

Co. Ld.
Shoes,
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Boots and Shoes in the
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etc., in each of our five
centy. Letter orders
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Them

HEMIST, 98 GOVERN-
MENT ST. NEAR YATES
HONES, 425 AND 450

Co., Ltd.

Smelters of
Silver Ores.

ISLAND, B. C.
or the sea.

THOS. KIDDIE
Smelter Manager.

LAND REGISTRY ACT
Matter of Lot 1313, Victoria City,
in the Matter of an Application on
if of Charles West, District
reason for an indefeasible Title to

is hereby given that it is my in-
to issue a Certificate of Indefea-
to the above lands to Charles
Ringley Thomson on the 24th day of
ber, 1904, unless in the meantime
objection thereto be made to me in
by a person claiming an estate or
title, or in any part thereof.
S. Y. WOODFORD,
Registry Officer,
Victoria, B. C., 21st June, 1904.

is hereby given that 60 days after
understands intends to apply to
Commissioner of Lands and
for permission to purchase the fol-
lowing land situated on the right
bank of the Skeena River, Coast District,
Columbia, commencing at a point
W. D. McNeil, S. E. corner of Charles
P. Romp's S. W. corner, about one
half miles west of Koh-rex River,
running north 20 chains, thence west
south 20 chains, thence west 20
chains, thence east to the point of
commencement, containing 360 acres more
or less.
W. D. McNEIL,
9th, 1904.

is hereby given that sixty days
I intend to apply to the Hon-
ble Commissioner of Lands and
for permission to purchase the fol-
lowing tract of land situated on
the Portland Canal, Coast District,
opposite Salmon River, commencing
post marked G. C. S. W. C., thence
south 20 chains, thence west 20
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GRAHAM CHAMBERS,
4th, 1904.

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\$1.00 PER YEAR, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE, TO ANY ADDRESS IN
CANADA, UNITED STATES, OR GREAT BRITAIN.



VOL. 35. TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1904. NO. 52.

JAP WARSHIP SUNK BY A MINE

Nearly Two Hundred and Fifty Officers and Men Believed to Have Gone Down With Vessel.

Field Marshal Oyama's Troops Are Moving Northward to Meet the Advancing Russians--Report That a General Engagement is Now in Progress.

Mukden, Oct. 10.—The sound of a heavy cannonade is distinctly audible from the centre of the Russian advance. The Chinese persistently declare that only a few Japanese remain at Liao Yang. Heavy rain is falling.

THE RUSSIANS ARE
MOVING SOUTHWARD.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 11.—12.15 a. m.—A battle, upon which the fate of this year's campaign in Manchuria depends, seems only a few days distant, though advice from the front are meagre. All that is positively known is that Gen. Kouropatkin is marching resolutely against the enemy to do or die.

According to unofficial reports, Field Marshal Oyama, at the first sign of Gen. Kouropatkin taking the offensive, began drawing in his line and concentrating upon fortified positions north of Liao Yang. According to the latest reports, which are contained in a dispatch to the Associated Press from Mukden, dated 6 o'clock to-night, the Japanese outposts are being driven in all along the line.

The strategy of the forward movement will be concealed, as were the preparations for the advance. It is not clear whether Gen. Kouropatkin contemplates a blow on the left, centre or right of the Japanese army, but the fact that stress is laid upon the capture of Bentsiapue, which opens a road and fords the Bentsia 20 miles east of Daoyang, where Gen. Kuruki crossed, and the Cossacks are already reported in the neighborhood of the stream, might foreshadow an exact reversal of the battle of Liao Yang, at this time the Russian commander flanking and turning Liao Yang with his left as Field Marshal Oyama did with his right.

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It is reported that the Japanese have abandoned Sianchin, Siamatze and Meichou, positions east of Port Arthur. In political circles, however, stress is laid upon the moral aid of the Chinese and that may be accountable for Gen. Kouropatkin advancing without being compelled to abandon the sacred city of Mukden, if being remembered that the Japanese failed to reach the city of imperial tombs during the China-Japan war.

IMPORTANT POSITION
CAPTURED FROM JAPS.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 10.—The formal announcement that Gen. Kouropatkin is at last strong enough to assume the offensive, together with unofficial reports that offensive movements against the three armies of Field Marshal Oyama have been progressing since October 4th, has sent a thrill of joy throughout Russia. The announcement, which had been awaited patiently through the long, weary months of discouragement and defeat, had an instantaneous effect. The public bulletin boards at the street corners, upon which were posted copies of Kouropatkin's order of the day, were surrounded by crowds, really cheerful for the first time since the war began.

