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When A Battle Has Been Lost

Retreat From Mukden Recalls Horrors of What Followed Llaoyang Defeat.

Vanguished and Victors Looted Walled City and Death Reaped Harvest

The retreat from Mukden will be an awful one; death will ride heavy over the demoralized armies, beaten in a twelve-day battle, as they seek safety in the strongholds at Tieh-ling (Tie pass). The horrors of Liaoyang and the retreat to Mukden—which Russians regarded as a nightmare—will doubtless be repeated, if far worse does not the fall in the fragiled slight of the doubtless. befal, in the frenzied flight of the de-feated army. The great circling army of Oyama, drawn tighter day by day, has forced defeat upon the Russians, and, if it is not stretched too thinly, may cut the retreat of Kuropatkin's broken army. True, desperate men fight fercely. I have seen most stubborn fights made by Russian regiments against odds—and the retreating army may cut its way, with loss, to temporary safety at Tieh-ling.

Mukden will be pillaged. The writer

will never forget the scenes he witnessed in the dawn of an early September morning when the Japanese dashed into Liaoyang. The scenes at Mukden will, doubtless, parallel those which followed the defeat at Liaoyang. Then I came to a thirty-foot wall, and from the towered gate came thirty or more unarmed Russians, drunken, with arms filled with loot. These were shot down in cold blood and their bodies hurled into the little stream which washes the

An extract from a letter describing that last day, when the retreat commenced at Liaoyang, portraying scenes similar to those which are doubtless

the tri-colored flags gave way to the red balls over the Chinese houses, was one of horror. The heavens had been colored red by upshooting flames, the metal roofs and grey brick walls of the Russian houses relecting the glare. The castellated walls of the native city were in the gloom; it was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of castellated was silent but for the ribald songs of the snient out for the ribad songs of carrousing looters and an occasional shriek, often the death cry, of an unfortunate Chinaman. To the south, where the occasional blood-red tongues leaped at intervals and irregular rows leaped at intervals and irregular rows of darting flame-flashes alone lit the night, there was the rattle of the rifles, now rolling fitfully and afterwards in loud, resounding volleys.

"Back from that inferno, where the Back from that inferno, where the localization instruments."

Defeat increases

"Back from that inferno, where the din of death-dealing instruments drowned all else, came bearers with groaning wounded, some pierced by clean-cut wounds that would soon heal, and others with death's grip closing on them. Lumbering Chinese wagons rolled in with loads of wounded, their blood reddening the newbound bandages; corpses of those who had succumbed rolled against the groaning living. The bearers told of the hell in the fighting line, of the parrying and thrusting, slashing and struggling, and of the terrible fire at distances so close that the rifles were in plain view in the darkness. They told also of the girdle of bayonets encircling the defences. Quickly, in the light of the piles of burning stores which illuminated the station and all its vicinity, the trains were laden, the well-equipped, white-painted hospital trains the Empress of Russia gave being among them. The wounded were the first care; then the munitions and stores were embarked. The troops retreated by road, the last of them fall-acquired on the progress of the battle, but the agency acquired to the control of the acquired on the progress of the battle, but the acquired on the progress of the battle, but the

least thing. Fill and adia remains the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity we urgo of recharded according to the power of the sensity was the sensity of the sens Mr. Wilfried Egan was showing this week at his studio in Margravine Gardens, West Kensington, a portrait which he has just finished of the late Lord Henry Vane-Tempest, who, shortly before his death, gave the artist frequent sitting. ittings. Mr. Egan relates an amusing Exam placed the canvas in front of a ab, when the driver exclaimed: "Well, know that aristocrat! Driven 'im thout many a time, and should like to once cross many more like 'im. 'E is he right sort of gent, 'e is; vou got 'im here as true as ever I saw 'im.

Twenty-seven Floating Hulks Menace Safety of Shipping.

Washington, D. C., March 10.—Some idea of the severity of the winter season just drawing to a close may be gathered from the fact that the navy department is now confronted with the necessity of seeking out and promptly destroying no fewer than twenty-seven ocean derelicts which are drifting about in the great ocean lanes from Santiago to Newfoundland and endangering shipping entering and departing from Atlantic ports. The last Congress provided that one vessel should be set apart for this special service, and it is probable that the Lebanon, a 3,000-ton collier, will be fitted out for this work at the Portsmouth, N. H., navy yard.

able Kuropatkin to gather his forces and break through. He is said to have been breaked tho have been spectator at Sedan, and it is believed the memories of those days will suffice to convince him of the hopelessness of those days will suffice to convince him of the hopelessness of those days will suffice to convince him of the hopelessness of the set of those days will suffice to convince him of the hopelessness of the seleved the memories of those days will suffice to convince him of the hopelessness of the struggle.

