

# Cooperstown Courier.

Percy B. Trebbush, Publisher.

COOPERSTOWN, N. DAKOTA

According to Chinese customs returns the empire's trade in 1903, imports and exports, amounted to \$346,298,624. The trade of 1894 amounted to \$185,732,480. Each year since 1894, except 1900-01 shows a steady gain. In those years there was a considerable falling off. The increase in 1902 and 1903 only partly made up for the difference.

Because of the ravages of the boll weevil in the cotton fields of this country, the importation of American cotton seed into Egypt has been prohibited. A decree has been issued to that effect. The cause of this move was a recent report presented by the Khedival Agricultural society calling attention to the ravages of the weevil in the United States.

According to Consul Diagoro Goh, the Japanese child calls its father "Gempu," which means "strict father," while it addresses its mother as "Ji-bo," that is, "benevolent mother." Mr. Goh quotes a Japanese lad who classified the Japanese father as one among the "four fearful things of the world," these four terrors being "earthquake, thunder, conflagration and father."

Bridge whist and baccarat are the passion of many members of the British parliament. A group of members devoted to bridge, which may not be pursued in the palace of the parliament, has taken a hour near Westminster abbey to play the game in peace. It is in telephonic communication with the house of commons, and a clerk is retained to keep track of the course of the debate and the immense of divisions.

George M. Schilling, a one-armed athlete mechanic from Pittsburg, who left New York in August, 1897, penniless and clad only in a newspaper suit, to walk round the world, arrived at Berlin the other morning. Schilling traversed the United States, Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe during the last seven years. He has had scores of thrilling experiences and several narrow escapes from death. His hardships have not affected his spirits or health.

The British Cotton Growing association has directed its efforts mainly upon the British possessions in Africa, assisting planters by monetary grants in some of the colonies. Experiments made have proved that prospects for cotton cultivation on an extensive scale are highly promising in British Central Africa and British West Africa. It is expected that in the first named there will be 200,000 acres planted in cotton before the year 1905.

The English newspapers report a new application in Australia of the principle of the coin-in-the-slot machine, stating that if a stamp can not be purchased conveniently it will be possible in the future to drop a letter into one orifice of a postal box and a penny into a second orifice, and the words "One Penny Paid" will be found impressed on the envelope when the box is opened by the post office authorities, thereby securing the transmission of the letter.

In England they have regular schools for divers. The chief British naval school of this kind is at Portsmouth. As training in the open sea would be dangerous, the would-be diver receives his first lessons in a large circular steel tank, fitted with glazed portals, through which his movements can be watched by the instructor. The men, who have to undergo a strict medical examination before entering upon the work, are all volunteers.

Average length of ships has increased 50 or 60 per cent. during the last quarter of a century. The 455 feet of the Britannic of 1874 seem almost insignificant compared with the 702 feet of the Cedric and the 760 feet of certain projected vessels. The 1,000-foot vessel probably will not be long in coming. Berths are even now being advised to accord with this standard, and entrance locks and graving docks are also being lengthened. A few years ago 500 feet was considered an "extreme dimension"; nowadays this is deemed very moderate.

The results of field tests covering 12 years' work upon the farm of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, at Wooster, show the 12 heaviest yielding varieties of wheat to be, in the order named: Mealy, Gypsy, Improved Poole, Poole, Early Rippe, Nigger, Valley, Mediterranean, Perfection, Red Wonder, Nixon and New Monarch. It is not to be expected that similar rank as to yield will obtain on all Ohio soils. The Mealy wheat is particularly unsatisfactory upon rich, or bottom lands. Nor is it to be understood that yield is the only factor in determining the relative value of different varieties.

In these days, when railroads are run more for what there is in them for a favored few than for the accommodation of the general public, it may be interesting to recall the fact that there is right here in North America a "holy railroad." This is a little line 21 miles long, from Quebec to Ste. Anne De Beaupre. It is sacred because it claims to run "especially for the accommodation of pilgrims," and above all, because it was formally blessed with all its belongings.

