

OYAMA'S THREE ARMIES. READY TO MEET RUSSIANS.

Planning to Force Evacuation of Moukden.

The Japanese continued their advance toward Moukden, the vanguard of Marquis Oyama's forces being only thirty miles away.

But it is expected that the Russians will make a stubborn resistance at the Fu-Shan mines.

Three Japanese armies are concentrated to move against the Russians, with the purpose of forcing the evacuation of Moukden, which the Japanese design to use for winter quarters.

It was reported, but without official confirmation, that the Japanese had captured another height overlooking Port Arthur, giving them two good gun positions from which to threaten the Russian defenses.

The Russian cruiser Terek, which has been annoying British vessels near Gibraltar, put in at the Canary Islands for coal, but the taking of it was stopped by the Madrid government, and the vessel was directed to depart, which the commander said he could not do, as his engines needed repairs.

NEARING MOUKDEN.

Japanese Vanguard Only Thirty Miles Away.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 23, 8:30 a. m.—The Japanese advance toward Moukden continues slowly, according to information received by the authorities here.

Both official reports and press dispatches place Marquis Oyama's advance guard thirty miles south of Moukden. While stories printed in the foreign press that a great battle at Moukden has already begun are disproved by actual development at the scene of operations, there is no question in the minds of Russian authorities of the importance of Moukden to the Japanese as a winter base.

It is believed the Japanese will exert every effort to push out the Russians, but it is thought a serious struggle for the possession of the town is still some days distant. The Japanese probably will have to reckon first with a stubborn defence of the Fushan mines, where the next important fight is expected to take place.

Judging by present developments, Marquis Oyama is giving up the idea of cutting General Kuropatkin's communication to the northward, and contenting himself with advancing upon the Russian front and flank in such fashion as to force the evacuation of the town and compel the Russians to retreat further north.

The whole plan of the Japanese advance shows a considerable difference from the operations at Liao-Yang. At the same time it is possible the Japanese are again making undisclosed movements, as they have successfully done in the past.

According to the best information, Oyama has three armies concentrated south and southeast of Moukden, a fourth corps, consisting of two divisions, composed of men drafted from the armies of Generals Kuroki, Nodzu and Oku, being detached to Dalian-Chan, and thence sending out flanking columns northward and north-eastward, with the object of protecting Oyama's right and at the same time driving in the Russian outposts.

An enveloping movement on such a large scale as General Kuroki essayed at Liao-Yang is not expected. Evidently the Japanese realize that their strength is inadequate to justify another attempt to surround General Kuropatkin, who now is stronger by two army corps than he was at Liao-Yang.

The report has gained some credence here that it is the intention of the Japanese to winter at Moukden if they can take the town, and then hold on until an accumulation of Russian forces on their front compels them to retire to the Liao-Tung Peninsula and Corea, the retreat in this direction drawing General Kuropatkin after them.

A detachment under General Rensenkampff, while reconnoitering yesterday, lost two officers and nine men killed and had three officers and twenty-three men wounded.

During the repulse of the recent Japanese attack on Da Pass General Peterhof took several prisoners and captured a quantity of arms and ammunition. The Russians lost a captain and three men killed and had forty-five men wounded.

There is no further news from Port Arthur, but the anxiety as to the fate of its gallant defenders has been relieved by foreign telegrams received here announcing that the Japanese have not captured any important positions.

Field Marshal Oyama's long report of the repulse of what he calls the Russian counter-attack on Pinaltzu is classed here as being nothing more or less than the Japanese version of the reconnaissance of Generals Samsonoff's and Rensenkampff's forces north of Bentslapudtza, detailed from here in the Associated Press dispatches of September 19. Oyama's report attributes undue importance to this operation. Kuropatkin obviously did not contemplate pressing home his attack, since he sent a comparatively small force against the Japanese main army.

Orders have been issued here to prepare seven rifle brigades for service in the Far East.

RUSSIAN ATTENTIONS TO JAPANESE.

Kaloga, Russia, Sept. 22.—At an entertainment last night in honor of the Japanese officers who are detained here as prisoners of war the society leaders vied with each other in showing them every attention.

WOUNDED RUSSIANS RECOVERING.