No further news of any kind has sent from Tie pass, and says he will almost immediately transfer his headquarters to Harbin.

The Daily Telegraph's Tokio correspondent asserts that the Russians are completely ignorant of the movements provided that one vessel should be set apart for this special service, and it is probable that the Lebanon, a 3,000-ton collier, will be fitted out for this work at the Portsmouth, N. H., navy yard.

ABANKER'S SUICIDE.

MRS. STANFORD'S DEATH. Verdict of Murder Will Not Be Accepted as Final.

San Francisco, March 10.—Mount-ford Wilson, the legal representative of the Stanford estate, in an interview with the Associated Press, has author-ized the following: "Although the cor-oner's jury at Honolulu concluded that Mrs. Stanford was the victim of a mur-der we are as yet unprepared to see Mrs. Stanford was the victim of a murder, we are as yet unprepared to accept this judgment as final. I do not know as yet, nor do the police or detectives investigating the case, but that Mrs. Stanford died from natural causes. We) have the opinion of a half dozen physicians to the effect that the symptoms attendant just previous to the death of Mrs. Stanford would indicate that she died of angina pectoris. dicate that she died of angina pectoris, a disease of the heart causing the most acute agony. This, however, has in no way influenced us in the lines of investigation pursued in the hope of solving the mystery."

AN AUDACIOUS CRIMINAL.

Cottage Grove, March 10.—In the mail of the city marshal of this place yesterday was a letter purporting to be An extract from a letter describing that last day, when the retreat commenced at Liaoyang, portraying scenes similar to those which are doubtless occurring at Mukden, taken from the clumms of the Morning Post, may be to finterest:

"That last night of Liaoyang, before the tri-colored flags gave way to the ed balls over the Chinese houses, was nee of horror. The heavens had been rolored red by upshooting flames, the netal roofs and grey brick walls of the Russian houses reflecting the riare. The castellated walls of the native city were in the gloom; it was ilent but for the ribald songs of carousing looters and an occasional hriek, often the death cry, of an unortunate Chinaman. To the south, where the occasional blood-red tongues apped at intervals and irregular rows of darting flame-flashes alone lit the light, there was the rattle of the rifles, ow rolling fitfully and afterwards in

THE GRAND TRUNK PACIFICA

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A BANKER'S SUICIDE.

Richmond, Va., March 10.—Augustus H. Cobb, banker and half owner of the Suffolk knitting mills, committed suicide in his office at Suffolk today by shooting himself through the head. The cashier of his bank absconded some months ago, but his shortage did not impair its soundness.

Needy Fairbanks.—Some days ago the Colonist told the awful news that a whiskey famine prevailed at Fairbanks, the central town of the Tanana gold fields, or rather, the fields where Seattle papers allege gold has been found. But whiskey is not the only artible of which there is a shortage at Fairbanks. Yesterday the Colonist received a copy of the Fairbanks Semi-Weekly News through the mails. It had no stamps on through the mails. It had no stamps on the wrapper, as customary, but a print-ed slip was pasted thereon, which read: "No stamps available. Postage account settled at Fairbanks P. O."

THE TACOMA SMELTER SALE.

THE TACOMA SMELTER SALE.

It is to be regretted that the sale of the Tacoma Smelter to the smelter trust has taken place. With the trust in possession of this plant, there will probably be little further development of the copper mines in this state and Alaska, until another smelter is established somewhere on the coast to handle their product.

The smelting trust, with its various allied companies, controls the copper output of this country. The mines controlled by the big financiers who are the moving spirits in the smelting trust or who are intimately allied with it, can furnish all the copper needed. The presence of independent mines or smelters is an annoyance which results in a business loss to them.

During the past year the Tacoma smelter turned out some 2,000,000 pounds of copper. It had recently improved its copper plant and was prepared to furnish the market refined copper, either in bulk, or, through its recently added wire-drawing typlant, as wire. This was an interference with the plans of the copper magnates, and if they can do so, they will probably buy the Tacoma plant and shut down its copper fornaces and redinery. The plant will be operated thereafter only on lead ores and on the refractory ores which contain gold and silver, but no copper.

Naturally, without a copper smelter, there will be no market for the low-grade copper ores of Washington and Alaska, and the mines producing them must shut down. The hundreds of prospects, in which it is now sought to enlist capital for development, will stand no chance for such development if there is no market for their product.

