

MILLBROOK AND OMEMEE MIRROR

Durham and Victoria Standard

VOL. 17. NO. 9. \$1 per annum.

MILLBROOK ONT., THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1905.

C. W. RICHARDS, Publisher and Proprietor

The Fair Captives

OR
THE SECRET CABINET

CHAPTER LV.

"Of course, I shouldn't have spoken to you like that," he says hastily. "There is no excuse for me. I know, yet I would ask your pardon. I scarcely know what I said. And I am afraid that you will have to see a good deal of me just for awhile until things are finally arranged. I shall be obliged to be down here very often during the next six months, there are so many things that must be seen to. The transfer of that Suffolk property amongst others."

"I have nothing to hear on that subject," says she with a frown. "Do not for a moment imagine that I can have anything to do with it. You accused me awhile since of speaking foolishly; do not let me have to accuse you in like manner."

"You can accept it or not, as you will," indifferently, "but be assured that not one penny of the accused property will I ever touch, not if it were to save me from starvation. To the point, however, I hope you will not object to my coming here now and again, until matters have finally arranged themselves?"

"I suppose it is useless for me to tell you that you hurt me very much," says Vera. "Why should you not come or go as you will in this house? Besides, I should like to go away for awhile, with Griselda—for a month or two, somewhere where I might learn to forget my late unhappy life."

"Yes, you were unhappy here," says he. "I knew it, yet I was powerless to prevent it. My poor father, what a warped nature he had! But I want you to try and believe this, that there were excuses to be made for him. My mother, in deed she was true to him, in thought false. It was a marriage thrust upon her, and—there was another. She was the sweetest, purest woman alive, but she could not live through it—it killed her, and my father knew and never forgave."

"I think, too, there was repentance," he continues presently. "His fierce anxiety to see you married to me showed that, as well as his passionate desire to expiate his fault by giving you back your own."

"And thus insuring it to you—his son?"

"You are, no doubt, correct in the view you take of it," he says; "you are also merciless. Whatever his faults he is beyond defending them now."

"True. I should not have said that I was wrong," confesses she with chill self-condemnation. "I deserve your rebuke. It is not always possible to forget even when the grave has opened and closed upon our enemy."

"Was he altogether that?" asks Dysart with emotion.

"What else was he? He deprived me of my inheritance, he compelled me, with growing intensity, to feel the sharp sting of dependence, he would have forced me into a loveless marriage, he would have married me to you!"

"Truly he was an enemy," says Dysart with a curious smile.

"We seem to be ever wandering from the main subject," she says. "I have told you I want to leave this; do you think it can be managed soon?"

"Is it to me you appeal for help?" asks he with such vehemence.

"Of you, if you will give it," she says in a low voice. "Can I go soon? May I?"

"You must not ask me," he says frigidly in answer to her appeal. "In a day or two, when I have seen Sedley safely out of the country, I shall explain all to your lawyer; he will give you anything you may require. Is there any other question you would like to put to me?"

"No."

"Well, that is over," says he with a quick sigh of apparent relief. "I need not disturb you further; but you will see for yourself that I had to come." He moves away and then hesitates. "I should like to ask you one thing," he says. "Do not give up the old house. Do not desert it quite. I shall like to think of you as living here."

He turns away abruptly. She springs to her feet and calls to him. "Where are you going? To sit alone? To brood over all this? Oh, do not. Why—why not stay here with me for a little while and let us discuss all this together and try and see a way out of it?"

"My way is plain before me; it wants no discussion," says Dysart resolutely.

"You mean that you will not stay?"

"I mean," in an uncompromising tone, "that I fully understand your mistaken kindness and decline to profit by it."

"You are disingenuous. What you really mean is," in a low tone, "that you will not forgive."

"There is nothing to forgive, save my presumption."

He opens the door deliberately and closes it with a firm hand behind him. Dropping into a chair Vera covers her face with her hands and cries as if her heart is broken.

"Why, darling, what on earth is it?" cries Griselda, going into the room half an hour later. "This troubled house will certainly be the death of you. Ah, you've been reading. Some depressing love-torn novel, no doubt. How stupid of you, with your spirits already down to zero."

to you. Now, now, Tom, no lies. The time for them is past. When I was so poor that I liked to try and believe you, you told me them by the ton, in the fond hope that they would give me a happier. And they did, I think, though never name her then—never. And I don't blame her a bit. Why should she want a penniless sister-in-law when she knew you ought to marry money, if only to keep up that charming old place of yours. No, I haven't an unkind word for her. But I am happy in the thought that now she will be glad to welcome me. And do you think she would take me down to Girtmore, Tom, to see it? I want so much to go there to see your home!"

