

# FRIGHTFUL FEROCITY MARKS THE SHAKHE RIVER BATTLE

## THOUSANDS OF SLAV DEAD BURIED BY FOE

### Japanese Commander Reports His Losses Small as Compared With Those of the Army He Defeated

TOKIO, Oct. 16.—Field Marshal Oyama estimates the Russian dead left on the field, including the fighting of the 15th, at more than 10,000.

A telegram received from the Manchurian headquarters late today reports that the fighting has ceased on the front of the right and center armies, but that it continues before the left army. The report is as follows:

"The front of the right and center armies has become quiet, but on the front of the left army fierce cannonading continues. In the direction of Litajentun the enemy is inactive. Our force under General Yamada captured one gun and two ammunition wagons during the attack on the heights of Santakangtzu on the night of October 15."

Dispatches from Field Marshal Oyama officially designate the entire engagement since October 10 as the heroic but unnamed "Battle of the Shakhe River."

**APPALLING RUSSIAN LOSSES.**  
Reports of the great battle continue to arrive from the front. The most striking feature is the terrible record of Russian dead. Before the severe fighting of October 14 General Oku's army alone buried 2000, making the total number of Russians buried by the Japanese, with Nodzu's army still to hear from, 6500. Applying the usual calculation and making reasonable allowance for the fighting of the 14th and 15th, the Russian losses exceed 40,000.

Fragmentary reports of Japanese casualties are coming in. General Oku up to and including October 14 lost 3500 men. Estimates of the total Japanese losses are not possible, but they are small in comparison with the frightful losses of the Russians.

Reports dispatched late yesterday from the field are in the following chronological order:

"The main force of the right army, which had already occupied Chouchia-fun Heights, reached a point on the Shakhe River, but one division of the enemy continues to offer a stubborn resistance. The center army has reached its objective and has been heavily engaged since the morning of October 15. On the morning of October 15 the enemy in front of the left army continued holding his positions north of Shabopo and offered a strong resistance."

"The center column is engaged in taking Shabopo and the main body of the right column is advancing against Lamuntun and is attacking that position. The enemy has six batteries between Shabopo and Sugangtal, which are vigorously shelling the attacking column and our position at Linchionpo, but the bombardment is not strong enough to prevent our advance. On October 11 the left column of the center army lost 261 killed and wounded."

"The casualties to ourselves and the Russians and the number of trophies captured by the left army follows: During the five days, from October 10 to October 14 inclusive, our losses were about 2500 killed and wounded, officers included. During the four days from October 10 to October 13 the number of corpses left by the enemy and buried by us reached 2000. The enemy's dead after the battle of October 14 were very numerous. The prisoners taken numbered eighty. The principal trophies were thirty guns and many rifles, uniforms and accoutrements. The latter are still uncounted."

"There are some forces of the enemy on the right bank of the Shakhe River, in front of the main strength of the right and center armies, but no battle on a great scale has occurred. The forces of the enemy at Shabopo and Lamuntun facing the left army have been offering a stubborn resistance, but have been dislodged and their positions have been captured. On the afternoon of October 15 a force of the enemy appeared near Santakangtzu and continued to offer resistance until sundown, portions of our center and left armies engaging them."

**Don Jaime Injured by a Fall.**

ROME, Oct. 16.—News has reached relatives of Don Jaime, son of Don Carlos, the pretender to the Spanish throne, that he has been injured by a fall from his horse at Russian headquarters in Manchuria. The last word received from Don Jaime was a penciled note to his sister, Princess Beatrice, dated at Vladivostok, and it is inferred that since that note was written Don Jaime had returned to headquarters.

**Nippon's Warriors Are Tireless.**

MUKDEN, Oct. 16, 4 p. m.—The Russians were engaged to-day in a heavy rear-guard action southwest of Shabke. The Japanese, who are in enormous force, have a great advantage in knowing the topography of the country. They evince desperate courage. They have suffered terrible losses, but bear them with perfect equanimity. Their energy seems unbounded, and they continue the aggressive unceasingly.

