

HALF OF CZAR'S ARMY LOST

Forty Thousand Prisoners Taken by Oyama in One District.

THE RUSSIAN DISASTER.

A despatch from Tokio says:—Every official report from the front adds to the magnitude of the Russian disaster, and the indications are that the whole truth of the crushing blow delivered by Field-Marshal Oyama to the Russian arms will not be known for some days, owing to the fact that the casualties are so great and the spoils so large that it is impossible as yet to get accurate figures. As an indication of the losses inflicted on the enemy a despatch received at headquarters on Sunday afternoon states that the Russian losses in front of the armies in the Sha River direction alone were 40,000 prisoners, including Major-Gen. Nakhimoff, and 26,500 left dead on the field. It is estimated that the total killed and wounded number about 90,000. The spoils taken by the Japanese comprise a number of colors, 60 guns, 60,000 rifles, 200,000 shells, 25,000,000 rounds of small ammunition, 2,000 horses, 23 cartloads of maps, a vast supply of provisions, fodder, fuel, and clothing, railway and telegraph materials, accoutrements, and supplies of all kinds. Every despatch received adds to the number of prisoners taken and guns captured.

The official despatches state that the pursuing detachments which started from the right bank of the Hun River reached a line 13 miles north of the river Friday night. On Saturday the pursuit of the retreating Russians was vigorously continued. A detachment which left the Pu River, 13 miles from Mukden, on the Tieling road, that forenoon had an engagement with a large column of the enemy, which was making its way northward as rapidly as possible. The Japanese charged the Russians, and a hand-to-hand fight occurred. Ultimately most of the column was surrounded and captured. Those of the column who succeeded in escaping continued to fight hopelessly for a while, and finally surrendered. The whole field was covered with Russian dead. The Japanese are now engaged in burying their own dead and those of the enemy.

The Japanese casualties reported since Feb. 26 number 41,222. No report has been received from the Japanese operating in the direction of Hsing-ching.

Reliable unofficial reports state that a detachment of the extreme Japanese left has reached Sintun, on the Mukden road, 10 miles south of Tieling. A detachment from Fushun has occupied Lanoive, 10 miles north, having repulsed several flank attacks by Russian forces from the mountainous district to the north-east, in the direction of the Kaiyuan and Talin road.

It is reported that only 50,000 of the Russians who were defending Mukden have escaped to Tieling.

The Russians had in battle 376 battalions of infantry, 178 squadrons of cavalry, and 171 batteries of artillery. In other words Gen. Kouropatkin's army consisted of 300,800 infantry, 26,700 cavalry, and 1,368 guns. The total number of the Japanese forces is not stated, but it is vaguely estimated at 700,000 men of all arms.

Reports say that south-west of Mukden two Russian army corps were wiped out completely, all being killed or captured.

The battle which drove the Russians from Mukden has been officially named the Battle of Mukden.

KOUROPATKIN RESIGNS.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Times says that the remnants of Gen. Kouropatkin's armies are gradually reaching Tieling. Gen. Kouropatkin in reporting the facts, asks the Czar's gracious permission to hand over the command, alleging his urgent need of physical and mental rest.

In a later despatch he confirms the reports of the Commander-in-Chief's resignation. The council of war has been summoned to meet March 14. It will, in addition to formulating designs for the next campaign, probably decide upon Gen. Kouropatkin's successor. The choice lies between the Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievitch and Gen. Sukhomlinov. Perhaps the latter will become chief of staff to Grand Duke Nicholas.

The official despatches record the loss of nearly five hundred guns, scores of regimental colors, and over 200,000 men. The public is ignorant of the extent of the losses. It knows nothing of the Commander-in-Chief's resignation, but this knowledge would not alter the intensity of the resentment and humiliation which Russians generally feel. Such details as the censorship allows to appear induce the blindest amazement, as the official despatches published last week related nothing but successes. The story of the defeat and retreat is coming out piecemeal. It shows that the Russians were misled and outmanoeuvred at every point. Yet Gen. Kouropatkin seems at one time to have realized the critical nature of the situation, for on March 8 he began the gradual removal of his impedimenta. Had he then ordered a general retreat, as he intimated he

