

HOPE IN VICTORY

Russian Defeat Would Be Awful Disaster.

KUROPAKIN RISKED MUCH

If Reversed, Aggressive Campaign Must Be Abandoned.

PORT ARTHUR WILL LOSE HOPE

Outcome of the Engagement Now in Progress Near Mukden is Also Expected to Have a Great Influence on China's Stand.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 12.—Apprehension is caused by the Tokio dispatch saying Field Marshal Oyama reports that he is gaining ground and has cut off a Russian column below the Taitz River. It is only natural, after the repeated reverses already suffered that the Russians fully realize how much General Kuropatkin has staked on the assumption of the offensive. The battle now in progress probably will outweigh in importance the hard fight at Lao Yang. For Kuropatkin victory, paralytic, complete, is necessary. Defeat would certainly spell ruin for his military reputation and probably prove a disaster of the first magnitude to the Russian army.

If the Japanese should roll up Kuropatkin's advance now, all hope of an aggressive Russian success in this campaign or of relief of Port Arthur would be ended probably for this year, but Russian success now means a winter campaign and immensely enhanced prestige, not only for Kuropatkin personally, but for the Russian arms in Manchuria. The success of the Chinese, which is an important factor in the present situation. The effect also of defeat upon the gallant garrison of Port Arthur, after hopes of relief had been held out, would be most disastrous. For all these reasons General Kuropatkin's friends are convinced that the offensive was taken with open eyes and a full appreciation of its difficulties and a firm belief that victory would be achieved. On the other hand, some of his enemies are unkind enough to intimate that General Kuropatkin has really risked his army, knowing that victory will insure his selection as Commander-in-Chief of both Manchurian armies.

According to the advice received by the War Office here, the Japanese hold entrenched lines extending in a semi-circle north of the Yental railroad station, and the Japanese have been captured by the Russians. Thence they have a series of arcs covering the Yental branch road, including the mines whence their lines run southward. The Japanese are carrying out a strong flanking movement eastward, as reported by the correspondent of the Associated Press at Shantung, but whether or not it is only a feint to cover an ultimate attack against Field Marshal Oyama's left has not yet developed. The latter view is held by many officers here, who believe Kuropatkin's purpose is to crumple up the Japanese left, push them off seaward from the railroad, and then carry the Japanese left, compelling them to retire in the direction of the Yalu River, thus clearing the way through Lao Yang for possession of the railroad station, and possibly enabling Kuropatkin to relieve Port Arthur, which, as announced in the Russian General's order of the day, is his main objective.

Still the best-informed members of the General Staff are inclined to think that the strategic battle must depend on the manner in which the engagement develops. It is pointed out that in the event of defeat, which Kuropatkin must constantly bear in mind, since the Japanese then will doubtless try to push through to reach to the Yalu, it will be necessary for him to keep his heaviest battalions east.

The story cabled from Shanghai to the London Telegraph by Bennett Burleigh, that Oyama will be recalled, and that General Nodzu will be made commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces attacking Liao Yang, in military circles here. It is now known that General Nodzu's action in the battle of Liao Yang, in pressing a portion of his army across the Taitz River to co-operate with General Kuroki, thus increasing the strength of the Japanese flanking force, and threatening Kuropatkin's communications made it impossible for the Russian General to risk continuing his original plan of striking the Japanese right, and forced the Russian retreat. According to a Russian General's report, returned here from Liao Yang, the Japanese had 140,000 men, six double divisions and four brigades across the river when Kuropatkin ordered a retreat.

JAPANESE GENERALS REPORT

Great Battle South of the Hun Is Believed Inevitable.