**Russians Driven Across the Hun.**

LONDON, Oct. 17.—According to the Standard's Tokio correspondent, the Russians are being hard pressed over the Hun River and are retreating partly on Mukden and partly on Fushan.

**Shells Reach Russian Fleet.**

TOKIO, Oct. 17, 9:30 a. m.—It is authoritatively reported that the Russian fleet at Port Arthur is suffering severely from the fire of the Japanese land batteries.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

Read the following: We are going to give away a brand new

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Price \$350.00

in a beautiful mahogany case in even exchange for your old piano or organ. Can anything be fairer than that?

**READ THE CONDITIONS:**

Every piano has a number, the same as every watch. Your old organ or piano has a number. If it is an organ, you will find the number in or on its back. If it is a square piano, lift the lid and hunt around under the strings and you will readily find the number. Put the name and number of your old instrument on a card, together with your own name and address, and mail or bring it to our store.

The instrument which we will give away you can see in our show window. We have securely covered and sealed the number of this instrument, so that it cannot be seen until the seal is broken. The seal will not be touched until November 15, at 10 a. m., at which time the number will be uncovered and the owner of the old piano or organ bearing the number nearest to that of this new HARVARD piano will be entitled to exchange the old one for the new without one penny of additional cost, no matter how old or dilapidated the instrument turned in may be.

Should the winning number be entered by more than one contestant, the first one entering the contest will be the winner. It costs nothing to enter, so look up the number of your old piano and send or bring it in.

This contest is open to every owner of an old piano or organ living in San Francisco or within a radius of 500 miles of this city, and costs absolutely nothing but a postal card or letter.

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SAN FRANCISCO

## Russians, in Desperation, Throw Strategy to the Winds and Battle Becomes One of Extermination.

MUKDEN, Oct. 16, evening.—The firing to the southwest is less violent. The men are tired out and food has been insufficient. Every available gun and man are being used. The troops have behaved most gallantly, hurling themselves repeatedly against impregnable positions. The heavy storm of October 14 added to the misery of the men. There is great depression, but stolid tenacity, among them.

There has been great sacrifice of officers. The plain occupied by the retreating Russians is covered with burst shrapnel. The gunners shoveled shells into the breaches of the guns as stokers shoveled coals into furnaces. Howitzers are used by the Eastern army. The Russian guns have superior range and burst shrapnel at 6000 yards.

There is a scarcity of reliable maps. Two divisional commanders have lost their way, and the rest of the army being killed and many commanding officers met death heroically leading their regiments.

Shrapnel fell near General Kuropatkin. He showed desperate energy, and even offering a stubborn resistance, but have been dislodged and their positions have been captured. On the afternoon of October 15 a force of the enemy appeared near Santaokangtzu and continued to offer resistance until sundown, portions of our center and left armies engaging them."

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a double-quick movement, were brought to a walk by shouts from the headquarters staff that "Headquarters stands firm."

Chargers were seen careering riderless and though they were plunging in the mud with carts and other vehicles that have been almost destroyed. The forces at this point were holding their positions at nightfall.

The roads are filled with wounded, who are collecting along the railway, where just now there are no trains to receive them. Many of the wounded remained in the fields until after dark, lying in the deep mud.

**CZAR BLAMED FOR ROUT.**

Russian Prisoners Say Nicholas Peremptorily Ordered Advance.

TOKIO, Oct. 16.—According to statements made by Russian prisoners, General Kuropatkin was ordered by Emperor Nicholas to make a stand at Mukden and to assume the aggressive as soon as possible in order to relieve the pressure on the garrison.

