

MET DEATH FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

How Two Japanese Spies, Taken
By the Enemy, Faced the Fate
That Awaited Them.

STORY TOLD BY A RUSSIAN.

Their Heroism and Disdain of Death
Won the Admiration and Pity of
Their Executioners.

I have received from a Russian sailor recently returned from Harbin, some hitherto unpublished details of the execution of two Japanese spies arrested by some Cosacks as they were about to blow up a bridge on the Manchurian railroad.

My informant is a young man who was severely wounded during the first bombardment of Port Arthur. He obtained permission to go to Italy to convalesce from his wound, but before his departure he made a short stay with some officers, relations of his, at Harbin, where he arrived just at the time when the Japanese were arrested, taken in the act, condemned and executed.

"You were present at the execution of the two Japanese?" I asked him.

"Alas! I saw them die," answered the young sailor.

And as I looked at him with astonishment he hastened to add:

"I do not take me for an anarchist, but I longed for the war with Japan. I longed to see the Japanese exterminated, and I desired that we might be able to dictate terms of peace to them. But, like all my comrades, on seeing those two Japanese officers die by the bullets of our soldiers, courageously sacrificing their lives for their country, I could not but think their execution cruel."

"Were you present at the trial?"

"I saw the two spies arrested; I was present at the trial and at the execution. I can give you all the details of the dreadful spectacle haunts me, and I cannot forget it."

And in half an hour the wounded officer, pausing only when the pain of his right knee, wounded by the bursting of a shell, and from which the splinters had not yet been removed, became too keen, narrated to me the following events:

"I can give you my testimony that, when the two prisoners were brought into the little room of the Chinese fasha, transformed into a courtroom by the Harbin command of war, both the judges and the public after the executioner, produced by officers—could not avoid manifesting openly their enthusiastic admiration for them."

ADMIRED BY THEIR CAPTORS.

"And, indeed, those men were actuated by the most noble sentiments; they had resolved, as patriots, to make use of any means to assure victory to their side, and as soldiers, under superior orders, to meet certain death."

The trial took the ordinary course; the arguments on either side offered nothing of interest, the prisoners having already, under the patriotic spirit, assumed the responsibility of the crime of which they were accused.

"They gave their names and their titles without the slightest tremor of the voice."

"Toshio Jokoku, 44 years of age, colonel of the general staff, graduated with honors from the military high school of Jeddou," said the elder of the prisoners, a short, stout man, with a strong face.

"Telesko Jokki, 31 years of age, captain, attached to the general staff," said his companion, who was taller and more slender in figure than the other, with angular features and a very dark complexion, casting a slightly disdainful glance around the courtroom.

"Buddhist," he added, after a moment's silence.

"And you, colonel," asked the president of the council; "you are of the same religion as your fellow prisoner?"

"No, president; I am a Christian. And observing the astonishing proof produced on every one by this declaration, he hastened to add:

"But I am a true Japanese, born of Japanese parents, only in my youth I was captivated by the gentle teachings of Christ, and I became a convert to Lutheranism."

"Col. Jokoku spoke English, and it was a defect of King Edward, an employee of the Russo-Chinese bank, who translated to the court the declarations of the prisoners."

"Capt. Jokki was interrogated by means of a Chinese interpreter."

"The accused were shown the explosive materials which had been found upon them; they did not attempt to defend themselves, or to deny in any manner the statements of the Cosacks who had arrested them."

"The interpreters translated to the prisoners the military prosecutor's speech, asking the punishment of death by hanging."

"I watched the countenances of the two men, and I could not observe in them the slightest indication of fear. They remained impassive; the painful working of their minds was betrayed by no sign."

"The counsel of the two Japanese asked that the sentence of death should be commuted to imprisonment with hard labor, the accused men having made a complete confession."

"The two officers remained unmoved by their counsel's warm appeals; they did not utter a word."

"Since the law allowed of a lighter punishment we all expected a commutation of the sentence."

"The deliberations lasted for half an hour, and the court condemned the two officers to the maximum penalty, the scaffold."

"Col. Jokoku and Capt. Jokki heard their sentence with as detached an air as if it had concerned indifferent persons. It is probable that if the sentence had been less severe they would have shown some surprise."

GIVEN A SOLDIER'S DEATH.

