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St. John

ONE HUNDRED COSSACKS KILLED IN THAT SKIRMISH WITH JAPS.

Russians Sure They Will Defeat The Japanese.

First Land Fight Expected to Take Place in a Week.

Russia's Reserve Fleet to Sail for the East in June.

London cable: Such independent reports as are available confirm the Russian statement that the entrance to Port Arthur is not obstructed, the Japanese ships being sunk far from the entrance.

A Yin-Kow despatch to the Daily Telegraph says that a forward barbette of the crippled Russian battleship Czarevitch was badly damaged by a Japanese shell.

A despatch from Berlin to the Morning Post asserts that the Russian Government has informed the Senate that the battleship Retvizan and the cruiser Pallada have been repaired by engineers from Cronstadt, and have resumed their positions in the squadron in the outer roadstead at Port Arthur, where they have been since March 20. This remarkable statement has not appeared in any of the published despatches from Admiral Alexieff or Vice-Admiral Makaroff, and is contrary to the independent information of the correspondents in the Far East.

The Daily Telegraph's Yin-Kow correspondent sends a Russian report that sixty-five Japanese transports, escorted by four cruisers, approached New-Chwang last Saturday. They eventually steamed southward.

The Washington correspondent of the Morning Post says he has learned from an informant in a high position, which entitles his utterances to be received with great respect, that the Japanese already have a considerable force on the Liao-Tung Peninsula, and that a still larger force will be landed as soon as navigation is less impeded by ice. Sunday's attempt on Port Arthur had the double purpose of preventing the Rusian fleet from going out and of screening the movements of Japanese transports.

JAPANESE LOST FIFTY.

Engaged and Defeated the Russians, Near Anju, Northern Corea.

London cable: A despatch to the Daily Mail from Seoul, dated March 27, says that an engagement occurred on March 23 between Japanese infantry and Cossacks at a place between Anju and Chonju. It resulted in a victory for the Japanese, who, however, lost fifty killed. The Russians retreated slowly. Their loss is unknown.

A despatch to the Mail from Shan-Hai-Kwan says that the Japanese have taken soundings at Chinwangtao with the probable intention of landing there. The local Chinese authorities have received official authorization to hand over the plant of the Shan-Hai-Kwan Railway to the Japanese.

Quiet at New-Chwang.

A New-Chwang cable says: Merchants here declare that the establishment of martial law implies the total stoppage of trade. It will be impossible for them to deposit the values of cargoes as required by the Russian regulations. The Americans regard Russia's action as checkmating the policy of the United States in appointing consuls in Manchuria. Russian soldiers, complying with the order from the Governor, to-day hauled down the American and British flags from buildings occupied by Americans and British. The American and British warships, Helena and Espiegle, will come out of their mud docks on April 2. There is perfect order in the town. There are no movements of troops. The river is not blocked.

NOT UNTIL APRIL 20.

Date of Japanese Landing in the Valley of the Liao River.

London cable: The New-Chwang correspondent of the Morning Post claims to have good authority for stating that the Japanese will not land in the valley of the Liao River before April 20, because their transports are still occupied in carrying troops to Corea. The Russian position meanwhile will daily become stronger, especially on its vulnerable right flank. Even Port Arthur is stronger than it was at the beginning of the war. The outward passage of troops continues without a hitch.

Some Corean Reforms.

A Seoul cable says; Marquis Ito, upon taking his departure yesterday, submitted to the Government some suggestions for Corean reforms. The Emperor has appointed Yi Chi Ching, a former Minister of Foreign Affairs, as a special ambassador to bear presents to the Japanese Emperor and return the compliment of Marquis Ito's visit to Corea.

A French Appointment.

Tien Tsin cable; A Frenchman named Kreutlar, an employee of the Russo-Chinese Bank, has been appointed consular agent at New Chwang. He has hoisted the French flag over the bank building. It is considered probable that this is a forerunner of a movement to fly the tri-color over all the Russian Government buildings at New Chwang.

