

SAYS KUROKI LIVES

American Captain Saw General November 30.

REPORTED KILLED IN OCTOBER

Captain March, Just Home From Seat of War, Says Japanese General Has Had Many Close Calls, but is in Good Health.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—Captain Peyton C. March, of the General Staff of the United States Army, one of the officers selected by the department to accompany the Japanese army in the field for the purpose of taking military observations, returned today on the liner Mongolia. Captain March brings absolute refutation of the report that General Kuroki was killed by a Russian shell.

"In several of the reports I have seen," said Captain March, "General Kuroki is said to have been killed on October 5. All the reports agree as to the date, so I suppose they are all children of the same origin, and I am sure of no mistake. I was with General Kuroki on that day and every day until I left the front, November 30, when I started for home. Although exposed to numerous attacks, he sustained no hurt, and is one of the healthiest men I ever met. General Kuroki is particularly keen and energetic. He inspires his officers and men with his own enthusiasm and his death would be a serious loss."

Captain March admires the Japanese infantry and has brought away with him a warm respect for the little brown men. Any notion on the part of the Japanese that they would whip Japan would have its hands full.

WHY KUROPATKIN WAITS.

He Wants More Troops and May Then Try to Relieve London.

SPECIAL CABLE TO LONDON TIMES AND THE PORTLAND OREGONIAN.—TOKIO, Dec. 16.—General Kuropatkin, according to a belief prevalent in well-informed circles here, has by no means given up the hope of being able to reach Port Arthur. His confidence is said to be based on the fact that the main girdle of forts around the beleaguered city is still unbroken.

The recent lull in the fighting on the Shakh River has been due to the fact that the Russian General has been awaiting the arrival of fresh forces from Russia to fill his depleted ranks. It is probable that when the Russian army has attained an appreciable superiority over those of the Japanese Kuropatkin will assume the aggressive.

According to the latest accounts from the front, the Russian casualties in the battle of the Shakh River reached 20,000. It is believed that these have been nearly replaced. When the river has frozen so as to permit the passage of artillery and large bodies of troops and when the roads are hard, things are likely to be lively once more. The idea that Winter means suspension of hostilities is scarcely justified, and the next few weeks may see Kuropatkin on the move southward. Everything suggests that he will play a waiting game. The Russian right wing has been extended to Marmarosh, in the direction of the right bank of the Hun River, where it is awaiting the order to advance. This will be given the moment the newly-arrived troops have been apportioned between the three armies. Kuropatkin is now forming, by which time the Hun River can be passed.

COLLIDE WITH ENEMY IN DARK

Russians and Japanese Seeking to Advance in Hand-to-Hand Fight.

RUSSIAN HEADQUARTERS, Mukden, Dec. 15.—There has been a hand-to-hand fighting on both sides today. The Japanese made an advance, but it proved only a demonstration. Night sorties continue. A curious noise resulted last night from a simultaneous advance of both Russians and Japanese. Two columns of Japanese, taking advantage of the darkness, advanced on Russian positions, and at the same time a Russian column set out for the village of Nanganza. The Russian column heard the Japanese firing in the direction of their base and thought they were being discovered, but held Nanganza while snipers killed and captured. The Japanese re-entered the village, where they were greeted with a tremendous explosion, which killed many of them.

In the morning the two Japanese columns operating in the direction of the Russians heard the explosion and thought they had been outflanked, whereupon they retired. The Japanese and Russians met each side was returning. Both were utterly surprised. A hand-to-hand scuffle in the darkness ensued, but, as it was impossible to distinguish friend from foe, the Russian loss was only one.

JAPANESE MAY STOP AID.

Rich Pekin Merchants Are Anxious to Help Countrymen at Mukden.

PEKIN, Dec. 16.—Owing to the fact that there are about 30,000 homeless Chinese in and around Mukden, as a result of the Russo-Japanese war, rich Chinese here and at Tientsin have subscribed funds to provide warm clothing and food for these poor people. Out of these funds about 30,000 skin coats have been purchased and assembled at Tientsin, where they have been made ready for dispatch to Mukden. The Japanese military authorities, however, fearing that the Russians would benefit by these gifts, refuse to allow them to be sent to the Russian lines and threaten to confiscate them if captured. The Russians, it has been learned, promise to refrain from taking the advantage feared by the Japanese, and the latter decline to accept this assurance, and the result must be disastrous to the Chinese, whose villages and crops have been destroyed, and who are now suffering from a scarcity of both food and fuel.

