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## DESERET NEWS PHONES.

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## THE WAR NEWS.

It seems to be clear now, from the  
dispatches, that the Russian squadron  
at Port Arthur made a desperate attempt  
on the 10th of this month, to break  
through the Japanese naval lines, and  
that the squadron was badly beaten  
and scattered, after valorous fighting  
on both sides. Some of the lines, and  
that it was very badly crippled. Others  
took refuge in neutral ports, while others  
were captured.There appears to have been no less  
than ten Russian big ships in the en-  
gagement, viz., six battleships, the Ret-  
vizan, Pobleda, Peresviet, Sevastopol,  
Czarevitch and Potemkin; one armored  
cruiser, named Bayan; and three pro-  
tected cruisers, named Askold, Diana  
and Novik. Of these, five are reported  
to have returned to Port Arthur, and  
the rest are separated, without pros-  
pect of ever being reunited for this  
war. The Retvizan and the Pobleda  
are reported as seriously damaged. The  
Czarevitch reached the German port of  
Kiao Chau, disabled and unworthy. On  
top of these reports comes the news  
that the Japanese have also crippled the  
Vladivostok squadron. It would  
appear, then, that Russia's naval power  
in these waters is about entirely  
gone, for the Japanese will have no  
difficulty in hunting the scattered ships  
and overpowering each of them. The  
next news of importance from the seat  
of war will be that of the surrender of  
Port Arthur.The Chefoo affair is a consequence  
of the desperate sort. One of the  
fugitive Russian torpedo boat destroy-  
ers entered that Chinese harbor and  
was there seized by the Japanese pur-  
suers. Russia protests vigorously  
against this breach of the rules of neu-  
trality. The account is given by both  
sides. According to the Russian report,  
the Japanese commander acted very  
treacherously. Russia's protest, how-  
ever, will not be heeded. The entire  
policy of that country in eastern Asia  
has for the last few years, been one of  
violation of not only rules of neutrality,  
but of promises and pledges that  
should have been sacred. Japan  
will not be specially tender as to tech-  
nicities when an advantage is to be  
gained. Russia has furnished the pre-  
cedents for disregard of rules.It is interesting at this time to notice,  
that the French sympathizers with  
Russia have by no means given up the  
hope of Russian final success in this  
struggle. They point out that General  
Kuropatkin's plan from the first was  
to gradually withdraw before the ad-  
vancing Japs, and to hold Port Arthur  
as long as possible, merely to arrest the  
progress of the enemy, and give Russia  
time. It is pointed out that Russia  
was, when the war broke out, entirely  
unprepared for the struggle, and that  
the only feasible plan was, to delay  
the onward march of the enemy, until  
enough Russian soldiers had been sent  
into the field to commence an aggressive  
movement. This, it is supposed,  
Kuropatkin has been doing success-  
fully, and it is not doubted, that when  
the time comes, a different story will  
be told from the seat of war. Accord-  
ing to the Paris Times everything, in-  
cluding the surrender of Port Arthur,  
was on the program. That paper says:"In the fact of the superior forces of  
the Japanese, it was necessary to adopt  
the tactics of 1812 and to retire con-  
tinuously, but not to offer battle until  
the time came when circumstances per-  
mitted the Russians to advance every-  
where with a considerable numerical  
superiority. General Kuropatkin fore-  
saw the criticism his plan would in-  
spire, and he even reckoned upon the  
possibility of the capture of Port Ar-  
thur by the Japanese. That is why he  
remarked, at the time of his departure  
for the front, that he would at first  
be accused of incapacity in not hav-  
ing prevented the advance of the  
Japanese, and subsequently of treason  
in having handed Port Arthur over to  
the enemy. These criticisms have al-  
ready commenced in St. Petersburg,  
and efforts are being made to bring  
them to the attention of the czar."Another feature of this conflict de-  
serves a notice. It is claimed that the  
Japanese now are marching 10,000  
Chinese soldiers from Formosa against  
the Russians. This is the first time  
that Chinese are put into the field under  
the leadership of expert Japanese of-  
ficers. It is well to keep an eye on  
them and see how they behave under  
fire. If Japan wins this war, she may  
not confine her leadership to the Chi-  
nese of Formosa.

