The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

VOL. XLVI., NO. 76. VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1904. FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.

Another Fort Taken

During Attack on Monday Night Japs Reduced a Small Work.

Unable to Retain Eitzhan Hill the Key to Inner Defences.

Arrivals From Port Arthur Believe That a Siege Will Be Necessary.

Chefoo, Aug. 27.—(Noon)—The latest reports received from Port Arthur are to the effect that the Japanese in their attack during the night of August 22nd captured Poyodo, a fort midway between Takushan and the eastern defences and reduced another fort immediately east of the railway. Poyodo mounted only two small guns when the Russians were in possession of it. The assault was preceded by heavy artillery fire from Takushan, where the Japanese have big naval guns. The Russians lost considerably before they were compelled to retire. The fort was not occupied by the Japanese as it is behind a moat which the Japanese in no instance have been able to cross.

Recent arrivals here, who were in Port Arthur as late as August 24th believe the Russian's resistance will prove successful for some time. They explain that the Japanese are unable to occupy Eihshan fort. The Japanese feinted constantly in attempting to do so and in the meanwhile by tremendous labor raised the summit of a smaller hill behind it to the level of Eithshan hill by means of sand bags and there they mounted guns which has resulted materially in the reduction of the fort east of the railway. This fort is in the northernmost part of the eastern defences and with other positions reduced or occupied, renders the Japanese position in the vicinity of the railroad threatening to the Russian hopes.

It is obvious that the Japanese expected to enter Port Arthur from the north. Confirmation has been obtained of the announcement made in these despatches August 18th to the effect that the Japanese drove the Russians from their position at Louisa bay and Pigeon bay, the Japanese advance guard, numbering 500 to 600 men penetrating the highest hill of the Liaoti mountain, the southernmost point of Gwangkuang peninsula, incidentally capturing a battery on the west shore of the Liaoti promontory and then retired. The Japanese then, during the attack made a demonstration against the main Liaoti fort. It is also confirmed that the Japanese silenced a small fort near Golden hill. The Japanese line on the west is approximately, according to the advices received here, three and a half miles from the European or new town where there has been no bombardment, although numerous instances have occurred there.

When the last arrivals left Port Arthur the strength of the garrison is now estimated to be 15,000 efficient men. On August 23rd the Russians arrested four Japanese spies within the fortress and shot them. No Chinese, except outbound students, are allowed in the European town, the Russians being afraid of spies.

Since August 21st the Russian ships have not been firing shells. On August 22nd a Japanese shell fell in the dock yard causing some damage. Only the Chinese shops of Port Arthur are doing business. The lack of vegetables is severely felt.

NOTED CIRCUSMAN ILL.

Columbus, O., Aug. 27.—Peter Sells, the veteran showman, who was stricken with partial paralysis yesterday, is scarcely able to recognize the family.

RAILWAY COMMISSION.

The board of railway commissioners, according to Chairman Hon. A. G. Blair will consider all question in connection with the railways entering the city, railway street crossings, etc., at the session commencing Monday. Hon. A. G. Blair stated that it was the intention to try and adjust the differences existing between the railways and Vancouver city which had existed for some time. Members of the commission were driven around the city today by the aldermen and city engineers and shown all the railway crossings and route of railways to and through the city. The needs of the city were pointed out and discussed informally. On Monday City Solicitor Hamersley will handle the case for the city before the commission.

FOR THE FAR NORTH.

Ottawa, Aug. 27.—Major Moodie of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police is busy with Comptroller Lieut.-Colonel Fred White, arranging the details of the Hudson bay organization. The steamer Arctic, which is to convey Major Moodie and an additional force of ten men of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police over the first stage of their journey, is scheduled to sail from Quebec on September 1st for Cape Chidley, where she will meet the Neptune, the steamer which is on special Hudson bay service, and on which the party will be taken to their winter quarters in the bay. Owing to the lateness of the season it is not likely that Major Moodie will be able to establish more than one additional police post before winter sets in. When the plans and equipment for the fall expedition have been made ready, the mounted police reinforcements will be brought from Regina and Major Moodie and his little force will proceed to Quebec to take ship for the northern waters.