Across Lake Baikal.

Irkutsk, cable; Traffic across Lake Baikal is being carried as regularly as clock work. The troops cross on ice, singing as they march. The ice breaker is likely to begin the work of cutting a channel any day.

Sure of Victory.

St. Petersburg cable; Forecasting the results of the war in the far east, the Novosti declares there is no more doubt as to who will be the eventual victor, than there was at the commencement of the Greco-Turkish, the Spanish-American or the Boer war.

"For Japan the war is a life and death struggle," continues the Novosti. "She places everything on one card. For Russia it is really only a colonial war, and even defeat would leave the Empire, not greatly affected, while success would be sure to mean a great stimulus to the Russian colonization of Manchuria, where it is reasonable to suppose many soldiers will settle after the struggle is over."

"But," adds the paper, "Russia should not pay too high a price for this colonial empire, and therefore should conserve as far as possible the army and the fleet."

Catch All Asiatics.

Vladivostock, cable; An amusing sequel has resulted from the order of the Chief of Police directing that a keen lookout be kept for Japanese disguised as Koreans or Chinese. Since the order was issued the police seize every Asiatic they see.

Cork Helmets.

St. Petersburg cable; In view of the experience of the British forces in South Africa during the Boer war, the department is considering the equipment of the Russian troops with cork helmets for the summer campaign in the far east.

The Jews and the War.

St. Petersburg cable; A correspondent of the Russky Vedomosti, writing from Harbin, Manchuria, says he has not been permitted to proceed to Port Arthur, and adds that he will not be allowed to go to the front from Harbin till April 1. All the correspondents have been expelled from Port Arthur because one of them mentioned in his despatches important information regarding the movements of Russian troops.

The Novosti publishes a long article on the Jewish question combatting the allegations of some anti-Semitic newspapers that the Odessa Jews are doing everything to precipitate a repetition of the Kishineff affair by expressing sympathy with the Japanese. The Novosti denounces the allegations as monstrous falsehoods, declaring that the Jews throughout the empire have patriotically volunteered their services, and attacks the anti-Semitic writers for attempting constantly to sow race hatred.

Russians Confident.

Moscow cable: Three British officers who arrived here yesterday from India by way of Persia have pronounced themselves as being impressed by the calm confidence among the Russians. The officers noticed no signs of military activity and did not see a single military train throughout the caucasus or European Russia. It was as if Russia was not engaged in war.

How it Was Done.

Paris cable; It is certain, says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Matin, that the Russian cruiser Boyarin was blown up by touching a Russian torpedo eight days after the torpedo transport Yenesei was blown up as the result of accidentally striking a mine at Port Arthur.

Boris at the Front.

Paris cable; A correspondent of the Matin at Harbin says; "Grand Duke Boris, cousin of the Czar, has passed here, southward bound. Prince Arsene Karageorgevitch (brother of the King of Servia, and recently appointed by the Emperor of Russia chief of a squadron of Cossacks) and the painter Verestchagin were in the same train."

The correspondent adds that the railroad communications to Port Arthur are slow, but regular.

Slow Progress With Railway.

St. Petersburg, cable; There is general disappointment in military circles because of the prospective delay in the completion of the railroad around Lake Baikal. It had been expected that the road would be open April 1, but it is reported that in the contracts just effected it is provided that the work shall be done by August 1. The slowness of the constructions makes it doubtful whether the railroad will be completed even by that time.

First Fight in a Week.

Paris cable; The Matin's St. Petersburg correspondent says that the Russian Admiralty has ordered eight 350 ton torpedo boats from Riga and the Nevesky yards. He adds that the type of the latest Japanese torpedo boats will be copied exactly. The Petit Journal's St. Petersburg correspondent says; "I learn that the fleet to sail to the far east about June 15 will consist of eight battleships, eleven cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers, the number of which has not yet been fixed. The Echo Dr Paris' St. Petersburg correspondent says the War Office general staff expects that the first land engagements in the far east will take place in a week. It is estimated, he adds, that General Kuroki, commanding the first Japanese army in the Ping-Yang region, has a total strength of 70,000 men, including a brigade of cavalry and 180 cannon.

