

The Weekly Chronicle.

THE DALLES - OREGON

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IN BLOOD AN INCH DEEP.

This is a story of a great sea fight, the first of the war in the Orient. It comes straight from the lips of one who saw with his own eyes the tragic events of which he tells, and had, himself, a part in this remarkable duel of the sea. The battle he described was fought by the Chinese cruiser Yang Wei, and the Japanese flag-ship Matsushima, July 12, last, about 80 miles southwest of Chemulpo, Korea, and lasted three hours, resulting in almost complete destruction of both vessels and a terrible loss of life to both. The narrator of both these stirring events is a young Englishman who was supervising engineer of the Yang Wei, and who has served for four years in the Chinese navy. In a subsequent engagement he was injured to such an extent that he had to leave the emperor's service and come to the United States for medical treatment. He is now in San Francisco, in a physician's care, shattered and feeble in health, as a result of his experience in two of the most interesting and most deadly naval battles of modern times.

The engineer tells, as preliminary to his story, how the Yang Wei was ordered Chemulpo and there met the Japanese to fleet of seven vessels. The commander of the Yang Wei was ordered to watch the Japanese fleet, and when the latter put out to sea, the Yang Wei followed. This is what caused the fight. He tells the Japanese ship Naniwa-Kan signalled to the Yang Wei that if she persisted in following she would be fired on. The Yang Wei paid no attention to this warning, and kept right on. The Naniwa-Kan did not fire, and the Chinese ship passed the Naniwa-Kan, and steamed ahead of the Matsushima, the Japanese flag-ship. The Japanese admiral evidently thought that the Matsushima was more than a match for the Yang Wei, for he ordered the other ships to fall back, which they did. The Yang Wei cleared for action, and took a position about 1600 yards off the Matsushima's port bow and kept it.

The Yang Wei is an unarmored steel cruiser of 1550 tons displacement, and was built in 1881 in England, at a cost of \$1,000,000. Her length is 210 feet, and her speed 16 knots. Her armament consisted of one 10 1/2-inch 38-ton Armstrong gun, one 9-inch 25-ton, six 5-inch, ten Hotchkiss and six machine guns. The Matsushima is an unarmored steel cruiser of 4277 tons, built in France in 1890, and has a speed of 17 1/2 knots. Her armament consisted of one 12-inch 45-ton Canon rifle, eleven 4 1/2-inch 50-pound quick-firing guns, eleven Hotchkiss and six Nordenfeldt machine guns. The 12-inch rifle was carried in a 12-inch barbette. The Yang Wei was commanded by Captain Kwong Chow, but Lieutenant Li Yang, who had spent eight years at the Annapolis naval academy, fought the ship. Says the engineer, continuing his story:

"We continued our speed and drew the Japanese admiral on, until we had the Matsushima out of sight of the rest of the fleet. We had run about forty miles in the chase with the admiral's flag-ship, when word was passed to again stand for action. Suddenly our starboard engine was reversed full speed, the helm was put hard aport and the Yang Wei spun around on her keel, and gave the Matsushima a 10 1/2-inch shell out of the 38-ton gun, which struck her in the port bow and exploded in her secondary armor battery. That shot tore an enormous hole in her upper deck, and disabled three of her guns. It was the first gun of the war. Then following some of the cleverest maneuvering on record. Orders poured into the engine room thick and fast. We rushed past the Matsushima on the return and brought out three 6-inch guns to play on her secondary battery, at the same time covering her after guns with a perfect stream of Hotchkiss 3-pound shells and Nordenfeldt and Maxim bullets.

"The Japanese could not work one of their guns. The shower of bullets that the Yang Wei poured into the port-holes of the other vessel rendered it impossible for her gun crews to stay at their posts. We had the Matsushima badly crippled before we received a return shot. We passed astern, and, as our after 25-ton gun came to bear on her after-barbette, where she had a 45-ton gun, we gave her a 9-inch shell. It struck the barbette and exploded. We immediately reversed our port engine, and then went full speed astern on both. The effect of this maneuver was to bring our starboard battery to bear on her