STOESSEL AGAIN WOUNDED.

This Time It Is by a Rifle Bullet, but Injury Is Not Serious.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—General Stoessel, the Russian military commander at Port Arthur, according to a dispatch from Chofo to the Daily Telegraph, has again been wounded by a rifle bullet. The correspondent adds that the wound is not serious.

WARRANTS FOR IRISHMEN.

Effort Will Be Made to Punish Men Who Took Warship to Russia.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—On application of the Treasury, warrants were issued today at Bow-Street Police Court for the arrest of J. Burke Roche and Mr. Smetton, in connection with the transfer of the turbine yacht, Caroline, to the Russians at Lillau last month. As the warrants are only effective in British territory the Secretaries will have to wait until they await the voluntary arrival of the two Irishmen in this country. The offense with which they are charged is not extraditable, and Messrs. Roche and Smetton have not shown any desire since the issue of the summonses to place themselves within reach of the British courts.

FOR DEEPER WATER

Williamson to Urge Extension of Willamette Project.

VERY HOPEFUL OF SUCCESS

Twenty-Five-Foot Channel Above Madison-Street Bridge Is Desired—Chairman Baker Meets Noted Men.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Williamson will earnestly urge before the rivers and harbors committee an extension of the Willamette River project so as to give Portland deep water above the Madison-street bridge. The amendment he has introduced and will speak for will include that part of the Willamette from the Madison-street bridge at Portland to Ross Island. If adopted, it will provide for a 25-foot channel one mile upstream above the bridge. It is the plan of Representative Williamson to authorize the Government engineers to dredge out and maintain a 25-foot channel as far upstream as the foot of Ross Island, practically one mile beyond Madison-street bridge, which is now the end of the 25-foot project. If this channel is provided, it will enable vessels of heavy draft to reach wharves above Madison-street bridge which are now inaccessible at low water. The improvement will also save the expense of lightering, which is now necessary at times. Mr. Williamson is very hopeful of success.

BAKER MEETS NOTED MEN.

Oregon Chairman Invites All to Attend the 1905 Fair.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Williamson today presented Chairman Frank C. Baker to Speaker Cannon, to whom Mr. Baker extended a cordial invitation to attend the Lewis and Clark fair next year. The Speaker could not promise definitely but said he would go if possible. The Speaker was not forgetful of Mr. Baker's good work in the late campaign. "Oregon's first gun," Mr. Baker, knifed fire that was kept aglow until the night of November 4," said he. "It was a splendid example you set in Oregon. It had a good effect on the country everywhere."

MAX PRACHT RESIGNS.

He Hopes to Get Position in Department of Commerce and Labor.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 16.—Max Pracht, of Oregon, has resigned as special agent of the General Land Office, to take effect January 1. Mr. Pracht displayed discretion in resigning. When Land Commissioner Richards was in Portland to testify in the land-fraud cases he told Mr. Pracht the first thing he would do on his return would be to dismiss him for insubordination. For some time Pracht has been dictating to Richards how the Land Office should be run, and has repeatedly ignored instructions. His prompt resignation saved him from dismissal. Pracht is coming to Washington in the hope of getting a position in the Department of Commerce and Labor.

TO PAY OLD CLAIM OF ROUSEBAUM MAN.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Her-

AT THE THEATERS.

"The Doll's House."—William Terapee, Melrose MacDonell, Dr. Rank, Lucius Henderson, Little Jack, Miss Olla Cooper, Mrs. Lindes, Miss Louise Royce, Anna, Miss Georgia Woodhouse, Ellen, Miss Thelma Balm, Nora, Florence Roberts.

The miracle failed as most things do in the end, and from the viewpoint of the grand old Norwegian pessimist poor, foolish, weak Nora proved true to the rest, for she guessed out the problem rightly.

In "The Doll's House," which Miss Roberts and her associates preached us from the Marquand stage last night, is settled the question affirmatively, according to the Ibsen philosophy, whether it be true or false.

This play is perhaps the most terrible and denouncing which has come from the pen of our Old Man of the North. It is the most simple, yet elusive of them all. It is awful in its grotesque tragedy, but not heart throbs. Its horror is not the horror of the lying on of hands. It is a mental brain.