TOKIO, Oct. 12.—General activity has been resumed in the theater of war. It is believed here that a general engagement is progressing between Chiao Yang and Mukden. Field Marshal Oyama has met General Kuropatkin's offensive movement with a general advance of the main strength of his force along the broad front. The opposing forces were in touch yesterday, and it is believed a great battle south of the Hun River is inevitable. Besides their direct movement, the Russians are attempting to strike the Japanese right at two points widely separated. A considerable force of Russians which was sent across the Taitz River 25 miles east of Lao Yang, apparently was isolated by the Japanese cutting its rear, and the report of its defeat or capture is expected. The following report from the headquarters of General Kuroki's right army was received today:

"On the morning of October 9 a body of the enemy crossed the Taitz River from the north at Wang Yang toward Chiao Yang and interposed between Chiao Yang and Benishu. Its strength was one brigade of infantry and 2000 cavalry, with two guns. East of Benishu, on the right bank of the Taitz, the enemy's strength was increased to one brigade of infantry and 1500 cavalry, with eight guns. The enemy in the direction of Ta Faa consists of a mixed brigade. There is one regiment of infantry at Menohuapao and another at Puchiatzu, both of which are advancing south. Their rear seems to be supported by forces of some strength."

Operations of the Center Army. General Nodzu's center army telegraphed as follows:

"On the morning of October 9 the enemy, one division strong, held a line stretching from Chienhuagooden to Panchiapao and

Laitunkow. On the afternoon of October 9 a column of the enemy advanced southward from Laitunkow along the railroad. His advance has reached to the south of Wulchihai. Also from Laitunkow there has advanced a body of Russian infantry, consisting of three battalions, which seem to be supported strongly.

"The line of the enemy advancing along the railroad is five miles long and its rear is not visible."

"A body of the enemy is posted in the hills east of Panchiapao."

"At 3 o'clock on the afternoon of October 9 two regiments of Russians entered Upper Laitohu and a regiment of Russian cavalry entered Lower Laitohu. They advanced to Shatookan. The enemy's whole strength, one division, is advancing toward our front."

The headquarters of General Oku's left army, telegraphing on October 9, says:

"Our right has dispatched a detachment to reinforce the garrison at Chiatou. Since October 7 we have been attacked at Shienchung. To meet the forces of the enemy that have appeared at Benishu the garrison there has been reinforced."

"A battle is progressing, but no particulars regarding it have been received. The center and left are still fighting."

"It is my purpose to assume the offensive on the left before the enemy succeeds in concentrating his force on the right bank of the Taitz River, and thus to attack the enemy's main strength."

Reporting on October 10, General Kuroki says:

"Communication has been established with our detachment at Benishu. Our detachment fought against superior strength for 12 hours. The most severe engagement was near Benishu."

"All our positions were successfully held. At Weining Ting the Russians have one brigade. A large column of the enemy reached Ta Faa on October 9. The Russian strength at Tumentau is one brigade."

"Last night the Russians attempted a close attack against our position and we repulsed them with a heavy loss."

"Reinforcements from our army reached Huolinchia at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of October 9. A portion reached Benishu at night and another portion occupied Tumentau."

"The Russians are assembling at Pin Shangkou and Tayupo."

FEAR CUTTING-OFF MOVEMENT

Japanese Are Aware Russian Cavalry Is South of Taitz River.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE RUSSIAN WESTERN ARMY, Mukden, Oct. 12, via Pekin, Oct. 12.—The correspondent of the Associated Press witnessed the Russians take and retake Tountau and saw the Japanese buying their bridge over the Shaka river on their last retreat of October 9. The Japanese were reinforced and renewed the attack October 10 with two battalions and two guns, forcing the line back on the Russian right, but, however, achieving any important result.

The Japanese cannot afford yesterday was for the purpose of disclosing the Russian position, but it was apparent without result, except as showing that the Japanese are disposed freely to make battle within 10 miles of the railway.

The heaviness and regularity of the cannonade at this morning in the foothills, and also west of the railway, indicate that greater fighting is in progress. There have been daily engagements between the advance guards along the entire line of 20 miles.

The Japanese appear to be apprehensive of a cutting-off movement, owing to the fact that Russian cavalry is south of the Taitz River and owing to the presence of Russian forces in the old positions and fortifications at Benishu. They have, therefore, fallen back.