INSIDE LIAOYANG.

Associated Press Correspondent Visits Russian Positions and Reports.

Mukden (Undated).—The Associated Press correspondent here made the rounds of the Russian positions in front of Liaoyang just before the Japanese began their advance. The Russians, the correspondent says, have a semi-circle of splendid positions from Anshanshan to Mukden. Fresh troops and guns are arriving continuously, and the Russian force is stronger than it has been at any previous time since the commencement of the war. The arrival of fresh European troops has increased the enthusiasm of the men, who are tired of retreating. The road and the railway between Liaoyang and Mukden are crowded with transports of all sorts. It is said that Chinese regular troops assisted the bandits in the fight which occurred north of Mukden August 23rd.

It is rumored that Marquis Oyama, commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces in Manchuria, arrived at Haicheng August 23rd.

THE NEW 9.2 B. L. GUNS.

London, Aug. 27.—It is reported that the admiralty has decided to abolish the 4.7 and 6-inch guns in the navy substituting therefore 9-inch guns of greatly superior penetrating powers.

CANTERBURY ARRIVES.

New York, Aug. 27.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, who arrived today, was met at the pier by Bishop Potter, Rev. Morgan Dix, rector of Trinity parish, and J. Pierpont Morgan. As soon as the archbishop's baggage was passed by the customs officers, the entire party left for the Grand Central station, where a special train was in waiting to take them to Quebec. This is the first time that an archbishop of the Church of England has visited this country. As head of the English church, Archbishop Davidson stands next to those of royal blood.

A TRAIN'S HARD LUCK.

Held for Four Days by Washouts and Then Encounters Cloudburst.

San Bernardino, Aug. 27.—The fourth section of the westbound Santa Fe train, running as No. 9, which had been detained in Arizona by washouts for the past four days and had been switched to the Southern Pacific tracks, via Deming, N. M., ran into a cloudburst again this afternoon between Beaumont and Hinda, Cal., east of San Bernardino, on the main line of the Southern Pacific. The rain, accompanied by hail and a stiff gale of wind, came down in torrents, washing out bridges and roads and pouring rivers of water down from the hills that flooded the railway tracks and destroyed the telegraph lines. When No. 9 encountered the flood ten inches of water were pouring over the rails and threatened to carry away the tracks at any moment. The engineer pushed his train forward, however, and succeeded in crossing the flooded portion of the right of way, and reaching this city. All wires are down east of Redlands Junction. At railroad headquarters at Coulton it was stated that a mile and a half of track is washed out near Beaumont and a mile more near Hinda.

Novik's Fight With Tsushima

Single Handed the Japanes Cruiser Defeated Crack Russian Vessel.

Account of the Brilliant Action As Told By An Officer on Board.

Tokio, Aug. 26.—The following account of the destruction of the Russian cruiser Novik at Karsokovsk, Sakhalin islands, on August 20th and 21st, by the Japanese protected cruisers Tsushima and Chitos, has been received from an officer who was on board the Tsushima:

"It was at twenty minutes before 8 in the morning of Friday, August 19th, that we received a report that the Novik was approaching the Chitose lighthouse on Chi island. The Tsushima and Chitoz immediately headed for Soyae (Laperruse) strait at full speed. The Chitoz watched the strait while the Tsushima went in search of the enemy. From the fact that the Tsushima has two masts and three funnels and somewhat resembles the Russian cruiser Bogatyr it was deemed less likely to attract suspicion on board the Novik than the Chitoz, which the Novik had frequently been engaged with.

The Tsushima steered due north and arrived off Karsakovsk Saturday afternoon. We sighted a three-funnel ship inside the harbor. Our sprits ran high. You can imagine how we felt on board the Tsushima. We gradually approached the harbor and discovered that the Novik was preaving to come out. She was headed to the southward and evidently planned to escape through Soya strait. We placed ourselves in a position to prevent her escape, manoeuvring to keep our port guns trained on the enemy.