Tsingtau, Sept. 22.—Captain Matousevitch has recovered sufficiently to leave the hospital, and the other wounded Russians here are convalescing. The majority of the officers of the Russian battleship Carevitch and the three torpedo boat destroyers dismantled here have left their ships and are living at hotels.

LAZY COFFEE

Another Name for the "Sloppy" Sort.

Postum Coffee is not made like ordinary coffee, for it takes at least 25 minutes' cooking to bring out the heavy food value of Postum. It requires some effort for those things which are really worth while—making Postum requires a little care.

COLD AT MOUKDEN.

Overcoats for Troops—Scouting Party Within Japanese Lines.

Moukden, Sept. 22.—The situation here continues quiet. Small parties of Japanese skirmishers are pushing northward on the road from Bentslapudtza to Fu-Shan.

It is stated by Russian spies that Marquis Oyama has detached a considerable force to co-operate with the army before Port Arthur. The Russians have taken many Manchinese prisoners, among them being found a number of Chinese regular soldiers.

The weather has turned suddenly cold. The supply of uniforms is inadequate, and the soldiers are being supplied with Chinese padded overcoats, which have been bought in large quantities. Many Chinese families are leaving Moukden.

The Chinese are extensively counterfeiting Russian money. Chinese have brought into Moukden ten soldiers who had been thought either killed or captured at Liao-Yang. They had been rescued and cared for by the natives, who fed them and brought them into the Russian lines. The Chinese had refused payment from the men, but they were suitably rewarded by the officers of the regiment.

The surgeon of one of the Siberian regiments, who was captured at Liao-Yang, has arrived here. The Japanese found him attending the wounded. They treated him well, entertained him at a concert in the Liao-Yang summer garden, and offered him a place as surgeon in the Japanese army. Finding that he preferred his own regiment, the Japanese good naturedly escorted him to the lines and allowed him to return to Moukden.

Captain Shubert and four Buriat Cossacks have returned from a long scout south of the Japanese main army. The captain brings important information regarding the Japanese locations and movements, and says active operations in this vicinity will probably develop within a few days. Captain Shubert experienced great kindness at the hands of the Chinese, who fed him and his men and offered to disguise them in Chinese clothing. This, however, was not necessary, as the party eluded the Japanese pickets, passing within a few yards of one, and reaching the Russian lines in safety.

COMMAND PORT ARTHUR.

Japanese Believed to Possess Two Excellent Gun Positions.

Tokio, Sept. 22.—While official confirmation is lacking, it seems certain that the Japanese possess a fort on another height westward of Itzhan, which they carried by desperate assaults and have since resisted all attempts to recapture by the Russians. Both these heights overlook Port Arthur, offering excellent gun positions, which materially weaken the Russian defenses.

RUSSIANS RECONNOITRE.

Movements Along the Japanese Front by Cavalry.

General Kuroki's Headquarters in the Field, Sept. 17, by way of Fusan, Sept. 22.—The Russians are reconnoitering along the Japanese front with a large force of cavalry, supported by guns. With three guns they appeared yesterday evening within 6,000 yards of Yentai station, and threw a few shells at the station. They continued the cannonading at intervals all day to-day. The Russian force on the Moukden road extends from Shatso, eight miles north of Yentai, to Tsaroltsau, five miles northeast.

COAL FOR PORT ARTHUR.

Cargoes at Tsingtau Believed To Be Going There.

Tsingtau, Sept. 22.—Several colliers have arrived here within the last ten days. It is believed the cargoes are intended for Port Arthur. The British collier Foxton Hall has transferred her cargo of Cardiff coal to the German steamer Fricka, which the local authorities would not allow to leave until given assurance that no attempt would be made to enter Port Arthur. The Fricka sails at daylight, and Japan is given as her destination, but it is believed that she will ultimately make for Port Arthur, where the Russians are offering stupendous inducements for the delivery of coal.

RUSSIAN PLAN AT LIAO-YANG.

What General Oku Believes To Have Been General Kuropatkin's Intention.

Tokio, Sept. 22.—General Oku has written an extended report of the operations preceding the capture of Liao-Yang, and in conclusion he expresses the opinion that General Kuropatkin had determined to hold Liao-Yang, his plan being first to attack and defeat General Kuroki and then to assail the Japanese centre and left armies. Oku declares that the stubborn resistance of the Russians at Liao-Yang proves that their retreat was not prearranged.

