

THE FINAL STRUGGLE AT PORT ARTHUR.

Japanese Getting Ready to Celebrate its Fall.

Tokio cable: The final assault on Port Arthur is imminent. Hundreds of Japanese guns continue to pour a destructive fire into the city and harbor, along the lines of forts and entrenchments, preparatory for the infantry assault. It is evident that the Russian lines have been weakened and partly penetrated in the vicinity of Antushan and Itzshan forts.

The entire line of Russian defenses immediately about the harbor is within range of the Japanese guns. A number of Russian forts and batteries continue to reply vigorously. The Japanese dead toll will be heavily increased before they are captured. The direction of the Japanese attack creates the impression here that the city and defenses on either side of the harbor entrance will fall first. The final stand will be made at Liao Tshan. It is believed here that both sides have suffered heavy losses, and that the bloodiest since Sedan. The Japanese are supremely confident of the ultimate result. The leaders of the Government await the outcome in calm assurance. The people are everywhere decorating streets and houses and erecting arches and flagstaffs in preparation for a national celebration of the expected victory.

BREACH IN CHAIN.

Inevitable Unless Japs Are Dislodged From Positions.

St. Petersburg cable: Reports from foreign sources represent that the Japanese assault on Port Arthur has become exhausted. Others claim that they captured Etzshan fort, on the western line of defenses. If this position has been occupied, it is realized that unless the Japanese are at once dislodged the chain of forts will be breached and the position of Port Arthur rendered critical.

The simple fact that the day to which a large portion of the public looked forward to with superstitious dread passed without the fall of the fortress suddenly encourages the popular hope that the christening of the Czarevitch will make a turn in the tide.

JAPS GETTING CLOSER.

The Russians Driven From Parade Grounds at Port Dover.

Chefoo cable: A junk which left Liao Tshan promontory on the night of Aug. 21, has just arrived here. She reports that the Japanese have succeeded in occupying Antzshan fort, as well as another fort, probably Etzshan, about a mile southwest of Antzshan. They have driven the Russians from the parade grounds, which lie about two miles north of the harbor. They have destroyed two forts at Chaohanko, which is within the eastern fortifications, and they have advanced to a point near Chaohanko. This news confirms information received here previously, and which the local Japanese were not inclined to believe.

The junk heard firing until midnight of Aug. 22. Scarcely a building in Port Arthur remains undamaged. The town hall, which was used as a magazine, has been destroyed. Four large warships, unable to fight, are at Port Arthur. Only one ship, a vessel, with two masts and two funnels, has guns on board.

BRITISH SHIPPERS ANGRY.

Russia's Search for Contraband Affecting the Trade.

London cable: The indignation of British shippers over the Russian searches of vessels near South Africa continues to increase with their growing belief that the mysterious warship is actually the Smolensk, of the Russian volunteer fleet. As a matter of fact, the identity of the ship has in no way been established.

A despatch to the Daily Mail from Copenhagen says the Smolensk passed the Great Belt, the strait between the Baltic and the Kattegat, to-day, carrying a war flag. The Mail, voicing the opinion of many people, deprecates the outcry against Russia's molestation of shipping as tending toward the hysteria. It contends that there is no evidence of alleged Russian discrimination in favor of German vessels, thus enabling the latter to capture the British Far Eastern trade, which is the kernel of the complaint of shippers, who profess to be compelled to refuse all freights owing to the supposition of the British Government in failing to protect British shipping.

SMOLENSK NOT NOTIFIED.

Instructions to Desist and Not Reach Her—Admiralty Is Mum.

St. Petersburg cable: The Admiralty refuses to give the least information in regard to the searches for vessels supposed to have on board contraband of war in the South African seas. The naval officials profess ignorance as to the identity of the Russian ship which examined the steamer Comedian's papers, and the officials of the Foreign Office are unfeignedly surprised at the report that the vessel is the Smolensk, which, with the St. Petersburg, some time ago stopped a number of vessels in the Red Sea. They admit that it would not be admissible for the Smolensk to act as reported, in view of the recent assurances to Great Britain that that vessel and the St. Petersburg, which passed through the Suez Canal under the Rus-

sian commercial flag, would make no more seizures of British ships or attempt to hold them up.

POWERS CANNOT INTERFERE.

Warships at Shanghai Matter for Belligerents and China.