The War Situation

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK, MARCH 10.-THE RUSSIAN MIN-ISTER TO DENMARK, M. ISWOLSKY, STARTED TONIGHT FOR ST. PETERSBURG. THE AUTHORITIES THERE DESIRE TO HAVE THE BENEFIT OF HIS KNOWLEDGE OF JAPAN, GAINED

Suffolk knitting mills, committed suicide in his office at Suffolk today by shooting himself through the head. The cashier of his bank absconded some months ago, but his shortage did not impair its soundness.

The fate of the Russian army of upwards of a quarter of a million men and two thousand pieces of artillery, with which it was confidently expected General Kuropatkin and his lieutenants could prevent the advance of the Japanese beyond the Shakhe and Hun rivers' positions, is still in the balance. They have been driven from these positions and are now rushing northward towards Tie pass, around which are high hills which were prepared for defence after the battle of Liaoyang in September, there being no hope at that time that the Japanese would allow the defeated army to rest south of the Tie pass. That the Russians have lost many guns and large quantities of ammunition and supplies is certain, for with but a single track railway to the north it would be impossible to remove the large stores which had been gathered together at Mukden. These, it seemed, would be destroyed.

Captain A. A. Sears, of the steamer Iroquois, operating between Sidney and Nanaimo, via the gulf islands, reports that on last Sunday night a Japanese fisherman lost his life at the north end of Galiano Island. The fisherman was out with his sloop, and in some manner fell from the boat. He was unable to regain his craft and drowned. The body was not recovered.

Needy Fairbanks,—Some days ago the Colonist told the awful news that a whiskey famine prevailed at Fairbanks, the central town of the Tanana gold

destroyed.

The Japanese have not yet reported their capture of guns, which they do almost immediately. But it seems hardly likely that Kuropatkin could have removed all of his artillery. On the 1st of January 1,500 guns, including a number of six and eight inch guns on cement foundations, were in foot a large number of guns arrived in Mukden during January and February, so that the Russian artillery when the battle started must have some of these and is bending all his energies to extricating his army. That his task is a difficult one all the despatches indicate, but Russian sympathizers point to his retreat from Liaoyang, where conditions were opposed to him. The refreat from Liaoyang was accomplished during a terrible rainstorm over roads hub deep in mud, while at the present time the Manchurian roads are frozen hard as a stone and have been worn smooth as asphalt by the continual passage of the big, wide-tired commissary wagons.

The result of Oyama's great turning movement depends almost entirely upon Kawamura's army, which has not yet been definitely located, although supposed to be moving from the east towards Kuropatkin's line of retreat. Should he reach the military road, which runs in an almost direct line from Fushun to Tie pass, before the passage of the Russian army, the circle will be complete, as Nogl's gums already command the railway and should soon control the Mandarin road, which is but a short distance east of the railway and runs parallel with it. The army of General Kaulbar's, which has been pressed back across the western plain, fighting every inch of ground, is moving north to protect the line of retreat from the attacks from the westward, while General Bilderling is protecting the rear against Generals Oku and Nodzu, and Linevitch is doing his best to hold the military road against Kuroki. They have numbers against them, but have succeeded against odds in similar retreats before. The appearance of General Kawamura would render futile all their efforts. General Rennenkampf's force of somewhat less than 10,000 men, which has been operating on the extreme left, is in a precarious position, but the force is a mobile one and the officers know the mountains well.

With the exception of this latter force, all the Russian troops are now The result of Oyama's great turning movement depends almost entire-

officers know the mountains well.

With the exception of this latter force, all the Russian troops are now considered to be on the roads leading northward, and it may take another twenty-four hours before their fate is decided. The army which General Grippenberg turned over to General Kaulbars when he left Manchuria, and a portion of which General Bilderling commanded, consisted of Gregoff's cavalry, Mistchenko's mobile division, the Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth and Seventeenth army corps, extending from the Liao river to the Mandarin road. General Linevitch's army, which held the important positions at the bend of the Shakhe river, including Erdaug hill, comprised the First European and the First, Second, Third and Fourth Siberian corps, Rennenkampff's mobile division and Samsonoff's cavalry. The troops which arrived in January and February, probably two corps, are not included in the above list.

Even should Kuropatkin extricate his army, it is believed in European Even should kuropatkin extricate his army, it is believed in European capitals that peace will soon follow this latest Japanese victory. The calling to St. Petersburg of M. Iswolsky, Russian minister to Denmark, who was formerly in Tokio, is most significant. No time will be lost in starting the negotiations as soon as Russia intimates her wish to close the war. Shortly after the fall of Port Arthur a high official of the Japanese foreign office arrived in London with authority to take up the negotiations as soon as Russia declared her desire for peace.