would in a telegram to the Czar, the disaster might have been averted. His crowning blunder was weakening his line from Fushun to Mukden. He apparently forgot that the Japanese were able to cross the Hun River on the ice. He realized his mistake when he heard of the capture of Kinsar, on March 10. He then immediately ordered his armies to retire, but the Japanese swarmed from the east and west and placed their batteries to command the line of retreat. One desperate chance remained. It was to sacrifice his artillery by moving his batteries so as to paralyze the enemy's fire. The Russian gunners did their duty and what was left of Kouropatkin's armies. It was save himself who can over the frozen plain bordering the Mandarin Road. The first fugitives reached Tieling within 30 hours. Gen. Stackelberg's and Gen. Zarubaieff's corps were left to guard the line from Fushun to Mukden. It is feared that they have been captured or annihilated. Gens. Tserpitsky's, Bilderling's, and Toporin's corps, which Gen. Kouropatkin himself led in a desperate attempt to drive Gen. Nogi back, sustained terrible losses.

The correspondent claims to have the best authority for stating that Japan has twice informally approached Russia in regard to peace negotiations. The proposal failed each time, because the Japanese demanded the payment of an indemnity and a pledge that Russia would not keep warships in the Pacific for twenty-five years. The insistence upon an indemnity convinces the Government that Japan's resources are exhausted, and that by continuing the war for a few months Russia will be able to compel better terms.

DETAILS OF GREAT FIGHT.

The Tokio correspondent of the London Telegraph says that Gen. Kouropatkin has been driven out of Fushun, and that the Japanese have entered Mukden. It is believed that the Russian central position is surrounded and the army there almost annihilated. All the important positions in front of the Japanese left have been occupied. Gen. Kouropatkin is making desperate efforts to reach Tieling. The weather is excellent and the ground is hard.

In a later despatch the correspondent claims to have official authority for the statement that fully 200,000 Russians are enveloped.

Information from independent sources in Tokio is that the Japanese extreme right wing is engaged and is driving the Russians hard, at the point of the bayonet. The Russian centre is retreating under a terrible fire, and has been practically annihilated.

It is announced from Tokio that the railway has been cut north of Mukden. This leaves the country roads and the light railway between Mukden and Fushun, 20 miles to the north-eastward, the only avenues of retreat of the Russians.

A telegram to Berlin states that the Japanese have occupied Mukden.

A report from New-Chwang, by way of Tien-Tsin says that the Pass has been invested by the Japanese, and that Gen. Kouropatkin, having no alternative, will probably be forced to surrender within a week.

In the opinion of English military critics. Gen. Kouropatkin's forces are doomed to complete disaster, and the best he can hope for is to save a mere remnant of his army after devoting whole divisions to slaughter. Much importance is attached to Gen. Kamamura's mysterious unlocated army, which momentarily is expected to complete the closing of the net around the defeated host by appearing somewhere in the extreme east, around Yingfan, thus blocking the sole remaining route from Yingfan to Tie Pass through Wankaikou Pass.

WILL BE CUT OFF.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—The atmosphere of the War Office is intensely gloomy. The officials admit that Gen. Kouropatkin has suffered a bloody defeat, but they insist that it is not a decisive disaster. Despatches of Kouropatkin and Sakharoff reporting fighting on the "north front" seem to refer to Japanese attempts to break through the Russian line screening the communications with Tie Pass, but the public regards it as an acknowledgment that Gen. Nogi already has severed the Russian line of communications and enclosed at least a portion of Gen. Bilderling's army, which was bringing up the rear.

It is said here that Gen. Kouropatkin, with his headquarters staff, is now at Fankiatung station, on the railroad, ten miles below Tie Pass.

The general staff admits that the carnage in the battle will probably exceed anything in modern warfare. In addition to the Eastern Chinese Railway and the Mandarin Road, it turns out that the Russians have a narrow gauge railroad connecting Mukden with Tie Pass, over which to effect their withdrawal from their positions.

RUSSIANS SURROUNDED.

A despatch to the London Times from St. Petersburg says that official news of the capture of Mukden appeared late Friday evening. Telegraphic and railway communication with Mukden was finally severed late Thursday. The latest telegram from Gen. Kouropatkin was presumably sent by messenger to Tieling, and reached Tsarskoe-Selo Friday. It said laconically, "I am surrounded." It is believed the message was despatched early Friday morning. It inspires the worst fears in view of the previous news of the approach of an eastern flanking force.

OCCUPATION OF MUKDEN.