## A SATISFACTORY SYSTEM.

As was expected, Bishop Potter's con-  
nection with the new tavern, or saloon,  
in New York, has caused quite a con-  
troversy. A valuable contribution to  
the discussion is the statement that  
comes from Raleigh, N. C., concerning  
the experience there with the "dispen-  
sary" system. This is somewhat like  
the Gothenburg system, and under it  
the saloons resemble the new tavern in  
so far as only "pure" liquors are dealt  
in, minimum prices are charged, and  
the element of incentive of profit is  
ruled out. It differs in other respects.  
No liquors are sold to be drunk on the  
premises, and no attempt is put forth  
to make the place attractive; rather  
the reverse.According to an account in the New  
York World this arrangement is prov-  
ing satisfactory to the people of Raleigh.  
Arrests for drunkenness were  
fewer by nearly 50 per cent during the  
first half of this year as compared with  
the same time last year under licensed  
saloon system. The grocery and other  
stores of the city are said to reflect  
the improved sobriety of the people in  
larger sales and prompter payments.  
Moreover, the public treasury is evi-  
dently to gain heavily from the change;  
for the profits of the business are shown  
to be enormous—the receipts for the  
half-year amounting to \$70,000, and  
expenses less than \$5,000. The city's  
yearly revenue from saloon licenses had  
been only \$8,000.The dispensary system deserves care-  
ful investigation by all interested in the  
temperance question. The contest is  
really between that system and prohibi-  
tion. The license system has been  
proved and found wanting. Something  
else should be tried, in the interest of  
public morals.

## UNSAFE BRIDGES.

Several comments on the lamentable  
disaster near Eden, Col., where part of  
a railroad train went through a bridge,  
with its precious load of passengers,  
are to the effect that greater precaution  
must be taken by the railroads, to  
guard against accidents. That may pos-  
sibly be true, but the fact is that ac-  
cidents sometimes come, notwithstanding  
all precautions. There are disasters  
which no human wisdom can foresee,  
no human skill prevent. And the Eden  
accident appears to have been of this  
class.As we understand the accounts, the  
cloudburst occurred far from the scene  
of disaster. The water that rolled down  
the creek with irresistible force hap-  
pened to strike the bridge shortly be-  
fore the train came along. No warning  
could be given. No human being, as far  
as known, was aware of the damage  
done to the bridge.But it has been suggested—and the  
suggestion must be considered practi-  
cal—that railroad bridges in the moun-  
tains, where cloudbursts are frequent  
and always cause great damage, be  
constructed so as to insure greater  
safety. The bridge in question was a  
trestle structure and was weakened be-  
yond the danger point by the waters  
beating against the supporting timbers.  
Steel structures supported by their ends  
resting on the banks, such as several  
of the mountain roads already use in  
such places, cannot be touched by com-  
mon floods. Across most such creeks  
the construction of such bridges is pos-  
sible, and the lesson, therefore, is that  
trestle bridges should be condemned  
for the safety of the traveling public.

## TRULY REALISTIC.

As an illustration of the progress of  
our time, the Chicago Chronicle tells a  
story about how a theatrical manager  
secured a tenor. In a letter he asked  
the gentleman what he would take to  
come over to this country and sing.  
The tenor, in his letter of reply, men-  
tioned his price, and stated that he had  
forwarded "samples of his voice and  
acting." This was literally true, for  
with the letter came two cylinders.  
The larger of these was a photograph-  
ic record of one of the man's solos.  
The smaller was a moving picture film  
of him singing the solo. The manager  
says he took the two cylinders to a  
dealer, and one they put in a photo-  
graph, the other in a moving picture  
machine. Then they darkened the  
room and they started the machine and  
the photograph simultaneously. The  
actor might have been present person-  
ally. There he was on the scene, walk-  
ing up and down the stage and gestu-  
lating, and there was his voice issuing  
in gorgeous notes from the big photo-  
graph horn. "I love her," he sang, and  
his hand went to his heart. "Don Diego  
I'll say," he sang, and he drew a dagger.  
The stars above him, and he pointed heaven-  
ward. It was a perfect representation.  
Samples of woolen, jewelry and  
other merchandise have often been  
sent through the mails, but now even  
samples of voice and acting can be  
transmitted in this manner. That is  
progress.

