

KILLED IN FIGHT.

Admiral Withoef Meets an Awful Death—Both Legs Blown Off.

The Russian fleet at Port Arthur, in attempting to get away, was overtaken by the Japanese, and a naval fight followed, in which the Russians were badly beaten. Some of the Russian ships got away, but badly damaged, and put into neutral ports, while part of the fleet returned to Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 13.—In reports of joy yesterday over the birth of an heir to the crown, today Russia is weighed down by sorrow over the death of Rear Admiral Withoef in the great naval battle off Port Arthur Wednesday.

A dispatch tonight from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar gives details of the death of the brave commander, but early today the public knew of the death of the brave commander. The intelligence was communicated to the Emperor by Captain Mautovitch, the Rear-Admiral's chief of staff, who wired from Tsing Chou. Both of the commander's legs were blown off.

Captain Mautovitch's complete report rendered to Viceroy Alexieff and communicated by him to the Czar, as follows: "At dawn of August 10 our Port Arthur squadron began to make for the open sea, and emerged from the port at 9 o'clock. The squadron consisting of six battleships, the cruisers Askold, Diana, Pallada and Novik, and eight torpedo-boats, the Japanese followed us with the following force: A first detachment consisted of the battleships Ashai, Mikasha, Fuji, Yashima and Shikishima and the cruisers Nishin and Kasuga; a second detachment consisting of the cruisers Yakumo, Kasagi, Chitose and Tagasago, and a third detachment consisting of the cruisers Atikushima, Idzumo, Matsushima, Itsukushima and Hashidate, and the battleship Chiyen, with about 30 torpedo-boats.

Our squadron maneuvered to gain a passage through the line of the enemy's ships. Meantime the Japanese torpedo-boats were laying floating mines in the way of our squadron, thus rendering evolution very difficult. "At 1 P. M. our squadron, after 40 minutes of fighting, succeeded in effecting a passage, and shaped its course toward Shantung. The enemy, followed at full speed, caught up with us slowly, and at 5 o'clock fighting began again and continued for some hours without either side obtaining any advantage.

"In the battle the commander of our squadron was killed and the Captain of the battleship Czarevitch was wounded and lost consciousness. Almost at the same time the engines and steering gear of the Czarevitch were damaged, and she was obliged to stop for 40 minutes. This forced the other ships to maneuver around her. The command of the squadron devolved upon Rear-Admiral Prince Ouktemsky and the commander of the Czarevitch, the second in command.

Could Not Make Vladivostok. "After nightfall the Czarevitch, being unable to follow the squadron and losing sight of it, took a southerly direction in order to attempt to reach Vladivostok under her own steam. She was attacked by torpedo-boats during the night, and at dawn was in the vicinity of Shantung. The officer commanding the squadron, having examined and determined the extent of the damage to the ship, concluded she could not make Vladivostok and allowed her Captain to proceed to Kiao Chou for repairs.

"Those killed included Rear-Admiral Withoef, Navigating Flag Lieutenant Azareff, Navigating Lieutenant Dragushkevitch. Those slightly wounded included myself and eight others. A number of sailors were killed or wounded, but just how many has not yet been ascertained.

"I arrived at Kiao Chou at 9 o'clock in the evening, and found there the cruiser Novik and the torpedo-boat Bezshumi. I am happy to bear witness to Your Majesty to the unexampled bravery of the officers and men during the desperate encounter."

Will Probably be Dismantled. CHEFOO, Aug. 13.—A private telegram received here tonight says the Russian battleship Czarevitch has moved farther into Tsing Chou harbor, following a demand made by the Japanese that the Russians came out and fight. It is rumored that the Czarevitch will be dismantled.

A telegram to the Associated Press from Tsing Chou filed today at noon, confirms the previous report of the serious damage inflicted upon the Czarevitch, and says for this reason the battleship is unable to leave port. The Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Besposhtchadni and Bezshumi, both slightly damaged, were taking coal today. The destroyer Besstrashni has not been injured.

When the coaling operations were completed the German cruisers Fuert Bismarck and Hansa cleared for action. It is believed that they will not allow the departure of the Russian ships. Admiral Messeritch has died of his wounds in the hospital. Two officers and eight sailors, all seriously injured, are at present in hospitals.

The rumors current here of fighting at Tsing Chou are not believed, as the latest message from there makes no mention thereof.

The German cruiser Thetis left Tsing Chou hastily today. An Italian warship

has also left there. The destinations of these vessels is unknown.

Admiral Togo is said to be with the main portion of the Japanese fleet, which has gone to ward Shanghai. This portion of the fleet includes all the battleships.

Bore Brunt of Fighting.

CHEFOO, Aug. 13.—The Associated Press correspondent at Tsing Chou wires that the Russian battleship Czarevitch received terrible punishment in the fight off Shantung Promontory on August 10, lasting from noon until evening. The Czarevitch bore the brunt of the fighting until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when Admiral Withoef was hit by a shell, which blew his body to pieces, only one of his legs being found after the explosion. Four officers standing near him were also killed. Altogether the Czarevitch lost 15 men killed and 45 wounded.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon of August 11 a Russian torpedo-boat destroyer, badly damaged, steamed slowly into Tsing Chou, and half an hour later the protected cruiser Novik, slightly injured, entered port. No dead were on board either vessel. They took coal and departed on the morning of August 12. The battleship Czarevitch arrived at Tsing Chou on the night of August 11, steaming at the rate of four knots an hour, and burning immense quantities of coal to make even that rate of speed. Her rudder shaft was broken, her guns disabled, lifeboats had been lost, her masts were badly bent, her funnels were riddled and her bridge had been twisted out of position. The projectile holes above the waterline were covered with make-shift stoppers of wood.