## ALMOST READY TO STORM CITY

### JAPANESE CONTINUE TO POUR DESTRUCTIVE FIRE INTO PORT ARTHUR.

Believed Final Stand Will Be Made at Liaotshan—Both Sides Believed to Have Lost Heavily in the Siege.

Tokio, Aug. 25.—The final assault on Port Arthur is imminent. Hundreds of Japanese guns continue to pour a destructive fire into the city and harbor, along the lines of the forts and intrenchments preparatory to the infantry assault.

It is evident that the Russian lines have been weakened and partly penetrated in the vicinity of Anteshan and Etseshan forts. The entire line of Russian defenses immediately about the harbor are within range of the Japanese guns. A number of Russian forts and batteries continue to be vigorous, and the Japanese death roll will be heavily increased before they are captured.

The direction of the Japanese attack creates the impression here that the city entrance will fall first. The final stand will be made at Liaotshan.

Japanese official channels of information remain closed, and the navy department's announcement of the striking of a mine by the battleship Sevastopol and the firing upon the Russian forts by the cruisers Nishin and Kasuga are the only disclosures made for several days. It is believed here that both sides have suffered heavy losses, and that the final record will make the siege the bloodiest since Sedan.

The Japanese are supremely confident of the ultimate result. The leaders of the government await the outcome in calm assurance. The people everywhere are decorating streets and houses and erecting arches and flag-staves in preparation for a national celebration of the expected victory.

### Heavy Jap Losses.

Chefoo, Aug. 26.—Russian advices received here say that the Japanese assaults on Port Arthur August 21 and 22 were repulsed with tremendous losses. It is added that the attempt of the Japanese to capture Fort No. 1 cost them 10,000 men, and that their attack on Fort Etseshan resulted in their losing 3,000 men killed or wounded. Port Dalny is said to be filled with wounded men.

### May Attempt Another Sally.

Tokio, Aug. 26.—Five steamers and three torpedo boat destroyers emerged from Port Arthur Wednesday morning and began the work of clearing away floating mines. At 20 minutes past six in the even a two-funnelled torpedo boat destroyer struck a mine two miles off Liaot promontory and sunk immediately. Five minutes later a second destroyer, with four funnels, ran against another floating mine which exploded. This second vessel was at once surrounded by other Russian ships and towed into Port Arthur, the entire flotilla accompanying her. These occurrences were seen from various Japanese watch towers. The Japanese cruiser Washidate also witnessed the explosions. The action of the Russians in attempting to clear the channel of mines indicates the intention of the fleet again to sally from Port Arthur.

### Interference to Stop.

London, Aug. 26.—Prime Minister Balfour announced Thursday evening that the British government had ordered two cruisers from the squadron at Cape of Good Hope, without delay to locate the Russian volunteer fleet steamers Smolensk and Petersburg and to convey to them the orders of the Russian government that they must not further interfere with neutral shipping. The premier stated that this action was taken at the request of the Russian government.

### OFFICIALS ARE WARNED.

#### Civil Service Commission Forbids Campaign Assessments Among Government Employees.

Washington, Aug. 27.—In view of the approaching election, the civil service commission Friday addressed a letter to the heads of all government departments and bureaus, calling their attention to violations of the civil service law which have occurred in the past in connection with political campaigns, and inclosing a circular containing a warning against the demanding or payment of political assessments and partisan activity of officeholders. In its circular the commission announces that it will employ every legitimate and available means to secure the prosecution and punishment of whoever may violate the provisions of the law.

### Escapes from Jail.

Janesville, Wis., Aug. 26.—Eddie Fay, who was in jail here awaiting trial on charge of robbing the Superior post office of \$14,000 in stamps and money, made a sensational escape from his cell some time during Thursday night. Fay was assisted by outsiders, who climbed to the second story outside of his cell and sawed through the heavy iron bar, enabling the prisoner to effect his escape.

