

THE WAR.

THE JAPANESE ADVANCE.

THE TASHICHIAO FIGHT.

JAPANESE CASUALTIES 800.

Russian refugees in Chifu report that the Japanese have torpedoed and sunk three Russian destroyers.

The Japanese warships are reported to be showing signs of the hard wear and tear which they have undergone since the commencement of the war.

St. Petersburg, Wednesday.

The following telegram has been received from General Kurapatkin, dated July 26th—No further news has been received from the Southern Division. On July 23rd movement of a small advance detachment was observed in the neighbourhood of the Pechaulin Pass and south-east of Simuchen in the Shandsaputze Valley, and on the surrounding heights. On July 24th from 8 o'clock in the morning, two battalions of Japanese infantry, with four mountain guns, were seen to move forward from Shandsaputze Valley towards Heju and Toshigan, about 25 miles east of Amping. The Japanese began a skirmish with our outposts, and their mountain guns vigorously bombarded the empty battery earthworks on our late position at Tadoju. Towards half-past ten the advance of Japanese columns began from Pechaulin Pass, but it was checked for some time by our advance guard, who lost 14 men wounded in the skirmish which ensued. Towards 2 o'clock the Japanese occupied Huaho and Tonkidi, east of Simuchen, and a height south of the road to Pechaulin Pass. About the same time a column of the enemy, about two regiments strong, appeared on the road from the Dalin Pass at Sianlaju, and a battalion occupied Padsigow, on the Simu Chen-Tatshi road, about 6½ miles south-east of Simuchen. Furthermore, a somewhat considerable body of the enemy was seen to be concentrating in the neighbourhood of Faotun, south of Simuchen, simultaneously with the advance from Kaiping on Tashichiao, which culminated in the fight of July 24. The enemy on that day developed his forces in the direction of Haicheng to the extent of two divisions. Their operations, however, were of no determined character there. There is no change in the eastern front. According to the reports of our reconnoitring parties, the enemy are moving a portion of their forces on Siheyang.

DISASTER AMONG THE RUSSIANS.

Karoki's Headquarters, via Fusan, July 26th.

Reports from the Russian lines all show that there is much fever and dysentery among the troops there, probably caused by the neglect of sanitary precautions in the Chinese towns. The first work of the Japanese, when settling in towns which the Russians have abandoned, is to thoroughly clean the streets and houses, which have always been found in a most filthy state and infected by swarms of flies. The report that some Russian guns were captured on July 19th is untrue.

THE TASHICHIAO FIGHT.

The Japanese Legation in London last night issued the following despatch from Tokio:—"General Oku reports as follows—Our army commenced on the 24th July an attack upon the enemy posted on Tapingling and other eminences near Tashichiao with strong defence works. The enemy's line of operation was extending 10 miles from east to west. The enemy consisted of about five divisions, with at least 100 guns. Our right wing reached the heights three kilometres to the south-west of Tapingling, and an exchange of cannonade ensued. Our front had to withstand the enemy's artillery till dark, while the local situation did not allow our artillery to fire with full effect. At 10 p.m. our detachment of the right wing dislodged the enemy from the position around Tapingling. Then by successive attacks till daybreak we captured all the positions commanding Tashichiao, and are pursuing the enemy towards Tashichiao. Our casualties are estimated at 800."

CABINET MEETING.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN QUESTION.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

A further meeting of the Cabinet summoned, it is understood, to discuss the questions at issue with Russia was held to-day. The Attorney-General was again in attendance.

The Cabinet was still sitting at 1.30 p.m. this afternoon.

ANOTHER SAD FATALITY IN LIMERICK.

YOUTH DROWNED IN THE GRAND CANAL.

It has often been remarked what a strange coincidence it is that tragic occurrences follow quickly one upon the other. We have had it exemplified in Limerick this week. On Monday evening two little girls were drowned at the North Strand, on Tuesday evening a youth of nineteen, named Martin Casey, lost his life in the Grand Canal at the end of Clare street. No one saw the accident, but it is surmised that he fell out of a sand boat lying near the lock. Michael Dunlea, who works on Captain King's canal steamer, seeing the youth's danger, jumped in without even taking off his heavy boots. Casey at once clutched him, and although Dunlea is a strong swimmer, he could do no more than keep the other afloat, as several persons on the bank were so panic-stricken they could do nothing. After a desperate struggle, Casey released his hold, and Dunlea had barely strength to come to the surface, and was dragged out by three men, named O'Connor, McNamara, and Mooney. A couple of minutes later Casey's body was got out with a grappling iron, but all efforts made by Mr. James Killeen, of the Board of Works; Mr. Pike, Captain of the Shannon Rowing Club, and subsequently Dr. Waters, Barrington's Hospital, failed to restore consciousness. The body was removed to the residence of Casey's father in Watergate.

THE INQUEST.

An inquest was held yesterday afternoon at Mr. P. Franklin's public-house, Broad-street, by Mr. M. J. DeCoursey and a jury of which the foreman was Mr. Peter Quilligan.

Sergeant Rogan, John street, conducted the proceedings on behalf of the police. James Casey identified the deceased as his brother. He last saw him at 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Michael Dunlea, a steamer man, working with Captain King in one of the canal boats, stated that on Tuesday evening at 6.30 o'clock he was on board his boat speaking to Mr. Hayes, bailder. He saw the deceased in a sand cot, and in the act of tying the boat he fell into the water. Witness, with Mr. Hayes, tried to reach the deceased, but could not. Witness then jumped into the river and dived after deceased whom he brought to the surface by the back. Deceased turned and caught hold of witness by the neck and leg, rendering him more or less powerless. He brought the deceased five times to the surface of the water, but got no relief from any person in the crowd who were looking on. He lay at the bottom of the river with deceased, and had to force his fingers open until he nearly broke them, to loosen his grasp. Witness then crawled about the bottom of the river looking for something with which he could raise deceased, but could find nothing, and in the end was only pulled in himself in a very exhausted condition. He believed deceased was dead at the bottom of the river, otherwise he would not have been able to loosen his grasp. A buoy was thrown out to witness, but he was too exhausted to catch it.