## POWER IN PALESTINE.

Somebody is considering the feasi-  
bility of digging a canal from the Medi-  
terranean, or the Red Sea, to the Dead  
Sea, for the sake of obtaining power  
for manufacturing purposes. The dif-  
ference in level is 1,312 feet, and it is  
supposed that by means of a canal,  
electric power could be obtained for the  
entire country of Palestine. Three dif-  
ferent routes are open. The first util-  
izes the valley of Ibn-Amir and requires  
few tunnels. It is the cheapest and  
quickest. According to the second plan,  
the route would follow the railway from  
Jaffa to Jerusalem. This would require  
a tunnel about 37 miles long, costing, it  
is estimated, \$2,400,000. The third plan  
takes the water from the Red Sea,  
starting from the depression known as  
Bahr-el-Akhabah. This would traver-  
se the desert for the most part. It is  
calculated that the force obtained would  
be 52,000 horse-power. It is also sup-  
posed that the avaporation, which is  
enormous in the valley of the Dead Sea,  
would prevent the water from overflow-  
ing, and keep the sea at its normal  
level.The discussion of this subject is in-  
teresting, chiefly because it shows one  
of the possibilities of Palestine in the  
line of industry. At present it wouldseem to be wasted capital, to provide  
electric power in a country where the  
railroad has a struggle to compete with  
the camel and the donkey. But Palest-  
ine will not always be in the hands  
of the representatives of a past civiliza-  
tion. And one reason, why the world  
should help to redeem it is this, that its  
resources, no less than its central posi-  
tion, are such as to make it one of the  
most desirable spots on earth.Pie crust and strikes are made to be  
broken.To get a soft snap one should have  
a strong pull.The battle is to the fleet and the fleet  
is to the Japs.The walking delegate at Bingham al-  
ways rides a horse.The army retires but never retreats—  
Camborne Kuropatkin.People who borrow trouble generally  
pay their debts in kind.The advance in the cost of living does  
not make life any richer.Up to date all the talk of the fall of  
Port Arthur has been for naught.Strikes may come and strikes may go,  
but the beef trust goes on forever.The proper way to elevate the saloon  
seems to be to put it in the subway.So warm is the weather that people  
do not even feel like wearing a smile.Probably Russia would like, among  
other things, to make Hay contraband  
of war.It is hard to say which is the worse,  
absentee landlordism or absentee office-  
holdingism.Foolish the man who works and wor-  
ries himself nearly to death to get an-  
other man into office.The Sultan, by complying with the di-  
rections of the Secretary of State, has  
got over the Hay fever.England has not annexed the island  
of Aves and has no intention of doing  
so. What a keen disappointment to the  
jingles.The beard is said to be coming into  
fashion again. Those who wear it  
will no longer have to beard the barbers  
in his den.Radium ore has been discovered at  
three different places in Cripple Creek  
district. This may account for the hot  
times they have been having there.The pay of an ordinary enlisted man  
in the Japanese army amounts to forty-  
five cents a month. But it is sufficient  
to make the Russian soldier look like  
thirty cents.A Berlin man has succeeded in edu-  
cating a horse to such a degree of  
proficiency that it is considered very  
remarkable and news of the fact is tele-  
graphed all over the world. Yet never  
a word is sent out about Berlin's edu-  
cated asses.President Donnelly of the Butchers'  
union and George F. Golden of the  
Teamsters have reached an open clash,  
Donnelly declaring that Golden had no  
right to go to the mail carriers and get  
a big contribution. Other-wise the hawk  
must not presume to feed off the car-  
casses until the eagle has gorged itself.The Central Trades and Labor unions  
of St. Louis have been ordered not to  
participate in the Labor day celebration  
at the world's fair grounds because the  
exposition is conducted along the lines  
of the "open shop," by permitting the  
employment of both union and non-  
union labor. Obedience to such an or-  
der will be the obedience of slaves.