"The sentence was to be executed on the following morning at 1 o'clock; all that was waited for was a dispatch from Gen. Kuropatkin, confirming it."

"The telegram arrived promptly; the generalissimo approved the condemnation, the honor of the scaffold and granted them the grace of being shot, according to them, a soldier's death."

"As was present when the commandant read the two prisoners Gen. Kuropatkin's order."

"It is well," responded Col. Jokoku, "I am ready."

"The captain said nothing; his expression, that became every moment more disdainful, showed his indifference to the manner of punishment reserved for him."

"Col. Jokoku asked permission to write to his family; then he embraced me."

"I die more tranquil than you, colonel," said the latter.

"Why do you say that?"

"I have fulfilled my duty to my

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country and to the Dely. You have done yours to your country only. "What do you mean, captain?"

"I have reflected a good deal on what you have said to me about Christianity. You are always vaunting its superiority. Well, I think you are not in accord with Christ; while I have nothing to reproach myself with."

DYING GIFT TO RUSSIAN RED CROSS.

"Perhaps you are right, captain. And I, I have a favor to ask of you. Give me your authorization to perform the first truly Christian act which it has been given me to perform during my life. You know I have a number of Cosacks bank notes, the value in all of about a thousand Russian rubles. Well, I desire to send this money to the commandant, to be given to the Russian Red Cross for the poor wounded among our enemies. Do you consent to this gift? Jokki reflected an instant."

"I have always had a great affection for you, colonel, and if it will give you pleasure, I am quite willing that you should give this money to our enemies."

"When the commandant came for the prisoners, Col. Jokoku gave him a bundle of white bank notes with red signs, saying:

"There are here about a thousand rubles, and we beg you to give them to the Russian Red Cross."

"But would it not be better for me to send this money to your families?"

"Oh, no," cried both the condemned men together. The money was not for our wives and children."

"Do not refuse us this satisfaction," said Jokoku. "Distribute this money among the Russian wounded."

The commandant, who urged the officers to let all they should leave behind them be sent to Japan."

"Jokki appeared to hesitate for a moment; he looked at his companion in silence, who reiterated his desire to make this compensation for the evil he had done on this earth, and the captain bent his head in acquiescence with the wish of his brother in arms."

"The Russian commandant yielded, and asked the two Japanese if he was anything in which he could be of service to them."

"I should like to have a bath, if it were possible," said the Buddhist. "After that we shall be at your orders."

"A bathroom being an object of luxury unknown at Harbin, the commandant caused tubs of water to be brought and ordered the sentinels to go to one side, so that the unfortunate men might be able to perform their ablutions at their ease."

The want of a bathtub was felt much more keenly by the Buddhist than by the Christian colonel, whose desire was to see a priest before going to execution. As there was no Lutheran pastor, the chaplain of the regiment was sent to him. The colonel begged the priest to read to him the sermon on the Mount. The chaplain read in Slav, and Jokoku followed the text in his Japanese Bible, which they had left him in prison. When they came to the words: "For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others?" he closed the book, folded his hands and cast down his eyes for a moment while his lips moved.

"Jokki," he said, "you are right: you will die more tranquilly than I. For I have never felt more keenly than now how little in accordance my life has been with the teachings of Jesus."

"The vehicle which was to convey the two men to the place of execution was already waiting. Outside surged the crowd, the hideous crowd of the lowest class, everywhere the same; idle tradesmen, business men come to the extreme point to avail themselves of any chance windfall."

PITYING SOLDIERS SHOT STRAIGHT.

"The two Japanese officers arrived at the place of execution, impassive as ever. Still, it could be seen that the colonel was a prey to painful reflection."

"Both of them lighted cigarettes and asked that they should not be bound to the stakes. The commandant took two handkerchiefs from his pocket and handed them to the Japanese officers."

"The colonel bound his eyes himself; Jokki disdainfully refused to do so, saying he desired to see how they misbehaved."

"A dozen soldiers were posted in front of the colonel, a dozen others in front of the captain."

"If you have pity for these two unhappy men," said the commandant to the platoon detailed for the execution, "aim straight at the heart—death will then be instantaneous."

"The soldiers fired."

"Jokoku went to the left; Jokki, without having winked an eyelash, fell forward."