Paris cable: According to the Cologne Gazette, the conferences between the foreign Consuls at Shanghai have terminated in a unanimous agreement that no neutral power can rightfully interfere in the case of the Russian warships Askold and Grozovoi, or take any part in action that might be interpreted as favorable to either belligerent. The Consuls are all of the opinion that the case concerns the belligerents and China alone, and excludes, for the present, at least action by neutrals.

Advices received here from Saigon show, contrary to previous announcements, that the Diana was in a very bad condition. She has one large hole in her hull below the water line. Her injuries will take weeks to repair. This would have permitted an extension of her sojourn in a neutral port beyond the twenty-four hours, which expired yesterday, but it is foreseen that the repairs would entail such a stay at Saigon that it is possible that questions affecting the neutrality of the port would be likely to arise, and therefore Russia is disposed to disarm the Diana, which thereafter will remain at Saigon during the war.

A despatch from St. Petersburg to the Temps says that before the Askold and Grozovoi disarm at Shanghai, or the Diana disarms at Saigon, the Russian Government wishes to have the assurances of Japan and the neutral powers that the Chefoo incident—the seizure of the Russian destroyer Ryeshitchi by the Japanese—shall not recur.

A despatch to the Matin from Chefoo says that the Chinese fleet left that port to-day for a cruise, evidently to avoid the necessity of action in the event of possible complications.

ARE GAINING GROUND.

The Reports From Fortress Indicate Jap Successes.

London cable: A telegram from Tsingchow, which reached London late last night, says it is rumored that the Japanese captured Port Arthur yesterday (Tuesday). The same rumor reached Chefoo, from which place a telegram was sent to London saying that so far as could be learned there was no truth in the story. At 4.30 o'clock this morning the situation is unaltered. Most of the news can be traced to the gossip of coasters. Nothing definite is to be expected from the Japanese side until the place has actually been captured.

Observers here generally credit the idea that the attack on the fortress is gaining ground.

A 48-HOUR ATTACK.

Gen. Stoessel Said to Have Repulsed Desperate Assault.

St. Petersburg, cable, 3 a. m.: St. Petersburg to-night is dim and silent with no sign of festivity. The capital is filled with sinister rumors of Port Arthur's destruction. The superstitious are predicting the fall of the fortress on the day of the baptism of the Czarevitch, but this is easily traceable to the fact that several big Russian reverses occurred on Russian fête days.

It is reported that a message was received from Lieut. Gen. Stoessel to-night, sent from Port Arthur, Aug. 22, by way of Chefoo, saying that a desperate assault by the Japanese had been in progress during the previous 48 hours. While the general staff does not conceal its anxiety, the best military authorities have not abandoned the hope that Gen. Stoessel will be able to hold out.

The view is somewhat borne out by an unofficial despatch from Liao-Yang saying that in a two days' assault—Aug. 19 and Aug. 20—the attackers were beaten off with heavy loss. At Liao-Yang the improved weather precludes the renewal of military activity. It is believed that Gen. Kourapatkin is contemplating a diversion in favor of Port Arthur, it will not be long delayed.

8,000 SHELLS DAILY.

The Murderous Fire on Port Arthur Never Ceases.

London cable: A despatch from Liao-Yang says that messages smuggled out of Port Arthur arrived here to-day. They report that the murderous fire on the Japanese continues without cessation. It is computed that 8,000 shells are thrown daily. The docks are severely damaged and the railway station has been partly destroyed. The Japanese are acting on the advice of a Chinese engineer, who was formerly with the Russians, but escaped from Port Arthur. Nearly all the plans of the fortifications are known to him.

PLANS DERANGED.

The Resistance at Port Arthur Delays Attack on Liao Yang.

Berlin cable: In a despatch from Liao-Yang, undated of Aug. 23, the correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger says "The indications are that the initiative is about to pass to the Russians. The Japanese plan of campaign, including the attack upon Liao-Yang, has apparently been deranged by the unexpectedly stubborn resistance at Port Arthur."

Gen. Kuroki's army has been withdrawn to the south of the Taitse River, and only outposts are near the river. Japanese troops under Gen. Ukashima

are reported to be in the Liao River Valley.

"It is rumored that the Mikado has recalled Gen. Nogi and has ordered Field Marshal Marquis Yamagata (chief of the general staff at Tokio) to assume command of the besiegers at Port Arthur."