"Our home," fondly.

"Ah, yes. That's why I love the very sound of it. Of course, I shouldn't care for it if you were going to marry somebody else. Oh, oh, what a hateful thought!"

"An impossible thought!" contemptuously.

"And we'll make it look beautiful, won't we?—just what it used to be in the old days. Oh, Tom, isn't it nice to have money sometimes, and isn't it the happiest thing in the world to love as we do?"

CHAPTER LVII.

Three months have come and gone. Great changes have these three months brought! They have unhoused Seaton Dysart, and given his inheritance into the hands, the most unwilling hands of his cousin. Hands too small to wield so large a sceptre. But Mr. Peyton has nobly come to her rescue. It is to him that most of the innovations owe their birth. The handsome landau, the pony-trap, the single brougham, all have been bought by him.

But it is in the stables that he has indeed shown his native genius. As by a miracle, all the boxes have grown full through his instrumentality, the hampered pair of carriage horses in the society papers, even though they were never even seen to the eye. It is to him that most of the innovations owe their birth. The handsome landau, the pony-trap, the single brougham, all have been bought by him.

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LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.
Toronto, July 25.—Wheat—Ontario—Holders of No. 2 red and white are asking 90c to 93c, east and west. Goose is nominal at 78c to 80c, and spring at 85c to 87c.
Wheat—Manitoba—No. 1 northern, \$1.12 to \$1.13; No. 2 northern, \$1.09 to \$1.10; No. 3 northern, 90c to 91c.
Flour—Ontario—\$4.15 to \$4.25 for 90 per cent. patents, buyers' sacks, east and west, with 15c to 20c more for choice. Manitoba first patents are quoted at \$5.30 to \$5.60; second patents, \$5 to \$5.30, and bakers', \$4.90 to \$5.10.
Oats—No. 2 are quoted 43c to 44c west, and 45c to 46c east and north. Barley—46c to 48c for No. 2, 44c for No. 3 extra and 44c for No. 3 outside.
Rye—60c outside.
Corn—Canadian, 54c to 55c. Chatham freights, American, 64c for No. 2 yellow and 64c for No. 3 yellow, lake and rail freights, Ontario points, and 63c to 63c on track Toronto.
Peas—Scarce and in demand at 72c to 73c for No. 2 outside; 75c for milling.
Racked Oats—\$5 for cars of barrels on track here and \$4.75 for cars of bags; 25c more for broken lots here and 40c outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.
Creamery prints 19c to 21c do solids 18c to 19c Dairy fat, rolls, good 16c to 17c choice 14c to 15c do medium 14c to 15c do tuls, good to choice 15c to 16c do inferior 13c to 14c Cheese—The market is steady, with a firm tone at 10c to 10c per pound for job lots here.
Eggs—Prices are unchanged at 17c for 10½ for candled, 16c to 17c for general run, and 14c to 14c for culls.
Potatoes—Are steady at 80c per bushel and \$2.25 to \$2.50 per barrel.
Baled Hay—Prices are unchanged at \$7.50 per ton for No. 1 timothy in car lots on track here and \$6 for No. 2.
Baled Straw—Market continues dull and is easier at \$5.50 to \$6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.
Montreal, July 25.—Grain—There is a fair demand for oats to fill immediate wants at 50c for No. 2 white and 49c to 49c for No. 3 white extra.
Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$5.30 to \$5.40; strong bakers', \$5 to \$5.10; winter patents, \$5.50; straight rollers, \$5 to \$5.15, and in bags \$2.25 to \$2.45.
Milfeed—Manitoba bran in bags, \$15.50 to \$16; shorts, \$19 to \$20 per ton; Ontario bran in bulk, \$14.50 to \$15; shorts, \$19 to \$20; mouille, \$21 to \$24 per ton as to quality.
Oats—Prices are unchanged at \$2.40 to \$2.42 per bag. Cornmeal also unchanged at \$1.35 to \$1.45 per bag.
Hay—No. 1, \$9 to \$9.25; No. 2, \$7.75 to \$8.25; clover, mixed, \$6.75 to \$7.25, and pure clover, \$6.50 to \$6.75 per ton in car lots.
Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$20 to \$21; light, \$18 to \$19; American cut clear fat, \$18 to \$18.50; compound lard, 57c to 61c; Canadian lard, 57c to 61c; kettle rendered, 10c to 11c according to quality; hams, 12c, 13c and 14c, according to size, and bacon, 12c to 14c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, \$9.25 to \$9.50; alive, \$8.50 to \$8.75 for mixed lots; select, \$7.
Eggs—Straight stock, 17c; No. 2, 14c.
Butter—Choice creamery, 21c to 22c; under grades, 20c to 20½; dairy, 16c to 17c.
Cheese—Ontario, 9c to 9½c. Quebec, 9c to 9½c.

