

SCISSORS AND PASTE

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1914.

ONE HALFPENNY.

SCARBOROUGH'S BIG GUNS.

"REPLY FROM THE SHORE."

The guard of a train from Leeds to Hull described how he went for a walk on the fore-shore at Scarborough earlier in the morning. It was then very misty, and it was impossible to see anything at sea. He put the time at which the bombardment began as five minutes past 8, though there is doubt as to whether this was the exact time. When the train left Scarborough at 8.25 the shells were still falling. He saw at least a dozen burst. One hit a chemist's shop near the station, and several others fell near Castle Hill. The German ships did not have matters entirely their own way, for the big guns replied from the shore, though it was impossible to see whether they did any damage.—London "Times."

THE ENGLISH EAST COAST.

Shipping Held Up.

A Lloyd's telegram of Thursday afternoon runs as follows:—"The Admiralty state that shipping should be warned that traffic between Flamborough Head and Newcastle is stopped until further notice.

Our South Shields correspondent telegraphs: Collier steamers bound for London and other vessels bound to ports in the south were not allowed to leave, and a great many laden steamers are now detained in the Tyne. The order amounts practically to a stoppage of coasting Trade for a time.—London "Daily News."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF HARTLEPOOL.

Much feeling has been aroused by the official attempt to minimise the bombardment, and the opinion is generally held that the authorities ought not to have committed themselves to the statement that 22 civilians were killed and 50 injured. As a matter of fact the numbers ought to have been probably quadrupled. The number of injured even now cannot be finally estimated, but they run into hundreds. One hospital out of five in the two boroughs treated 160 cases yesterday. The workhouse alone accommodates 37 injured persons.—London "Times."

BRITISH DESTROYERS SUNK?

A German official message giving details of the naval raid on the East coast says the German cruisers were unsuccessfully attacked by four British destroyers, one of which was sunk. "In another place," the report adds, "another British destroyer was sunk."—Dublin "Evening Herald."

"SOMETHING SERIOUS IMMINENT."

Rotterdam, Thursday.

During the last two days refugees arriving from Heyst state that they were advised by German soldiers to leave for the Netherlands, because "something very serious" was imminent. They tramped all the way unhindered by the sentinels on the coast.

At Antwerp 70,000 troops are expected to arrive within the next few days.—London "Daily News."

AMERICA AND ENGLAND.

"WASHINGTON POST" AND ALLIANCE WITH GERMANY.

The "Washington Post" gives unusual prominence to a three-column despatch from New York telling of the concern felt by "men of large affairs and identified with great commercial and shipping interests" over the action of Great Britain in interfering with American shipping. These men, according to the correspondent, fear that the country is facing its greatest crisis since the American Civil War. "Little has been said," the article proceeds, "in the public Press of this phase of the war situation that is being discussed privately but earnestly among business men. But the fact cannot be denied that the restrictions imposed upon American commerce by Great Britain, and the arrogance of the maritime power of that nation, are fast driving the United States to a point where more than vigorous diplomatic protest will be necessary." After referring to the alleged violation of neutrality by British vessels in the Panama Canal zone and to the lack of consideration shown by commanders of British warships when they overhaul and search American vessels, the correspondent says: "With the exception of the arrest of American seamen her warships to-day are doing identically the same thing that brought on the war of 1812."

Contemplating the possibility of war with the blockading of the Panama Canal and Japan joining England against the United States, the article continues: "The opinion is growing stronger every day that there should be an alliance between this country and Germany or some other Great Power in order to prevent our ships from being seized and searched on the high seas in time of war. There must be some relief, these authorities point out, from the irritating and vexatious interference and the continued humiliation to which merchant vessels of the United States have been subjected by Great Britain since the war began. This feeling is not conditioned merely upon the present war, but on a long look ahead. If such an alliance cannot be brought about now we should have the foresight to make some such arrangement for the future in order that there shall never be a repetition of the affronts which have been put upon American dignity and the trammels thrown around the sea-borne commerce of the United States. Whence, other than to Germany and her Allies, would this country turn, they say, for assistance in such a contingency? If British aggression and British disregard for proprieties as between great nations precipitates a crisis, the United States, being drawn into a world war, would undoubtedly turn to Germany for help."