Twice within the week has a theater in Portland been given over for classroom purposes. First, we had "Everyman," and last night, to Florence Roberts, we were privileged, "The Doll's House." These are sorry days for sock and buckskin, also for the slip-stick. We theatergoers are fast tending toward the tar-buckets and gowns. To listen and to think for two hours in a playhouse, and leaving the place solemn as the faithful leaving the professional go home to think again. These must indeed be the latter days. We must be experiencing the serious drama. Assuredly these two, "Everyman" and the one last night, be serious enough, though as far as the other, as the East is from the West.

In less capable hands, "The Doll's House" would be a sorry farce, indeed. If not a farce, it is a tragedy of horror. There are not half a dozen lines above the conversational pitch. There is one setting of the stage, dull and uninteresting, not a hand is raised against hand, and the death of Doctor Rank is narrative and purely incidental. There is no ruined woman, no villain, no heroine, and farthest off, no hero. There is none of the most unshiny of roles she met in her life, and she met it in the street every day and sits in a hundred Portland houses by night. It is no phantasmagoria, it is just a monochrome of day-in-and-day-out misery.

Miss Roberts is not only an artist, but a thinker, and her work last night proved it. In the most unshiny of roles she met in her life, and she met it in the street every day and sits in a hundred Portland houses by night. It is no phantasmagoria, it is just a monochrome of day-in-and-day-out misery.

IN TOMORROW'S OREGONIAN

ENCOURAGING OREGON EMIGRATION IN 1831.

By rare good fortune a copy of the original circular of the Boston Society for promoting the settlement of Oregon Territory came to the Sunday Oregonian and will be republished in full, together with its crude and incorrect maps. Only three or four copies are in existence. The reproduction tomorrow is well worth preserving by all who are interested in Oregon history.

THE MARCH OF THE WHITE GUARD.

First installment of Sir Gilbert Parker's beautiful story of one brave man's devotion. It will be completed in three issues of the Sunday Oregonian.

WHERE JESUS SPENT HIS BOYHOOD.

Appropriate to the Christmas season, Evangeline Ben-Oliel, who spent several years in the Holy Land, describes Nazareth, its environments and traditions; illustrated by seven half-tone photographs.

A DAY WITH THE FIRST LADY OF THE LAND.

A bright, sympathetic woman correspondent writes of Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, who is an excellent housewife, just like millions of other American women.

IS THE MINISTER'S WIFE A FAILURE?

A distinctly human answer to Dr. W. S. Rainford's recent assertion that the average minister's wife is a failure. It is written by the wife of a prominent New York clergyman and commends itself to every church-going man and woman.

HOW PORTLAND ORPHAN YOUNGSTERS VIEW SANTA CLAUS.

An interviewer has talks with children at the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society and at the Children's Home on the topic uppermost in the mind of Christendom. Each interview is genuine. These opinions throw strong light on the consciousness of youngsters who have no parents to provide joys for the great holiday.

WHERE SANTA CLAUS REALLY GETS HIS TOYS.

Interesting description of the great toy-making industry at Sonneberg, Germany, in the heart of the Thuringian forest. From this place comes a large part of the world's supply.

LAVISH HOSPITALITY AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Our Washington correspondent records the fact that President Roosevelt spends more money on entertainments than any of his predecessors did, and tells of state functions for the coming season.

THE LAMENT OF THE UMATILLA.

An original poem by Bert Huffman, of Pendleton, illustrated with a unique modern Madonnas and child.

MR. DOOLEY ON "THE SIMPLE LIFE."

There is some confusion in the mind of Finley Peter Dunni's philosopher as to the exact meaning of simplicity as preached by Charles Wagner.

ALL THE NEWS AND THE CUSTOMARY DEPARTMENTS.

Miller Wants to Be Transferred.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 16.—Senator Fulton today urged Secretary of State Hay to transfer Henry B. Miller, of Oregon, from the Consulate of Niu Chwang, China, to Kobe, Japan.

Consul Miller is now on leave of absence and is expected to visit Washington during his vacation. The Secretary of State and the President are both highly pleased with his conduct of affairs at Niu Chwang, and from assurances given today Senator Fulton feels quite confident Miller will secure the desired transfer to Kobe.

Urged for Marshal of Alaska.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 15.—George Shea, of Nome, Alaska, now in Washington, is being urged by the prominent citizens of Alaska for appointment as Marshal to Nome, to succeed Frank Richards, removed, Shea.

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