence to Wiju, on the river Yalu, the route traversed by Kuroki's advancing army last spring and summer. This line is probably the danger point on the west Oyama's line has its base at Newchwang and the roads from that point to the front have been doubled and strengthened.

It is said that General Rennenkampf, who made the retreat to the Yalu, rest or Sheridan of the czar's army, is at the head of 75,000 troopers. It may seem late in the day, but there was no really effective cavalry work in our civil war until the third year.

We all had our tribute ready when the dispatches announced the imminent passing of Lew Wallace a few weeks ago. But the sad news is in the full tide of general newspaper publication as usual. The general fought in Mexico and his monument, some of them have, been projected like Amos Noyes "The Pale God." The name "Mexico" he says, should be perpetuated in naming the new state to be created out of old Mexican territory. The world's love of romance has done much for Lew Wallace, and it speaks well for him that the "Ben Hur" turn his long seven months' moneymaker, that he is about done with earthly things.

The woman who has no history is to be congratulated, it is said. But what of the women who live in history for thousands of years and yet has no name? A student of sacred chronicles has written a book around the careers of Sixteen Biblical Women of the Bible, including the Sphynx-like woman, the Shulamite woman, Tamar's daughter, Jephtha's daughter, the never to be forgotten queen of Sheba, etc. The subject is surely a novel one and includes a goodly portion of the exhaustive resources of the Bible as a field for literary research.

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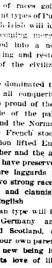

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## A HERO OF LIAOYANG.

### Gallantry of Captain Matsui Though Badly Wounded.

### SPECIMEN JAPANESE FIGHTER.

**Story of His Capture of a Russian Hill Redoubt With a Handful of Men in the Attack on Liaoyang. Fighting Blinded by a Single Line of Bayonetwork.**

Just after the recent charge which in the middle of an afternoon dislodged the Russians from the outer village of Kinmilatz a bitter game along, writes the New York Post's special correspondent from Liaoyang, the Japanese and the Russians, A voice from the bitter said, "Run your messengers." Looking down, there was the captain of infantry, Matsui, who had led the forlorn hope over the Scrub Hill pass. Hills of the outpoured Prussian, Russian, gave a few days previously. Was he hurt badly? Where was the message? The world's love of romance has done much for Lew Wallace, and it speaks well for him that the "Ben Hur" turn his long seven months' moneymaker, that he is about done with earthly things.

Never mind Japan till war came, he never felt so good. He was down and to tell his story had seen so many for himself. They were less than usual. Now, he colonel of the Yokohama in Liaoyang afterward, had he ever be-

At the Hills of the outpoured Fir-

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were separated from one another by an unknown wall of dirt and turf. Rocks were rolled down upon the cowering men. They threw them back at the enemy over the wall. The reserves now had their feet on the slope; they were coming fast without a stop, for the Russians could do nothing with seven-

Captain Matsui back on his rock with a useless thigh, saw his flag break out over the position. The colonel now met him and learned that he was twenty-seven years old.

**MEMORIAL TO ETHAN ALLEN**

**Vermont Sons of American Revolution to Erect a Tablet.**

William J. Van Patten of Burlington, Vt. has given the Vermont Sons of the American Revolution a part of the old Ethan Allen farm, known as Indian Rock, in Burlington, for the purpose of the erection of a memorial tablet to Ethan Allen, says the Boston Globe.

At a recent meeting the gift was accepted and a committee taken to start a fund for the erection of such a tower. It is planned, if possible, to have the structure built ready to dedicate on July 4. The members of the committee are Dwight C. Kilbourn, Frederick P. Mc'Gilloud of North Bennington, Frank H. Crane of St. Johnsbury, Fred S. Pomeroy of Burlington, F. D. Hale of Lunenburg, N. W. Fisk of Isle La Motte, W. H. Wood of Hyde Park, J. K. Lynde of Williamstown, F. E. Alfred of Newport, F. D. Proctor of Proctor, C. A. Davis of Montpelier, J. M. Flint of Bellows Falls, W. W. Stickney of Ludlow and ex-Governor E. C. Smith of St. Johnsbury.

It is estimated that the tower will cost about $5,000. Plans have been prepared under the direction of Mr. Van Patten. The design will be of a bold military character, and yet simple and appropriate for the purpose. The tower will be forty feet high and twenty-five feet square at the base, the interior

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