Finally at half-past four o'clock the two vessels came close together. We were ordered to fire and our whole port broadside was poured against the enemy. The Novik responded immediately. She was used to fighting with torpedo boat destroyers off Port Arthur and the skill developed in those engagements was now directed against us. Shells from the Novik came so close that those of us who were exposed were in great danger of being hit.

In the meantime we hit the enemy twice and they took fire. She quickly changed her course and headed to the northward, back into Karsokovsk harbor. We followed her. Suddenly a shell from the enemy struck the water splashed against our starboard side near the coal bunkers. We began to leak, but temporary repairs were soon made the fighting continued for one hour longer, coming to an end at half-past five. It is remarkable that we escaped serious injury while the Novik was so badly damaged.

"We signalled to the Chitoz by wireless telegraph and they asked us to indicate the position of the Noyik. The Novik evidently detected this wireless communication and endeavored to interfere with us, using our wireless system, but we managed to advise the Chitoz that the Novik was in Karsokovsk harbor.

"We watched during that night. The next morning, Sunday, the Chitoz steamed through the harbor and found the Novik beached and listed ten degrees to port. Her upper works aft were awash. When the Novik's crew discovered the Chitoz they hurriedly took to their boats and launches and landed. Karsokovsk seemed to be deserted. The houses were closed and no people were visible. It is probable that the town has been abandoned. The Chitoz fired into the hull of the Novik and completely disabled her.

"This was the Tsushima's maiden fight. She had before been engaged entirely in patrol work. The effects upon our gunners when their shots hit the Novik can be well imagined. They took pride in disabling the Russian cruiser which, with her high speed and splendid seamanship had played a conspicuous part in the fighting since the beginning of the war."

COLONIES SHOULD ASSIST.

London, Aug. 26.—The Graphic scores Greater Britain for allowing the Motherland not only to maintain the general defence of the whole Empire, but the special forces for local defence of particular colonies in the belief that Britain should pay everything. Imperial, Canada even charges the taxpayers of the United Kingdom with the cost of the military defences of Halifax and Esquimalt.

RUMOR THAT PORT ARTHUR HAS FALLEN

The Report is Prevalent in St. Petersburg But Forcing of Inner Defences Disbelieved by The Russian War Office.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 27.—The rumor that the Japanese had effected an entrance into Port Arthur does not obtain credence at the war office, although it is admitted that no news has been received from General Stoessel since August 22nd, though possibly a telegram reached the Emperor just before he started for the Don this afternoon. It is pointed out that if the rumor is true, it would signify the capture of the fortress, which would be unable to hold out against the superior number of besiegers if any portion of the permanent defences is lost.

HAVE GONE TO HUNT FOR ANDRE

Baloonists at St. Louis Go Up But Can't Control Machines.

St. Louis, Aug. 27.—With hardly a cloud in the sky, George Tomlinson, of Syracuse, N. Y., and Prof. Carl Meyers, of Frankfort, N. Y., the contestants for the $5,000 prize offered by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition to the aeronaut who comes the nearest to reaching the Washington monument at Washington, D. C., made successful ascensions today from the plazza of New Orleans at 5 p. m.

The balloons gently inclined toward the west as they ascended, and suddenly taking a heavy current of air sweeping from the west, they simultaneously headed due west at considerable speed. The vast concourse of spectators, which had cheered when the ascent began, ceased to cheer when it was realized that the balloons were proceeding in exactly the opposite direction from the goal.

The balloons were visible for thirty minutes and they disappeared from view in the western sky. Both were stocked with provisions for two days.

Each balloonist carried with him carrier pigeons, which will be released from time to time.

STOPPING THE SMOLENSK.

Paris, Aug. 27.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris says, under date of August 26th: "Admiral Wirenious, chief of the general staff of the Russian navy, tonight said that the volunteer fleet steamer Smolensk would receive telegraphic orders at the Cape of Good Hope tomorrow to cease cruising."

MRS. McVICKER'S DEATH.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 27.—An autopsy will be held over the body of Mrs. Harriett Gertrude McVicker, widow of the well-known theatrical manager of Chicago and mother-in-law of Edwin Booth, who died suddenly at the Hotel Sutherland, Pasadena, on Tuesday night. The post mortem will be held at the instance of E. C. Wyatt, a local theatrical manager, who is acting under orders from a son of the deceased, Horace McVicker, of Chicago.