"Both had been killed instantly; our good soldiers had had pity for them."

"My companion moved by the death of the two spies of the enemy, I recalled the words of the Russian painter Verestchagin, that the valor of both combatants was the most serious obstacle to the war. And, indeed, why kill one another when either side esteems the other?—M. Pradine in Le Petit Temps."

BUGLE BLASTS.

Among the late army orders is the following: Lieut.-Col. Joseph M. Callif of the Artillery Corps is relieved from duty at Fort Douglas, Utah, to take effect upon the return of his battalion from practice march, and will then proceed to Fort McKinley, Me., and enter upon duty at that post. Monday morning, Harris relieved from duty at Fort McKinley, Me., and will proceed to Fort Hancock, N. J., for duty; Maj. James C. Bush is relieved from duty with his battalion, to take effect upon his arrival at San Francisco, and will proceed to Fort Warren, Mass., and enter upon duty at that point. Major Bush was a first lieutenant of light battery D, Fifth artillery, when that command was stationed at Fort Douglas with the Sixth infantry, and was well known in this city. He was in the class of 1871 at Yale, and also graduated from West Point in 1875.

Companies E, G and H of the Twenty-ninth infantry will go on a two days' march next Monday morning. Sergeants Charles Cox and McKinney of L company have been granted a three months' furlough on their re-enlistment, and will visit with friends in the east. E. H. Billet, recently commissioned from the ranks in Virginia, will report for duty this week at Fort Douglas, with C company of the Twenty-ninth.

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BEFORE THE POLICE BAR

Miss Alice Spriggs, colored, a familiar figure in police circles, was run in last night for trying to break up a meeting of the "Jumpers" on Second South and East Temple streets. Twice she disturbed the religionists, and she sent the air with curses while the police were escorting her to la bastille. She was booked for drunkenness and abusive language.

Ed. Green, serving 25 days for vagrancy, was a trusty at the city jail until yesterday afternoon, when he walked away. His liberty was short-lived, as Officer Moore got an eye on him last night, and after an exciting chase and a hand to hand struggle, gathered him in. Ed's days of trust are over.

Judge Diehl imposed a sentence of 45 days on Tom H. Donovan for carrying a concealed weapon. It was the second time Donovan had been convicted, and the court gave him rather a touching reminder of his deplorable mental condition.

EXCHANGE OF WATER.

Basin of That Between Farmers and City Agreed Upon.

The Parley's canyon water commissioners met yesterday in the office of Land and Water Commissioner Ben D. Luce and agreed upon a basis of exchange of water as between the farmers and the city. The present flow of the creek is 15,966,673 gallons per day, as compared to 11,797,600 gallons on the same date last year. It was agreed by the commission, which is composed of Land and Water Commissioner Luce, representing the city, John Gabbott, representing the farmers, and William H. Smith, a disinterested party, that 13,000,000 gallons per day should be the basis of the exchange.

Of that amount the farmers will be given \$3 per cent, or 3,900,000 gallons of water per day from the Salt Lake and Jordan canal in exchange for the Parley's canyon water, which the city needs in its water system. The farmers will therefore receive about 1,640,000 gallons daily more than they received last year, and hence are very well satisfied with the apportionment made by the commission. The creek is much higher this year than last and it is feared that there will be a shortage this season. The heavy and late snows of the past winter are responsible for the increased flow of the creek.

NEW DOCTORS.

Not a Few Pass the State Board of Medical Examiners.

The following have successfully passed the recent examinations in medicine and surgery conducted by the state board of medical examiners: William St. John Downey, R. N. Cummings, Walter Johnson, A. J. Hogner and R. W. Quick of this city; B. L. Kessler, American Fork; A. J. Stewart, Provo; James Osterman, Sandy; A. E. Cates, Mercur; S. J. Woodbury, Salt Lake; W. H. Hinton, Ogden; F. A. McGregor, Parowan.

Two applicants, Amanda H. Nelson and C. M. Larson, also successfully passed the examination in obstetrics.

BRIGHAM YOUNG COLLEGE.

Report of President Shows School to Be in Good Condition.