REFUSED TO TAKE RUSSIANS HOME.

Offer Made to Austrian Captain at Shanghai in Behalf of Those Aboard the Askold.

Manila, Sept. 22.—Captain R. Colledani, of the Austrian steamer Austria, which has arrived here from Shanghai, says \$25,000 was offered to him to transport the crew and twenty-six officers of the Russian cruiser Askold from Shanghai to Russia after the Askold escaped from Port Arthur last month and found refuge at Shanghai, where she was dismantled.

The Japanese consul at Shanghai warned the captain that if he did this service he would run the danger of being held up or even sunk by the Japanese warships, and the offer consequently was declined.

RUSSIAN CASUALTIES AT LIAO-YANG.

Official List Shows 1,810 Killed and 10,811 Wounded.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 22.—The General Staff has issued a revised list of the Russian casualties at Liao-Yang, showing that 1,810 men were killed, that 10,811 were wounded, and that 1,212 were left on the field. Fifty-four regimental officers were killed and 252 were wounded; two generals were killed and three were wounded; five officers were left on the field. Of those wounded 1,334 men and 34 officers have already returned to duty. Those reported to be missing are probably dead.

NAN-SHAN'S WEAKNESS.

Russian Failure to Strengthen Forts on Kin-Chow Bay.

(From an Occasional Correspondent of The Tribune.) Dainy, Aug. 16.—Nan-Shan, where General Oku won his remarkable victory, owes both its strength and its weakness to the bays on either flank—Kin-Chow Bay and the shallow inlet called Hand Bay; its strength, in that a flanking movement beyond the range even of mountain batteries is hazardous either to the right or to the left, and its weakness, because the position made it possible for the fire of Japanese gunboats, at high tide, to silence completely the forts fronting Kin-Chow Bay, and allowed the Osaka division to make its final successful charge. As the official report of General Oku states, the Japanese infantry charged Nan-Shan from three sides all day, and the Osaka division was eventually able to reach the heights at 9 o'clock in the evening.

One of the most striking features of Nan-Shan and its vicinity is the entire absence of any neighboring eminence favorable to an attacking army to place artillery. For this reason the most important factor of Japanese superiority in this arm was completely eliminated. The attacks were a succession of badly supported infantry charges—nothing more. The long, sloping hill meadow in the centre of the position faces the village suburbs of Kin-Chow. The whole view from this side is a wide plain, with little Chinese towns studied here and there, the mountains well behind, and on either hand the mountains to the left, a mile or so away.

The Tokyo division attacked the centre from cover of these village suburbs in the morning. There is here a range of connected trenches extending in and out of covered ways clear to the rear of the hill. From these trenches terraced firing was possible, and it can clearly be seen that the Tokyo division must have received the fire of every Russian rifle from the lowest trench to the highest. The trenches are not, however, loopholed, nor are they all of the permanent character suggested by the fortifications—covered ways and emplacements, searchlights and storehouses—upon the heights of the position.

To the right of Nan-Shan lies Hand Bay, where the gunboat Bobr was able to direct its fire upon the Japanese troops in support of the artillery and infantry. On this side it is more precipitous, but not so much more as to prevent the highest trenches from sweeping the hillside everywhere, or to interfere with the free play of the artillery upon an advancing force. There were also many wire entanglements here, and, in fact, it was perhaps even more difficult to attack than the centre. No impression whatever was made on this side.

But the Russians made a fatal mistake on their own left flank in not strengthening the forts facing Kin-Chow Bay against an attack by sea. In fact, they underestimated the fire of the gunboats, and this mistake cost them the hill. For on this side, when on the high tide the gunboats drew in toward evening, the forts were completely silenced, and the tired Osakas made one last successful charge. Had these forts been able to withstand the naval guns a little longer, reinforcements would have arrived. As it was, the Russians could not command these forts with their remaining artillery, and they were obliged to begin a retreat which was little better than a rout. In this respect Russian lack of foresight meant a complete neglect of the power of shallow draught gunboats, which can hardly be accounted for, as they were quite aware of the usefulness of their own Bobr on the other flank. It was a private battle from the Japanese standpoint, to him alone most of the credit is due.