starboard battery, and the Matsushima received another telling blow in a vital part. We gave out three 6-inch starboard guns. The shells beat in the after end of the starboard battery. Almost at the same instant we received a shell from her 45-ton after gun. It was the first shot she had been able to fire. The shell struck the after-gun of our secondary battery on the starboard side, and exploded, fortunately not amidships, but just as it was going out on the port side. Then was a sickening scum on the Yang Wei. The explosion took out our port after-gun and killed two of the gun's crew. The shot also took out our mainmast and ripped off the whole of the port after-end of the upper deck. The effect of the explosion downward was to completely wreck the deck. A jagged hole, fourteen feet in diameter, was left in the deck. Broken timbers, bent deck beams, torn steel plates and mangled human bodies were piled up on all sides. It was a sight to remember for a lifetime."

From that on it was a grim hand-to-hand struggle. The effect of the shot depended a great deal on guess work. Both vessels were enveloped in smoke and maneuvering was almost out of the question. Said the engineer:

"The two vessels followed each other around in a circle like two pugilists in a ring, each endeavoring to keep her bow facing the other so as to offer the smallest target. It was difficult to keep track of things from that time. Nothing particular happened and everything was happening. The smoke was so dense that the only mark for the gunners was the flash of the enemy's guns. In two hours' time from the beginning of the action, all of our guns were disabled, except our big guns fore and aft. Two of our 6-inch guns were knocked overboard and the rest thrown inboard and disabled. The upper deck was a mass of ruins. The Jap was only replying to us with three 8-inch guns, though her after-gun was still in working order. The trouble was that she could not bring it to bear. We kept continually crossing her bows, and the gun was as good as helpless, unless she could swing her stern around to face us. True things went on for some little time. We were continually endeavoring to keep out of the range of her big gun aft, and at the same time bring our forward gun to bear on her. She finally, however, succeeded in slipping around a bit and landed one of her big shells. It struck its mark. The shell burst right under our 25-ton gun aft. The big gun was completely uprooted, and its screen was thrown back into the general wreck of the afterpart of the secondary battery. The steering gear was completely disabled and wrecked, and the after-part of the main and lower decks were ripped down to the steel protected deck. That was not all the damage done by this one shell. The gun's crew of fourteen men and the servants below were killed, besides no one knows how many more.

"The next instant one of the most tragic incidents of the fight occurred. Throughout the whole engagement the Chinese gunners had not displayed the slightest bit of fear. The mangled bodies of their comrades were strewn about the decks and were piled about the wreckage. Shells were exploding all around them, but still they fought like intelligent machines. When the after-gun was blown up, however, the man at the forward gun, which Lieutenant Li Yang himself was endeavoring to train on the Jap's conning tower, became scared and ran below. Li Yang realized the necessities of the situation. One well-directed shot from the forward gun would end the struggle. If he could land a shell against the conning tower of the Matsushima, the fight would be won. He called to his men to return to their posts. They would not obey his orders. Then Li Yang drew his revolver and fired six shots. Six of the gunners dropped dead. The other twelve returned to the gun.

"Within a few seconds Li Yang had the gun trained on the conning tower. The shell struck it below the armor and exploded. The whole thing went into the air and there was a big splash. What was left of the mainmast was also carried overboard, and the remains of the shattered bridge were blown into the air and thrown into the water. The funnel was also wrecked by the explosion. It had previously been riddled with small shot and the shell knocked it over and it fell back, leaning aft. The Japanese admiral was in the conning tower directing the movements of the vessel. When it was struck by the shell the admiral and several of his officers were killed. That was the last shot of the engagement. When the smoke cleared away the Chinese flag was floating over the Matsushima. She had surrendered.

His description of the vessels after the engagement and the awful scenes of carnage her decks presented go a long way to substantiate the assertion that civilized countries will never engage in a combat with their modern engines of destruction. No country could afford the loss of life entailed. In his narrative of the battle, he explains how the Yang Wei moved down on the Matsushima when the latter struck. All firing had ceased on both vessels and it was the intention of the Chinese to sink the Japanese flag-ship. Just how this was to be done the engineer did not know. The Yang Wei was not fitted with torpedo tubes, nor was she built for ramming,