### Three Persons Drowned.

New York, Aug. 27.—Three persons were drowned in the capsizing of their boat near Edinburg, in the Adirondacks. They were: Adele Sturdevant, of Brooklyn, daughter of a well-known real estate operator; Harris S. Sturdevant, a well-known resident of Rome, N. Y.; James A. Sturdevant, of Brooklyn. The men were Miss Sturdevant's uncles.

## FOURTEEN DIE IN TORNADO.

Storm in Minnesota Causes Death and Destruction—Hurricane in South Dakota.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 23.—The dead: (Fourteen).

At St. Paul: Viola Robinson, George Kwetson, Lorin F. Hokanson. At Minneapolis: Richard Hilgedick. At St. Louis Park: Albert Ohde, Anna Tayde, Hedger Child.

At Waconia: Gustav Moye, Mrs. Gustav Moye, Fred Moye, Hubert Lehmar. At Hutchinson: Fred Gross, Mrs. Gross.

At Dallas: Unidentified woman. Fatally injured (two): Charles Moye, Waconia; Fred Picha, Waconia.

Property loss: \$2,555,000. St. Paul, \$1,780,000; Minneapolis, \$500,000; Stillwater, \$100,000; Waconia, \$75,000; country district, \$100,000.

The above is the summary of the damage wrought by Saturday's tornado in various sections of Minnesota. In addition to the fatally injured, nearly 200 persons sustained injuries of a minor character. The municipality through the destruction of bridges, school buildings, parks and other public property, suffered the greatest loss, its damage closely approximating a million dollars. The other losses, involving nearly 200 business firms and individuals, range from \$50,000 in the case of Finch, Young & McConville, wholesale dry goods, down to a few dollars for the breakage of window glass and the tearing away of awnings.

Watertown, S. D., Aug. 23.—A hurricane of severe character swept over a region in the northeast part of the state Sunday night.

The dead: —, Erickson, of Willow Lakes; Mrs. H. Schilling, of Bryant.

The injured: Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Smith, of Willow Lakes, fatally injured. Twenty-five unknown, of Willow Lakes, were injured, but not seriously hurt.

The greatest damage was done at Willow Lakes and Bryant. At Willow Lakes, a small town in Hamlin county, every building was wrecked. Three churches, a school house, all the elevators and livery barns are lying in heaps of ruins. The Great Northern depot is across the track and 17 box cars are bottom side up. The Methodist church is upside down on the parsonage. The loss to farmers by damage to their crops will be heavy. The storm killed many cattle throughout that section.

### PICNIC SWEEP BY STORM

#### Three Persons Are Killed and Several Others Injured in New York Tornado.

Jamestown, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Three persons lost their lives and several others were injured in a tornado that swept through Chautauque county Thursday. Parkhurst's grove, where the Stocktown picnic was being held, was directly in the path of the storm. Five thousand people were in the grounds when a terrific wind storm swept through the place.

The dead: Mrs. Austin E. Pierce, of Fredonia; Miss Ina Scott, of Shumla; Orin, Dairyville, 60 years old.

The most seriously injured: Mrs. Orin Dairyville, of Shumla, will probably die. Arthur Billis, Portland. The storm came up suddenly. Trees in the grove were struck by lightning, many of them were blown down and the rain fell in torrents. The people who took refuge under the trees at the first sign of the storm were caught by the falling branches and injured. Many horses were killed in the same manner. Some of the animals stampeded, trampling upon the injured people, lying upon the ground. Some of the buildings in the vicinity were blown down and others were unroofed. Hundreds of forest and fruit trees were torn up and corn and oat fields were laid waste, entailing a loss of thousands of dollars.

### Kills Wife, Child and Self.

New York, Aug. 24.—George Boyce, his wife Ida and their six-months-old baby were found dead Tuesday night in apartments in a tenement house in West Sixty-seventh street. The police found that all three had been shot to death. A revolver lay on the floor near the body of the man. From this the police believe that the man killed his wife and child and then himself.