A despatch from Tokio says:—Tokio officially announces the capture of Fushun and the occupation of Mukden by the Japanese in the following bulletins:—
"Our detachments occupied Fushun on the night of March 9, and now are attacking the enemy, who is posted at the angle of the heights north of Fushun."
"Our troops occupied Mukden 10 a.m. Friday. Our enveloping movements since some days proved successful, and the bloodiest battle is now proceeding in various places near Mukden."

The Tokio correspondent of the London Standard says that the development of the Battle of Mukden, which resulted in the occupation of the city, surpasses the most sanguine anticipation. The Russians have been outgeneraled at every point. Several corps south and east of Mukden are completely surrounded by the Japanese, whose centre, by a bold dash, pushed straight to the hills midway between Mukden and Fushun. The Russians everywhere are burning their stores. Their losses, including prisoners, will probably exceed 200,000.

According to the Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph the Japanese are now within 15 miles of Tieling. He says that the Russian disaster was partly due to the inefficiency of the intelligence department, which was not aware of the Japanese march to Simintin until it was too late to make a counter move. The Japanese cavalry worked splendidly throughout the battle. They made a series of forced marches, capturing supplies and tearing up the railway. The heights northeast of Mukden were captured Tuesday. The Japanese now bar the roads from Fushun to Tieling. It is rumored, apparently without foundation, that Gen. Kouropatkin is a prisoner.

A news agency despatch from St. Petersburg states that news from a military source has been received saying that Gen. Kouropatkin will transfer his headquarters to Harbin. His last despatch was filed at Tieling, where he does not intend to stay long.

OYAMA REPORTS.

A despatch from Tokio says: Field Marshal Oyama telegraphs as follows under Friday's date:—

"We occupied Mukden at 10 o'clock this morning."
"Our surrounding movement, in which we have been engaged for some days past, has now completely succeeded."

"The fiercest fighting continues at several places in the vicinity of Mukden."

"We captured a great number of pieces, enormous quantities of arms, ammunition, provisions, and other war supplies. There is at present no time to investigate the number of these."

UTTERLY DEMORALIZED.

A despatch from New-Chwang says: The Russians, since they were driven out of Mukden and Fushun and cut off from the railroad, have been retreating in a demoralized condition to the hills to the north-east. They are moving in detached bodies, sometimes roughly and hastily entrenching to check pursuit. It will be impossible for the Russians to resist for many days in the wild country east of the railway, because they will be unable to obtain provisions. They will possibly try to reach Kirin through the valleys, but a special Japanese corps from the Yalu threatens to intercept them. Gen. Kuroki is now moving to the northwest, pushing the retreating Russians against Gen. Nogi's army.

DESPISE DEATH.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The correspondent of the Russ at Mukden telegraphs:—"The Russian army is living through some painful moments. Throughout 10 days of unceasing battle, under the fire of shrapnel guns and amid a whirlwind of whistling bullets, our men have scarcely eaten anything and have slept where they could. The contest has been one of endurance and courage. The grey-coated soldiers have accomplished miracles. The enemy also seem to be made of steel. They were tired out and had been two days without food, but Oyama told his men the end of the slaughter would soon come and they fought on. Both the Russians and Japanese are fighting heroically. The infantry on both sides fight as if they despise death. Mukden sleeps but restlessly. What will the morrow bring forth? The night is full of low murmurs. All is animation in the hospitals, which are full to overflowing, and the moans of wounded men are heard everywhere. What will God grant us after this?"

LEADING MARKETS

The Ruling Prices in Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, March 14.—Wheat—Ontario red and white, \$1.05 flat; spring, 98c to 99c; goose, 90c to 91c. Manitoba—All rail quotations are, No. 1 northern, \$1.10½ to \$1.11; No. 2 northern, \$1.07½ to \$1.08; No. 3 northern, \$1.01½ to \$1.02 delivered.

Flour—90 per cent. patents, \$4.45 to \$4.50, buyers' sacks, east and west; 15c to 20c higher for choice. Manitoba, \$5.50 to \$5.70 for first patents, \$5.10 to \$5.40 for second patents, and \$5 to \$5.30 for bran exports.

Millfeed—\$15 to \$15.50 for bran in bulk, \$17.50 for shorts east and west; Manitoba, \$20 for shorts, \$18 for bran exports.