SITUATION UNCHANGED.

Japs Control Mountains East and South of Taitse River.

Liao-Yang cable: Notwithstanding the reports of the withdrawal of the Japanese from the Russian east front, the situation remains the same. The Japanese control all the mountains east and south of the Taitse River. The Russian position is unchanged. Nearly 150 of Gen. Mischenko's cavalry received the St. George's Cross on account of distinguished service in Korea at the beginning of the war, and constant fighting for six months.

The Chinese say that 30,000 Japanese troops, with two hundred guns, have landed at Yinkow, part of these

ed to within 2,500 yards to observe the Novik. She saw that the Russian cruiser had partly sunk. She had a bad list to starboard, and her side lights and lower deck were under water. Her hull was seriously damaged.

The Chitose satisfied herself that the Novik had been destroyed and steamed away. The Tashima has been repaired, and is again in fighting trim.

The Japanese sustained no casualties in this engagement. The Japanese believe that the crew of the Novik were landed at Korsakovsk when the warship had been beached after the encounter. The number of the survivors is not known.

MUST STOP REPAIRS.

British Consul Makes Definite Demand on Russians.

London cable: A Shanghai despatch to the Times says that in compliance with the request of the Taotai, Sir Pelham Warren has made a demand on the dock company to cease work on the Askold. He has notified M. Kleimennoff, a Russian Consul, that he will require a cessation of the work on the vessel by noon to-day. The company, the correspondent adds, will comply with this demand. This will make it impossible for the Askold to leave the harbor, as the repairs below the water line are not yet completed. An early settlement of the affair is expected. The Taotai will tomorrow demand that both vessels be disarmed. The correspondent learns that the Askold is practically without ammunition.

REFUSES TO DISARM.

Repairs Continue on Russian Warships at Shanghai.

A Shanghai cable says: The Russian cruiser Askold and the destroyer Grozovoi have not disarmed, although the final time limit expired at noon to-day. They not only have not left the port, as ordered to, but have continued making



ADMIRAL KAMIMURA,
The Japanese Hero of the Last Great Battle.

troops going to New-Chwang, and part to Hai-Cheng.

NOVIK WAS SUNK.

Was Defeated in Battle With One Japanese Cruiser.

Tokio cable: The Japanese protected cruiser Tushima alone defeated the cruiser Novik. The first engagement occurred Saturday, Aug. 20, and the Japanese protected cruiser Chitose finished the destruction of the Russian ship on Sunday.

The details of the engagement reached the Navy Department here to-day. At dawn Saturday the Chitose arrived at a point 20 miles northwest of Rebusshiri, and proceeded to search the Soya (Laptev) Strait. The weather was heavy, and the Novik was not discovered. At 8 o'clock Saturday morning the Chitose and the Tushima met close to Rebusshiri land. The Tushima had previously been searching for the Novik. The meeting of the two Japanese cruisers the Chitose took up a line tending from Soya Point to Cape Shiratoko, and the Tushima was despatched toward Korsakovsk.

The Tushima found the Novik off Korsakovsk harbor at 4.30 o'clock in the afternoon. She immediately signalled her discovery to the Chitose by wireless telegraph, and at once attacked the enemy. The Novik was hit frequently by the fire from the Japanese cruiser, and at 5.40 retreated to the inner anchorage at Korsakovsk. She was then shrouded in white smoke, and evidently was on fire. The Tushima had received projectiles through bunkers Nos. 6 and 8. She was leaking badly, and was listing, and was forced to withdraw out of the range of the Novik's guns for temporary repairs. These were effected that evening.

The Chitose joined the Tushima after sundown of Saturday. The Tushima was sent to guard the strait and the Chitose watched Korsakovsk harbor. At dawn on Sunday the Chitose advanced to the Korsakovsk anchorage and discovered that the Novik had been beached close to the town, and that the crew of the Russian vessel appeared to be disembarking. The Chitose shelled the Novik from 25 minutes past 6 until 14 minutes past 7. The hull of the Novik was concealed behind clouds of black smoke, and thus made sighting by the Japanese gunners most difficult.

After shelling her the Chitose steam-

MRS. MAYBRICK HAS REACHED NEW YORK.

Expresses Her Thanks to Those Who Helped Her.