but the Englishman thinks the Mongolian commander intended to board his helpless adversary and blow her up. Her sides and decks were open in a dozen places. Slowly the Yang Wei dropped down upon her victim. The Japanese had three guns left intact, but were not using them. No noise or confusion of any kind could be heard on the ship. The Japanese evidently realized that they were done for and were awaiting the pleasure of the enemy. Before action could be taken the Japanese fleet could be seen approaching through the smoke which hung low upon the water. The moment the Japanese sighted their game, they opened a hot fire, which the Chinese did not take time to return. She put for refuge with all speed and managed to elude the Japanese. When clear of the pursuing fleet, attention was given to the dead and wounded which strewed the decks. It was not until then that the horrors of warfare showed themselves. The living had been too busy saving the ship to pay any attention to their less fortunate mates, and the scenes of carnage visible on the main deck were enough to sicken even a Chinese.

The place was worse than a slaughter-pen. From her upper to main deck the ship was completely stripped, and all the bodies that had not been blown overboard by the explosions, found lodgment on the main deck. Blood an inch deep covered the deck fore and aft, and in the swing of the ship the crimson fluid washed and splashed upon the beams. Strips and fragments of sailors who had died at their guns were floating about in the blood. Several heads, hands, arms, feet and legs were strewn about and piled up in heaps, and from the splintered bulkheads of iron and steel hung fragments of human bodies still dripping blood. As rapidly as possible the ship's doctor, Kirk, a young Irishman, made the rounds of the injured. Those who stood a good chance of recovery were sent below to the sick bay or ship's hospital, but the mortally wounded were given their quietus in a manner peculiarly Chinese. Acting under orders from the captain, the doctor carried an atomizer, filled with prussic acid. Approaching a hopelessly mangled sailor, the doctor made a hasty examination. If it was a case which was likely to result fatally, the doctor lowered his atomizer. On seeing the instrument, the sufferer, thinking he was about to obtain relief, would stretch his head forth in an eager desire for medicine. Placing the nozzle of the atomizer at the lips and nostrils of the victim, the doctor would give the bulb a squeeze, and all was over. The deadly acid did its work in an instant, and so effectively that the sailor never knew what killed him. Over a dozen cases were given the acid treatment and the bodies heaved overboard. Where no chance of saving a life existed, the surgeon had no hesitancy in using the atomizer. The engineer added:

"It seemed a brutal thing to do, but it was all for the best. I accompanied the doctor on his rounds and helped dispose of the bodies. The most heart-rending feature of the poisoning business was the eagerness with which the sufferers reached for the medicine. Many a poor fellow, torn almost into, but perfectly conscious, would be awaiting the doctor. With the feeble strength he possessed, he would raise himself and reach forth his hand to his slayer. Of course, the doctor did his work as humanely as possible, but it did seem like murder. He always spoke kindly before spraying the lips of the doomed man, who died without a look of reproach to haunt the doctor."

In the description of the battle between the Japanese and Chinese warships, mention is made of the manner in which the fatally wounded were treated. The doctor was provided with a small atomizer, charged with prussic acid, and when a case was found to be hopeless a small drop was placed on the victim's tongue, causing instant death. It seems to civilized people a brutal thing to do, and yet we believe the time will come when the killing of those fatally injured, and suffering will be commended. It certainly is more humane to put a fellow being, who at most has but a few hours or days to live, out of his pain, than to torture the already suffering body with stimulants hypodermically applied, or with butcher knife and saw to cut and hack the broken and bruised members when the case is hopeless. Our civilization in this respect at least, makes us kind to dumb animals, and cruel to humanity.

The political situation in our sister state will soon be one of great excitement. Besides the many important state and local issues which are to be settled, a United States senator is to be elected to fill the seat formerly occupied by ex-Senator Allen. Many prominent candidates will be in the race—all sections having a favorite. At this writing it looks as if Levi Ankeney, the rich banker of Walla Walla, will be one if not the leading candidate as regards votes.

A crisis is imminent in the civil affairs of Russia. Today's dispatches indicate the retirement of the czar from the white throne of Russia. He has long been known as the conservator of the peace of Europe and while he lives his efforts will still be towards that end. But should his ailment prove fatal a new chapter will be begun in the momentous history of European affairs.

A SENSATIONAL MURDER.