A description of the ensuing advance upon the Russian lines of defence may not pass the censor; it was through a country studded with innumerable hills. They are so irregular that not even the suggestion of a range can be perceived, and through all this country the Russian positions can only be described as armed precipices. In themselves they are impregnable; but in their numbers lies their weakness. Wherever the Russians occupied a position favorably for defence, the Japanese could find one equally suitable for attack. Such a country could only have been defended by a far greater force than the Russians had at their disposal.

Through all the peninsula there is no sign of an army's ravages. There has been no marauding, no foraging, no burning of houses; the Chinaman has held the role of a privileged spectator. On August 15, from the hill called Anshire by the Japanese, the operations against Port Arthur could be seen from a distance. It was as if one were watching fireworks a long way off—a puff of smoke in the twilight, an indistinct cloud, rising slowly, like that sort of rocket called the parachute, and then the long awaited report; and everywhere on the surrounding hillside lay the corn fields, ready for harvesting, undisturbed. The little donkeys which the Chinese farmers use went on quietly feeding. It was just the peaceful, ordered picture of a prosperous countryside; and not ten miles away a hundred thousand men were fighting for their lives.

THE TEREK AT CANARIES.

Ordered by Spain to Stop Coaling—Unable to Depart.

Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Sept. 22.—The Russian cruiser Terek, which has been stopping British vessels in the vicinity of Gibraltar, began coaling here yesterday, but, on orders received to-day from Madrid, she was stopped coaling and was ordered to depart from here in course of the morning. Her commander replied that he was unable to put to sea owing to the Terek's engines needing repairs. She was, however, forbidden to take on board any more coal, or any water or stores.

WANT MANCHURIA RESTORED.

Manchus Urge Special Mission to European Powers to Secure This.

Shanghai, Sept. 22.—It continues to be reported here that the Manchus at Peking are anxious to secure the assistance of foreign powers to compel Japan to restore Manchuria to China without conditions, and that they are still urging that a special mission be sent to the European courts with this object in view. It is added that if these representations are not successful a renewal of the anti-foreign agitation is not impossible, and the mission of Tse-Hiang (the Manchu official from Peking who has been in the southern provinces for some time) in collecting funds to reorganize the Chinese army is, therefore, regarded here with suspicion.

TAKING COAL FOR RUSSIAN FLEET?

Emden, Germany, Sept. 22.—Three steamers chartered by the Hamburg-American Steamship Company are loading coal here, and it is reported that the fuel is destined for the Russian fleet. The captains of the steamers are to sail from here under sealed orders.

STEEL PLATES FOR RUSSIA OR JAPAN?

Portland, Ore., Sept. 22.—The Telegram says that James J. Hill has asked E. H. Harriman to transport three thousand tons of steel plates to Hong Kong, and that he would have been sent from the Northern Pacific terminal on Hill steamers to the Orient. The reason for the Northern Pacific action in desiring the steel reshipped from this city to the Orient is not clear to shipping men, but it is believed the war situation has led to the action of the Northern Pacific. It cannot be learned here what action the Harriman interests will take in the matter.

CHINA AND TIBET.

Russian Protest Against the Proposed Treaty with England.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 22.—The Russian protest against the Anglo-Tibetan treaty has been presented at Peking. M. Lessar, the Russian Minister, is understood to have called the attention of the Chinese Foreign Office to the fact that China would abandon her suzerainty over Tibet if she ratified the treaty, thus creating a British protectorate. The Foreign Office here has not yet received M. Lessar's report, but the dispatch from Peking to "The Morning Post," of London, announcing that China is not willing to ratify the treaty is believed to be the direct outcome of Russia's protest.

The Associated Press learns that Russia's representation to Great Britain in respect to Tibet is based on the apparent difference in the assurances given Count Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador to Great Britain, on June 2 and the published terms of the Anglo-Tibetan treaty. The assurances, which were incorporated in a formal memorandum, stated specifically that Great Britain would not maintain a military occupation of Tibet, would not establish a protectorate over the region, and would respect the integrity of China. Information which Russia has obtained from Chinese sources establishes the fact that the published version of the treaty is practically that signed at Lhasa, so Russia contends that, being provisional with the possibility of a permanent occupation of the Chumbi Valley, it may be considered to be a violation of the British assurances.