New York, Aug. 29.—On board the Red Star Line steamer Vaderland, from Antwerp, was Mrs. Florence Chanler Maybrick, recently released from prison in England. Mrs. Maybrick was entered on the passenger list as Mrs. Rose Ingraham, a name which she took from her great grandparents. This precaution was not designed to evade official inquiry but merely to avoid annoying fellow passengers. While she made no secret of her presence on board, and appeared frequently about the decks and saloon, very few were aware of her identity. She is accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel V. Hayden. Mr. Hayden is her attorney.

Mrs. Maybrick refused to be interviewed but gave out the following statement: "I regret that the state of my health as well as business reasons prevent my talking to my friends of the American press at this time as I should like. To them and to my fellow-countrymen and women I am deeply in debt for their effort in my behalf, and I take this means of expressing my gratitude as well as words can, and also to thank them for their congratulations on my release, which I regret I have not been able personally to acknowledge."

"As my mother was not able to accompany me I came over under the protection of Mr. Hayden, my attorney, and his wife."

"I am assured by my English physician and by Dr. Wilmer, of Washington, D.C., who prescribed for me during the voyage that quiet and mental rest will in time restore my health."

"It is on the advice of my counsel and my physician that I have travelled incognito. I cannot express the feeling of so deep joy and thankfulness with which I return to my native land. At the earliest opportunity I shall visit my birthplace, Mobile, Ala., and also Norfolk, Va., my home during my married life."

"I now believe, as I have always, that God will, in his own time, right the wrong that I have suffered."

Killed His Brother.

New York, Aug. 29.—Antonio Tovoni, of West 48th street, killed his brother, Frederico, yesterday. When arrested by the police he was still hacking in a sort

of frenzy at the dead body with the long kitchen knife he had used to commit the murder, according to the police. Antonio is the father of nine children. He is 54 years of age, and a furnace cleaner. Frederico was 37 years old, also a furnace cleaner, and single. He had lived with his brother's family for fifteen years, ever since they came from Italy, and always in the same house. Jealousy is supposed to have caused the killing. Magistrate Mayo, in the west side court, remanded Tovoni to the Coroner.

Reduced Ocean Fares.

New York, Aug. 29.—All of the leading trans-Atlantic lines now have reduced their minimum first and second cabin rates eastbound to meet the Cunard's reductions, made several days ago, says the Journal of Commerce.

Both the North German Lloyd and the French line yesterday took part in the cut rate war by making a sweeping reduction in first class rates both to Plymouth and Cherbourg, and to Bremen, on the largest vessels of the line, and also on steamships of the Babarossa class. The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, the Kaiser Wilhelm II and the Kron Prinz Wilhelm the minimum first class rate to Plymouth and Cherbourg was cut \$40, and a reduction of \$30 was made in the same class rate to Bremen. A cut of \$30 was announced in the first class rate to Plymouth and Cherbourg on vessels of the Barbarossa type, and of \$20 to Bremen. The reduction in second cabin rates is not as heavy as in the first class rates. On the steamships La Lorraine and La Savoie the French line made a cut of \$30 in first class rates eastbound minimum and of \$10 in the second cabin rate; on all other vessels the first class rates were reduced by \$2 and the second cabin by \$12.50.

Peace Conference Wanted.

St. Louis, Aug. 29.—The Republic to-day says: One of the proposals that will be made by the American group before the inter-parliamentary conference at the World Fair next month is that the President of the United States be authorized to call a general peace conference next year. They wish to establish a system of arbitration among the countries of the world which will bring about a reduction of the armaments of the powers. It will be proposed also that during times of war private property on the high seas, which is not contraband, be declared exempt from seizure.

disposed to disarm the Diana, which thereafter will remain at Saigon during the war.

The final determination in the matter has not yet been taken, but the tendencies are strongly as indicated. It is expected that the action taken at Shanghai will relieve the cases of international significance and practically close the incidents.

REPAIRING WARSHIPS.

The Russia and Gromoboi Thought Not to Need Docking.

Vladivostok cable: Repairs to the cruisers Russia and Gromoboi are proceeding rapidly. It is believed it will be possible to complete them without docking the vessels, and that they will therefore take a comparatively short time.