An alliance with a European nation, the correspondent admits, is, of course, obnoxious to American ideals, but England, he declares, is forcing an alliance upon this country.—"Morning Post."

RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR'S SON KILLED.

The son of M. Swerbeiev, the late Russian Ambassador in Berlin, has been killed in the fighting in Poland.

"THE SMALL NATIONALITIES."

EGYPT ANNEXED BY ENGLAND.

The three kings in Malmo have an important task to achieve in maintaining the neutrality of Scandinavia, but above the dark and troubled sky one star is shining—Mr. Asquith's words: "We shall not sheathe the sword till the rights of the small nationalities are based on an unassailable foundation."—London "Daily News," Dec. 18.

The Press Bureau issues the following:—

His Britannic Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs gives notice that in view of the state of war arising out of the action of Turkey, Egypt is placed under the protection of His Majesty, and will henceforth constitute a British protectorate.

The suzerainty of Turkey over Egypt is thus terminated, and His Majesty's Government will adopt all measures necessary for the defence of Egypt and the protection of its inhabitants and interests.

The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Lieut.-Col. Sir Arthur Henry McMahon, G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., to be His Majesty's High Commissioner for Egypt.—London "Daily News," Dec. 18.

STOPPAGE OF SEA-BORNE COAL EXPORTS TO LONDON.

The stopping of shipping between Newcastle and Flamborough Head, owing to the mines sown by the Germans, will have a serious effect on the London coal trade if it lasts more than a day or two. No meeting of coal merchants to consider the price of coal took place yesterday afternoon, but a "Daily News" representative was informed by Mr. William Vinall, of the firm of William Cory and Son, the largest shippers of sea-borne coal, that action must soon be taken.

A third of the coal consumed in London is sea-borne, and it will be impossible for the railways to transport that quantity at short notice. One effect will be the stoppage of large works in London.

Shippers realise, however, that the Admiralty had to suspend coastwise shipping after the loss of two or three colliers by mines, supposed to have been strewn in the North Sea by the raiding cruisers.

Freights had already jumped considerably through higher rates of insurance as the result of the raid, and this would have appreciably affected the price of coal in any case.—London "Daily News."

THE BATTLE IN POLAND.

Rejoicings in Germany.

According to a Berlin telegram the report of a German victory in Poland has been received in the capital with great enthusiasm. The German and Austrian flags were displayed in thousands all over the city, and the church bells rang. General von Hindenburg is once again the popular hero.

Scissors and Paste.

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In sending matter for publication the writer must enclose real name and address; otherwise it will receive no attention.

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WEST BRITONISM.

We dare say, had it been the policy of any party in ancient Greece to win the thoughts and affections of the Greeks from their own country, so as to make them a safer provincial dependency of some earlier civilised neighbouring nation—Syria, say, or Egypt—this sort of argument or expostulation would have been very often employed by them: Where is the use of tracing back the barbarous traditions of the house of Atreus—a series of rapes, incests, parricides, and treacherous butcheries? Why waste your time on idle enumerations of the pedigrees of Inachus? on nonsensical tales of satyrs and sea-monsters? or on trifling questions of how long such or such a robber in the mountains of Attica lived before or after the return of Heraclidæ? Turn your thoughts to Egypt, such persons would say,—the glorious actions of Sesostris are something, indeed, worthy of the study of men of enlightenment. The sources of the Nile, and the causes of its overflow, you may investigate with profit and delight. The various genera and species of plants and animals are to be seen at Memphis. Indulge no more the idle dream of being Greeks—North-west Egyptians, methinks, would sound more proper, &c. Had such representations been made to the Greeks, and had the Greeks acknowledged the wisdom and prudence of adopting that course, the Memphians might, perhaps, have been obliged by them with the same sort of services as Rome obtained from them in later times; but we should have heard nothing of Euripides, Socrates, or Æschylus—the men who, out of that barbaric material, made the literature of the world. Our cattle-spoils and hostings, our family pedigrees, and royal and princely successions, are as precious to us now as theirs were to them then.—**Sir Samuel Ferguson**, in the "Dublin University Magazine."