Barley—46c to 47c for No. 2, 44c to 45c for No. 3 extra, and 42c for No. 3 malting, outside, Toronto freights.

Rye—73c to 74c for No. 2 f. o. b. outside.

Corn—Canadian, 43½c to 46c for yellow, and 44½c to 45c for mixed f. o. b. Chatham freights; American, No. 3 yellow, 54c to 54½c; mixed, 53½c to 54½c on track Toronto.

Oats—No. 2, 40c to 41c outside.

Rolls Oats—\$4.15 for cars of bags and \$4.40 for barrels on track here; 25c more for broken lots here, and 40c outside.

Peas—66c to 67c for No. 2 west and east.

Buckwheat—55c to 56c east and west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Creamery continues to come forward fairly well, but dairies are scarce and firm in tone.

Creamery, prints ... 27c to 28c

Dairy tubs, good to choice 19c to 20c

do medium ... 17c to 18c

do inferior grades ... 15c to 16c

Dairy lb. rolls, good to

choice ... 22c to 24c

do large rolls ... 20c to 22c

do medium ... 18c to 19c

Cheese—The English market has advanced sharply, but there is no sign of change here, and the market is quoted steady at 11½c for twins and 11c for large.

Eggs—22c to 23c for new laid. Lined are quiet and unchanged at 18c.

Potatoes—Ontario, 65c to 70c on track, 75c to 80c out of store; eastern, 75c to 80c on track, 90c to 95c out of store.

Baled Hay—Quotations are unchanged at \$8 per ton for No. 1 timothy and \$7 for mixed or clover in car lots on track here.

Baled Straw—Quotations are unchanged at \$6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, March 14.—Grain—In oats there is not a great deal doing here, and no further change in the condition of the market, and sales of car lots of No. 2 white were made at 45½c to 48c, and No. 3 do at 45c per bushel export.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$5.80; strong bakers', \$5.50; winter wheat patents, \$5.70 to \$5.80; straight rollers, \$5.30 to \$5.40, and in bags, \$2.50 to \$2.60.

Feed—Manitoba bran, in bags, \$17; export, \$19 per ton; Ontario winter wheat bran, in bulk, \$17 to \$18; shorts, \$19 to \$20; mouillie, \$24 to \$28 per ton, as to quality.

Meal—Demand for rolled oats limited and market quiet, with prices unchanged at \$2.12½ per bag, and at \$4.50 per barrel. Cornmeal is quiet at \$1.35 to \$1.45 per bag.

Hay—No. 1, \$9 to \$9.50; No. 2, \$8.25 to \$8.75; clover mixed, \$7 to \$7.50, and pure clover, \$6.50 to \$6.75 per ton in car lots.

Beans—Choice primes, \$1.40 to \$1.45 per bushel, \$1.25 to \$1.27½ in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$16.50 to \$17.50; light short cut, \$16.50 to \$17; American cut, clear full back, \$20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6½c to 6¾c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 12c to 13c; bacon, 12c to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, \$8.25 to \$8.50; heavy fall sow, \$5.15 to \$5.35; mixed lots, \$6 to \$6.15; select at \$6.10 to \$6.25 off cars; country dressed at \$7.25 to \$7.75.

Cheese—Ontario fall white, 10½c to 10¾c; colored, 10½c to 11c; Quebec, 10c to 10½c. Quotations are nominal.

Butter—Finest grades, 30c; western dairy, 21½c to 22c; roll butter, 25c to 26c.

Eggs—No. 2, 17½c to 18c; Montreal lined, 19c to 19½c; selected, 20c to 21c, and new laid, 23c to 24c.

BUFFALO MARKETS.

Buffalo, March 14.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Spring, dull; No. 1 Northern, \$1.19½; winter, no demand. Corn—Strong; No. 2 yellow, 53c. Oats—Firm; No. 2 white, 36½c; No. 2 mixed, 35½c. Barley and rye—Unchanged.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, March 14.—A rather listless feeling pervaded the Western Cattle Market to-day, and sales in general were not pushed with vigor. The prices of exporters' ranged from \$4.25 to \$4.90 per cwt.

The following quotations were prevalent for butchers' cattle:—Select butchers' \$4.20 to \$4.40; good butchers', loads of, \$4 to \$4.25; fair to good, \$3.50 to \$4; cows, \$2.75 to \$3.40; common to rough, \$1.25 to \$2.80.