Portland has had what its papers are disposed to call a sensational murder. George W. Sayres, an old resident of the city, was killed at Fulton Park, September 26th, and his body was found in the Willamette river below Alsworth dock, last Friday morning. The police commenced looking for clues and soon became convinced that "Dunce" Kelley, Garthorne, Powers, Burns, Carroll and Mehan were implicated. Kelley is a sailor boarding house keeper, and has a pretty hard gang around him. The evidence against him is to the effect that he burned his clothing the night Sayres was murdered, that his necktie was found on the bank of the river where the murder was committed, and the testimony of Burns that Kelley had hired him to kill Sayres but that after agreeing to do so, he weakened and backed out.

Now comes the sensational part of the matter. Chief Minto, of the Portland police, and others began to look for a motive for the crime. Sayres had no money, consequently there appeared to be no reason why Kelley should murder him. An inquiry into his affairs disclosed the fact that Sayres had two or more law suits pending against a man named W. O. Allen, one of which suits involved a matter of \$8000, and that Xenophon N. Steeves was the attorney for Allen, and had also done considerable business for Kelley. The review of the case in the Evening Telegram of yesterday says:

"There is said to be no evidence that connects W. O. Allen, the defendant in the suit brought by Sayres, with the murder. Steeves has been Allen's attorney in these cases, but the police have not been able to secure evidence to attach to Allen any responsibility for the murder."

We must confess that we are unable to understand the sapient reasoning of Portland's chief of police and Portland's newspapers, that connects Steeves with the murder because he was Allen's attorney, and fails to find any reason for connecting Allen with it. Allen was interested, provided Sayres' testimony would have been sufficient to justify a judgment against him, for the sum that might have been recovered, up to the \$8000. There is nothing to show that Steeves was interested at all. He looked to Allen for his pay, and unless Allen was interested in getting Sayres out of the way to such an extent that he was willing to pay for it, we fail to see what object Steeves could have had. The Portland papers say there is no evidence against Allen, but convey the idea that Steeves is guilty. To an unbiased mind, there is up to this time no evidence against either of them. It is claimed that at one time Steeves was charged with appropriating some law books belonging to a brother lawyer, which charge was not substantiated, but which seems to our Portland news gatherers to be proof positive that Steeves also had something to do with Sayres' murder. If he had, there is, so far, not a particle of evidence disclosed that would even throw suspicion upon him.

Unless more substantial evidence can be produced against Steeves his arrest will result in nothing but a little cheap and brief notoriety for the new chief of police.

NO LONGER A SUSPICION.

Mary Cline, a middle-aged woman, who has been hanging around the courthouse in Portland bothering various officials for several days past, was locked up by Sheriff Sears Tuesday night upon suspicion that her mind is deranged. She is apparently very anxious to wed, and has made propositions of that nature to all of the officers of the county court, the only condition being that the man who would accept her "heart and hand" must have money. The woman is a well-known character, and her persistent attentions finally became unbearable. As far as can be ascertained, she has no relatives to take care of her.

The woman's insanity is no longer a matter of suspicion. Her desire to wed a Multnomah county official stamps her mind as a dank and cheerless charnel house of gloom, illumined by but one faint glimmering ray of reason, the condition precedent that the man who gets her must have money. It is interesting to study into the possible causes of the poor demented creature's condition. Who knows but that in the days of her innocent girlhood she observed that her mother had much money, wore store clothes, and, like the famous lilies of Solomon, "tolled not, neither did they spin," except behind a pair of fast horses, were those whose lines fell in pleasant places about the courthouse. As time wore on the desire to capture one of these gaudy butterflies, that she, too, might become "a thing of beauty and a joy forever," possessed her with an all-consuming yearn, and so pursuing mentally the intangible, impalpable and unreal, the last spark of reason fled.

We are informed that Sherman county parties have arranged for purchasing hogs in the drouth-stricken regions of the middle West and bringing them to the grain fields here for the purpose of utilizing the cheap wheat. This, we believe, a good business proposition, but care wants to be used in selecting the animals to see that none infested with cholera are brought here. Oregon hogs are free from the disease, and the utmost care should be taken to keep them so.

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AND

Dalles Weekly Chronicle

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SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Wasco County. Dalles City, Plaintiff, vs. George Watkins and Maud Watkins, Defendants.