"GERMAN ATROCITIES."

In view of the many statements of atrocities committed by Germans which have been circulated throughout the Press, I have made the most careful inquiry in more than half-a-dozen villages through which I passed, and in which the Germans had remained for varying periods. In each case I made careful inquiries, interrogating the Mayor where possible, and could find no trace of any excesses perpetrated by the German forces.—"Christian Science Monitor's" (Boston) War Correspondent.

HARD MARCHING FOR VOLUNTEERS.

Let the departing Australian cohorts be trained hard in the matter of marching—and then let them be trained again and again. The individualism and intelligence and adaptability of the Australian fighting-man were all very well against the Boer, who had just about as much discipline as he had; but in a European war men of a different class will have to be faced, and in such circumstances bad marching will be a heavy handicap. Marching with men who have not learned to keep step, or to maintain a regular length of pace, is very fatiguing, and as the bodies get larger the difficulty increases. Bad places in the road always cause a check, and the longer the column the greater the liability to checks. A column of 20,000 infantry would be 7½ miles long, and would take in theory 2½ hours to pass a given point on the road. In fact, large bodies of infantry rarely march more than two miles an hour, when halts and checks on the road have been allowed for. That means that one of the most, if not actually the most, important part of the soldier's training is pedestrianism. It is not less important than rifle-shooting, because the soldier walks ten days or more for every day he fights. And all this walking exercise is

not done away with by railways, because railways are apt to be required for the transport of supplies.—"The Old Soldier" in "Sydney Bulletin."

FREEDOM AND RIGHT.

O! think not the Twain have gone down to their graves!

O! say not that Mankind should basely despair,

Because Earth is yet trodden by tyrants and slaves,

And the sighs of the Noble are spent on the air!

Oh, no! though the Pole, from the swamps of the North,

Sees trampled in shreds the bright banner he bore;

Though Italy's heroes in frenzy pour forth
The rich blood of their hearts on the dark dungeon floor,

Still live—

Ever live in their might

Both Freedom and Right!

Who fight in the van of the battle must fall—
All honour be theirs!—'tis for Us to press on!

They have struck the first links from the gyves that enthrall

Men's minds; and the half of our triumph is won—

The swift-coming triumph of Freedom and Right!

Yes, tremble, ye Despots! the hour will have birth

When, as vampires and bats, by the arrows of Light,

Your nature, your name, will be blasted from Earth!

For still—

Still live in their might

Fair Freedom and Right!

Gone down to the grave? No! if ever their breath

Gave life to the paralysed nations, 'tis now,
When the serf at length wakes, as from torpor or death,

And the sunshine of Hope gleams anew on his brow!

They traverse the globe in a whirlwind of fire—

They sound their deep trumpet o'er Ocean and Land,

Enkindling in myriads the quenchless desire
To arm as one man for the Conflict at hand!

Oh! still—

Still live in their might

Both Freedom and Right.

They rouse even dastards to combat and dare,
Till the last of oppression's bastiles be o'erthrown;

When they conquer not here, they are conquering elsewhere,

And ere long they will conquer all Earth for their own.

Then first will be born the Millennium of Peace—

And, O God, what a garland will bloom in the sun,

When the Oak-leaf of Deutschland, the Olive of Greece,

And the Shamrock of Ireland are blended in one!

As they will;

For still in their might

Live Freedom and Right!

And what, though before the Millennium can dawn,

The bones of our bravest must bleach on the plain?

Thank Heaven! they will feel that the swords they have drawn

Will be sheathed by the victors, undimmed by a stain!

And their names through all time will be shrined in each heart

As the moral Columbuses—they who unfurled

That sunbeamy standard that shone as a chart
To illumine our way to the better New World.

Still live—

Ever live in their might

Both Freedom and Right!

—**Ferdinand Freiligrath**. (Translated from the German by James Clarence Mangan.)

HOW TO BEAT GERMANY.