## THE EDEN DISASTER.

Boston Herald.

If it be true, as stated in one of the  
dispatches, from Pueblo announcing  
the dreadful railroad accident near  
Eden, Col., that the water in a usually  
dry creek, according to some state-  
ments fifteen feet, and according to  
others twenty-five feet deep, was flow-  
ing over the trestle when the train ran  
upon it, the cause of the accident  
would appear to be recklessness on the  
part of the trainmen. Such a current  
in such a place and in a region known  
to be subject to cloudbursts, of a dan-  
gerous character should have caused  
the train to be halted before going on  
the trestle. The statement may not be  
true, or it may not be confirmed if  
true, since so many are dead who would  
know the truth. At all events, another  
is added to the summer's record of  
awful calamities. It has happened  
that is about all that can be said of it  
now.

## Pueblo Chieftain.

The work of identifying the victims  
of the Eden disaster has been difficult,  
but perhaps not more so than in other  
similar cases. Some bodies have been  
positively identified as those of per-  
sons who have afterwards appeared to  
their friends in full life and health, and  
in other cases one body has been named  
as that of several different persons. It  
has been necessary to take names from  
the list of identified dead after they  
seemed to be verified beyond dispute,  
and in some cases this has been done  
more than once.

## Los Angeles Express.

In the shocking railroad disaster near  
Pueblo Sunday night, whereby several  
scores of lives were lost by the collapse  
of a bridge, precipitating the engine  
and three forward cars of a Denver &  
Rio Grande passenger train into the  
raging torrent below, it would seem  
that more precautions might have been  
taken to avert or avoid trouble. The  
six foot bridge over the arroyo was  
noted for previous washouts, and in  
view of the heavy rainfalls and repeat-  
ed cloudbursts preceding Sunday's  
catastrophe, the condition of the nine-  
foot bridge, which was a trestle, should  
have been rigidly tested before the  
fler was suffered to traverse its un-  
stable length. But, apparently the  
train was slowed to "take chances,"  
and as a result sixty to eighty precious  
human lives are sacrificed.

## Cleveland Plain Dealer.

How far such a horror is attributable  
to man's negligence or to what is  
equally and superlatively described as  
an "act of God" is not clear and may  
never be ascertained. That the force of  
the current was sufficient to threaten  
any but the very strongest bridge is  
plain, for heavy cars were whirled a  
mile or more down stream. Since prac-  
tically every vestige of evidence hasdisappeared and eye witnesses are lack-  
ing it seems hardly practicable to place  
responsibility for the affair; though it  
is quite probable that increased vigi-  
lance and more thorough inspection,  
which the prolonged rains would have  
justified, would have prevented one of  
the most distressing calamities of a  
year which has been marked by too  
many such.

## The Virtue of Patience.

It is a common thought that a pa-  
tient power or virtue is a lower quality  
than an active one. We sometimes  
think that a man can be passive under  
pressure or trial without showing the  
possession of so high a measure of  
manhood as in active and aggressive  
endeavor. But this is a mistake, and  
it evidences a wrong idea of manhood  
at its best and of struggle and trial  
at its fullest. The surgeon who uses  
his knife on the quivering flesh of a  
wounded soldier on the battlefield, ex-  
ercises his active virtues; but who  
will say that there is always a higher  
strain on the surgeon's manhood than  
on that of the soldier who, without  
any anesthetic, calmly submits his  
frame to that surgeon's knife without a  
quiver or a groan. In the supreme  
struggle of the Perfect Man, who  
showed the highest character for the  
hour—impulsive Peter, when with his  
tiny sword, he struck off an ear of the  
high priest's servant, or Jesus, who  
might have had ten legions of angels  
for the asking, but who submitted  
quietly, without a blow or a word?  
"Take, brethren, for an example of suf-  
fering and of patience, the prophets;"  
and "be ye also patient," be imitators  
of them who through faith and pa-  
tience inherit the promises." Rush-  
well, one of the later grand prophets,  
says suggestively, "It is not necessary  
for all men to be great in action. The  
greatest and sublimest power is often  
simple patience."—Sunday School  
times.

## SALT LAKE THEATER

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