VOL. XXXII.

FENELON FALLS, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 1904.

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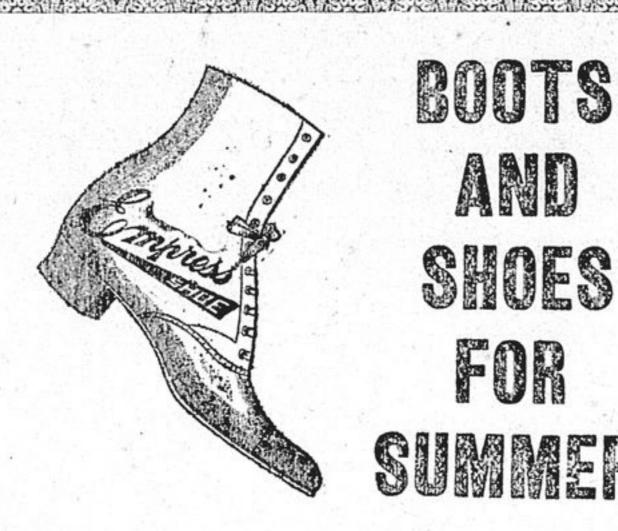
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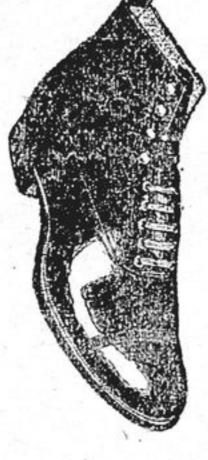
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# KATOKA MAKES REPORT

Russian Battleship Sevastopol Struck a Mine.

Japs Continue Their Terrible Pounding of Port Arthur and Capture Several Forts -Four Warships in Port Arthur Harbor Unable to Fight-Port Arthur Has All But Fallen and Japs Are Preparing to Celebrate.

Tokio, Aug. 24.-Admiral Kataoka reports that as the Russian battleship Sevastopol was emerging from Port Arthur yesterday, she struck a mine, after which she was seen to be listed to starboard. She was towed back into the harbor.

The battleship Sevastopol was built in 1896 in Russia. Tonnage, 10,960; 17.5 knots; crew, 700; armament, four 12-inch, twelve 5.9-inch guns.

#### "Clair Fort" Captured.

London, Aug. 24.-The Evening News yesterday afternoon published a despatch from Che Foo, under yesterday's date, announcing that the Japanese captured "Clair Fort," of the Port Arthur defences, Monday, after a tremendous attack.

#### Two Other Forts Fall.

Che Foo, Aug. 24.-A junk, which left Liaoti Promontory on the night of Aug. 21, has just arrived here. She reports that the Japanese have succeeded in occupying Anteseshan Fort, as well as another fort, probably Etsehan, about one mile southwest of Antschshan. They have driven the Russians from the parade grounds, which lie about two miles north of the harbor; they have destroyed two forts at Chaotchanko, which is within the eastern fortifications, and they have advanced to a point near Chaotchanko. This news confirms information received here previously, and which the local Japanese were not inclined to believe.

### Warships Unable to Fight.

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.

# Preparing to Celebrate.

Che Foo, Aug. 24.-According to advices brought here from Port Arthur by a junk, the Japanese were hotly pressing the Russian centre along the railway and the Russian right in the vicinity of Golden Hill. These advices are brought by Chinese who departed from Taipengtse, which is one mile from the city near Golden Hill, between the city and the forts of the Russian right wing. The Chinese declare that the Japanese occupied Taipangtse and penetrated along the railway to Gen. Stoessel's residence on Aug. 21.

As this report would indicate that Port Arthur had all but fallen, the Japanese expert attached to the local consulate received the information with great reserve. The information is accepted, however, as a confirmation of previous reports that the Russians have been driven from Itzshan, and that the Japanese are very close to the southern forts and the eastern defences. The local Japanese, under the leadership of their consul are subscribing money and preparing to celebrate the expected fall of the fortress.

# CHINA'S NEUTRALITY.

#### Shanghai Situation Critical-Time Is Up and Nothing Done.

London, Aug. 24.-The Standard this morning, unable to conceal its disappointment that the United States Government is not prepared to protect the neutrality of China at Shanghai, editorially contends that the United States could have taken the lead in the matter without arousing the jealousies and suspicions which must follow intervention by any European power.