THE CRUISER DIANA.

Fugitive Has Not Received Order to Disarm Nor to Repair.

Saigon, French Indo-China, Aug. 27.—The Russian cruiser Diana, which arrived here August 20 with a shell hole below her water line, received at the naval battle of Port Arthur August 10, has not received instructions from the commandant at St. Petersburg to disarm or repair damages, which are light. Another Japanese shell killed an officer of the Diana and three men, and wounded twenty-three others. The cruiser tried to reach Shanghai, but encountered some Japanese torpedo boats. The later discharged nine torpedoes without effect at the Diana. Officers of the cruiser declare that the general will never surrender Port Arthur. When the Diana left the harbor the general had 40,000 men.

DEEPEST MINE IN ALL CANADA

Le Roi Vertical Workings Now Down One Thousand Five Hundred Feet.

Rossland, B. C., Aug. 27.—Resumption of mining activity at Gold King property and the initial dropping of stamps in the big White Bear concentrator were the outstanding features of the week in the local mining industry. The Gold King adjoins the Jumbo and if the exploration now under way results satisfactorily, it will be a permanent operator. The water section of the White Bear plant is rapidly nearing completion, and the management hopes to crush ore on or before September 1st. The oil section is delayed for machinery, and will be completed later.

Le Roi has extended development to the 1,450 level, the deepest point reached by vertical workings in any Canadian metalliferous mine. John H. Mackenzie has about completed his work for Le Roi, and is reporting at length to the London directors. Managing Director Anthony J. McMillan has returned from a flying business trip to London, and will be here continuously for some months.

During the week experiments in the local treatment of concentrates by fire have been made at the Velvet-Portland mine, and indicates that the results were encouraging.

Shipments of ore for the week are somewhat larger than for the preceding week, the figures being: Le Roi, 1,950; Centre Star, 1,360; War Eagle, 1,200; Le Roi No. 2, 460; Le Roi No. 2 (milled), 300; Spitzee, 60; Jumbo, 300; Cliff, 150; Velvet-Portland (milled), 250; I. X. L. (milled), 100. Total for week, 6,390; year to date, 231,368 tons.

Of general interest in mining is the statement by Constant Fernau, chemist and engineer of Newcastle-on-Tyne, that he is in the Kootenays to carry out plans outlined earlier in the year for the construction of zinc enriching works at Roseberry, in the Slocan, and a zinc smelter at Fernie. He says he will start work on both plants immediately. The future smelter will utilize Fernie coal for the manufacture of the gas essential to zinc smelting, and will have a capacity on the start of ten thousand tons of ore anually, with arrangements to treble the capacity without extra machinery.

Port Arthur Will Not Down

Paris, Aug. 27.—The Tokio Correspondent of the "Matin" declares that the Japanese Minister of War has confidentially informed his colleagues that there is no hope of taking Port Arthur by direct assault and that long operations will be necessary therefore the minister has ordered Field Marshal Oyama to avoid attacks entailing heavy losses. This, the correspondent says, has been concealed from the public.

JAPAN WILL NOW INSIST ON RIGHTS

Notifies Powers That Unless Russia Disarms Askold Will Act Alone.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Japan has addressed a note to the powers informing them that unless Russia forthwith disarms her warships in Shanghai, Japan will be forced to take whatever steps she deems necessary to protect her interests. Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, called at the state department today and left with Mr. Adee, the acting secretary of state, the communication of the Tokio government.

To a correspondent of the Associated Press Mr. Takahira said tonight: "While Japan sincerely hopes that the reported intention of Russia to disarm the Askold and Grozovoi at Shanghai will promptly be executed, my government has felt that it was advisable to inform the powers what must necessarily be its attitude in the event that the disarmamnt of the Russian ships is delayed. The conditions at Shanghai are peculiar because of the international interests there, and my government is desirous of giving them every consideration." "Will it be necessary to send a Japanese squadron into Shanghai and take away the Russian ships, as was done with the Ryeshitelni at Chefoo?" the minister was asked. "My government has not indicated in its note to the powers," the minister replied, "just what steps will be necessary if the Russian ships are not immediately disarmed, but it should be remembered that the Ryeshitelni was not completely disarmed when seized by the Japanese, and under the circumstances her presence was certainly disadvantageous to the Japanese for a military reason."