Tried to Wreck Train.

Irkutsk, cable; It has leaked out that on the night of March 15, an attempt was made near Tataskya to wreck a train bearing troops. The attempt failed. It is not known whether Japanese agents were responsible.

"ONLY ONE LAME DUCK."

All Warships But the Czarevitch Have Been Repaired.

St. Petersburg cable: Important news is drifting to the Russian capital by mail. A letter from Port Dalny draws a striking picture of its defenceless position when the Japanese attacked Port Arthur. The correspondent says that the smallest Japanese force could easily have captured the place and destroyed the enormous stores of coal, half a million pounds of tea, and six Russian merchantmen lying in the harbor. As the Japanese failed to do so, the Russians at once mined the approaches, the haste with which the work was performed being the cause of the disaster to the Yenisei, many of the mines being badly laid, one of which the protected cruiser Boyarin struck during a fearful storm. The correspondent also says the Boyarin was not sunk immediately. Her captain succeeded in placing a collision mat in position til she was beached. The Boyarin has since been towed off and taken back to Port Arthur, where she has been repaired.

A Port Arthur correspondent writes that the repairs to the battleship Retvizan and the protected cruiser Pallada have now been completed, the battleship Czarevitch being the only remaining lame duck of the squadron.

The preservation of Admiral Makaroff's squadron intact is regarded as being of vital importance, as is is now certain that the Admiralty's plans contemplate sending powerful reinforcements from the Baltic during the summer. Six battleships, the Orel, Borodino, Kniaz Souvaroff, Slava, Alexander III., and Paul and Andrew, and the cruisers Oleg, Zhemchus and Izumrud II., will be ready to sail in July, joining the squadron of Admiral Wirenius in the Mediterranean, and with the torpedo boats, reaching Port Arthur in September. The arrival of such a fleet would give the Russians an overwhelming preponderance in number. The Russian plans all look forward to this time, when by the co-operation of the fleet, the Japanese communications can be cut off. Then Gen. Kouropatkin will, according to the Russian calculations, be in a position to take the offensive on land and settle the war.

The departure of naval reinforcements from the Baltic will leave a fairly strong squadron of coast defence and other ships to protect Russia's European coast line.

THEY'RE OFF TO THIBET.

Peaceful Negotiations to be Again Attempted by the British.

London, April 4. — A despatch to The Times from Phari says that the British Thibetan expedition has commenced its advance on Gyangtse, which it should reach in about ten days. When the expedition arrives at Gyangtse, Gen. MacDonald will again attempt to enter upon peaceful negotiations with the Thibetans, even if the latter oppose the progress of the expedition by force of arms. The movement is being made with the utmost confidence. The force is in the best health and spirits. They encamped Monday in Tangla Pass, 15,500 feet above the sea level.

A despatch to the Daily Mail from Phari describes the country as barren and desolate. It adds that the march has been very exhausting, and many of the troops were prostrated by mountain sickness. The changes in temperature are extreme. The men are liable to sunstroke during the day and numbed with cold at night.

FRENCH CRISIS ENDS.

Education Bill Carried by a Good Majority.

Paris, April 4.—By the decisive majority of 316 to 260, the Chamber of Deputies to-night passed the Government bill for the suppression of all forms of teaching by the religious orders. This completes the work begun by the former Premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, in 1901.

The first law suppressed the unauthorized teaching orders, which had for a long time carried on their vocation despite the lack of legal sanction. The new law does not make any distinction between the authorized and unauthorized congregations, but sweeps away the whole fabric of teaching by religious orders, thus in effect substituting the system of State schools for those heretofore conducted by the orders.