The Coroner said the witness had performed a most heroic act in trying to save this boy—how he escaped with his own life was a miracle.

Dunlea said he had saved altogether 35 people from drowning; and in only two cases had people missed him.

A Juror said a representation should be made of the bravery of witness to the proper quarter.

The Foreman expressed a wish that Dr. Waters should be examined.

The Coroner considered the doctor's evidence was not necessary. They had the evidence before them that the man was taken up dead.

A majority of the jury decided that the doctor was not a necessary witness.

The jury found that deceased met with his death by drowning, and that same was accidental. They added the following rider:—"We express our admiration of the bravery of Michael Dunlea in endeavouring to save the life of deceased at the risk of his own life."

We learn further particulars from Mr. Hayes who was on the spot at the time. The accident happened at lock gate. Round the canal lock is a timber railing which projects two or three feet outside the quay wall, to prevent people falling in. However, this railing prevented access being had to the drowning man, and there was no other way of reaching him unless by jumping into the water. Had there been either a life buoy, boat-hook, or rope, at hand, the man could have been saved without his rescuer entering the water. Mr. Hayes searched in two boats for these implements, but found none available, and consequently Dunlea jumped in to go to the man's assistance. Dunlea himself would have been drowned but for a sand scoop with a long handle being brought by some men and handed out to him. He was then thoroughly exhausted, but was safely hauled ashore, when he fainted. Mr. Killeen, with all speed left his office and came provided with a boat hook and buoy from his own private yard, and with their aid the drowning man was brought to land in the space of a minute or two after he had gone down. Every effort at restoring respiration was made by Mr. Killeen and in a short time by others, but without result. Mr. Hayes pays the highest tribute to Dunlea's intrepid gallantry and pluck, which deserves richly to be rewarded.

GREAT MUNSTER FAIR.

FIRST DAY.

The Munster Horse Fair was one of the best for this time of the year held for a considerable time. The best of the animals were bought up on Wednesday evening, and good prices were given for high-class stock. The July fair is essentially a market for "long-tails," and some very promising colts and fillies were to be seen in some of the streets on Wednesday and during the earlier hours of to-day. The fair proper was held on the Fair Green, and the Corporation regulations for preventing the parade of horses on the streets were satisfactorily carried out by the police. Buyers and sellers are better pleased at this arrangement, while pedestrians are enabled to do their business without danger from kicking equines. It is believed that the falling away of one or two other horse fairs in the South, mainly owing to the practice of permitting sales to take place two or three days before the actual date, will have the effect of materially improving the status of the Munster Fair, and the fine display of really useful animals at this fair to-day confirms this belief.

Two and three year old colts and fillies fetched remunerative prices, but the range was so wide according to the class that it would be impossible to strike an average. A large number of yearlings also changed hands at paying prices. The supply of ordinary agricultural horses was pretty large, and the demand fairly good. Some cabbars and busses were also bought, but comparatively few carriage horses were to be seen.

All the best-known Irish and cross-Channel buyers were present, and large numbers of horses were despatched by the Midland Great Western and Great Southern and Western Railway lines.

For army purposes extensive sales were effected, the Home, German, and French governments having agents attending. The supply in this class ranged from £35 to £40 a head and it was not at all equal to the demand. The supply of carriage horses was, as already stated, small. Several hunters sold at three figures.

At Mr. Fitt's Repository, King Arthur, the property of Mr. J. O'G. Delmege, was purchased by Captain Jennings for 60 gs., and a number of other horses changed hands at good figures.

PHYSICAL DETERIORATION.

IMPORTANT REPORT.

(By Telegraph To-day.)

The Committee on Physical Deterioration in a lengthy and interesting report issued to-day state they hope the information collected will have some effect in allaying the apprehensions that progressive deterioration is to be found among the people generally. The report deals with a variety of questions, and makes some remarkable recommendations. The Committee advise the establishment of an Anthropometric Survey for taking measurements of young people, and the adoption of a register of sickness not confined to infectious diseases, and to apply the information thus derived they recommend the application of an advisory council, and to also to advise the Government on public health. The Committee urges drastic measures to abolish overcrowding, but the clearance of slums may necessitate the taking charge of those who are incapable of independent existence up to the standard of decency it imposes in the last resort. This might take the form of labour colonies on the lines of the Salvation Army at Hadleigh, with powers of compulsory detention. The children of persons treated might be lodged temporarily in public nurseries, and in default of the parent providing the cost of maintenance, the debtor should be placed in a Labour Home under State supervision until debt is worked off. To check the degeneration resulting from drink, the Committee recommend demonstration in schools of physical evils caused by alcohol. They further recommend instruction to girls in infant management, and urge the prohibition of the sale of tobacco to children.

COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS.

The County Petty Sessions were held to-day, before Captain Fitzpatrick, R.M., and E. H. Poole Esq.

CYCLING ON THE FOOTPATH.

Jeremiah Riordan, Bruree, who did not appear was charged by Sergeant McGuarn with cycling on the footpath at Ballinacorra on the 6th.

Captain Fitzpatrick—Not long ago I saw several policemen riding bicycles on the footpath.

Sergeant McGuarn said offenders were only summoned adjacent to the city.

A fine of 6d and costs was imposed.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

An old man named James Sullivan, was prosecuted by the same complainant for working a horse while in an unfit condition.

The sergeant stated that the breechen had been repaired with nails, which projected about an eighth of an inch and stuck into the animal's

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