All the papers acclaim the tidings with intense satisfaction, at the same time warning the public not to harbor illusions and saying they must be prepared for the heavy sacrifices involved in attacking so powerful and determined an enemy.

The capture of Bentsiapue, which was strongly fortified and where, it was reported, General Kuruki commanded a person, is officially confirmed. The fighting, however, was not severe, the Japanese retiring on finding themselves outflanked. The Russian losses were only twenty-five killed or wounded, including an officer.

Heavy fighting is hardly likely before a week at the earliest. It is now evident that Field Marshal Oyama is preparing to meet Russian advances by fortifying the positions north of Liao Yang. According to the estimates at the war office, Oyama's total strength is about

250,000 men, of which 150,000 are posted between the Hun river, to the west, and Bentsiapue eastward. The remainder being held in reserve at Liao Yang. Kouropatkin disposes of nine corps, giving him, perhaps, a slight superiority in numbers.

Gen. Kouropatkin is in the field, personally directing the forward movements of his army, which, it is understood, is divided into two strong columns moving on each side of the railroad, whence they will draw their supplies, their flanks being secured by no less than 150 squadrons of Cossacks. Russians are operating along a front of between forty and forty-five miles, extending from Kaenfon pass to Bentsiapue on the west. They are taking every precaution against possible counter attacks, throwing up entrenchments as they advance southward.

The evacuation of Bentsiapue left the flank of the Japanese position at the Yental mines unprotected, and news of the abandonment of the mines is, therefore, hourly expected.

The Japanese appear to be concentrating their forces in the fortifications formerly occupied by the Russians on the right bank of the Taitse river, which are exceedingly strong, and they have an equally good defence north and south. The Japanese retired from Bentsiapue almost without a struggle, fearing that Gen. Mitchenko's Cossacks would surround the position and cut them off.

Bentsiapue is of the highest importance, commanding the roads from Mukden and Poshun to Liao Yang and Bentsiapue. Private advice from Mukden just received indicate that the artillery is already at work.

An engagement is reported to have occurred yesterday on the Russian right flank fourteen miles southwest of Mukden. Such news of Russian movements as may be given out without compromising the Japanese is likely to be telegraphed by Gen. Kouropatkin in each evening, after the day's work in the field is over.

A dispatch to the Bourne Gazette from Mukden dated yesterday says: "The general situation at the seat of war has materially changed. The Japanese main army is retiring southward. Its right wing has gone thirty miles southward, evacuating Sianchin, Siamatze, Siamatze, Fenshui pass and the neighborhood of Kwankiasian. The Japanese are thus giving up not only the positions which they occupied after the battle of Liao Yang, but places they had previously taken."

After the farewell review of the Baltic fleet at Revel to-day by Emperor Nicholas the squadron sailed for Libau, whence it is declared they will within a few days weigh anchor for the long voyage to the Pacific.

THE MIKADO'S MESSAGE
TO THE JAPANESE.

London, Oct. 10.—A dispatch to the news agency from Tokio says: "As an audience this morning the Emperor Nicholas handed the premier a message to the nation, as follows: 'Since the commencement of hostilities our army and navy have displayed conspicuous loyalty and bravery, and, with the official and people with united minds, accompanying our instructions, they have hitherto steadily advanced by progressive steps. Nevertheless our prospects of final success are still distant. I earnestly hope that the sincerity of the national spirit will enable us to stanch our final effort.'"

decision to take the offensive it is not forgotten how recently the Russian plan of campaign was reported to be to lead the Japanese northward in order to attenuate their communications, and hence there is greater surprise at what is considered a remarkable order.

Various reasons are advanced by the critics as having possibly actuated Kouropatkin: first, that Japanese inactivity led him to suppose that he was stronger numerically; second, that intrigues connected with the appointment of a new commander-in-chief may have determined Kouropatkin to precipitate matters, and third, according to the English critics, by far the most acceptable explanation, that he again has been overruled from St. Petersburg and is acting on imperial orders.

"He seems to be thrusting his head into the lion's jaws," says the Daily Telegraph, "under instructions from St. Petersburg to give the Czar victory at any cost."

Spencer Wilkinson, in the Morning Post, takes similar views. He says that Kouropatkin's mention of the relief of Port Arthur and the fact that immediately following the decision to send out a strong army he is about to risk everything in an attack by the first army suggests government pressure. If so, Mr. Wilkinson says, his advance is a sign of the prospect of a decisive battle, since it is considered after such an order for retreat is impossible for the Russians without demoralization; and, as Spencer Wilkinson remarks, should Kouropatkin be beaten now nobody will expect the second Russian army to succeed any better than the first.