According to The Daily Telegraph's St. Petersburg correspondent, the Russian Government supports the refusal of the Askold and Grozovoi either to disarm or to treat China as a power capable of enforcing neu-

The Daily Chronicle's Che Foo correspondent says: "The entire Chinese squadron has left here, doubtless in order that it shall not be mixed up in further incidents of the Ryeshitelni kind.'5

# Time's Up.

Shanghai, Aug. 24.-The final time limit allowed by the Taotai of Shanghai for the Russian cruiser Askold and the torpedo boat destroyer Grozovoi to disarm has passed without compliance with his or-

A meeting of the Consuls was held yesterday afternoon, but the Russian Consul-General, M. Kleinmenoff, was absent and no definite course of ac-

tion was decided upon. The Taotai has requested Sir Pelham Warren, the British Consul-General, to order that the repairs to the

#### Askold be stopped. Arranging a Compromise.

London, Aug. 24.-The coorespondent of The Times at Pekin says the waiwipu (Chinese foreign board) is trying to arrange a compromise by, which Japan shall be induced to permit the Askold to remain at Shanghai until Sunday next, when the tides will permit the cruiser to cross the bar.

#### CASE OF IDENTITY.

#### Not Suro That It Was Russian Smolensk Stopped Comedian.

Durban, Natal, Aug. 24.—The captain of the British steamer Comedian has lodged a protest against the action of the Russian auxiliary, cruiser Smelensk in stopping the steamer and examining her papers on Sunday last, off the southeast coast of Cape Colony.

Liverpool, Aug. 24.-The owners here of the Comedian (now at Durban, Natal), have no confirmation from the captain of the steamer of the statement that it was the Russian auxiliary cruiser Smolensk which stopped the vessel off the coast af South Africa.

#### Complete Report Wanted.

London, Aug. 24.-The Foreign Office has ordered the British officials at Durban, Natal, to make a complete report of the circumstances connected with the reported examination of the papers of the British steamer Comedian by a Russian auxilairy cruiser off the South African coast. If the Smolensk actually examined the Comedian's papers she according to the British officials, violated the assurances given by the Russian Government that neither she nor the St. Petersburg would be used again as men-of-war.

#### A Call to the Navy.

London, Aug. 24.-The Baily Telegraph demands that the Government adopt rigious measures to stop the molestation of British shipping by Russian volunteer ffeet vessels, declaring that "if diplomacy fails, the British navy must clear the high seas of the defenders."

The other newspapers show less excitement, because it has not yet been established that the vessel that stopped the Comedian was the auxiliary cruiser Smolensk.

# Expected to Fall Soon.

Tientsin, Aug. 24.—Lloyds agent at Newchwang reports as follows:

"The Russians are detaining produce from the interior. Liaoyang is expected to fall shortly. Newchwang and the country under Japanese jurisdiction are progressing wonderfully. The consuls get every assistance from the administrator."

#### An Important Meeting. St. Petersburg, Aug. 24.-Political

consquences of first class importance may follow the gathering at Peterhof on the occasion of the baptism of the heir to the throne. The Emperor last night practically,

personally exchanged views with Emperor William and King Edward, as both Prince Henry of Prussia and Prince Louis of Battenberg, who arrived yesterday, were not only bearers of letters, but come fresh from personal audiences with their respective sovereigns.

# GENERAL AMNESTY.

#### Czar's Manifesto Has a Number of Liberal Provisions in It.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 24.-Emperor Nicholas' manifesto on the birth of an heir to the throne, the text 'of which will be published to-day, Abolishes corporal punishment

among the rural classes and for first offences among the sea and the land

Remits arrears owing to the state for the purchases of land and other direct imposts:

Sets apart \$1,500,000 from the state funds to form an inalienable fund for the benefit of landless people of Findland;

Grants amnesty to those Findlanders who have emigrated without authorization.

Remits the fines imposed upon the rural and urban communes of Finland, which refused to submit to military conscription in 1902 and 1903,

Remits the fines imposed upon the Jewish communes in the cases of Jews avoiding military service. The manifesto provides for an

all-round reduction in sentences for common law offences, while a general amnesty is accorded in the case of political offences with the exception of those in which murder has been done.

The manifesto provides for the education of the children of officers and soldiers who have been victims of the war, as well as assistance for such families as need it, whose breadwinners have fallen in the service of their country.