A SEALER RETURNS.

San Francisco, Aug. 27.—The steam sealing schooner W. H. Kruger arrived from Behring sea today with 13,128 sealskins and twelve bales of blue fox skins.

NEW PASSENGER AGENT.

St. Paul, Aug. 27.—D. B. Gardener, of the general passenger department of the Northern Pacific, has been appointed district passenger agent of the road for the St. Louis, Mo., district, to succeed R. H. Noel, who resigned.

REPORTED SENTENCED.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 27.—It is reported that Samsonoff, the assassin of Von Plehve, has been sentenced to death, and that the sentence is now before the Emperor. The reports which have been circulated about Samsonoff having escaped, and also that he was dead, are declared to be false.

URGE KILLING FOREIGNERS.

London, Aug. 27.—The Tientsin correspondent of the Standard says that placards have been discovered at Tsinanfu, in the province of Shantung, urging the massacre of "foreign devils after the seventh moon," and that the native Christians are fleeing.

SEARCHED IN BAY OF BISCAY.

London, Aug. 27.—A correspondent of the Morning Leader at Lisbon says that the British steamer Lisbon, which has arrived there, reports that she was stopped by a Russian cruiser in the bay of Biscay.

PRESSING THE ATTACK.

Paris, Aug. 27.—A despatch to the Temps from Liao, timed 5:30 p. m. today, says the engagement throughout the day east and south of the town, the Japanese directed a strong cannonade against the Russian positions, firing lasting from daylight until 1 p. m. Hospital trains are being sent toward the front.

Field headquarters of Second Japanese Army, via Fusan, Aug. 25.—Part of General Kuroki's army advanced against Russians behind Yushi pass early this morning. There was heavy artillery firing for several hours which finally ceased about noon. It is believed that the Russians are retiring towards Anping.

DOMINION RIFLE MATCHES TOMORROW

Many Marksmen Reach Ottawa For Opening Shoot of Association.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Aug. 27.—Most of the competitors for the D. R. A. morning matches, which begin Monday morning, have arrived. There are now 720 entries. Shooting commences with the extra series at 500 yards.

Six hundred farm laborers left Ottawa district today for Manitoba.

There will probably be a cabinet meeting early next week to pass several necessary orders-in-council.

James C. Patterson was drowned at the Soo while canoeing. He was the son of the former Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba.

REPAIRING CRUISERS.

Vladivostock, Aug. 27.—Repairs on the cruisers Rossia and Grozovoi are proceeding with feverish haste, and it is believed the vessels will soon be ready to resume operations at sea, strengthened both in defensive power and by their experience in the recent battle with Vice Admiral Kamimura's ships.

IN NORTHERN MANCHURIA.

Berlin, Aug. 27.—Despatches to the Local Anzeiger from Liaoyang indicated that the Japanese have not occupied Anshanshan, but have advanced barely beyond Haicheng on the south front. One correspondent under date of August 26th says that the Japanese hold a fortified line one mile north of Haicheng, and that on August 25th thirty-two Japanese cannon were destroyed in a battle to the westward.

CHICAGO STRIKE.

Chicago, Aug. 27.—President Donnelly, of the striking butchers, said today that it probably will be of no avail to make a proposition of any sort to the packers. "If we make a proposition," said he, "it will undoubtedly meet with the same answer as was made to the aldermanic committee yesterday, "the strike is already settled." There is to be a general meeting tomorrow at which the matter will be taken up, and until then I shall be unable to say."

WINNIPEG WIRINGS.

Winnipeg, Aug. 27.—Dr. Benson, city coroner, and for the past thirty years a resident of this city, died from the effects of a paralytic stroke last evening. He was born in Peterboro, Ont., in 1843, coming West in 1874. For years he was chairman of the Winnipeg School Board.