The strong position at the Yental Coal station has been the cause of apprehension to the Russians, was vacated by the Japanese October 9, though they are throwing up earthworks toward the west, where the superiority of the Russian cavalry will require superior defenses.

It is believed the Japanese have about 100 guns at the railway bridge across the Taitz River, and are carrying out a Russian attack there.

The preliminary line of battle, after the two armies have reinforced and re-fortified for a month past, as determined by the Red Cross to Mukden, and of other prisoners taken shows that part of the Japanese troops are inadequately clothed for the present cold weather. Along the battle line some of the Chinese have built bonfires, from the protection of which they are gathering crops between the cannonading. Other Chinese are moving their effects here and there amidst the ruthless waste of their grain and other property by the contending armies.

Russian dragons have captured a copy of a message from the Emperor of Japan to his troops, in which the Mikado says he is still awaiting the decisive defeat of the Russian. It is apparent from this intelligence that the Japanese are equally prepared for important events.

BLOCKADE RUNNER CAPTURED

British Vessel Carrying Supplies to Arthur Seized by the Japanese.

TOKIO, Oct. 12.—The British steamer Pu Ping, belonging to the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, carrying provisions, was captured by the Japanese off Port Arthur today.

Admiral Hosoya, commanding the third squadron of the Japanese fleet, reports that at 11 A. M. today a wireless telegram was received from the guardship Otowa, reporting that the Pu Ping was captured by the torpedo-boat destroyer Shikida. The Pu Ping was carrying a great quantity of munitions of war, the telegram from the Otowa said, was attempting to violate the blockade of Port Arthur.

Purchased to Run the Blockade.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 12.—The British steamer Pu Ping, which was captured by the Japanese off Port Arthur today, was purchased with seven other vessels by Russian agents here for the purpose of running the blockade and conducting war for the fortress. Two of these vessels, the Shihan and the Pu Ping, have now been captured. Another steamship, the Canton, left here last week on this mission. No word has been received from her.

(It was reported from Shanghai October 7 that the British steamer Shihan has been seized by the Japanese off Yinkow. She carried a cargo of cattle and four intended for Port Arthur. The Canton is in iron screw steamer of 137 tons. She is registered as owned by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company.)

Sortie of Fleet Frustrated.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 12.—A refugee from Port Arthur, who has arrived here, says that a sortie of the Russian fleet was contemplated but was frustrated by a Japanese bombardment from the batteries overlooking the east basin.

Japanese Boats Built at Quincy.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—A report reached Washington today that the two knocked-down torpedo-boats which were being shipped in 23 carloads over the Great

FROM HIGHEST AUTHORITIES

Unstinted Praise for Story & Clark Planos.

Wholesale Prices and Other Inducements Now to Introduce Them in the Northwest.

"In my opinion, they rank among the very best pianos of the day."—Emile Saurer.

"They are modeled for tone and touch."—The Eagle.

"Your pianos are very good."—Joan de Renzke.

"One of the very best according to the perfect touch and beautiful tone."—G. Liebling.

"I shall be very glad to use these instruments whenever occasion offers."—David Blispham.

"I find your pianos wonderfully sympathetic to the accompanying voice."—Lillian Blauvelt.

These are the pianos on which astounding concessions are being made by Eilers Piano House in order to introduce them in the great Northwest, namely:

1st. Dealers' wholesale prices on every piano in the first three carloads sold by Eilers Piano House.

2d. Six months' lessons in piano playing for one member of the family of each purchaser of one of these pianos, by any teacher you may desire.

3d. All text books necessary during this period also gratis.

That is the purchaser himself selects the music teacher or the school and notices us of the text books desired by them and we foot the bills for both, at the expense of the Story & Clark Company.

And last, but not least, the Story & Clark Company are going to give away a Christmas gift a fine music cabinet to every one of the purchasers of their pianos in these first three carloads.

