

## FIGHT WAS DESPERATE

### Japs and Russians Displayed Great Bravery at the Battle of Simoucheng.

#### FIELD COVERED WITH DEAD

#### Soldiers Came Together in Hand-to-hand Conflict and Terrible Loss of Life Is Reported As the Result.

Liao Yang, Aug. 8.—A correspondent of the Associated Press, who was with the Third battery throughout the fighting at Simoucheng July 31, says a large battery in the early morning battle forced two of the Russian center companies to retire but the heavy artillery fire of the Russians, together with a terrific cross-fire from the Irkutsk and Yenisei batteries, prevented the enemy from capturing the vacated position.

The Japanese with several columns again tried to force the Russian center at 10 o'clock but the Russian batteries drove them back in confusion.

At noon the Kosloff battalion attacked the Japanese positions in the hills on the Russian left under cover of a heavy fire from the Third and Fifth batteries. The Japanese met the attack with shrapnel but the Russian artillery temporarily silenced the Japanese fire and enabled the Kosloff battalion to carry the position. The Japanese commander-in-chief's flag appeared on the left, but the Japanese were driven back by the fierce fire of the Third battery and the Savitski battery, the commander of which received a message of thanks for his services.

In the meantime the Kosloff battalion lost 50 per cent of its men and called for reinforcements which were sent from the Irkutsk and Yenisei battalions, who fought their way to the support of their comrades over a road which the soldiers say was literally paved with Japanese corpses. The Fifth battery then became an object of interest. A battery of heavy caliber Japanese guns was brought up from the rear and sustained an unequal action for some time but lost two-thirds of its men and was forced to retire with six of its guns shot to pieces. These were left on the position useless. The Russian managed to disable four other Japanese guns in the course of the day. The Voronezh battalion was thrown against the Japanese position in the afternoon and got within a 20-yard range, under a fierce fire and then took the bayonet and carried the Japanese position, but lost half its men and was surrounded and forced to retire. Later in the afternoon the remnants of the same battalion ambushed and almost wiped out a whole Japanese battalion.

The Japanese made a final attempt to break through the Russian lines at 7 o'clock in the evening but were repulsed and the Russians held all their positions until nightfall, when they retired on Haicheng.

The Red Cross agents worked bravely all day under fire.

#### MISTAKEN FOR A DEER.

#### Portland Minister Shoots Young Man While Hunting.

Surrounded by the choking smoke of a raging forest fire, excited from the fact that he had just shot his first deer, lost from the trail and wandering about in the blinding smoke in a vain attempt to regain it, Wesley Pyle, a 19-year-old youth recently from Iowa, was shot down in the mountains near Cow Creek, Or., Friday afternoon by a gun in the hands of the Rev. S. E. Meminger, pastor of the Mount Taber M. E. church of Portland. Pyle was brought to Portland yesterday morning and was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital, where he is resting easily with good chances of complete recovery. The shooting is said to have been accidental and occurred while the Rev. Mr. Meminger and the three other men in his party were hunting deer. The weapon was a rifle of 30-30 bore.

Forest fires have been raging in the mountains in southern Oregon for some time, and the atmosphere is heavy with the smoke, rendering objects indistinct at any distance greater than 75 yards. Mr. Meminger and three other men were on a vacation trip in this part of the country and spent a great deal of their time hunting deer. Friday afternoon, while in the brush, Mr. Meminger saw an object moving at a distance of 100 yards away, and thinking it was a deer, fired. The next moment he was horrified to hear a

scream and a cry for help, and the party immediately became aware of the fact that what they thought was a deer was a human being.

They ran quickly in the direction of the cries and found Pyle on the ground. A hasty examination showed that the bullet had passed through his right shoulder, inflicting a wound that is very painful, though not serious, unless complications set in.

Pyle was carried to the camp and the wound dressed as well as those in the party could dress it. Pyle's father, who was also in the woods, was communicated with, and it was decided to bring the boy to Portland, where he could be taken to a hospital and properly treated. Accordingly, camp was broken and the party journeyed to the railway and took the train for Portland. As soon as the train arrived Pyle was removed to the hospital and his wound properly dressed.