There is nothing so fierce as a draper turned soldier, except a draper who is saying goodbye to soldiers while preparing to stay at home himself. Six employees of a Sydney

fluffery volunteered the other day, and their mates presented them with wristlet watches. One potentate, addressing the six, "hoped that every time the volunteers' watches ticked they would bowl over a German." This would represent 360 dead Germans a minute, or 21,600 an hour, or 1,425,600 a day. This represents a terrible loss of Germans, and no enemy could bear it long. The best idea would be to send twelve drapers and finish the war between daybreak and lunchtime.—"Sydney Bulletin."

GERMAN MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISE.

In the country of Kaiserdom, municipal authorities possess and fully exercise far wider powers than the most progressive cities of England. Thus many German towns have not only established municipal pawnshops (I'm not struck on pawnshops, but if we must have them let us keep the private shark out), but provide gratuitous legal and medical advice for the poor.

The people who have been driven to war by the blatherskiting Wilhelm have been the pioneers in school hygiene. Every Teutonic youngster is under the supervision of a municipal dentist and oculist. Municipal restaurants and beer-houses are very common. In the encouragement of art and literature the municipalities play a leading part. Subsidies are granted to local theatres, bands and orchestras. Grants are given to dramatic and musical societies. No theatres in Germany maintain the drama at a higher level than the municipal theatres in the larger towns. Public taste has been trained to look for the best, and, as the demand, so is the supply. Many German municipal theatres present more Shakespearian plays in a week than the average English theatre outside London presents in a couple of years. In a recent year two Mannheim municipal playhouses presented 161 separate works, including 93 dramas and 62 operas. The dramas included 15 by Schiller, 10 by Shakespeare, three by Goethe, three by Lessing, five by Moliere, four by Sheridan, and several by Ibsen. The operas included several by Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, and Wagner. That plays of the kind mentioned are given appears proof positive that the German public looks to the municipal theatre for the cultivation of the highest possible standard of dramatic taste and achievement. According to Dawson, the great majority of these theatres pay well.

One of the most striking fields of German municipal power and authority is the policy of land purchase. Nearly every German city absolutely owns 50 per cent. of the municipal area. Lands are purchased for the purpose of creating small holdings and labourers' allotments. Dawson gives some striking figures in respect to this land-purchase system. In 1910, 73 of the large German towns bought land to the aggregate extent of 9,584 acres, and to the aggregate value of over £4,000,000. Charlottenburg now owns 2,500 acres of land as yet not built upon, and the value of its whole real estate is about £4,500,000. In 1886 Freiburg owned 11,000 acres, with a value of £925,000. In 1909 its estate was only 2,000 acres larger, but its value was then £2,500,000. Berlin itself has an estate more than three times greater than its administrative area.

Many of the towns make profit by re-selling portion of the lands. Thus, Ulm, in 19 years, bought 1,300 acres for £316,000, and sold 420 acres for £406,000. By means of these profits from land transactions taxes are kept at a minimum.

One very important distinction between German and the municipal governments of other lands is the fact that the city fathers of German towns are salaried officers, yet elected by the people. In Britain and Australia, the chief magistrates are more or less ephemeral figure-heads—local grocers, drapers or butchers, temporarily elevated to "office," assisted or hindered by fellow-councillors whose chief qualification is log-rolling or a mere "gift of the gab." In Germany the burgomaster and aldermen are permanent, trained servants and experts, at first elected for 12 years, and on re-election appointed for life. There are now established throughout Germany special schools for instruction in civil administration. Thus, the councillors have the confidence of the public, the full responsibility of power, and are given time to achieve results—three things which appear to the present scribe to recommend the German municipal system.—"Sydney Bulletin."

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

(German Wireless, per the London "Times," "Morning Post," and "Daily Mail.")

THE WESTERN THEATRE.

In the western theatre of the war the enemy made a new attempt to advance via Nieuport, supported by the action of his ships at sea. The fire from these ships remained entirely without effect. The attack was repulsed and 450 French were taken prisoners. On the rest of the front the capture by storm of a height west of Sennheim (Cernay) occupied by the enemy since the day before yesterday is the only matter worth mentioning.

On Thursday the French continued their attacks at Nieuport without any success. Attacks were attempted at Zillebeke and La Bassée, but with very heavy loss to the enemy.