Moreover, Article IX is so sweeping as to make British authority in Tibet practically displace that of China. Great Britain claims that the Chumbi Valley is not really part of Tibet, though subject to its jurisdiction, and that she has no intention to hold it permanently. The Russian objection, therefore, is based principally on Article IX. It is not expected in diplomatic quarters that the incident will precipitate grave complications, as Russia's interest in Tibet is to a large extent academic. But it is important from her point of view that Great Britain shall not have such control over Chinese territory as to enable her practically to dictate what she shall and shall not do in respect to dealings with foreign nations or their citizens.

FOR RUSSIAN SEA POWER.

Every Available Ship Needed in Far East—Working Night and Day.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 22.—Captain Cladot, Vice-Admiral Skrydloff's chief of staff, has arrived here from Vladivostok with important dispatches for the Emperor. In an interview Captain Cladot informed the correspondent of The Associated Press that the repairs to the protected cruiser Bogatyr had been completed, that the damages to the armored cruisers Gromobol and Rossiya did not make necessary their going into drydock, and that both were fit to resume active service. He admits that the chief mission of these vessels is to prey upon commerce, but says they had a hard fight with Vice-Admiral Kamimura's ships when the latter attempted to cut off their retreat. Captain Cladot says that the Russians will be unable to recapture Port Arthur, in the event of its fall, without having the mastery of the sea, and urges the dispatch of every available ship to the Far East, including the Black Sea fleet.

Admiral Birleff, the Russian naval commander at Cronstadt, has ordered the battleship Orel, the cruisers Oleg and Jemchug, and the transport Kamchatka to be ready for sea on September 25, and the cruiser Izumrud on September 29. Full powers have been granted to the captains to use the whole of the dockyard staff at Cronstadt, which is working night and day in order to complete these vessels' trials by the dates specified. They will then proceed to join Vice-Admiral Rozhdestvensky's squadron.

The correspondent of The Associated Press is informed on good authority that Grand Duke Alexis, the High Admiral, favors sending out the Baltic fleet to the Far East by way of Cape Horn, but it is still undecided whether the fleet will start this year.

WAR VIEWS OF EXPERTS.

Kuropatkin on Guard Against a Japanese Flank Movement.

(FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.) Washington, Sept. 22.—The experts say that the reports from the theatre of war show that the activities of the opposing forces are confined to skirmishes and scouting parties. The movements are evidently those of small detachments, which may have the relation of reconnoitering parties to the main bodies. Kuropatkin's statement that he believes the Japanese are making an effort to flank his left suggests that the force under Kuroki is being handled with the purpose of bringing on an engagement. The Russian commander evidently keeps posted on the movements of his enemy, and is in a position to follow their plans. This is the quality which has gained praise for Kuropatkin from American officers, who regard him as more of a strategist than a fighter. They say that of a present estimate of the Russian leader would accord him all possible commendation for what he has accomplished in the face of numerous obstacles and despite adverse conditions, the main element against him being the superiority in strength of his adversaries. It is plain to the experts here that Kuropatkin intends to guard against the repetition of the flank movement at Moukden, although the best safeguard may require his further retreat.

One of the features which has interested the experts here is the report of the Russian losses at Liao-Yang. This enables the officers to judge something of the engagement, and it would appear that the conflict was of larger dimensions than has been supposed. There was evidently something in the form of resistance by the Russians, say the officers, although it may not have been more than was absolutely necessary to cover the retreat of the larger body and the supplies. It would be interesting also to know the extent of the Japanese losses in the same conflict. The latter must have been able to recover promptly and restore their formations, if it is true that they are already advancing, however deliberately.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR CHANGES.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 23, 4 a. m.—The return from Vilna of Prince Svyatopolk-Mirsky, Minister of the Interior, is accepted as the signal for important changes in the personnel of the Ministry of the Interior. It is understood that M. Durnovo, Under Secretary, in charge of Posts and Telegraphs, will be succeeded by M. Zvereff, at present in charge of the Press Department. Lieutenant General Fullon, Prefect of St. Petersburg, has been designated to succeed Prince Svyatopolk-Mirsky as Governor of Vilna, and will be succeeded in the prefecture by Count Shouvaloff, the former Prefect of Odessa.

Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, brother of the Emperor, has gone to Vilna, to attend the unveiling of a monument of Catherine II.



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