Though every effort was made to keep the affair a secret, it became public yesterday afternoon. Mr. Meminger was unwilling to talk at length on the subject.

"It was purely an accident," he said. "The young man is recently from Iowa. He was in the mountains with his father, and the boy knew nothing of woodcraft and hunting. His mother is visiting relatives on Puget sound. It is because of her that an effort was made to keep the story from the newspapers. We thought that she might read it and become unduly alarmed. Just before the accident occurred the boy had killed his first deer. He was naturally excited, and we think that he wandered from the trail to get the animal and became confused because of the smoke from the forest fires, which is very dense in the woods. We reached his side within a minute after the shooting and did all we could to properly care for him."

Mr. Meminger declares that he did not think the boy was a deer, but that he did shoot at a deer and the boy was within range. Others of the party, however, have a different opinion, and think that Mr. Meminger says the boy moving through the brush and took him for quarry. Mr. Meminger made the remarkable statement that "the boy was not where he had ought to have been when he was shot." He stated that the boy was green to woodcraft and undoubtedly confused over the shooting of his first deer and by the dense smoke that hung about the woods.

Pyle came to Oregon a short time ago with the intention of making the state his home. His father and mother also journeyed across the continent from Iowa with the same intention. The boy and his father went into southern Oregon to look over the country and incidentally have a little sport that was exceedingly novel to a youth who had seen no mountains before in his life. It was the intention of young Pyle to come to Portland in the autumn and get a position. He has an uncle living in Portland.

#### End of Bitter Fight.

"Two physicians had a long and stubborn fight with an abscess on my right lung," writes J. F. Hughes, of DuPont, Ga., "and gave me up. Everybody thought my time had come. As a last resort I tried Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. The benefit I received was striking and I was on my feet in a few days. Now I've entirely regained my health." It conquers all Coughs, Colds and Throat and Lung troubles. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers' drug store. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

Treasury Department, U. S. Life-Saving Service, Washington, D. C., July 26, 1904. Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 2:00 o'clock p. m., of Friday, August 26, 1904, and then publicly opened, for the construction of a floating boathouse for Grays Harbor (Washington) Life-Saving Station. Specifications and drawings, forms of proposal, etc., can be obtained upon application to the Superintendents of Construction of Life-Saving Stations, Pacific Coast, Room 35, New Appraisers' Stores, San Francisco, Cal.; to the Assistant Inspector of Life-Saving Stations, Coast of Washington and Oregon, 13th District, Tacoma, Washington; or to this Office. Horace L. Piper, Acting General Superintendent.

Office Constructing Quartermaster, Astoria, Ore., July 28, 1904.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 10 o'clock a. m., August 27, 1904, and then opened for the construction and plumbing of an addition to a frame guardhouse at Fort Stevens, Ore. United States reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Plans can be seen and specifications obtained at this office. Envelopes should be marked "Proposals for construction," and addressed, Captain Goodale, Quartermaster, Astoria, Oregon.

#### Would Not Miss His First Chance.

(From the Louisville Courier-Journal.) They had been talking about Englishmen of title who took up useful work. Somebody mentioned Lord Ross, who is a good practical engineer, and then somebody else told this story:

Lord Ross having once—unknown to the employes—entered the engine room of a large manufactory, the engineer's attention was attracted by his odd behavior.

"Well, what's up now?" he growled at the peer—"What are you shaking your head and pulling out your watch for? What have you got to find fault with, anyhow?"

"Oh!" replied Lord Ross, "it is all the same to me. I have got no fault to find. I am just waiting till the boiler explodes."

"The boiler explodes? Why, you are crazy, man," exclaimed the engineer, angrily, preparing to turn the peer out as a dangerous crank.

"Well," retorted the earl, "if you work ten minutes longer with that loose screw there the boiler will certainly explode."

The engineer, gazing in the direction indicated by Lord Ross, paled and jumped to stop the engine.

"Why didn't you say so sooner?" he blurted out.

"Why should I?" answered the peer. "I never yet have had an opportunity of seeing a boiler explode."



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