The same night, August 11, the cruiser Askold with 15 of her crew dead and 12 wounded and one torpedo-boat destroyer attempted to enter Tsing Chou, but were kept out by a Japanese cruiser, where upon they proceeded to Woo Sang.

The officers of the Czarevitch are of the opinion that the Japanese vessels undoubtedly suffered severely in the fighting, as the pursuit of the Czarevitch was maintained for a short time only. The decks of the Russian battleship were slippery with blood and the men on board were almost dead as the result of the concussion of firing.

SWEEPS THE SEA.

Japan Has Routed the Vladivostok Fleet.

TOKIO, Aug. 15.—Russia is no longer a factor on the sea. The annihilation of her erstwhile formidable Port Arthur fleet has been followed by the crippling of her only effective division, the Siberian squadron, which for five months has terrorized shipping in the Sea of Japan and in the Pacific Ocean.

In an effort to effect a juncture with the Port Arthur fleet, which he had ordered to make a dash for the open sea, Admiral Skrydloff put to sea early last week with his three crack ships, which had time and again emerged from the net by the Japanese. He is now retreating as fast as his remaining crippled ships can carry him back to his northern refuge, after having tested strength with the second Japanese naval squadron, under the command of Vice-Admiral Kamimura.

Half of Their Men Lost.

One of his vessels, the crack armored cruiser Rurik, of 11,000 tons, is at the bottom of the sea, and the other two, the Gromoboi and the Rossia, are badly crippled, and it is believed here have lost fully half of their complement of men. And, in the face of this victory, Admiral Kamimura reports to the naval department that his loss is slight.

Sunday was a day of great anxiety in Tokio. Early in the morning it became known about the streets that important events were developing. Soon afterward a bulletin was posted outside the War Office for the benefit of the newspaper correspondents here that a wireless dispatch to the Admiralty from the protected cruiser Takishiki stated that at last the Russian Vladivostok fleet had been trapped, and the oft-anticipated naval battle was in full progress. For hours this was all the information that could be secured. High officials of the government were seen time and again, but always returned the same answer: "We have no information regarding the outcome."

Neither would they vouchsafe any facts as to the Japanese ships engaged, or their number. For a long time it was generally believed that Admiral Togo had followed up his earlier success off Port Arthur, and with his strong squadron of ironclads had trapped the Russians. This report was not credited, owing to the statement made on Friday that the Admiral had sailed southward on "serious business."

A council was held Sunday evening which lasted for some time. Shortly after it was ended, one of the members stated that further news of the fighting could soon be expected. A few minutes later, it was announced that a sweeping victory over the Russian Siberian fleet had been gained by the Japanese second fleet, under the immediate command of Admiral Kamimura, and that a bulletin would soon be made public. Shortly afterward this was done, but it gave no details of the fighting, simply saying: "We encountered the enemy's Vladivostok fleet at 5 o'clock Sunday morning north of Tausshima Island. We immediately engaged it, and the conflict which followed lasted for five hours, at the

conclusion of which the enemy fled northward in a very badly damaged condition. The enemy's armored cruiser Rurik was sunk by our fire, carrying down with her most of her crew. The cruisers Rossia and Gromoboi fled to the northward, after having sustained serious damage. Our damage is slight. Will report casualties later."

Promises Kept.

"We have made the deed square with the word," said President Roosevelt, in accepting the nomination officially tendered him by Speaker Cannon.

That is another way of saying that the Republican party has kept its promises to the people.

Is not the country contented under Roosevelt?

The gold standard has been maintained and made a fixture, so that even Judge Parker, who twice supported and voted for the party and candidate of free silver, acknowledges it.

Business interests have been strictly guarded from all disturbing influences, so far as a Republican Congress and a careful administration could do so.

Steps have been taken to put an end to criminal combinations designed to restrain trade.

In foreign affairs there has been a steady insistence for open ports in the Far East to commerce. American citizens have been protected in their rights. There have been no dangerous foreign entanglements. On the contrary, the administration's policy, while it has been positive, has made for peace. The result is that the American nation is respected everywhere.

This being the case, how can the party of the opposition hope to carry the country under no better plea than that a change of administration is desirable?

To the Democrats who boast that their party is now "safe and sane" Mr. Roosevelt retorts: "Ours is not only sane, but coherent." So, too, he upholds the party records in turning rascals out of office, points to what it has done for a stable and sound currency, asks comparison of the working of present tariff laws with those of 1893, and deals the Democrats a solar plexus blow on the reciprocity issue. This he does by saying: "It is a singular fact that the only great reciprocity treaty recently adopted—that with Cuba—was finally opposed almost alone by the representatives of the very party which now states that it favors reciprocity." This is a fair shot, and it goes direct to the bulls' eye. Of the boasts in regard to irrigation, the Panama Canal, settlement of the Alaskan boundary disputed, our work in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines and of our foreign policy there can be little adverse criticism. They furnish honest party capital. The opposition can pick flaws in all these claims, but the independent must admit that the President has good reason for averring that his party has met most of the problems needing solution in the last seven years with "reasonable efficiency."

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TIMBER LAND ACT, JUNE 3, 1878.—NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. United States Land Office, Oregon City, Oregon, August 6th, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

Of Tillamook county, Oregon, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 647, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec. 28, in Township No. 5 South, Range No. 10 West, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Friday, the 27th day of October, 1904.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 27th day of October, 1904. ALGERNON S. DRESSER, Register.

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