The trustees of the Brigham Young college at Logan met yesterday in this city and heard the report of President Linford relative to the condition of the institution. The report was a comprehensive one and showed the school to be in splendid condition. The present faculty, with but few changes, was ordered re-engaged for the ensuing year, and it was decided to make necessary improvements in the classroom buildings and make whatever purchases were required for the respective departments. The following officers were elected: President, Joseph F. Smith; vice president, W. R. Preston; secretary of the faculty, J. H. Linford; executive committee, William B. Preston, Joseph Howell, Lyman R. Martineau.

WANTS HER DAUGHTER.

Ogden Woman Seeks Official Aid to Have Her Restored.

Mrs. Louisa Botwood of Ogden has asked Senator Kearns to use his influence with the United States minister to the Argentine republic to have her daughter, 15 years old, restored to her. Mr. and Mrs. Botwood and the child lived in the republic until a few years ago, when they lost all they had by fire. Mrs. Botwood then came to the United States, leaving the child in the father's care, the understanding being that he would bring the girl to this country with him a little later. Instead of carrying out this understanding, Botwood turned his daughter over to a Mrs. Saxby, and fled. He has not been heard of by his wife since she came here. The people who have the daughter now will not release her unless they are by official notice convinced of the fitness of the mother to take the custody of the girl.

A Breakfast Dainty.

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UNITED STATES FRUIT EXPORTS.

Immense Business That is Done By Uncle Sam in Foreign Countries.

IT IS INCREASING RAPIDLY.

For the Year 1904 it Will Amount to Over \$20,000,000—Growth in Ten Years.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, D. C., July 15.—Exports of fruit from the United States in the fiscal year 1904 will exceed \$20,000,000, against less than \$2,000,000 in 1894 and less than \$2,000,000 in 1884. The growth in the exportation of fruits from the United States has been very rapid during the last few years. The department of commerce and labor, through its bureau of statistics, has issued a table showing the value of fruits and nuts imported and exported in each year from 1884 to 1904. It shows that the importations were practically \$20,000,000 in value in 1884, and will in 1904 be about \$22,000,000, while the exports, which were \$1,746,411 in 1884, will be about \$20,500,000 in 1904.

Apples, oranges, apricots, prunes and raisins form the principal items in the exports of fruits. The value of the apple exportations in 1904 will amount to about \$8,500,000 out of the \$20,500,000. The principal part of the \$8,500,000 worth of apples exported about \$5,500,000 worth was exported in the natural state and \$3,000,000 worth as dried fruit.

DEMAND FOR PRUNES.

The exportation of prunes from the United States has grown very rapidly in recent years. The total number of pounds exported in 1894, the first year in which record was made by the bureau of statistics, being, in round terms, 16,000,000; in 1902, 23,000,000; in 1903, 66,000,000; and in 1904 will amount to about 60,000,000, valued at about \$3,500,000. Germany, France and the United Kingdom are the principal countries for this class of American fruit, the total quantity sent to Germany in the fiscal year 1903 being 15,500,000 pounds; France, 16,000,000, and the United Kingdom, 15,000,000. While Belgium took nearly 4,000,000 pounds, Netherlands nearly 4,000,000, and Canada about 4,000,000. Of the 66,000,000 pounds of prunes exported in 1903, 9,000,000 went from San Francisco and \$3,500,000 from New York, although they are chiefly the product of the Pacific coast.

BUSINESS IN RAISINS.

Raisins are also becoming an important feature of the export trade in fruits, the total number of pounds of raisins exported in 1903 being 4,200,000, while for the year ended last year the total will be about 4,000,000 pounds. Canada is our largest foreign customer for this product, the total quantity exported to Canada last year being over 3,000,000 pounds. The principal part of shipment was San Francisco, from which about 1,500,000 pounds were sent; from Detroit, three-quarters of a million pounds; from the district of North and South Dakota, half a million pounds; and from New York, a quarter of a million pounds. These shipments from the eastern ports originate, of course, on the Pacific coast. Of apricots, the total exports of which amounted last year to over 9,000,000 pounds, 6,750,000 pounds were exported from New York and about 2,000,000 pounds from San Francisco.

IMPORTS DECREASING.

The imports of fruits and nuts have, as already indicated, changed but little in total value, but in character there has been a material change during the last decade.