The intention of the French to throw a bridge over the Aisne at Soissons was prevented by our artillery.

French earthworks east of Rheims were destroyed.

RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE BROKEN.

During the last two weeks' fighting in Poland the Russians lost about 200,000 men. A correspondent who was taken to a German artillery position during the fight was able to observe on all hands the keen enthusiasm and splendid discipline among the German troops, who were splendidly fed and well cared for. The Russians during their retreat carried away all the victuals, and the Russian Poles are suffering great distress. They are poorly fed, mainly on potatoes. The German authorities are doing all they can to prevent famine among the population, and they have allowed the people to search on the battlefield for wood. There is an excellent understanding between the Germans and the inhabitants in the conquered territory in Poland. The Russian offensive in this sphere of operation gave rise at one time to some anxiety, but the offensive is now completely broken down.

News is to hand from Bucharest to the effect that the Russian offensive has completely broken down, and that the Russians are in an extremely hazardous position, due to the terrible attacking strength of General von Hindenburg. The Russian Commissariat Department is faced with almost insurmountable difficulties, as the Russian forces are threatened both East and West by German troops. Only undreamed-off efforts can release them from their peril or from a general retreat, and, whatever happens, great sacrifices will have to be made. This news has been issued by the "Novoe Vremya" without having been submitted to the Censor.

RUSSIAN RETREAT.

Berlin, Thursday.

No news is to hand from the East and West Prussian frontiers.

The Russian offensive against Silesia and Posen has completely broken down. In the whole of Poland the enemy was forced to retreat after fierce and stubborn frontal battles, and he is being pursued everywhere.

In Northern Poland yesterday and the previous day the bravery of the West Prussian and Hessian regiments gained the victory. The effect of this victory cannot yet be estimated.

HOLLAND AND ENGLAND.

In the Dutch Chamber the Foreign Minister protested in the name of the Government against the closing of the North Sea, the arrest of hostile reservists on board neutral ships, and the seizing and searching of neutral ships.

THE SENUSSI.

The Senussi have commenced their attack against the British in Egypt.

CHOLERA AMONGST THE RUSSIANS.

The Austrian advance in the Carpathians has resulted in the taking of 9,000 Russian prisoners and 10 machine-guns. Several Russian regiments were withdrawn from action owing to cholera raging.

THE BELGIAN LOSSES.

The "Figaro" of Paris reports that since the commencement of the war 25,000 Belgians have been killed and 52,000 wounded; 35,000 Belgians are interned in Germany and 32,000 in Holland.

FRANCE'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

In Spanish financial circles the financial situation in France is criticised. It is pointed out that, while the gold reserve has remained stationary since the outbreak of war, the silver

reserve has decreased by about one-half, while the circulation of bank-notes has increased by 3½ milliards.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S SON A PRISONER.

The eldest son of the Imperial Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann Hollweg, has been severely wounded and made prisoner by the Russians.

THE EVACUATION OF BELGRADE.

Owing to strategical reasons the Austrian troops evacuated Belgrade without fighting.

FRENCH DEPUTIES AND ENGLAND.

At a meeting of the Deputies of the Seine, Deputy Lavella asked for measures to be adopted in order to ensure for French commerce the benefit resulting from the present situation, otherwise England would be the only country to derive any commercial advantage.

TURKISH VICTORIES REPORTED.

Constantinople officially reports that battles lasting several days on the Eastern frontier at Wilajetswan were fought to a favourable conclusion. Positions at Sarai were surrounded and captured. The enemy is retreating in the direction of Kotur.

A SWEDISH VIEW.

The Chief of the Military Academy at Stockholm, who has spent several months with the German Army, has expressed himself very favourably with regard to German prospects and resources, which are constantly improving. He is firmly convinced that, from the military point of view, Germany is invincible.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

Unofficial Arrangement with America.

A step towards a settlement of one phase of the contraband controversy is indicated by the announcement of an arrangement by which the British Government forgoes the right of search of vessels whose cargoes have been inspected before sailing by British Consular officials.