### Mob Burns a Negro.

Cedartown, Ga., Aug. 23.—After being positively identified by Levia Reeves, the 13-year-old daughter of a well-known farmer, as the negro who had assaulted her, Jim Glover was shot to death Monday night near the girl's home and then dragged into this town and burned on the public square.

### Strike at Joliet.

Joliet, Ill., Aug. 25.—A strike among the engineers on the dummy engines at the steel mills here has caused a temporary shutdown of the converter. There being no facilities for handling the product. The men quit because they were denied the assistance of "spell" hands.

### Two Drowned.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Aug. 27.—Herbert D. Hill, a clerk in the Imperial bank, and James C. Patterson, a teller of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in the Canadian Soo, were drowned in the river here.

### Two Young Men Drowned.

Clinton, Ia., Aug. 25.—Peter Holling, aged 23, and John Otto, aged 35, fell off a skiff Thursday night and were drowned in the Mississippi river.

### Cigarettes Killed Him.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 22.—Constant smoking of cigarettes killed Otis Botham, aged 32, of Rutland, Ill. He smoked them constantly for 23 years.

## LOCATION OF ETSESHAN AND ANTESHAN FORTS, REPORTED CAPTURED BY JAPANESE.



Etseshan fort, reported captured by the Japanese, is one of the principal defensive works northwest of Port Arthur. It surmounts a hill 465 feet in height, and is about two miles from what is called the new city, located on the northern shore of West Port. This new city is principally occupied by Russians. Another fort that the Japanese were reported to have captured on Monday is called Anteshan, and stands about a mile north of Etseshan. The latter is considered to be the key of Port Arthur. An inner fort called Sungshoo is situated directly east of Etseshan, but military critics believe that the holders of Etseshan can dominate the fortress. In the war of 1894 Etseshan was captured by the brigade of Gen. Nishi, who is now fighting at Port Arthur.

## ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A RESERVOIR

### GATES OF A BIG OHIO WATER BASIN ARE ATTACKED WITH DYNAMITE.

Had Attempt Been Successful Hundreds of Lives Would Have Been Lost—Bloodhounds Placed in Search of Perpetrators.

St. Mary's, O., Aug. 24.—Before day-break Tuesday the gates at the head of St. Mary's reservoir were blown up by dynamite. The report of the explosion was heard for miles. The buildings here were shaken and some windows were broken. Intense excitement prevailed, but every precaution was taken to prevent a flood. There are many who consider the reservoir a menace to surrounding farms.

The attempt was made at one o'clock and if it had blown out the entire bulkhead and opened the flood gates hundreds of lives would have been lost as the waters of Lake Mercer would have run out. This bulkhead is the one through which the Miami and Erie canal is fed. Although a large amount of dynamite was used the bank was not broken so as to give away and when the citizens were aroused the place was watched. Bloodhounds are with those in search of the dynamiters, but they have no clew on which to go. This reservoir is the largest artificial body of water in the world and this city is lower than the water, so that intense excitement prevailed here.

### Shock Felt for Miles.

Although the damages are limited mostly to broken windows in this city; to the wrecking of one house near the bulkhead and one State boat and the partial breaking of the bank, there is great excitement here because it is feared that the attempt may be repeated. The shock was plainly felt at Celina at the western end of the reservoir, a distance of ten miles. The work of dynamiters is most feared at the eastern end, where the surrounding country is much lower than the embanked water. The charge of dynamite and nitro-glycerine was placed on the wicket gates and a slow fuse attached from which there were three separate shocks. The explosion wrecked the upper part of the wicket and damaged the stone abutments, but not to such an extent as to liberate the waters. Houses in the immediate vicinity were greatly damaged and the occupants were stunned. The occupants of Alexander Swegart's house were buried under the debris for three hours. The captain of the State boat and his wife and helpers were rescued by other craft.

The bulkhead is the outlet of Lake Mercer into the Miami and Erie canal and holds back nine feet of water covering 17,000 acres of land. St. Mary's is 12 feet lower than the lock and the loss that would have accompanied success of the attempt is hard to imagine. The explosion was plainly heard for 20 miles. The only reason St. Mary's was not washed away that the charge of dynamite was exploded in the abutment of stone, which reflected it upward, thus saving the lower portion of the bank.