Oranges, of which the total importations amounted to over \$2,000,000 in 1896, will amount in 1904 to but little over \$500,000 in value of imports. Lemons, which amounted to over \$5,000,000 in 1895, will amount to a little over \$3,000,000 value in the importations of 1904. The bulk of the lemons come from Italy, and of oranges, chiefly from the British West Indies. Bananas form by far the largest single item in the importations of fruits and nuts, and will aggregate over \$7,000,000 in the fiscal year 1904, against \$4,500,000 in 1898. They come chiefly from Central America, Cuba and the British West Indies.

The table which follows shows the total value of fruits and nuts imported and exported in each fiscal year from 1884 to 1904:

Year.	Imports of fruits & nuts.	Exports of fruits & nuts.
1884	\$19,812,106	\$1,751,037
1885	16,705,574	3,516,187
1886	17,318,256	3,300,075
1887	20,969,496	2,660,205
1888	20,500,223	3,510,205
1889	18,746,417	5,071,584
1890	20,746,471	4,050,547
1891	25,983,135	2,434,793
1892	20,943,906	6,620,145
1893	33,957,422	3,815,799
1894	18,754,771	2,434,239
1895	17,239,923	4,071,701
1896	19,032,439	5,679,068
1897	17,126,932	7,735,305
1898	14,568,550	9,013,319
1899	18,314,206	7,807,485
1900	19,263,562	11,642,662
1901	19,586,703	10,826,651
1902	21,480,525	8,719,844
1903	23,726,636	10,016,077
1904 (11 m.)	21,858,635	20,186,949

CROPS IN GOOD SHAPE.

High Winds Do Considerable Damage To Fruit and Trees.

Commenting on the outlook for crops, Director Hyatt of the Utah section, United States department of agriculture, says in his weekly bulletin that clear weather with warm days and cool nights generally prevailed during the week. Scattered thunderstorms occurred over the extreme northern counties on the 12th and 13th, but the accompanying precipitation was generally inappreciable. A severe local hail storm passed over portions of Cache county on the 12th, inflicting considerable damage on all vegetation. Elsewhere throughout the section there was an entire absence of precipitation. High winds prevailed over the entire state on the 13th and 15th, damaging crops considerably, especially fruit, which was blown from the trees in large quantities. In many localities the wind was of such force that young fruit trees were broken down. The gathering of hay was also considerably retarded. Crops were generally in good condition and making rapid growth, the exceptions being in the southern portion of the section, where the prevailing dry weather has been of long duration, causing the supply of irrigation water to run very low. Fall wheat is being harvested and threshing had begun in the extreme south. Arid land grain

My Stomach

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was ripening fast and harvesting was under way. The yields are generally above the average, both in quantity and quality. Fall rye and barley were ready to harvest. Spring wheat and oats were heading, with good yields generally. The first crop of lucern was practically secured, and in some localities the second was being cut. Sugar beets were in good condition where irrigated, but on arid soil were in need of moisture. Tomatoes were doing well and making rapid growth. Potatoes were being dug with yields very good. Corn was in thriving condition and beginning to tassle. Fruit was plentiful and in promising condition, notwithstanding the damage done by the high winds. Ranges were in very good condition over the northern counties. Stock was generally in excellent condition.

OLD LANDMARK GONE.

Slaughter House at Mouth of Dry Canyon Destroyed by Fire.

The old slaughter house at the mouth of Dry canyon, one of the earliest landmarks of the valley, was destroyed by fire last night about 7 o'clock. The building was of rock but in a dilapidated condition. The fire department had to run three miles, by which time the house was about gone.

It was the property of the Popperon syndicate, and no insurance was carried on it. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE FRINGE OF MOSQUITOES.

Mosquitoes belong to the fly family, but differ from common flies in many respects. One of the most interesting differences is the fringe of hair-like scales on the edge of the wing and on the wing veins. These scales are exceedingly transparent and plainly in appearance, and the acclimated microscopist looks at them with great interest, because, once upon a time, the English-speaking microscopists of the world were fighting a wordy war about the true structure of these feathery objects. Microscopists of those days were poor in comparison with the lenses of the present, and few observers agreed in the interpretation of what they saw. We know about these scales now, but they will always be attractive, because thirty or forty years ago they stirred up quite a scientific contest.—[S. Nicholas.]

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