Besides affecting the educational system, the passage of the bill is the achievement of the principal work undertaken by Premier Combes, and it is believed that the Premier will now voluntarily retire. The Parliamentary battle over the bill was one of the most severe which the Chamber of Deputies has seen in recent years. The closing vote was in the nature of a personal triumph for Premier Combes.

The bill, which still has to pass the Senate, though no serious opposition to it is anticipated there, forbids all teaching by the religious orders in the territory of France proper, and provides for the suppression within ten years of all orders actually holding an authorization to teach. An amendment, which was carried despite the wishes of Premier Combes, renders the measure inapplicable to the colonies, but this does not affect the power conferred on the Government by the law of 1901, of closing such schools in the colonies by decree. The existing congregations are prohibited from recruiting new members, and their novitiates are accordingly suppressed at once, with the exception of a few which are destined solely for the purpose of training teachers for service in the colonies. These latter, however, are forbidden to enroll minors. Severe penalties attach to any attempt to evade these provisions.

The property of the authorized congregations is to remain untouched until the closing of the last school, when a liquidator is to be appointed to wind up their affairs, pensioning the survivors and returning to the donors and heirs the donations and bequests which have been conditionally made, and applying the surplus to the purposes of secular education.

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ARBITRATION FOR DISPUTES.

Resolution Passed in London by Anglo-American League.

London, April 4.—At a meeting here to-day of the Anglo-American League resolutions were unanimously adopted affirming that it was desirable that the British Government should negotiate a treaty with the United States with a view to the systematic reference to arbitration of differences that diplomacy may fail to settle, such differences to be referred to The Hague tribunal or other agreed authority, and declaring that it was desirable that the two Governments before resorting to reprisals or hostilities should endeavor to settle disputed matters through The Hague tribunal or other peaceful means.

The Right Hon. James Bryce, M.P., presided. He said that all classes and all political faiths in Great Britain were practically unanimous in favor of a treaty. He added that it was impossible to imagine a difference between the United States and Great Britain where their material interests would justify war. The only danger was an outburst of popular passion, and a treaty would minimize this danger.

Among the speakers supporting the resolutions were Prof. John Westlake, one of the British members of The Hague Court of Arbitration, and Prof. Thomas E Holland, an authority on International law. About forty gentlemen attended the meeting, mostly lawyers and churchmen.

A number of letters approving the resolutions were read from the Archbishop of Canterbury, several bishops, the Duke of Sutherland, the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Brassey, and Sir William Vernon Harcourt. The last named wrote that there was never an object nearer his heart than the cementing of the closest ties between Great Britain and the United States, and he would be glad to see a treaty of arbitration established.

TORTURED IN PRISON.

Serious Charge Made by Two Boston Men Against Officials.

Boston, April 4. — Dr. George W. Galvin and Attorney Horatio N. Ailing charge that men undergoing what is known as solitary confinement in the State Prison have been beaten, clubbed and kicked to death by prison officials, and that many who survived this treatment have been superficially examined for signs of insanity and then sent to the State farm at Bridgewater for the criminally insane.

It is charged that the torture of the water cure practised on the prisoners of the solitary cell has actually made many of them insane.

For a slight argument with a keeper a man, so they allege, has been beaten with clubs within his cell until he became insensible, and then dragged along the corridors to the hospital, as one would haul a sack of meal that was too heavy to carry.

CRIME FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES.

What Would He Do With This Indiana Mystery?

Indianapolis, Ind., April 6.—Never before has a crime in Indiana stirred people so greatly and at the same time so ineffectively as has the murder of Miss Sarah Schafer, Latin teacher in the Bedford High School.

It would seem impossible that a woman, young, vigorous and possessed of an indomitable will, could be stricken down on a frequented street in a city of 7,000 inhabitants at 6.30 o'clock in the evening, dragged into an alley and her lifeless body thrown into a shed, and no one hear a sound or see anything that would indicate an occurrence out of the usual run of life. But this was done at Bedford, and though some of the best detective talent in the country was employed to run down the murderer and a committee of citizens was organized to aid in the search, the crime is still shrouded in mystery.