### Teachers Win Fight.

Chicago, Aug. 23.—The long legal contest waged by the school teachers of Chicago, headed by Miss Catherine Goggin, for the \$249,554 held by the board of education from the corporation taxes of 1900 was ended Monday by a decision of Judge Dunne in favor of the school teachers.

### Spalding Released.

Chicago, Aug. 20.—Charles W. Spalding, the "banker convict," was Friday ordered released from the Joliet penitentiary. His petition for habeas corpus was granted by Judge Dunne.

## MRS. MAYBRICK ARRIVES.

### Famous American Ex-Prisoner Lands at New York City Under an Assumed Name.

New York, Aug. 24.—On board the Red Star line steamer Vaderland, which arrived Tuesday from Antwerp, was Mrs. Florence Chanler Maybrick, recently released from prison in England. Mrs. Maybrick was entered on the passenger list as Mrs. Rose Ingraham, a name which she took from her great-grandparents. This precaution was not designed to evade official inquiry, but merely to avoid annoying observation on the part of fellow passengers. While she made no secret of her presence on board and appeared frequently about the decks and saloon, very few were aware of her identity. She was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel V. Hayden. Mr. Hayden is her attorney. Mrs. Florence Maybrick left her hotel Wednesday for Ellenville, in the Catskill mountains, where she will remain at the home of Dr. Emmett Denmore for some time.

## KILLED IN STRIKE RIOT.

### One Union Man Dead and Three Injured—Imaginary Attack on Train the Cause.

Chicago, Aug. 22.—The first death in riot in the great packing house strike was recorded Saturday evening. One union man, Andrew Maskey, was shot and killed and three others were wounded in a general fight following an imagined attack on a Lake Shore train loaded with strike breakers. The fight occurred just outside the stock yards.

Judge Brentano has enjoined the city from interfering with the use of the plants of the packing companies as dormitories for strike breakers in the test case brought by the G. H. Hammond company. Seven additional injunction petitions were filed at court, extending the temporary injunction to all the packing companies within the stock yards, with the exception of the Omaha Packing company.

## BASEBALL.

### Standing of Clubs of Leading Organizations in the Contest for Championship Honors.

The following tables show the number of games won and lost and the percentage of clubs of the two leading baseball organizations. National league:

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
New York	25	31	.798
Chicago	25	41	.613
Pittsburg	21	44	.581
Cincinnati	23	47	.578
St. Louis	23	51	.552
Boston	22	48	.552
Brooklyn	23	70	.332
Philadelphia	28	79	.269
American league:			
New York	63	40	.612
Boston	54	42	.564
Chicago	53	45	.553
Philadelphia	53	43	.574
Cleveland	57	46	.553
Detroit	46	58	.442
St. Louis	40	61	.396
Washington	24	80	.231

### Wealthy Farmer Killed.

Yorkville, Ill., Aug. 22.—Nels O. Casen, the wealthiest man in this county, was accidentally killed by being thrown from his carriage when returning to his home, three miles south of here. Mr. Casen was the largest land owner in the county, his wealth being estimated up to \$1,000,000.

### Four Drowned.

St. Johns, N. F., Aug. 25.—The schooner Selma has been lost off Labrador. Four of the crew went down with the vessel. It is feared that there have been other disasters in those waters, as a heavy gale has been sweeping the coast for the past week.

### Historic Mansion Burned.

New York, Aug. 27.—Fire has destroyed the Benjamin Schenck home-stead, one of the oldest houses on Long Island. It was built a mile from Sagamore Hill 182 years ago and contained a highly prized collection of curious furniture and heirlooms.

## JEFFRIES RETAINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP

### KNOCKS OUT "JACK" MONROE IN TWO ROUNDS IN BATTLE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Showing of "Butte Miner" a Disappointment—Latter Protests Against Decision—Big Crowd Witnesses the Contest.