The prisoners say that Kuropatkin on September 27, and General Kuropatkin in obedience to it began his disastrous southern advance movement. An excellent report dealing with the statements of these prisoners follows:

"According to statements made to officers the enemy had received information of the center army by Russian formation that the strength of the garrison at Port Arthur was being daily reduced and that the garrison was in a disastrous condition. The Russian reinforcements were constantly arriving in Manchuria from Europe, and the strength of the forces under General Kuropatkin in the neighborhood of Mukden had reached more than nine army corps. Thereupon, the prisoners said, the Russian Emperor on September 27 ordered Kuropatkin not to retire a step beyond Mukden, and directed him, circumstances permitting, to assume the offensive as quickly as possible and to drive the Japanese out of Southern Manchuria in order to rescue the Port Arthur garrison."

"Acting under this command General Kuropatkin advanced with his whole strength to the south of Mukden, dividing his forces into two columns—the center, the right and the left."

"The center column, composed of the First, Fourth and Fifth corps, under the command of General Solovieff, advanced toward Tungshankou and Lin-gratz and Leipzig. Spencer Wilkinson considers Marquis Oyama's conduct of the battle as not marked by the same distinctness of plan and execution as that of General Kuropatkin, whose handling of his army is quite intelligible on the assumption that he was ordered to make the attack."

Belated dispatches arriving in London, descriptive of the week's fighting, to some extent bear out this view. For instance, the Standard's correspondent with General Kuroki's army testifies that the Russian troops were more skillfully led and more capable and resolute than those encountered in the opening weeks of the campaign. The same correspondent remarks the grave disadvantage under which the Japanese are laboring owing to the inferiority of their field guns. He refers to the fighting of October 11, "when our six batteries, though well posted and admirably handled, were compelled to maintain silent, the greater part of the day and see the chance of a lifetime pass by under the very muzzles of their guns. Effective pursuit was debarred us by the superior range of the Russian artillery."

**SLAVS TAKE THE AGGRESSIVE.**

Attack Japanese Positions, but Are Compelled to Retire.

MUKDEN, Saturday, Oct. 15.—This morning the Russian right wing took the aggressive. The Velikluga regiment led a brilliant attack against the Japanese positions, all the troops fighting with the courage and steadfastness exhibited the first day of the battle.

The Japanese had apparently brought up reserves and were concentrating a force against the Russians. In the evening the Japanese advanced in overwhelming numbers, forcing the Russians to retire.

The whole hospital staff is displaying the greatest courage and fortitude, working night and day. Many, after working seemingly to the limit of human endurance, have gone to the front to continue their labor under fire, replacing those incapacitated on the firing line.

Every road converging on Mukden is crowded with vehicles transporting the wounded, who are being sent north by wagon road as well as by rail. The result of to-day's fighting is uncertain.

**Japanese Dig a Canal.**

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 16.—It is announced that the Japanese have constructed a canal joining the Taitee and Hun rivers, facilitating transportation from Yinkow to Sianchian, thirty-three miles southeast of Mukden.

**ST. LOUIS SYNDICATE BUYS PAN-AMERICAN RAILROAD**

Finished Portion Soon to Be Opened and Work Begun at Once on Extension.

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 16.—The Pan-American Railroad has passed into the hands of a St. Louis syndicate, the new shareholders being nearly all railroad men. David H. Doak of St. Louis is the new president and J. M. Neenan, formerly general manager, has been promoted to the vice presidency of the road. Among the shareholders is Howard Elliott, president of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

The 200 kilometers of the Pan-American Railroad now completed will be opened to traffic on November 1. The finished portion of the line extends from the station of San Gerolimo, on the Tehuantepec National Railroad, to the port of Tonola, in the state of Chiapas. Work will be begun to-morrow on the extension of the line to Guatemala.

**Diphtheria at White Horse.**

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., Oct. 16.—A dispatch says that thirty families at White Horse are afflicted with diphtheria. Several deaths are reported. There are no doctors to administer to the needs of the sick. The unaffected portion of the population is quitting the town.