Alex. Porter, a Killarney farmer, was gored to death by a bull. He had been missing since Sunday and yesterday the body was found in a wheat field, where Porter had crawled, no doubt suffering great agony, after his fight with the enraged animal.

The wife of Geo. Sounds, a farmer of Ninga, died from her injuries received ten days ago. A buggy in which she was riding was upset, throwing her out.

ADVANCE ALONG ENTIRE RUSSIAN LINE

Japanese Unexpectedly Make an Advance in Force Near Liaoyang.

Kantzertun (seven miles southeast of Liaoyang), Aug. 27.—Contrary to the expectations of the Russians the Japanese are beginning an advance along the whole line of the Russian eastern front. On the morning of August 24th there was a rifle skirmish and the next day the Japanese artillery opened fire on both days, the firing ceasing at dusk and the small energy displayed by the Japanese might have been taken to indicate that it was merely a demonstration of a reconnaissance in force. The morning of August 26th, however, the rifle and artillery fire was resumed with an energy which left no doubt that a severe battle was intended. The Japanese pushed their attack against the Russian right flank and center, concentrating their fire on the first battery of the Third brigade. Three officers and several men were wounded early in the battle, but the battery held its position and replied to the Japanese fire with such marked effect that General Ivanoff, who commanded the late General Keller's corps sent a congratulatory message to its commander. The Japanese several times attempted to cross the Taukie (Link) river, but only a few succeeded and these were forced to hide in the fields of Chinese corn.

At 2 o'clock the artillery fire became as hot as it was at Vafangow, but it fluctuated considerably and occasionally the Russian fire almost silenced that of the Japanese. The rain fell in torrents at 4 o'clock, but it did not stop the fighting, and late in the evening several Russian companies moved forward to the attack.

It is not yet possible to state positively the result of the battle, but it is asserted that the Russians were successful. There is a prospect of more fighting tomorrow.

RUSSIAN SHIPS GO NORTH.

Nyboerg, Denmark, Aug. 27.—A Russian cruiser and two torpedo boats passed here this morning going northwards.

U. S. SECRETARY OF NAVY.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Mr. Morton, secretary of the navy, was again at his desk at the navy department, after an absence of several weeks. He will soon commence work upon his annual report. In view of the speech he recently made in Chicago advocating the largest navy in the world, the bureau chiefs of the department are hopeful that his estimates to increase this year will be generous.

WILL PRESS ATTACK.

Japanese Not Likely to Retire Into Winter Quarters in Manchuria.

London, Aug. 26.—According to the correspondent of the Chronicle with General Kuropatkin's army the Japanese are not likely to retire into winter quarters. Rather than thus give the Russians a breathing spell they will execute a vigorous campaign. The correspondent says the Japanese are accumulating immense stores, ammunition and guns at Haicheng. A despatch from Laioyang to the Chronicle reports that severe fighting has taken place at Tormtsapu, twenty miles southwest of Liaoyang and that apparently an attack is in progress.

CENTENNIAL SERVICES.

Archbishop of Canterbury to Preach in Quebec Cathedral Tomorrow.

Quebec, Aug. 26.—At the Anglican Cathedral tomorrow the Most Rev. Randall Thomas Davidson, Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of England, will be the preacher.

On Sunday the cathedral will have been consecrated just 100 years, the ceremony having taken place on August 28, 1904. While the formal celebration of this important event has been postponed until next year, when the general synod of the Church of England in Canada meets in this city, His Lordship, Bishop Dunn, conceived the idea of marking the actual centennial anniversary by asking the Archbishop of Canterbury to preach on that occasion.

Renewed Activity In Manchuria

Gen. Kuropatkin Reports Forward Movement of Kuroki's Forces.

Advance in Force Made Against Russian Position on Thursday.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 26.—The Emperor has received the following despatch, dated Aug. 25th, from General Kuropatkin: "On August 24th a Japanese battalion delivered an attack on the valley of Sundalihya from Tantzchutzy. The Japanese advance was checked by 8 p. m. at Linoganu by a Russian company, five men of which were wounded. The same day two Russian companies successfully resisted the advance of the enemy in superior strength at Tunsinpu, where the Japanese suspended operations when our reinforcements arrived. The Russian losses were one officer wounded and 53 men killed or wounded.

