

RUSSIANS LOSE SIX GUNS

Gen. Kouropatkin Forced to Retire to Liaoyang.

MOST OF THIS PAGE IS MISSING

DESPERATE FIGHTING.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The general staff has received the following additional telegram from Lieut.-Gen. Sakharoff: "Our advance guard on the southern front on Friday retired slowly toward the fortified position at Anshanshan. The Japanese artillery cannonaded our positions at different points. Our heavy fire eventually compelled the enemy to move their vast camp from Falmaina to Baissiaza. At 6 o'clock in the evening there was a lull in the firing. The hottest fighting occurred on the left flank on the south front, where our losses amounted to 200. During the night our advance guards retired to the principal position. Five divisions of the enemy took the offensive against our south front. Our troops repelled towards the south-east all attacks, while our troops on the right towards evening drove the Japanese back on Lounsinpu."

"Our losses on the south-east front were about 400. Our detachment on the east had a desperate fight against considerable forces of the enemy. On the right flank our infantry, though unsupported by artillery, and though the Japanese were at all points superior numerically, repulsed the attacks begun during the night by the enemy on the advanced positions of Tsegow and Anping. This affair culminated in sharp bayonet fighting, and some of our regimental officers received sword, bayonet, and revolver wounds."

"After desperate fighting on the advanced positions of Tsegow and Anping our troops retired on the main position supported by artillery. The Tampoff Regiment, on the left flank at Tsegow, defended an advanced position from 1 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, repelling all the enemy's attacks at the point of the bayonet. There were four counter attacks."

A turning movement by the enemy against the left flank of the Tsegow position and the enflading fire of their batteries on Khaouio Heights forced the Tampoff Regiment to retire, and the retreat was effected in good order. Six guns were abandoned, but they were rendered useless. The Japanese attacked like fanatics, and their losses must have been great. A wounded Japanese officer, who was taken prisoner, escaped observation after his wound was dressed, and killed himself by dashing his head against the stones."

"Our troops captured many rifles and articles of equipment. Our losses on this front have not been definitely ascertained, but they exceed 1,500 killed or wounded. Notwithstanding the long and desperate fighting and the consequent fatigue, the spirit of our troops was as alert as ever, and in the darkness of night, with rain falling heavily and transforming the ground into liquid mud, they executed the necessary movements, headed by their bands, in perfect order. On Aug. 27 the enemy had not assumed any defensive movement at any point along the whole front, and our troops retired gradually to new positions. At about 2 o'clock in the afternoon it was discovered that the Japanese were moving on Laompinge."

CUTTING OFF RETREAT.

A despatch to the Asahi, of Tokio, from the front says Gen. Kuroki has resumed operations. He has destroyed the railway bridge between Liaoyang and Mukden. It is stated the armies of Gens. Kuroki and Oku, respectively, attacked Anping and Anshanshan on Friday.

TIRED OF RETREATING.

A correspondent at Mukden who made the round of the Russian position in front of Liaoyang just before the Japanese began their advance says: The Russians 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 stated that Chinese regular troops assisted the bandits in the fight which occurred north of Mukden, Aug. 23.

FATE IS SEALED.

A despatch from London says:—Attention centres in the Russian reports of a great battle of Gen. Kouropatkin's forces. His official admission of heavy casualties and that he was driven back by the Japanese is interpreted to mean a signal Japanese success, and not improbably a decisive victory. The vital question is whether the Russian retreat to the north is cut off. If it is, then the fate of the Russian army is sealed. It is clear that the communications have not been cut, but turning operations had been proceeding for some

time before this battle, and it is confidently anticipated that Gen. Kouropatkin will take advantage of his success to get behind Gen. Kuroki's force before he has an opportunity to retire.

SEVASTOPOL SUNK.

A despatch from Tokio says ports have reached the naval base at Sasebo that the Russian ship Sevastopol was severely damaged by a recent mine explosion at Port Arthur. There are reports that she probably sank while being towed back into the harbor.

A SECOND ARMY.

A despatch to the Tageblatt, Berlin, from St. Petersburg says the Russian Government is determining to assemble a second great army in Manchuria, consisting of three or four corps under the command of General Baron Kaulbars and General Soukhomlinoff. Its headquarters will be at Mukden. The object of this step is to meet the situation which will arise should Port Arthur fall, thus releasing the besieging Japanese for operations northwards. The Russian Government's correspondent names various commands out of which a new army will be formed and he believes that more transportation of troops will be possible with the approaching completion of the railway around Lake Baikal.

JAPANESE ARMIES.

A despatch from Liaoyang says: At the Russian headquarters Gen. Kuroki's army is estimated at 100,000 men, Gen. Nodzu's at 70,000 and Gen. Oku's at 40,000. This is exclusive of two divisions of about 30,000 men, moving up the right bank of the Liao River.

According to the Chinese the Japanese have converted the branch road from New-Chwang to Tashan into a narrow gauge and are conveying thither twenty siege guns.

KUROKI ADVANCES.

A despatch from London says: In the absence of anything but these reports from Port Arthur, the center for the moment is Gen. Kuroki's forward movement. Nothing in regard to this has been heard from Japanese sources, and Kouropatkin's report breaks in a characteristic fashion just as the attack is developing. Unofficial reports on this point are meagre, but with Gen. Kouropatkin's report seems to indicate a great counter Japanese advance. The two divisions calculated to number 30,000 men, which are advancing west of the river, are alternately conjectured to be part of Gen. Oku's command, or a new column from Yinkow.

The latest unofficial reports are that the fighting is continued all along the line. The Japanese, according to the St. Petersburg version, have everywhere repulsed. This account is ascribed to Gen. Ivanoff, who succeeded the late Gen. Count Keller.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A despatch from Cronstadt to the London Times says: Russia will be able to send out a powerful fleet from the Baltic for months. The officials have no delusions on this point.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says it is affirmed that the vessels of the Baltic fleet are altogether unworthy. Many naval officers declare it would be madness to start eastward.

A despatch to the Standard from Odessa says it is credibly stated the intention of despatching the Baltic fleet to the Far East has definitely abandoned.

A despatch from Kieff to the London Mail says a dozen large vessels of the Black Sea will serve as transports to the fleet on its way to the Far East. Five of them are of the volunteer fleet. A number of 16-oared steel boats are being used to transship coal from the tenders to the warships at sea.

The fleet consists of the battleships Souvaroff, flagship; Borodino, and Orel; the cruisers Dmitri Donskoi, Au-Zemichug, Izumrud, and Almaz; the transports Okean and Kamatka, with a number of torpedo destroyers.

SOLID WITH COREA.

A despatch from Tokio says: The Korean Court has announced that Hayashi, the representative of the Japanese Government at Seoul, whenever he desires to do so, may proceed directly to the palace and request an audience with the Emperor. Hitherto he has had to apply through the Foreign Office for permission to visit the palace.

WILL KEEP DESTROYER.

Japan has formally notified the Chinese Government that she will accede to China's demand for the return of the Russian destroyer Hibelni, which was seized on August 15 by Japanese destroyers in the bay of Chefoo.