The instruments are fully guaranteed and money back, should they in any way fail to prove exactly as represented. Cash or easy payments as preferred. Full information and catalogue furnished free upon request. Eilers Piano House, 23 Washington St., corner Park.

Northern Railroad to Seattle and were partly wrecked near Towan, N. D., were built at the yards of the Fore River Shipbuilding Company, Quincy, Mass., on the orders of agents of the Japanese government. They were to have been shipped from Seattle to Japan. Just how much they have been damaged is not known. It is said the company will institute a thorough investigation regarding the wreck.

Navigation on Amur Closed.

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia, Oct. 12.—The navigation of the Amur River is closed, owing to a hard frost and a heavy snowfall. A large loaded with winter clothing for the troops has been destroyed by fire.

The gold mining in this region has been reduced by one-half, owing to the lack of miners.

JAPANESE SAVE THEIR STORES

Chinese Are Paid Liberally to Remove Supplies at Shantung.

SHANPINTAI, (a mile south of Shantung), Monday, Oct. 10, with the Russian left flank column (believed to be General Mitshenkow's), by way of Mukden, Oct. 12.—The Russians have been advancing in force for several days. Upon reaching Taidamow, a mile south of Koutou Pass, on the Pushan Benishu road, they began bearing sporadic artillery fire on their right, where the Russian advance was in contact with the Japanese. The movement of the main column was immediately accelerated, and the Russians were then two days' march from Shantung.

Desultory skirmishes were constantly proceeding on the right and left, and the Japanese steadily retired.

The firing ahead became heavier yesterday, and wounded men from the scouting detachments began to drop. During the Russian lines. The Russians pressed with increased speed, the infantry advancing at the double. The spirits of the mutts were high, due to the fact that they were actually assuming the offensive.

They arrived at the village of Shantung at 8 o'clock this morning. The Japanese, who had been waiting the place the night before, paying the Chinese big prices to carry away their stores, amounting to 4000 bags of rice and barley.

There were two divisions of Japanese in front of the Russians. The General commanding this (Russian) column, upon reaching Shantung, deployed a portion of his forces, with batteries of artillery sent out left flank supports, and went personally to his right flank, where the Japanese had already engaged the Russian detachments. The Japanese projectiles, however, fell wide, and the Russian guns came up at a gallop, unlimbered, and opened fire on the Japanese artillery. This fight was continued until dark. The Russian fire was accurate and eventually silenced the Japanese batteries.

The Russians lost ten men wounded and had one killed. This morning the batteries opened fire at 10 o'clock, the Japanese replying.

To the right the fight was proceeding simultaneously, apparently in favor of the Russians. The latter were within about ten miles of telegraph and telephone lines abandoned by the Japanese.

Wreckage From Japanese Troopship.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 12.—The schooner Gotama, which arrived here early this morning from the Japanese coast, reported on August 4, when 40 miles south-west of Cape Curat, she sighted a mass of floating wreckage. She made out parts of a mainmast, a funnel, and a boiler, succeeded in getting closer to the wreckage and established that it was from the Japanese troopship Kinshu Maru, which was sunk by the Russians last April, when 2000 Japanese soldiers perished.

There were a number of headless trunks. A mouse who perished was beheaded is a mystery which perhaps will never be solved.

Russian Reinforcements Coming Up.

AT THE RUSSIAN FRONT, Monday, Oct. 10, by messenger to Mukden, Tuesday, Oct. 11.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The artillery duel is progressing on the Russian line, 27 miles south-east of Mukden while the fighting at Yental rages with terrible bitterness. The Japanese are essaying a counter-attack. The result is in the balance. Russian reinforcements are coming up rapidly.

Japan Places Large Cheese Order.

NEW YORK, Oct. 12.—Two million cheeses are reported by the Times correspondent at Brussels to have been purchased at Gouda, Holland, on behalf of the Japanese Government for the use of the army.