There is a big reserve of naval guns here ready for installation, and officers and men have been already chosen from the Siberian reserves to fill up the places of those who were killed or wounded in the fight with Vice-Admiral Kamimura's squadron.

The reserves responded to the call eagerly, despite the fact that most of them are married, and that they have had a terrible object lesson in the crowd of wounded already in the hospitals here. The wounded, on the other hand, are not viewing these preparations with equanimity. The first complaints they have uttered have been against having their places filled.

THE SMOLENSK AFFAIR.

British Government Asks Russia for Explanations.

St. Petersburg cable: Great Britain has formally called the attention of the Russian Government to the renewed activity of the volunteer fleet steamer Smolensk, and has asked for explanations. Russia has not yet formally replied, being without official information, but in a general way she has explained what the Foreign Office suggested to the Associated Press yesterday, that the orders sent to the Smolensk not to stop any more neutral vessels have not been delivered.

The Novoye Vremya, commenting on the English newspaper propositions to treat the Russian auxiliary cruisers as pirates, asks them not to forget Premier Bal four's remark that the neutrals of to-day are the belligerents of to-morrow, and inquires how the British auxiliary cruisers would relish being treated as pirates.

While the British authorities desire to continue their conciliatory policy, they have informed the Russian Government that the Smolensk's interference with British shipping must stop, and they object strongly to the examination of merchantment so far from the scene of hostilities by any Russian cruiser. This objection, it is said to-day, applies to the British steamer Asia (now at Port Said, which was detained and examined in the Mediterranean by the Russian auxiliary cruiser Ural), equally with the Comedian.

CREW WAS GLAD.

Did Not Like the Idea of Again Facing the Japs.

Shanghai cable: An order that the cruiser Askold and the torpedo boat destroyer Grozovoi are to be disarmed was received at 9.30 o'clock last night from the Russian Minister at Pekin. The Minister had received the order from

Emperor Nicholas, who also sent a message to the crews congratulating them on saving the vessels, and thanking them for their service to the Empire and conveying words of hope.

Yesterday was a day of considerable anxiety in official circles. First an order went forth that the vessels could remain four days longer. Then negotiations were begun for another four days. This request was eagerly and persistently pressed by the Russian Minister at Pekin, but it was absolutely refused by the Chinese Government. Thereupon an order came to Shanghai to rush work on the vessels and go out to certain death next Sunday. The distress of the Askold's crew when this news was received was pitiable. From the first the officers and crew have urged disarmament, but the Minister at Pekin would not consider the suggestion.

The dock managers yesterday notified the Russian officials that the Askold's hull could not be repaired by Sunday. More telegraphing to Pekin followed, and last night the welcome order to dismantle was received by the Russian Admiral. Under the supervision of the customs authorities representing China the Askold and Grozovoi will go out of commission before Sunday, and as soon as they are patched up they will take their places alongside the gunboat Mandjur, which was dismantled last March.

There is general satisfaction here over the outcome of the matter. It is understood that the Japanese fleet will remain until the Russian vessels are completely disarmed.

THE LONDIKE'S WEALTH.

Clean-up Resulted in Twenty Thousand Dollars in Thirty Hours.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 29.—That there is wealth in the Klondike yet is attested by some phenomenal reports that are received by just-arriving steamers. At No. 10, Eldorado Creek, on the 7th and 8th instants, Jerry Madison and Peter Brown shovelled in \$20,000 in less than 30 hours. The clean-up was as big a surprise to them as to others in the camp, as they did not think such ground remained in the claim, which has been worked continuously since 1897.

The Federal Government will shortly be petitioned by the Yukon miners to assume the solution for them of the water problem. If war can be brought in sufficient quantity and at a fair price from the hills, thirty miles distant, it is held that hydraulic mining in the Klondike district will yield fortunes for another half century.

FOREST FIRES RAGE.

The Loss to Date in British Columbia is Nearly \$2,500,000.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 29.—Most destructive forest fires are still raging in British Columbia. It has been stated officially that the loss to date is \$2,500,000, and if rain does not come soon the result will be serious. At Wullfishan's Bay, 20 miles of timber is burning, the timber being the best in the province, owned by many of the most prominent companies. On nearly all the islands of the Gulf of Georgia the timber is burning furiously. Forest fires are also raging on Vancouver and in East and West Kootenay, the settlements being threatened with destruction in these places.

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