BUFFALO MARKETS.
Buffalo, July 25.—Flour—Quiet and steady. Wheat—Spring strong, No. 1 Northern, \$1.16; No. 2 red, on track 91c. Corn—Dull and unsettled, No. 2 yellow, 62½c; No. 2 corn, 61½c. Oats—Stronger, No. 2 white, 36½c; No. 2 mixed, 31c. Canal freights—Steady.

NEW YORK GRAIN MARKET.

New York, July 25.—Wheat—Spot firm; No. 2 red nominal in elevator and 94c f. o. b. adroit; No. 1 northern Duluth, \$1.16½ f. o. b. adroit; No. 1 northern Manitoba, \$1.10 f. o. b. adroit.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.
Toronto, July 25.—The run of cattle offered to the Western Market to-day was rather heavier than a week ago, but the quality was generally poor.
Export cattle, choice, \$4.90 \$4.90 do good to medium, 4.30 4.60 do others 4.00 4.30 Bulls 3.50 4.00 Cows 3.00 3.75 Butchers' picked 4.50 4.70 Good to choice 4.20 4.50 fair to good 3.50 4.00 do common 2.75 3.50 do cows 2.50 3.75 Bulls 3.60 4.00 Feeders 3.60 4.00 do medium 3.30 3.60 do bulls 2.50 3.50 Stockers, good 3.50 3.80 do rough to com 2.50 3.00 Bulls 1.75 2.50 Milk cows, each 30.50 50.00 Export ewes, per cwt. 3.75 4.00 do bucks, per cwt. 3.60 3.25 do culls, each 2.50 3.50 Spring lambs, each 2.50 5.25 do each 2.00 5.1 Hogs, select, per cwt. 6.35 10.00 do lights 6.10 6.00 do fats 6.10 6.00

RUSSIAN SHIPS WERE USELESS

Extraordinary Report of Rojestvensky on the Naval Battle.

ROJESTVENSKY'S REPORT.
A despatch from Paris says: According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of La Liberté, Admiral Rojestvensky, in his report on the Battle of the Sea of Japan, which resulted in the practical annihilation of his fleet, says that his ships were bad. They had been not only hastily, but dishonestly, built. The thickness of their armor did not agree with the official figures in the case of any of the vessels. Moreover, it was of inferior quality. The shells were bad. Two-thirds of them did not explode. None of the ships was able to carry the necessary coal. None of them attained the necessary speed. The engines and boilers were poor and always required repairs. Two-thirds of the crews, including those of Vice-Admiral Niebogoff's squadron, were incapable. The gunners were ignorant of the elementary laws of firing. A mutiny occurred while the fleet was at Madagascar, and fourteen men were executed. Admiral Rojestvensky had to train guns on two of his ships, the Admiral Senyavin and Admiral Apraxine, to restore order. The crews had decided secretly to surrender to the enemy. This was discovered too late. There was another mutiny in Vice-Admiral Niebogoff's squadron, near Formosa Island, and Admiral Rojestvensky had difficulty in preventing the mutineers from seizing the greater part of the squadron. Admiral Rojestvensky saw from the outset of the battle that the Admirals were not fighting, and were ignoring orders. They only fired when he sent torpedo boats to them and threatened to sink them unless they obeyed.