The loss in the operations preceding the battle, and those in the battle proper, must have reached enormous proportions, but up to the present neither side has attempted an estimate.

They will certainly exceed the Shakhe losses, in which the Russians alone lost in killed, wounded and missing 67,000 men.

aione lost in killed, wounded and missing 67,000 men.

Field Marshal Oyama arranged his attack so that the city of Mukden should not come within range of battle, rather an easy task, as the Russians had no positions immediately around the city, as was the case at Liaoyang, and the Russian town is two miles from the outer walls of the old city. The western imperial tombs were under shell fire, but no account has been given of damage, if any, suffered. Eastern tombs, where the Russians had erected positions, apparently did not come within range of the Javanese shells.

been proved to average \$15,000 a year.

Some people are no doubt trying to create the impression that the report of the committee is the result of the recent pilotage investigation, but this is in no way true, as the committee have gone into the matter in a purely non-partizan spirit and have looked at the question simply from the standpoint of citizens of Victoria and with the sole desire of pushing the port ahead and taking advantage of the fact that Victoria is the easiest port of energy which gave Mr. Foster an oppor-

THE NEW YORK STRIKE.

New York, March 10.—Despite the sensational reports that organized demonstrations would be made by strikers against the men who have taken their places in the subway and the elevated lines which were circulated during the night, no trouble of any kind has occurred today.

CROWN PRINCE'S MARRIAGE. Frederick William of Germany to Wed in June Next.

Berlin, March 10.—According to semi-official statement given out at Schwerin, the marriage of Crown Prince Freder-ick William and Duchess Cecilia will take place in Berlin on June 6. PILOT COMMISSIONERS TO MEET.

Convention Will Probably Be Held Next Week

THE GAME LAW.

The Game Act is to be amended in a number of important respects. One provision will be generally commended, and that relates to the protection of the beaver. This animal is rapidly on the decrease and owing to the inroads of Indians, trappers, prospectors and others is liable soon to extinction. The elk is likely, too, to be exterminated and special provision should be made for its preservation. In this connection, the proposal several times made for the setting apart of a tract of land, as a special game reserve, is worthy of serious con-

Threat of Dissolution Will Force Rouges to Compromise on Separate Schools.

Premier Makes Evasive Reply to Mr. Borden's Request For Information.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, March 10.—Following up yesterday's debate, the opposition leader this afternoon renewed his attack on Premier Laurier's masked batteries. The premier had evaded or ignored Mr. Borden's requests for information regarding the antecedents of the autonomy bill in connection with the impression Sir Wilfrid had endesyoned to greate in the pub-

ages the rumors which are affoat today of the possibility of a dissolution of par-liament. But as against the probability liament. But as against the probability of this course being adopted is the fact that Premier Laurier would scarcely be willing to bring on a campaign involving great efforts on his part, and the further fact that there is a wide difference between uncompromising speeches and the reality of a general election after but one session of parliament—a sacrifice that Quebec Liberal members are not likely to court. Indications are therefore that Sir Wilfrid will be able not likely to court. Indications are therefore that Sir Wilfrid will be able to hold his big majority from Quebec pretty solidly in favor of some sort of a compromise should he decide upon such a course.

The situation at present, however, is acute, the latest phase of it being the alleged possibility of Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick resigning if concessions are made such as will ensur freedom of the new provinces to make their own educational

The ministers are berating Mr. Sifton for fomenting trouble rather than endeavoring to bring about conciliation, and they will resist any attempt to bring him back into the cabinet. Mr. Sifton, it is said will resist any attempt to bring him back into the cabinet. it is said, will practice law after the ses-

sion in Toronto. The Canada Gazette tomorrow will announce the following appointments to his excellency's staff: Sir James Grant, M. D., to be honorary surgeon; Col. Fiset, M. D., to be honorary surgeon; Col. Evans, C. B., Winnipeg, and Lt.-Col. Roper, Ottawa, to be honorary A.'s D. C.

Cedarbank In From Scotland

Cargo Ship Arrived Last Night Loaded With General Merchandise.

Liner Dakota Will Call at Hongkong on way to Sound From Atlantic.

There was but one arrival from sea yesterday, the British ship Cedarbank, 2,649 tons, Captain Bachelor, 140 days from The date for the convention of pilot commissioners, mention of which was made in the Colonist some days ago, will probably be fixed before the end of the week.

It has not yet been settled whether the convention shall take place in this city or in Vancouver, but it is not improbable that Victoria will be decided upon as the most suitable place for such an important meeting.