A suspect has been arrested, and is now awaiting the action of the Grand Jury, but three-fourths of the people of Bedford, and some of the most experienced detectives who worked on the case do not believe that the man is guilty. It is even hinted that he was arrested simply in order to shield some one else.

Miss Schafer roomed in the residence part of the city, and took her meals at a boarding house two squares away. She left the house after the evening meal, in company with some of the boarders, and they walked together to the end of the square. Here she left them, her room being in an opposite direction from theirs.

Half a square from the place where she parted from her friends an alley cuts the square in two. Fifty feet down this alley, in an old shed, her body was found the next morning. There were evidences of a struggle and it was plain that the young woman had fought desperately to protect herself from dishonor.

One of the pickets had been pulled from the fence, a part of her dress was found nearby and several hairpins were picked up between the mouth of the alley, where the attack was made, and the shed where her body was subsequently found.

Hundreds of persons gathered around during the few minutes that the body lay in the shed after being found, and the soft mud contained a thousand footprints before the Coroner reached the scene.

The murderer had left no clue, except that in the girl's tightly clenched hand were a few dark red hairs which were assumed to have been pulled from his head. The citizens offered a reward for the murderer and this was supplemented with a reward by the County Commissioners. Detectives flocked to the scene, among them two of the most experienced men in the employ of the Pinkertons.

The girl's room was searched for something that would give a clue to a motive, but nothing that sufficed, was found among her letters. Gossip coupled her name with a young man named Heitger, an athlete who had recently been graduated from the State University at Bloomington. It was said that Miss Schafer had expressed aversion to him, and that she had once ordered him out of her room, when he called to see her. It was charged also that young Heitger had attempted to kiss the pretty Latin teacher and this enraged her.

Heitger was in Bedford on the night of the tragedy and suspicion centred on him. He was called before the citizens' committee and questioned as to his movements on the night in question. He admitted that he had attempted to kiss Miss Schafer and that she became angry with him. Then he gave in detail all his movements on the night of the tragedy, how he had been with one after another of his friends, finally going to a basketball game and remaining till late at night.

The alibi was perfect, and further efforts to connect him with the crime were abandoned.

In the meantime two or three suspects had been arrested in different parts of the State, but were released within a few hours, nothing having been developed to show that they had any connection with the crime. The detectives were floundering here, there and everywhere in their search for clues, and it soon developed that they were at variance both in regard to the motive for the murder and the person who committed it.

The sleuths' theories were irreconcilable, and some three or four of the best left the place, satisfied of course that they knew the murderer, but also satisfied that the evidence at hand would not justify his arrest, and that the failure of all the detectives to accept the same theory made it impossible to secure additional evidence.

The detectives who left the scene in disgust believed that a citizen of Bedford, a man engaged in business and who had been seen, they said, with the dead girl, was the murderer, and that his motive was not assault, but the desire to possess himself of some letters which he had written to her, and which, they assumed, she had at the time of the attack.

This theory gained strength by the fact that a woman and a man, the latter dressed in an overcoat that came below his knees, were seen talking at the mouth of the alley between 6.30 and 7 o'clock on the night of the murder. This was well established by three witnesses before the citizens' committee, and also that the woman was heard to say, "I'll die first"; but no one pretended to say what was the subject of conversation. Nor did any of the witnesses recognize either the man or the woman. It was raining slightly and they had hurried by to their homes, leaving the couple talking.

The time corresponded precisely with the time that Miss Schafer would have reached the alley after leaving her friends at the street corner. All agree that it was between 6.30 and 7 o'clock when they parted at the corner, and it was supposed that the man, whoever he was, was waiting for the school teacher and intercepted her at the point where she was passed by the three witnesses, one of whom heard the defiant utterance.

Soon after 7 o'clock a man rushed into a store and excitedly asked for whiskey. He was directed to a saloon, but did not enter it. This man was without an overcoat, and the tense excitement under which he labored caused the people to connect him with the tragedy, but he has not been seen since he left the store and walked rapidly toward the railroad tracks.