**GIRL DISPLAYS SPARTAN GRIT**

Special Dispatch to the Call.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 16.—With her thigh fractured and her leg broken below the knee Jessie Gray, a school girl aged 19, dragged herself on a sheep herder's horse and rode two miles to the village of Lahabra to seek help for her friend, Charles Seaman, aged 17, who lay unconscious by the roadside, having been kicked by the same horse that came near ending the girl's life.

Young Seaman and Miss Gray went buggy riding this morning from Whittier. They drove to the heights beyond Lahabra for the view. In descending the horse slipped and fell, breaking the harness and throwing the girl out of the carriage. While the horse kicked her frantically, young Seaman stepped to her assistance. He was kicked in the chest and spine and rendered unconscious.

Miss Gray thought him dead. Instead of fainting she dragged herself to the top of the hill and attracted a passing herder, a Frenchman. He could not understand her story, so she dragged herself on his horse and rode to Lahabra for help. She insisted on accompanying a physician back to the scene of the accident. After her unconscious companion had been lifted into the vehicle she fainted.

Hope is entertained for the recovery of both.

**Art Treasures Injured by Rain.**

ROME, Oct. 15.—The Minister of Instruction has taken steps to repair the damage caused by heavy rain to the enormous Cathedral of Assis. Giotto's frescoes and other notable art treasures were injured by the rain.

**Chinese Becoming Restless.**

LONDON, Oct. 17.—Bennett Burleigh reports from Shanghai to the Daily Telegraph that the Chinese are becoming restless and anxious to attack the Russians.

The whole day a cannonade raged furiously, under cover of which the Japanese made several bayonet attacks, but were repulsed. Killed one of these attacks the Japanese killed all the gunners of one battery, and the guns were left in the trenches. An attempt to retake these guns by the Utkobsky and Epifanievsky regiments was only partially successful.

Toward morning the Japanese ceased their efforts on the Russian right, and until 3 o'clock in the afternoon concentrated their efforts on the Russian center. At 3 o'clock they renewed their attack on the right and overwhelmed it with numbers, forcing it back several miles.

At 8 o'clock in the evening the fighting ceased along the whole front. From the Russian line signal fires were noticed along the Japanese line, where the Japanese were probably relocating their troops for the next day's attack.

At midnight a violent cannonading began and increased until it attained the intensity that marked the artillery duel at Liaoyang on August 30 and August 31. This cannonading continued throughout October, not ceasing for a moment, not even for the usual mid-day meal. Under the cover of the artillery fire the Japanese infantry courageously assumed the offensive against the Russian entrenched positions, but their courage was unavailing.

Toward evening the Russians actually moved forward. General Kuropatkin personally directing the operations on the center-right flank, where the fighting was the hottest. Taking command of the Petroff Regiment, he ordered it forward. Animated by the courage of their idolized commander, the troops rushed forward with a shout, driving the Japanese from the heights.

Standing there, Kuropatkin could see through his field-glasses a group of Japanese officers on the opposite heights at a distance of three miles and in their midst a hoisted battle flag. They were probably General Oku and his staff watching the progress of the battle.

**OYAMA IS HANDICAPPED.**

Placed at Disadvantage by Inferiority of His Field Guns.

LONDON, Oct. 17.—All reports this morning agree upon General Kuropatkin's defeat in what military critics consider one of the greatest battles of modern times, comparable with Koniggratz and Leipzig. Spencer Wilkinson considers Marquis Oyama's conduct of the battle as not marked by the same distinctness of plan and execution as that of General Kuropatkin, whose handling of his army is quite intelligible on the assumption that he was ordered to make the attack."