WERE DRIVEN BACK
BY ARTILLERY FIRE.

Chefoo, Oct. 10.—The Russian agent here has telegraphed, however, that there has been no fighting of importance at Port Arthur since the last big assault on the fortress from September 19th to September 22nd. On the night of October 6th the Japanese and the Russians retired from Tache bay and the Russians retired in the face of superior numbers. The next day, however, the Japanese were driven out by the Russian gun which they had mounted being destroyed.

SUNK BY A MINE IN
PIGEON BAY.

Tokio, Oct. 11.—3 p. m.—The Japanese gunboat Heien struck a mine in Pigeon bay, west of Port Arthur, on the 15th, and sank. Only four of her crew were rescued.

The naval registers available do not mention a Japanese gunboat named Heien, but they contain the name of a Japanese coast defence vessel the Hei Yen, which may be the warship destroyed. The Hei Yen is of 2,067 tons and was built in 1880. She was torpedoed by the Japanese from the Chinese during the war between China and Japan. Her armament consists of one 10.2-inch Krupp gun, two 5.9-inch guns, six small rapid fire guns and two torpedoes. The Hei Yen carried a crew of 250 officers and men.

SCOUTS SKIRMISHING
ALONG WHOLE LINE.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 11.—Gen. Kouropatkin has telegraphed to the Emperor that the Russian vanguard is in contact with the Japanese, who are within gunshot. The scouts are skirmishing along the entire line.

JAPANESE MEET
KOUROPATKIN'S TROOPS.

Tokio, Oct. 11.—4 p. m.—It is reported that the Russians have crossed the Hun river in heavy force and are aggressively attacking the Japanese forces, which were moving forward.

A general engagement is said to be in progress.

ADVANCING RUSSIANS
MOVING CAUTIOUSLY.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 11.—12.45 p. m.—A period of anxiety is ahead. The Russian public have been warned that now the tables are turned and the Russian army is advancing they cannot expect news which might reveal Gen. Kouropatkin's plans to the Japanese, and therefore will have to be content with meagre information concerning what has actually been accomplished until the pending battle is in full swing. The same reticence characterized the Japanese officers. With the curtain drawn on the war stage, many wild rumors may be expected.

While the general staff intimates that Kouropatkin is advancing cautiously and entrenching as he goes, most of the military critics are of the opinion that his greatest chances of a success is a quick smash at the Japanese positions north of the Taitse river, which would drive the Japanese in confusion back upon the river before they had a chance to prepare for their withdrawal.

As Kouropatkin's order of the day was not given out until seven days after the advance began it would not be surprising if heavy fighting was already in progress. The latest newspaper dispatches say that an artillery duel lasted throughout Sunday on the centre and right flank and that the Japanese are everywhere retiring before the Russian advance. The

statement that Kouropatkin is moving on each side of the railroad in order to have an easy line of communications would indicate his intention to make a frontal attack, with a possible turning movement from the west, where the ground is open and where the river bars the way and no decisive victory is seemingly possible unless he can reach the Japanese line of communications below Liao Yang.

A special dispatch from Chefoo says that a military expert writes: "It is difficult to say when Field Marshal Oyama will accept battle. Perhaps he will retreat the advance at various positions north of the Taitse river, and then defend the river, but according to the latest unofficial reports our troops are advancing along the whole line, and the cavalry is even across the Taitse river."

"We left Mukden the afternoon of the same day amid the cheers of the soldiers for the purpose of taking the regiments on their way to the front."

"The men are now thoroughly rested and equipped, and there is no trace of the fatigue shown at Liao Yang. There is a very different spirit abroad and that noticeable on the retreat from Tachekiao."

"Regiments are arriving from Russia in full condition. The men are in better spirits the nearer they get to the front."

"Now it is our turn" is heard everywhere in the ranks. "The veterans who fought with Skobeleff were left at Mukden in the fire. The gray haired old 'Lurkstan' fighter seems to have grown quite young."

THE RUSSIANS WERE
FORCED TO RETIRE.

Field Headquarters of the Second Japanese Army, Oct. 9, noon, via Poshun, Oct. 10.—Daily skirmishing is occurring along the Japanese advance line. On Friday Japanese cavalry attacked two companies of Russian infantry and two regiments of cavalry with machine guns on the right bank of the river Hun, southwest of Choran. The Russians were driven back to the northwest. The Russian casualties were fifteen, the Japanese sustained no loss. On Saturday the Japanese advance infantry drove back 400 Russian cavalry at Tachik. The Russians lost from twenty to thirty men.