Feeders and stockers were quoted as follows:—Feeders, short-keeps, 1,050 to 1,250 lbs., \$4 to \$4.40; feeders, 800 to 1,050 lbs., \$3.25 to \$4; stockers, 650 to 800 lbs., \$3 to \$3.50.

The prices of sheep and lambs were as follows:—Export ewes, \$4.50 to \$5.12½; export bucks, \$3.50 to \$4.25 per cwt.; cull sheep, \$3.50 to \$4.50 each; grain-fed lambs, \$6.50 to \$7; barnyard lambs, \$5.50 to \$6.50 per cwt.; spring lambs, \$2 to \$8 each.

Calves sold at 3½ to 6c.
Hog prices ruled as follows:—Selects, 160 to 200 lb., \$5.75; fats, \$5.50; lights, \$5.25.

DARING JAIL BREAKER.

Dan Forsythe's Escape From Chatham Prison.

A despatch from Chatham says:—Saturday evening between 9 and 10 o'clock a very daring escape was made from jail here when Dan Forsythe, who, with Charles Benjamin, was arrested the other day and pleaded guilty on several charges of grain stealing and burglary, in the neighborhood of Ridgetown, broke away. Forsythe was confined in a cell, and kept calling for a drink of water. Turnkey Somerville came to give it to him and as he opened the door of the cell Forsythe attacked him, and, after a sharp struggle, succeeded in locking him in the cell. He then went to the cell where Benjamin was confined, and asked him if he would run for it, and, on the latter refusing, struck him over the head with a bunch of keys taken from the turnkey. Forsythe then left the room where the cells were, and, passing the guards' room, went up the stairway and out over the porch, slid down one of the pillars, and disappeared. Nothing has been seen of him since. Benjamin released the turnkey, who gave the alarm and the police were shortly on the escaped man's trail. Dr. Charteris, the jail surgeon, discovered that Somerville's injuries included a broken rib, cut head and front teeth knocked out in the struggle with Forsythe.

LIFE SENTENCE AND LASH.

Severe Penalty Passed Upon Joseph Kennedy.

A despatch from Brantford says:—Life imprisonment in Kingston Penitentiary, with 75 lashes, was the extreme penalty passed on Joseph Kennedy by Mr. Justice Teetzel on Wednesday night. The jury, after a half-hour's consideration, found Kennedy guilty of the charge preferred against him, that of a serious crime upon Irene Cole, a girl 9 years old, who was outraged and murdered in "the Willows," in this city, in September of 1903. Thus ends a case with a history.

KENNEDY HANGS HIMSELF.

Joseph Kennedy, who was on Wednesday night sentenced to life imprisonment with 75 lashes, in connection with the death of Irene Cole, hanged himself in his cell at the County jail shortly before eight o'clock on Thursday morning. The only other occupant of the jail corridor was Felix Doyle, charged with the murder of his mother. At 7.20 on Thursday morning the guard left the room while the prisoners were eating their breakfast. After the meal, Doyle went into a room at the end of the corridor, and, returning in a few minutes, found Kennedy hanging by a bed sheet from the top of the cell door. Doyle raised the alarm, but it was too late, as death had already resulted from strangulation.

WAS WELL PLANNED.

It is apparent that Kennedy had the whole thing deliberately planned. He acted with swiftness and success during the only opportunity that presented itself. The noose in the bed sheet was neatly made with the assistance of a shoe lace. Evidently Kennedy swung himself from his cot, thus leaving his whole weight suspended by the sheet.

PLOTTED TO KILL.

Six Russian Nihilists Captured by French Police.

A despatch from Marseilles says:—Local police officers on Thursday captured six Russian nihilists belonging to the Executive Revolutionary Committee of Moscow, who were it is believed, in communication with Father Gopon. A search made in the rooms of the prisoners disclosed the fact that they had been charged with the assassination of the Grand Dukes Alexis and Vladimir, and that they should have left Marseilles at once to execute their plan.

VEUVIUS EMITS FIRE

Volcano Becomes Agitated, Throwing Out Lava.

A despatch from Naples says:—Vesuvius, which has never been completely inactive, was more agitated Wednesday night. Incandescent lava, accompanied by flashes of light, was frequently thrown out. There is reason to expect greater activity shortly.