Considerable correspondence has been going on in reference to the matter during the past few days, and it is said that arrangements are now all but complete.

The meeting will probably be called some time next week. It is understood that a proposal will be made to have the three ports of Victoria, Vancouver and Nanaimo under one authority, in which case, as was pointed out by a merchant yesterday, the two latter cities, should occasion rise, would be in a position to make regulations for the benefit of Victoria.

THE GAME LAW.

preservation. In this connection, the proposal several times made for the setting apart of a tract of land, as a special game reserve, is worthy of serious consideration. The Corbin experiment in the Eastern States has demonstrated what is possible in this way, and it seems to be entirely practicable in British Columbia on a large scale. As pointed out by Hon. Mr. Fulton, game is a valuable asset and should be conserved in every way possible.

Big Stick For

Quebec Liberals

Come by Way of Orient.

It was learned yesterday at the local offices of the Great Northern line that the steamer Dakota, sister vessel of the Minnesota, will sail from New York on April 3, and will come to Puget Sound via Hongkong. The trip will be around the African continent instead of by way of Cape Horn, because it is figured by the officers of the line that the sain can reach Hongkong. China, at the same time the Minnesota is at Seattle on her next trip. The Dakota will be delivered to her owners March 20, and will go through practicably the same programme as was used with her sister ship prior to her Pacific trip.

The ship will take on about 15,000 tons of coal and merchandise freight at Philadelphia, Newport News and New York, and will sail as soon after April 3 as is practicable.

Practicable.

The time of the trip by the African route will be longer than if she safled around Cape Horn to Puget Sound, but the owners figure that it will be possible to land her at Hongkong just as the Minnesota is getting into Seattle by taking the longer way and as the cargo for the Minnesots for her trip has already been partially engaged it is thought that this plan will prove more economical.

economical.

With the arrival of the Dakota at Hong-kong the regular runs of the ships will be taken up, and according to their schedules they will hereafter cross each other in mid-Pacific, with the chances of coming in direct contact reduced to the minimum. The latest measurements show that the Dakota is eleven tons heavier than the Minnegota, and consequently the largest freighter sailing any sea.

FOR THE ORIENT. Freighters Securing Trade Overflowing

From Regular Lines. the antecedents of the autonomy bill in connection with the impression Sir Wilfrid had endeavored to create in the public mind that the measure was the completed work of all his colleagues. Mr. Borden put his questions in fine form and backed them up by temperate argument.

Quoting from past speeches of Hon. Mr. Fielding he showed that the minister of finance absolutely was opposed to separate schools.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier made an evasive reply which gave Mr. Foster an oppor-

Sir Wilfrid Laurier made an evasive reply which gave Mr. Foster an opportunity to score him vigorously.

A number of petitions from British Columbia against separate schools was presented to the house today.

Reports are again current today emanating from ministerial sources that a compromise has been reached in reference to the educational clauses of the autonomy bill. There is every reason to believe, however, that the trouble is far from settlement. The majority of Quebec Liberals are opposed to any compromise and will vote against it in the House. They insist upon the most the House. They insist upon the most the capilcit declaration in the act in favor of separate schools.

This feature of the situation encourages the rumors which are afloat today

FROM SKAGWAY.

FROM SKAGWAY.

Princess May Returns From Initial Trip to Lynn Canal. Steamer Princess May, Captain McLeod, is back from her first trip to the Lynn canal this season. The steamer brought nineteen passengers, eight from Skagway and eleven from Ketchikan. The steamer left Skagway on Monday night last and made a fast passage. Captain McLeod stated upon arrival that splendid weather prevails in the north and that he experienced a pleasant voyage, both north and southbound. The passenger list follows: M. Nelson, Philip Halliday, M. Smart, T. W. Hale, J. C. O'Neill, P. K. Johnson, E. Miller, J. T. Lelligren, Mrs. H. de Montgomery, J. Johnson, Master Johnson, Mrs. E. L. Honey, Walter Johnson, G. B. Johnson, C. E. Chataway, Alex. Alason, C. W. Felch, K. Kauczunee.

The steamer is scheduled to sail north again tonight.

BIG BOND PURCHASE. Two and a Half Millions of Philippine Issue Floated.

Washington, D. C., March 10.—The Mercantile Trust Company of St. Louis was the highest bidder today for the \$2,500,000 issue of 10-30 four per cent. Philippine public works bonds. The bids were opened at the insular bureau. The bid of the Mercantile Trust Company for the entire issue was \$2,726.