One of the men before the citizens' committee was James McDonald, a teamster. It was reported that he said he saw the woman at the alley and had given some details of the tragedy. He had been known to ill treat his wife. When questioned he said that he had been to the doctor's to get some medicine and passed the alley on his way home. He did not reach home till after 7 o'clock.

He was arrested, taken to the scene of the crime and charged with the murder. He denied it bitterly, and told the detective that he would kill him if ever he got free. This is the man in the reformatory. Investigation has shown that he was probably seeking notoriety when he talked with friends, and that he knew no more of the crime than what he had read in the newspapers. It is possible that he will be indicted, but most of the citizens of Bedford are intent on finding the man in a long overcoat who was talking to a woman at the alley on the night of the murder.

WILL WIDEN BREACH.

Pope Expected to Appeal to French Catholics

Rome, April 4. — Following Ambassador Nisard's energetic protest against the Pope's allocution against the Combes Government, the Papal rejoinder is expected to take the form of a strong encyclical to the French episcopate, widening the breach that already exists between France and the Vatican, because it will appeal to Catholics to withstand, a Poutrance, the attempted demolition of Catholicism in France.

To a cardinal who expressed fear that the recall of Ambassador Nisard from the Vatican would result in the abolition of a concordat, the Pope said that the Church thrives best where no nuncio and no concordat exist, and quoted the United States and England in point.

Though President Loubet will not visit the Pope when he comes to Rome, for the Pope has said he would not grant him an audience if he asked one, it is understood that Foreign Minister Delcasse will visit Cardinal Merry de Val, the Papal Secretary of State, though informally, when President Loubet comes to Rome. But compromises are impossible as long as M. Combes remains Premier of France.

CHARGES WERE FALSE.

Stories Against Free State Officers Declared Untrue.

New York, April 4. — The Herald has the following from London: Damages to the amount of £500 were were awarded by a British jury to-day to Captain de Keyser, a Belgian officer, formerly in the service of the Congo Free State, for libel contained in a book called "The Curse of Central Africa," written by Captain Guy Burrows. Many attacks on the Congo administration have been based upon the allegations by Captain Burrows, and the decision reached in the Court of King's Bench to-day is consequently of far-reaching importance.

When the case opened on Friday Sir Edward Clarke, K. C., said the plaintiff had found himself compelled to bring the action in respect of allegations made against him of the gravest possible kind, dishonoring to his character as a man of honor and humanity and also as an officer of the Belgian army.

JUDGMENT AGAINST ABEEL.

Young Man Who Masqueraded as a Goelet Must Pay Heavily.

New York, April 4. — A sheriff's jury took testimony to-day to determine how much of the $75,000, demanded by Eleanor L. Anderson, James N. Abeel can afford to and ought to pay her for engaging to marry her under the name of J. GOden Goelet. Miss Anderson sued him for $75,000 for breach of promise. The young man failed to answer the complaint, and a default was taken upon which presiding Justice Van Brunt, of the Appellate Division of the Superior Court granted an order to Sheriff Erlanger to empanel a jury and assess damages. Testimony was given to show that Abeel had a contingent estate left by his grandfather, and a prospective interest in the estate of his father, who is wealthy. The jury assessed the defendant for the full amount claimed.

EMBRYONIC HOME RULE.

British Commons Discusses Giving Scotch System to Wales.

London, April 4.—The House of Commons to-day discussed embryonic Home Rule, giving a second reading to the bill applying to Wales the system of private bill legislation enjoyed by Scotland. Rt. Hon. W. H. Long, M.P., speaking for the Government, sympathized with the Welsh, but considered it unwise to pass the bill until its success in Scotland was assured. A select committee will enquire into the Scotch system.

Cotton spinners of Britain, France and Belgium are trying to combine to fight American speculators in raw cotton by restricting the output of manufactured goods.

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