Good Sign of Russian Confidence.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 12 (3:30 P. M.).—Public confidence in General Kuropatkin's eventual victory was reflected today by the advance of government is to \$2.

Missouri Bidders Sentenced.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 12.—Charles F. Kelly, ex-Speaker of the lower house of the Missouri Assembly, and Charles A. Gutke, formerly a member of that body, were sentenced today to terms in the penitentiary for connection with the subornation of bribery. Kelly was given two years for perjury and Gutke five years for bribery.

First Agency Butterick Patterns and Publications

Picture Store

8c Instead of 20
Three thousand very pretty new matted colored pictures—actual best 20c values on sale today at only8c

25c Instead of 75c
Five hundred genuine English Platinotypes in very artistic frames; sold regularly at 50c and 75c, on sale today at the very low price of25c

N. B.—We can only give a few hints of the many beautiful new pictures we have on display—remember we charge nothing extra for beauty.

Great Sale of Black Hats

Real \$8.00 Values
\$5.95

Ready this morning, 50 very handsome black Hats, of which no two are alike. They are made of velvet, taffeta silk, chenille and fancy silk braids—The trimming consists of fancy feathers, ribbons, velvet, ostrich feathers, pom-poms—Every new and desirable shape shown in the assortment. Not one in the lot but what is worth \$8.00 or more—Choice of the
\$5.95

Notion Store

We have on display an absolutely complete stock of fitted Work Boxes and Baskets—Also a very big variety of pretty Baskets that are to be fitted. Prices as high as \$2.50 and down as
25c

Comforters \$1.80

Full size, Winter weight Comforters, Pure white cotton filled, cover and lining of fine flannel. A very special value at...**\$1.80**

Women's Muslim Underwear

We open the Fall season of 1904 with some of the most sensational bargain giving in Women's Underwear it has ever been our good fortune to tell. The subjoined list is only a partial one—a mere fragmentary telling of the wonderful values our underwear chief has gathered for you.

Women's \$1 Underwear 79c

Women's Norfolk and New Brunswick ribbed Vests and Drawers, part wool natural and white; \$1.00 grade.....**79c**

Women's \$2.25 Union Suits \$1.89

Women's "Vassar" ribbed Union Suits, high neck, long sleeves, part wool, perfect fitting \$2.25 quality**\$1.89**

Women's \$1.50 Underwear \$1.19

Women's "Oneita" ribbed Union Suits, high neck, long sleeves, one-half wool, gray and white; \$1.50 quality at**\$1.19**

Women's 75c Underwear 49c

Women's medium-weight cotton Vests and Pants, silk crochet and ribbon trimmed; all regular and outsizes; the 75c grade.....**49c**

Women's \$1.75 Underwear \$1.39

Women's Norfolk and New Brunswick Vests and Pants, nine-tenths wool, natural gray and white; \$1.75 quality at....**\$1.39**

HE SAYS ARMY RATION IS BAD

Major Seaman Also Assails Congress for Abolishing Canteen.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 12.—Before the International Congress of Military Surgeons today, Major Louis Livingston Seaman, U. S. V. E., who has just returned from the scene of the Russo-Japanese war, delivered an address. He said in it that "Touling the lessons to be learned from the Japanese War, Major Seaman said:

"The Japanese authorities permitted our Government to send five military attaches to accompany their army in the field. Was a surgeon or a quartermaster or a commissary officer detailed? No. They represented the life-saving and life-preserving departments and the medical and the commissary departments. The Japanese authorities permitted our Government to send five military attaches to accompany their army in the field. Was a surgeon or a quartermaster or a commissary officer detailed? No. They represented the life-saving and life-preserving departments and the medical and the commissary departments. The Japanese authorities permitted our Government to send five military attaches to accompany their army in the field. Was a surgeon or a quartermaster or a commissary officer detailed? No. They represented the life-saving and life-preserving departments and the medical and the commissary departments. 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