To George Watkins and Maud Watkins, the above-named defendants. In the name of the State of Oregon: You and each of you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled cause by the first day of the term of the above entitled Court following the expiration of six weeks publication of this summons, that being the time prescribed in the order for the publication thereof, said term of Court beginning on Monday, the 12th day of November, 1894, and if you fail to answer said complaint the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein, to-wit:

For a judgment against the defendants for the sum of \$1000.00, with interest thereon from the 21st day of November, 1892, at the rate of ten per cent per annum, for the amount of the mortgage and for a decree of foreclosure of said mortgage and for a decree of foreclosure of the mortgage named in the complaint and for a sale of the mortgaged premises described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of lot number three in block number seven in Newcomb's addition to Dalles City, Oregon; thence westerly, but not due west, along the south line of Benton Street or Benton Avenue, sixty-seven feet, thence southerly, but not due south, on a straight line parallel with the west line of lot three, one hundred and eighty-three feet, thence easterly, but not due east, sixty-seven feet, to the west line of said lot three; thence westerly, but not due west, along the west line of said lot three, one hundred and eighty-three feet, to the place of beginning, all lying and being in said block, and addition, and except the following described tract lying and being in the southwest corner of the tract above described, to-wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of lot four in block four in Bigelow's Bluff addition to Dalles City, thence northerly, extending the west line of said lot four, twenty feet, thence westerly, and at right angles with the line last mentioned, to the west line of the tract first above described; thence southerly and along the west line of said tract described, to the southwest corner thereof; thence easterly along the south line of said first described tract, to the northwest corner of said lot four, the place of beginning. Also lot number four in block number four in Bigelow's Bluff addition to Dalles City, Oregon, which said lot adjoins and abuts said first lot above described, and except the following described tract through to Clay Street on the south. Also fractional lot number one in block number three in said Bigelow's Bluff addition to Dalles City, together with the tenements, improvements and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, said lands and premises, and all things and being in Wasco county, Oregon; and that said premises or so much thereof as may be necessary to raise the amount due to the plaintiff and the costs of this suit and all sums due for attorney's fees, taxes or assessments, and which may be sold in parcels without material injury to the parties, may be decreed to be sold according to law, that the proceeds thereof be applied upon the amount due to the plaintiff, and for attorney's fees and costs of this action and all sums due for taxes and assessments, and that the defendants and each of them and all persons claiming under them or either of them subsequently to the commencement of this action, and every person whose negligence is subsequent or subsequently recorded, may be barred and foreclosed of all right, title, interest, claim, lien and equity of redemption in and to said mortgaged premises and that the plaintiff have such other and further relief as may be equitable and just.

You are further notified that this summons is served upon you by publication for six weeks in THE DALLES CHRONICLE, a weekly newspaper published in Dalles City, Oregon, by order of the Hon. W. J. Bradshaw, Judge of the 7th Judicial District of the State of Oregon, made at chambers in Dalles City, on the 26th day of September, 1894.

W. H. WILSON, Attorney for Plaintiff.

Administrator's Sale.

Notice is hereby given that by an order of the County Court of the State of Oregon heretofore made, the undersigned have been duly appointed, and are now the qualified and acting administrators of the estate of Henry A. Pratt, deceased.

All persons having claims against the above-named deceased are hereby notified to present their claims, with the proper vouchers, to us at the office of Leslie Butler, in Masonic building, Dalles City, Oregon, or J. F. Armour, at Hood River, Or., within six months from the date of this notice and all persons indebted to said estate are hereby required to settle such indebtedness forthwith. Dated at Dalles City, Or., at Hood River, this 10th day of August, 1894. LESLIE BUTLER, J. F. ARMOUR, Administrators of the estate of Henry A. Pratt, deceased. 8-11-94

PIONEER HERD



POLAND CHINA HOGS FOR SALE.

Thirty-five head for 1894, sired by Center Free Trade, son of the Great Free Trade hog of Ohio, sold for \$800, the highest priced hog ever sold in the United States, assisted by son Tecumseh Chip Jr 21880, sold for \$200. Owing to the hard times, I will sell for the next three months, my pigs for \$20 each, or \$35 per pair. Will box and deliver at nearest station free. Come and see them or write. No business done on Sundays. EDWARD JUDY, Centerville, Wash.

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