San Francisco, Aug. 27.—Like the veriest amateur in the prize ring, Jack Munroe, of Butte, Mont., went down and out before Champion James J. Jeffries Friday night in the second round. The man from the mining district made such an extremely sorry showing that the great throng in Mechanics' pavilion roundly hooted him as he protested to Referee Graney against the decision that had been given in favor of Jeffries.

The two giants had not been in the ring two minutes when it was foreseen that the aspirations of Munroe would be quickly disposed of. The miner was scared and awkward and Jeffries in the first round had him twice on the canvas taking the count.

Jeffries directed his bombardment against the stomach of his opponent, and each shot was followed by a blow on the jaw that sent Munroe to his knees. Jeffries went back to his corner after the opening round with a sneer and a laugh on his swarthy face, while Munroe's seconds busied themselves with smelling salts and restoratives. When the two came together for the second round the laugh on the champion's visage changed to a look of determination that boded ill to the miner.

Forty-five seconds after the gong sounded Munroe was lying on the floor, a bloody, bruised mass of humanity, with Jeffries standing over him, ready, if necessary, to put the quietus on the championship ambitions of his adversary. The miner was too dazed to rise to his feet and the timekeepers counted him out. A great throng witnessed the contest. Estimates of the number in attendance range from 7,000 to 9,000, and it is believed that the gate receipts will approximate \$35,000.

### Letter of Acceptance.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Aug. 27.—During the next three or four days the president will put the finishing touches on his letter of acceptance. It probably will be placed in the hands of the printer on September 10. The letter will contain approximately 12,000 words. The date of its publication has not been determined definitely, but it very likely will be on Monday, September 12.

## PENSION ROLL SHORTER.

### List Shows Decrease for First Time in Its History—New Age Qualification Rule Satisfactory.

Washington, Aug. 25.—The annual report of the pension commissioner for the year ending June 30, 1904, shows that 47,374 persons were added to the rolls and 49,157 dropped, a net decrease for the first time in the history of the department.

The appropriation for the year was \$146,419,296 and the expenditures only \$144,712,787, leaving a balance of \$1,706,508.

Of the 47,374 persons added to the pension rolls 326 were by special act of congress, and of the 49,157 pensioners who were dropped, death claimed 43,820, of whom 31,723 were soldiers, 30,071 being volunteers of the civil war.

The total number of pensioners on the rolls as covered by the report is 720,315 soldiers, 273,841 widows and dependents, and 606 army nurses.

The report refers to the order issued by the commissioner March 15 last, in which age is made an evidence of disability, and says that in three and a half months of its operation only eight per cent., or 28,806 out of 370,000 pensioners, have asked for increase under its terms. The report says the order introduces no new principle, and "is in the direct line of economy, as it certainly is in the line of precedent."

### Four Children Drowned.

Cleburne, Tex., Aug. 26.—Four children were drowned Thursday evening by the capsizing of a boat in the Brazos river near Acton, Hood county. The dead: John Franklin, aged nine; Kitty Franklin, aged ten; Joe Franklin, aged eight; B. F. Goodman, aged 12. There were six boys and girls all told in the boat at the time of the disaster. In going down stream one of the boat's oars struck a snag and the vessel immediately turned over. Two boys, names unknown, swam ashore. The bodies of the victims were recovered.

### Gen. Fitz Simons Dead.

Chicago, Aug. 22.—Gen. Charles Fitz Simons, noted contracting engineer, veteran of the civil war and former commander of the First brigade, Illinois national guard, died at 7:10 o'clock Saturday morning at his residence, 161 Ashland boulevard. About a year ago Gen. Fitz Simons was injured by a fall downstairs at his home, and he never recovered from the effects of that accident.

### Killing in Iowa.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., Aug. 26.—At Waldorf Frank Seary has killed Michael Moynahan with a piece of iron pipe, following a quarrel over an alleged insult by Seary to the niece of Moynahan. Seary was arrested.