RUSSIA WILL EXACT
PROPER REPARATION.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 11.—The Russian says: "General Kouropatkin's victory will have as important a political effect in Europe as a military effect in Manchuria. Already the chancelleries of the world have realized that it was time to talk, and some of those who had been praying for Russia's downfall or weakening have begun to consider the propriety of renewing the fast dwindling friendship of Russia does not expect to march to speedy victory, but rather to make to undertake sacrifices in order to vindicate her power and exact proper reparation from Japan."

PIEROCE FIGHTING
NORTH OF YENTAL.

Mukden, Oct. 11.—11 p. m.—A bloody battle is now raging about six miles north of Yental railroad station. The Japanese on Sunday fell back along the whole front and the Russians advanced across the Schill river and came within three miles of Yental, but yesterday the Japanese received strong reinforcements of infantry and artillery and not only held their positions, but even assumed the offensive. The fighting lasted all day and night.

The Japanese directed their artillery fire with great skill and searched the Russian positions so fiercely that the Russians fell back north of the Schill river, which crosses the railroad seven miles from Yental.

The Russians this morning resumed their advance and once again crossed the river and engaged the Japanese two miles south of it. A terrific artillery engagement is progressing all along the entire front. The result is still unknown.

KOUROPATKIN MUST
MAKE FRONTAL ATTACK.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 12.—2.10 a. m.—Severe fighting north of Yental, resulting in a temporary check of Gen. Kouropatkin's advance guard, of which the Associated Press correspondent at Mukden telegraphed the first news, is not regarded at the war office here as indicating a general engagement. The latest official dispatches indicating the disposition of the various corps, show that the whole army is not yet in line of battle. The present engagement may, therefore, be regarded as the result of a counter attack, which an enterprising foe like the Japanese might be expected to make, but without advance calculation to prevent the Russian advance.

Gen. Kouropatkin's present superiority in numbers, it is said here, is boundedly or later, to compel the Japanese to fall back upon their strong positions within the triangle formed by Yental, Liao Yang and Sykwantun. Everything points to that direction as being the prospective centre of the decisive struggle of this year's campaign.

decreased men, smiled grimly, and stepping to the front, read personally the announcement of a forward movement. This was received by deafening cheers as soon as it was heard, but quicker than printed copies could be circulated the announcement went from camp to camp and from bivouac to bivouac, the men acting like schoolboys on a vacation when they learned what was in the wind.

"It is true that the army is fit to measure itself with the Japanese host," General Kouropatkin had gathered up reinforcements and welded an incomplete army into a compact whole, and is ready to advance against what we have reason to know is a brave and clever enemy.

"Victory Alexieff arrived from Harbin October 6th to say farewell to General Kouropatkin in view of the latter's departure for the front, and Victory Alexieff's subsequent return to Russia."

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and hence lines of communication are more vulnerable from the east. The Japanese are influenced by a similar consideration, but the railroad no longer plays a foremost part in their plans. In view of the approaching close of navigation at Yentai, one of the facts that the line from Pitsewo is long and cumbersome and liable to interruption, they must consider Feng Huang Cheng and Takushan as the source of supplies during the winter, and with this in view the eastern communications of Liao Yang are of the utmost importance.

The Yental triangle is admirably situated to protect them. Field Marshal Oyama must, therefore, hold this triangle at all costs. The problem confronting Gen. Kouropatkin in the immediate future is the capture of the fortified heights comprising this triangle where the Japanese will have the advantage of fighting behind breastworks and utilizing their superiority in mountain guns. The general superiority of the Japanese in mountain operations was conceded. The Russian commander undoubtedly is aware of the difficulties of the task before him, has measured them well and is confident of his ability to overcome them.

If Gen. Kouropatkin possessed an army of half a million men he could leave a sufficient force to attack the triangle in full condition. The men are in better spirits the nearer they get to the front."

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PREMIER OPENS ONTARIO CAMPAIGN

SPOKE AT ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT HAMILTON

Another Batch of Nominations—Warning to Wearers of Ill-Fitting Boots.

Montreal, Oct. 11.—The following nominations for the House of Commons were made yesterday:

Durham—A. B. Aylesworth, K. C., Liberal.

Toronto West—E. B. Osler, Conservative.

Hants, N. S.—F. W. Harrish, Conservative.

Brant, Ont.—Hon. W. Paterson, Liberal.

Argenteuil, Que.—Thomas Christie, Liberal.

West Northumberland, Ont.—J. B. McColl, Liberal.

The Premier in Ontario.

Hamilton, Ont., Oct. 11.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier opened the Ontario campaign here last night, addressing an enthusiastic meeting. The hall was packed.

Chevalier Drolet Dead.

Montreal, Oct. 11.—Chevalier Dro