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## KUROPATKIN IS HOPEFUL IN DEFEAT

### Confident He Can Hold Japanese in Check.

### Army Fighting Doggedly to Prevent Annihilation.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 16.—Under date of October 15, General Kuropatkin sent the following telegram to the Emperor:

"On the night of October 14 large forces of Japanese attacked the corps drawn up in line at Shakhe, on the great Mandarin road. Several attacks were repulsed, but the last succeeded and the corps was broken. At that moment fighting was begun on the right flank with a neighboring section. The possibility was that, with the rupture of our center, our whole formation would be threatened and that the neighboring troops might force a retreat. In order to support the troops on the great Mandarin road several battalions were rapidly pushed forward. The troops were thus enabled to take the offensive and succeeded in retaking the village of Shakhe, reoccupying the first position."

"Reinforced by reserves, the Japanese dislodged us again from the village of Shakhe. Then the advanced reserves and troops defending the position resumed the offensive and after a stubborn fight we succeeded in reoccupying Shakhe, repulsing the Japanese and driving them back two kilometers from that place."

**RIGHT WING IN PERIL.**

"On our right wing the position was for some time very alarming. The troops were attacked from the front by the turning movement of the right flank. The chief of a detachment advanced the troops set apart for a last rally, they having attacked the Japanese from the flank in their turn. Several villages were retaken by our right flank, but the positions on the line of the Shakhe positions. The troops on our center were noticeably advanced in comparison with other troops in the general position of the line. One position on our right flank has been chosen beforehand and partially fortified."

"Our troops have been fighting for four days and many regiments have not slept for three nights. Nevertheless, we have full confidence in their capacity to continue the struggle. Japanese losses must be very considerable."

**KUROKI REINFORCED.**

"The night of October 14 passed quietly. Before 9 o'clock this morning a rather marked movement of the enemy was noticed in the direction of our positions on the great Mandarin road. Our batteries opened fire on them. I have received a report from the commander of the left wing that our right flank has been reinforced there by a strong force."

"As was the case at Liaoyang, the heavy firing caused a storm to burst forth, followed by a torrential rain. The roads are in very bad condition and the level of the rivers has risen."

"The general order for all troops remains the same as before, to offer most resolute resistance. I have just received a report that a considerable Japanese force has crossed the railway line from west to east."

**PEACE TALK IN TOKIO.**

Belief That Russia Should Now Agree to Reasonable Terms.

TOKIO, Oct. 16, 6 p. m.—There is a strong appeal for peace in the appalling tragedy which is now under enactment in Manchuria. Both armies have fought ferociously for a week and desperate fighting continues. It is probable that the death roll will be largely increased before the final shot is fired.

The preliminary reports indicate that about 60,000 men of both sides have been either killed or wounded (the larger number of them being Russians) since the armies of the two belligerents closed in combat.

Even the Japanese, to whom the great victory is of paramount importance, seem to be shocked by the slaughter of their enemies. The Japanese people are receiving the news from the field of battle calmly, and there can be heard no shouts in the streets proclaiming the victory of their nation. Few flags are displayed. Probably later on the day will be a procession with the consequent jollification, but there are heard many expressions of opinion that no demonstration of any kind should be held. A prominent Japanese said to-day:

"We have won a sweeping and a decisive victory, which may prove to be the salvation of our country's existence; but we regret both our own losses and the terrible slaughter which our forces have inflicted on the enemy. We regret still more the necessity which forced us to engage in this war."

A member of the diplomatic corps said:

"I believe the world will recoil from the sickening slaughter of this battle. Every interest of humanity demands the adjustment of the differences between the two nations and the proclamation of peace. The situation between the two belligerents is a delicate one, but what a splendid triumph for diplomacy it would be if peace could be arranged. It seems to me that the question of honor is no longer involved. If Russia feels that such a question is involved, surely the heroic and successful defense of Port Arthur and the valor shown by Russia's sons on the fields of Manchuria should forever determine the question of Russian courage. Russia should remember that the distance dividing her strength and the limitations of her railway are historical factors in this war. These factors are generally known. They are appreciated by everybody and are not looked upon as faults."

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## EXHAUSTED ARMIES IN DEATH GRIP

### Five Times Shakhe Is Taken and Retaken.