"On the evening of August 24th the Japanese, having repulsed our outposts on the heights to the southeast of Lindansian, proceeded to construct earthworks and entrenchments. At 5:45 a. m. August 25th one of the enemy's batteries opened fire on the village of Kofyntxa. A Russian battery returned the fire successfully notwithstanding the considerable distance of the Japanese guns, and silenced the latter.

"Since the morning of August 25th a force of the enemy, consisting of one brigade of cavalry with four batteries, has marched through the Sundalhya valley and repulsed two companies of our troops. In advancing down the valley one company of the Japanese advance guard came under the fire of our batteries, apparently suffering heavy loss, and was forced to retire.

"On the morning of August 25th the enemy placed in position two batteries in front of Liandiansian and bombarded our advance position. After a brisk exchange of fire the enemy's infantry appeared from Erbakhe, moving in the direction of Kamiusa. In the artillery duel which ensued at this point our batteries quickly silenced the Japanese guns, about 11 o'clock in the morning our advance post was ready to repulse on the main position and the Japanese infantry occupied the wooded heights west of Kamainsa. Toward noon Japanese guns were observed near Erbakhe with about a division of infantry. Four batteries were seen to be concentrated between Kamainal and Kaitasi. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon a Japanese mountain battery, which was marching along a ridge towards Taisinun, was held up by the fire of our guns, and was prevented from occupying the position held by another battery, which was silenced after suffering heavy loss. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon large bodies of the enemy were observed constructing entrenchments on the height of Sanpu, and at 4 o'clock a Japanese mountain battery appeared on the heights west of Kaimainsa, but was obliged to retire. At 8 p. m. a Japanese force of at least two divisions of infantry was advancing against the Russian positions at Liandiansian. Further reports of the engagement have not yet been received."

LOSS AT HELENA.

Helena, Mont., Aug. 26.—The loss caused by yesterday's fire, which completely destroyed the stocks of goods of Campeni & Iverson, is estimated at $55,000 to $65,000. Sands Bros., dry goods merchants, decline to furnish estimates of their loss or insurance carried. Campeni & Iverson's loss is about $65,000. The damage to Sands Bros.' was by smoke and water and the stock was insured heavily.

BELGIAN OIL TANK BURNS.

Antwerp, Aug. 27.—All the oil tanks here are now on fire. The wind is strong and the effort to subdue the flames seems to be futile. It is probable that the fire will rage for several days. The fire presents a magnificent spectacle, and thousands have traveled by train to see it. Three charred bodies have been recovered. Many firemen have been injured and two men are missing.

DIES POOR.

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 27.—Robert Parrott, discoverer of the famous Parrott mine at Butte, Mont., died here today, at the age of 75. As a young man Parrott went West, and while prospecting discovered the great copper mine which bears his name. He did not profit greatly by his discovery and his estate will not exceed $6,000. He sold his mine in a few years to Marcus Daly.

Siege Guns At Liaoyang

Nine Batteries Bombard Russian Lines Preparatory to the Assault.

Combined Armies of Kuroki and Oku Attack the Enemy and Are Repulsed.

Kuropatkin's Losses Reported at Nearly Fifteen Hundred Men.

Liaoyang, Aug. 27.—General Kuroki has joined forces with General Oku in an attempt to cut the Russian line between Anshanshan and Liandiansian. In the battle of August 25, along the eastern front, a strong Japanese force attacked the Russian positions at Miao pass, eleven miles east of Anshanshan and Sandiati and Tagon, twelve miles northeast of Liandiansian. Nine batteries of siege guns bombarded the Russian outposts.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 27.—The first battle which might be regarded as a general alliance of Japanese at Liaoyang was fought August 26th with the result that the Russians at the close of fighting still held their positions and had inflicted great loss on the Japanese, completely dismantling several batteries which attempted to bombard the main position of Liandiansian. The Russian losses altogether were 1,400 killed or wounded. A long official telegram has been received at the head office, but it does not give a hint of what is transpiring today. It is more than probable, however, that the Japanese have resumed their attempt to squash Liaoyang. The silence on this point of the special despatches filed at Liaoyang this morning rather confirms this view. The hottest fighting occurred in the valley of the Lan, a small tributary of the Taitze around Tzgow, a place between Anping and Liandiansian. General Kuroki's first aim apparently was to separate the two principal Russian positions.