SESSION ENDED AT LAST

TENTH PARLIAMENT HAS BEEN PROLONGED.
Governor-General Closed the House and the Members Go Back to Their Homes.
A despatch from Ottawa says: The first session of the Tenth Parliament of Canada is at an end. The Commons closed up its business on Thursday morning, and the Senate cleared off its order paper in half an hour in the afternoon, so that at 3 o'clock His Excellency was enabled to come down to the Upper House and formally declare that Parliament was prorogued until Aug. 29, the usual forty days' adjournment as provided by constitutional usage.
His Excellency arrived at the Parliament Buildings promptly at 3 o'clock. He was accompanied by the P.L.D.G. under Lieut. C. J. Barrill. At the entrance to the Parliament Buildings the Governor-General was received by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. R. W. Scott, together with a number of prominent officers of the headquarters staff.
The Royal assent was given to a number of bills.
His Excellency was then pleased to formally prorogue Parliament with the following speech from the throne:
THE SPEECH.
Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:—
Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—
In relieving you from this laborious and long-protracted session I desire to express my hearty congratulations on the passage of the two important measures providing for the entry into the Confederation of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.
The unparalleled increase in the population during the last three years of the areas the new provinces embrace affords the strongest evidence that at no distant date they will be the homes of many millions of prosperous and contented people.
The fair prospect of an unusually abundant harvest, not alone in three prairie provinces, but also in other parts of this wide Dominion, will, I trust, under a kind Providence, be fully realized, justifying the hope that the stream of immigration will continue for many years to come, adding wealth to this highly favored land.
The addition to the number of the permanent force which you have authorized will enable my Government to relieve taxpayers of the United Kingdom from the burden of keeping up the garrisons at Esquimaut and at Halifax.
It is very gratifying to note that the revenue of the Dominion continues to maintain the high level it had reached two years ago, thus enabling my Government to meet the increased expenditure chargeable against consolidated revenue, leaving

ALL ORDERS IGNORED.

If Admiral Rojestvensky had not been wounded at the beginning of the battle the result might have been different. Almost simultaneously with his removal to a torpedo boat, Admiral Rojestvensky was killed, and Admiral Niebogoff, who was unpopular with the sailors, was obliged to take command. Then the rout began. Admiral Niebogoff's orders were ignored. The crews of some of the ships threatened to kill their officers unless they surrendered.
Admiral Rojestvensky confirms what is generally known of the shattering and scattering of his fleet. He describes the attempt to blow up the Orel after she had surrendered. He says that a party of commissaries and young officers were surprised by the Japanese just as they were about to

TO ESTABLISH JAP ALLIANCE.

A despatch from Paris says: The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin says that M. de Witte considers he will succeed in concluding peace, because he has received instructions to pass over certain difficulties, even that of an indemnity, if he shall prove able to establish a Russo-Japanese alliance firmly.
SURRENDERED RUSSIANS.
A despatch from Tokio says: It is officially announced that Russians that have thus far surrendered at various points of Saghalien Island number 461, including 100 colored and 14 officers. An Imperial ordinance has been issued authorizing the appointment of non-commissioned officers from the reserve conscripts, also converting those of sundry service rank into privates of fighting rank.

WARSHIP BLOWN UP.

Exploding Boiler's Awful Havoc in Pacific Port.
A San Diego, Cal., despatch says:—One of the most frightful disasters in the peace history of the American navy, excepting the sinking of the Maine in Havana harbor in 1898, occurred on San Diego Bay shortly after 10.30 o'clock on Friday morning Bennington, when without warning one of the warship's boilers blew up. At the moment when the warship was lying at anchor, and with her crew and crew quietly attending to their duty on board, the object of interest to hundreds of persons watching her from piers, pleasure boats and passing ferry boats, a cloud of steam suddenly burst from a point just forward of the smokestack, out of which the spectators were horrified to see bodies and human fragments hurled high in the air and scattered over the surrounding water. The outburst was accompanied by a roar as of thunder, and a shock which rocked vessels near by. In an instant the air was filled with shrieks and cries from the wounded, which could be heard as possible. The next moment bleeding sailors were fighting, crippled, in the water against death in only less sudden form than that from which they had escaped, while rowboats, sailboats, launches and tugs were being driven to the rescue as fast as possible.
Commander Lucien Young, commanding officer of the gunboat, says that one officer, Ensign Newman K. Perry, a watch and division officer of the vessel, and 33 men are dead, 76 wounded, and 21 missing, making a total of 131 casualties. The total complement of the vessel was 190. The ship is a total wreck.
The indications are that the total list of dead will go much higher, as many of those now characterized as seriously wounded will probably die.

DISORDERS IN SPAIN.