The arrangement is unofficial so far as Washington is concerned, and vessels cannot be forced to submit to it, but it is hoped that it will relieve honest, bona fide American traders from the inconvenience incident on the detention of vessels on suspicion. It is also possible that the arrangement may eventually be made official by giving the United States port authorities power to issue certificates. Could that be done, the relations of the American Government to certificated American neutral vessels trading from the United States to the Continent would presumably be analogous to the relations of the Government to vessels under its convoy.—London "Times."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF CHURCHES.

Every third day (subalterns take it in turns) I go out to a two-storied house about a mile and a half in front of the battery and 600 yards from the nearest German trench. It is a magnificent house with eight or nine bedrooms, and beautifully, although rather gaudily, furnished. It is, of course, badly knocked about by shell fire, as it is in full view of the German batteries; everything inside is pulled inside out and upside down.

As for shooting at church towers and steeples, and in fact any high buildings, it is vital. It is nonsensical to complain of the destruction of large buildings, whether town halls, churches, or factories, when in the contested area. We do it as much as the Germans do, and observing officers of both sides use these same buildings to direct their artillery fire on those of the other. It happens to be in France now, but later on it may well be Cologne Cathedral. We had better not shout too loud now or we shall merit the epithet hypocrite later on. After all one's country's interests and the lives of men must to the soldier come before art and beauty.—London "Times" (Letter from the Front).

"NOT QUITE SO HUMOROUS."

Another incident occurred not quite so humorous. One man who understands German came up to me. "Had a rotten job just now," he said, "I got my man in the chest and he started to howl about his wife and kids." "What did you do," I said. "Do," he returned, laconically spitting out a wad of tobacco. "Oh, I just remembered my wife and kids and gave him another for luck."—London "Daily Telegraph."

JAPAN AND KIAO-CHAU.

"ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLES WILL HAVE TO BE REASONABLE."

The main question now on the lips of everyone in Japan is as to the future of the territory taken from Germany. Is Kiao-Chau to be retained, or handed back to China; or is it to be retained till the expiration of the German lease and then returned to the Republic? He who answers accurately these questions will win fame as a discernor of mysteries. So far the only answer is what one may advance from inference.

To appreciate the Japanese point of view the whole circumstances must be fully taken into consideration. In Western countries emphasis appears to be laid on the conditions of Japan's ultimatum to Germany, promising to return the territory to China on condition that Germany relinquished her hold without force. But Germany did not surrender without much cost on the part of Japan. Thus the circumstances from a Japanese point of view are entirely altered. The reduction of Tsing-tau has cost Japan a good deal in blood and money, but, of course, nothing to what the war with Russia cost her. Her losses in men are some 236 officers and men killed and 1,036 wounded. In addition she lost one cruiser and one torpedo-boat, besides three mine-sweepers. And the outlay on transporting and maintaining a large army has not been small. The imperial Diet voted over 50,000,000 yen, but it is improbable that so much has been expended. There is, however, the further outlay of policing the Pacific with a widely-scattered fleet.

The Shantung Railway.

It may be taken for granted that for the present at least a Japanese Government will rule over Tsing-tau. In this connection a critical question arises as to the management of the Shantung Railway, formerly under the joint management of Germany and China, and seized by Japan for strategic purposes during the siege of Tsing-tau. The all-powerful corporation known as the South Manchuria Railway Company is clamouring for the inheritance, but there is much hesitancy among the Japanese to acquiesce in the demand. Possibly the railway will remain under military control until after the war.

From all that has been said it is clear that the general feeling in Japan is that none of the German possessions taken by Japan can be lightly released. In any case Japan cannot relinquish them without a quid pro quo. But owing to the tendency toward apprehension in the United States, such questions are not as yet open to discussion, though the jingo Press has not hesitated to parade its views even to a sensational degree. The one thing the vernacular Press refuses to tolerate is that Japanese diplomacy ever can have had any understanding with the United States or any other country as to her plans in the Pacific. The idea of consulting any other nation as to her movements in the Pacific seems to the vernacular papers quite inconsistent with Japanese sovereignty. The Japanese have established their own government over the territory in China formerly held by Germany; and the interest in the commercial and political importance of these possessions to Japan is intense among the people. Ships have already set out for the South Sea Islands, as to prospective colonies, and Boards of Trade are busy making plans for the extension of national commerce in the newly-acquired territory.