As forecasted in these despatches August 26th, Russians in the valley of Lan lost 1,450 men. General Kuroki's army advanced in three strong columns, one northward along the valley of the Sindiahia, a tributary of the Taitze, as far as Linodintin, whence a portion of the force westward to the Miao pass threatened Anshanshan, the other portion pushing up the stream to Tunsinpu, four miles southwest of Liandiansian, where it was stopped by General Kuropatkin's Cossacks. The second column marched along the high road and occupied Erdahe whence the Japanese batteries shelled Laidiansian, a couple of miles northwest, until the fire of the Russian guns silenced them. Several Japanese batteries were completely dismantled and were abandoned by their gunners. Fighting at Tagow was of a most desperate description, the Japanese had the advantage of mountainous country, advancing along a ridge extending from Tantputzy to Siaolindzy. The place is situated on the high road, ten miles southeast of Liaoyang. Possession of this point would render Liandiansian and Anping untenable. It is not improbable that Gen. Kuroki will, therefore, repeat his attack in this direction.

The Japanese advance was characterized by the greatest boldness and arouses the belief in military circles that either General Kuroki has received considerable reinforcements or General Kuropatkin has sent the greater portion of his army north, leaving only a couple of corps at Liaoyang.

Lack of news of a Japanese movement along the Taitze river valley in order to flank Liaoyang confirms the latter view, as it would expose the attackers to being cut off by General Kuropatkin's main army from the north.

THE DECISIVE BATTLE.

Tokio, Aug. 27.—It is reported here that General Oku commenced the attack upon the Russians at Anshanshan yesterday at the same time that General Kuroki commenced to attack them at Anping. Anshanshan is midway between Haicheng and Liaoyang, and Anping is thirteen miles southeast of Liaoyang.

The belief is growing here that a great and decisive battle will be fought at Liaoyang. General Kuropatkin, who had an opportunity to abandon Liaoyang and remove the bulk of his stores and majority of his army from that place, evidently has chosen to remain and give battle. He has concentrated his forces and entrenched carefully. The country is drying up speedily after the torrential rains, and as soon as it is possible to resume operations the Japanese may be counted upon to act vigorously and aggressively wherever the conditions permit. Confidence is felt that the Japanese commander-in-chief in the field, Field Marshal Marquis Oyama, with his splendid united armies, will attack Kuropatkin and force him to give battle on at least two of his fronts and eventually succeed in defeating him decisively.

SECOND CHARGE BROUGHT.

New York Labor Leader Accused of Holding Up Contractor.

New York, Aug. 27.—A second indictment charging extortion was handed down by the grand jury today against Philip Weinsimer, president of the Building Trades Alliance. The complainant is Charles Tucker, a plumbing contractor, who charges that on September 7, 1901, while doing the plumbing work in the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. building, Weinsimer "shook him down" for $400 on the threat to call a strike. The money, it is charged, was paid by check, made payable to Weinsimer. Weinsimer was held in $1,000 bail on the charge, pleading being set for September 6.

FRENCH DEMONSTRATION.

Paris, Aug. 27.—The sailing of Picard, delegate of the French government to the St. Louis exposition, on the Savoi today from Havre, brought out a notable demonstration. A number of leading officials were at the quay and the band of the Garde Republic, which sailed on the same vessel, played the Marseilles, amid great enthusiasm. The French government makes M. Picard the personal representative of President Loubet and the government giving him a rank similar to that of an ambassador. He will visit Oyster Bay and St. Louis, and then make a tour of points between Buffalo, Boston and New York. As a member of the council of state, M. Picard practically controls the railways and tariff systems of France.