Farm Laborers Loot Seville Bakeries.
A despatch from Madrid says: Serious disorders have occurred at Seville and Salamanca, arising from the general distress. Four hundred farm laborers invaded Seville, looted the bakeries and shops, and committed other depredations, until they were dispersed by a strong force of police and gendarmes. A mob stormed the City Hall at Salamanca, broke into the building and sacked it. A member of the Municipal Council, fleeing from the rioters, jumped from a window and was killed. The Republicans are summoning mass meetings in Madrid and elsewhere. The Government fears a spread of the disorders and is taking precautionary measures.

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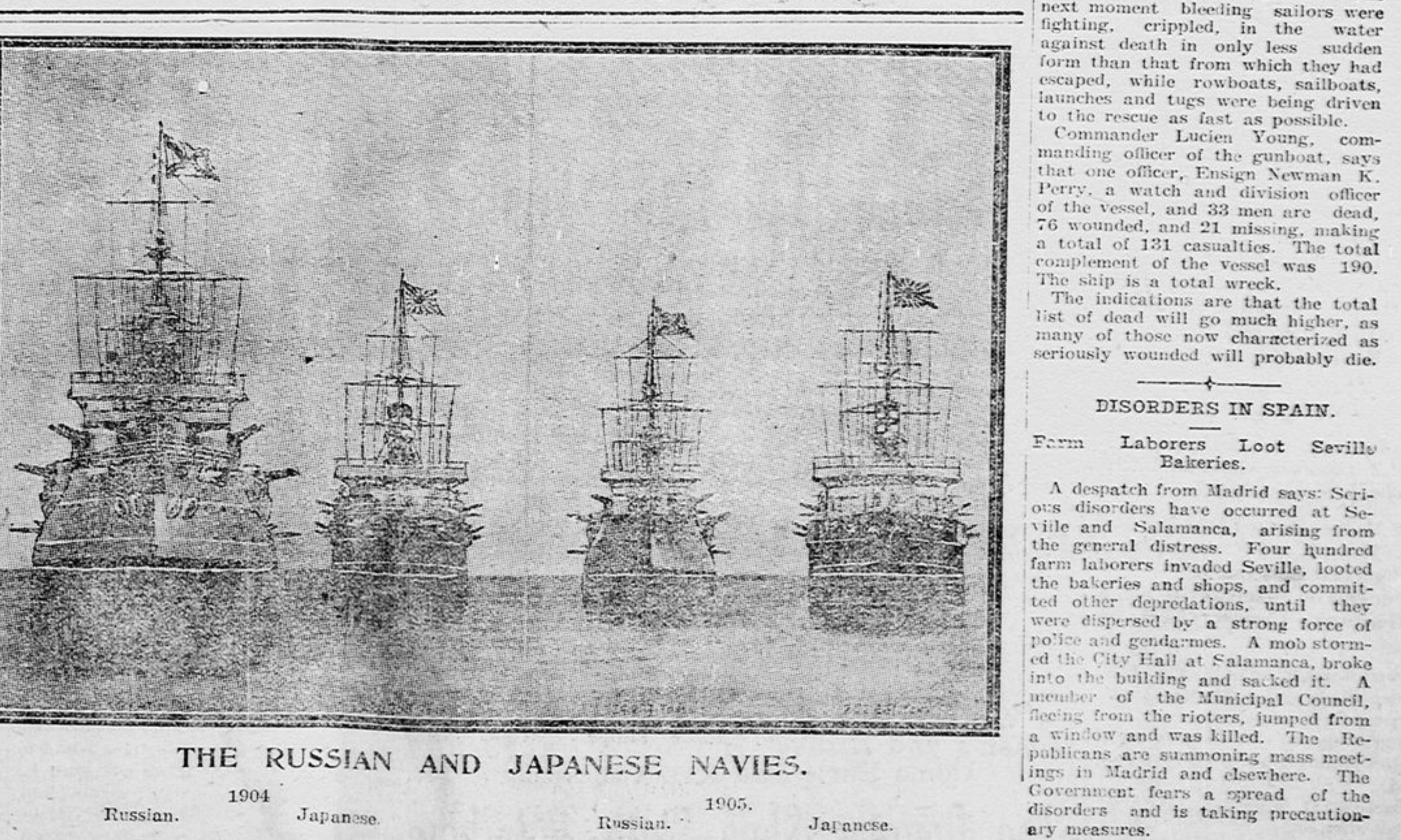
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Russian. 1904. Japanese. 1905.