Confidence in Japan.

While the conviction of the average Japanese is that Japan should be permitted to exploit the newly-acquired possessions in her own right, the outside world may, nevertheless, trust the Japanese Government to do what is best for the peace of the world. It is believed by many that all these questions were taken into consideration from the beginning, and that there is a general understanding among the Great Powers concerned as to what will be done with territory taken during the war. It is not at all likely that Japan would wish to cause undue apprehension among an already too suspicious people like the Austrians by occupying permanently a group of islands just outside their backdoor. And when both the British and the Americans are likely to favour the opinion of Australia, Japan is sure to avoid running counter to them. But the English-speaking peoples will have to be reasonable with Japan, doing what they can to assist her in the solution of her problem of immigration. In the last few years the rate of increase of population in Japan has jumped from 600,000 to over 1,000,000 a year, and the

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Anglo-Saxon peoples cannot go on enforcing congestion of population on Japan by rejecting her immigrants and at the same time refusing her extension of territory. Japan has done a great deal to help the Allies in this war, and she is earnestly hoping that their gratitude in return will assume a practical shape and assist her toward peaceable progress among the world's great nations.—London "Morning Post."

CHINA AND JAPAN.

There was an exciting discussion at a meeting of the Chinese State Council held on October 2nd. A number of prominent legislators and generals took part in the debate following Councillor Liang Chichao's motion that the violation of Chinese neutrality by the Japanese in Shantung be discussed. He said that in accordance with Article 31 of the Provisional Constitution, authorising the Council to exercise functions of the Legislature and to interpellate the Government on any political question, he proposed that an interpellation be sent to the Government concerning the movement of the Japanese and British troops in Shantung, which involved grave consequences to China. Mr. Liang's notion was supported by more than five councillors, and unanimously adopted.

War feeling ran high during the discussion. Gen. Hsu Shao-cheng said: "This is really a life and death struggle for China. We can no longer rely on the balance of power for our national existence. I fear that not only will Japan occupy Shantung, but also that the peace of the whole of China cannot be preserved. The people should support the Government in order to avert the danger."

Gen. Chao Wei-hsi remarked: "I give my hearty support to the interpellation. After it has been sent to the President we will discuss the measures to be taken up by our Government carefully. Should the people dislike to become slaves, there is hope that this big nation will become strong again. Should the people be willing to be abased, then it is better for us to die than to live."—New York "Evening News."

JAPAN AND ENGLAND.

Tokio, Dec. 3 (Cable dispatch to East and West News Bureau).—The Opposition party, which is in the majority, seems bent on introducing into Parliament, which will convene in a few days, a vote of lack of confidence in the Okuma Cabinet, while the latter announced it will dissolve the House if such a vote be passed. The chief point of attack is the alleged failure of the Okuma diplomacy.

The Opposition leaders assert the Government is going to turn over the island of Yap to England, and Kiaochow to China, and that the northern half of the Tientsin-Nanking Railroad, hitherto within the German sphere of influence, is on the point of falling into the hands of England.

They say that if the latter becomes an accomplished fact the railroad, operated by England, will be transformed into a great wall along the coast of China, running from the frontier of Burma, through Middle China, to the very heart of Manchuria, to the great detriment of Japan.—"New York American."

THE ARMIES OF THE GREAT POWERS.

The following table, compiled from General Wood's report, shows the relative military strength of the Great Powers in peace and in time of war when the full strength of the reserves has been called out:—

	Population.	Peace.	War.
Russia (in Europe)	118,690,387	771,193	6,479,387
Germany	64,903,423	565,565	5,544,983
Japan	51,591,342	162,505	1,264,300
Austria	47,828,704	943,353	3,029,524
Great Britain	45,365,599	206,626	438,698
France	39,610,509	535,670	3,700,740
Italy	34,686,683	211,304	1,871,496
United States	91,972,986	84,810	84,810

—The "New York American."

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