Japanese of All Ranks Know Their Business and the Russiaus Do Not -Boer Tacties Against Ineffective Volley Firing-Views Behind the Scenes-Russians Brave, But Unintelligent-Soldiers Who Wanted to Be Captured-Bodies Piled in a

Instrument Ticking on the Altar. Correspondence of the Associated Press.

Chinese Temple and a Telegraph

Headquarters Second Division, First Imperial Japanese Army, Near Mo-Tien Pass, July When the whole history of this war is written the affair at Mo-Tien-Ling on the 17th of July may have the proportions merely of an outpost engage ment. But it brings into strong light the methods and the efficiency two armies at the present stage of hostilities and it explains the con-tinuous and unvarying success on land of the Yankees of the East against one of the great military powers of Europe. Why the Russians should have abandoned the best defenposition between the Yalu and Liao Yang without a fight and soon afterward make two costly and un-successful efforts to regain it, remains yet a mystery. Two days before this attack the Japanese knew through their remarkable intelligence service that it was planned. They foresaw largely how it would be executed, though probably they did not anticihow stubbornly the Russians fired with ambition to maintain the prestige of European troops and in spired by the name of Skobeleff linked with the memories of Schipka Pass, would storm the stronghold. It was Skobeleff's fighting and Skobeleff men against the men and the methods of a quarter century later.
On the morning of the 17th severa

of the correspondents who were camped some miles from the pass were awakened at daylight by the sound of cent, but part of the staff unwilling. We were to "wait a little," a phrase become familiar during two months of waiting in Tokio. Later the general might go and perhaps the correspondents could accompany him, MACHINERY BEHIND THE STAGE

The waiting was protracted until 9 o'clock and meantime could be seen the machinery of battle behind the stage. Several infantry battalions came up the road at a dog trot, the men's khaki tunics plastered to their backs with sweat, while they mopped their faces with towels presented by the patriotic societies of Japan, bearing blue prints of the Mikado's soldiers storming impossible blue precipices in the face of gigantic blue-bearded Russians. Most of the men looked as eager for their work as a football team racing onto the field. There were no shirkers, although some followed the rear of their companies panting painfully under the fifty pounds weight of equipment which they all carry. A hospital company marched past. the stretchers roped to the backs of horses, and some of the Red Cross men shouldered wooden crutches to help soldiers with leg wounds from the field. Trains of the small black Japanese stallions passed, bearing ammunition boxes and trenching spades, which are also utilized for burying the Ammunition calssons with lathharnessed on the square, where the utilized all the cover as they advanced, while the .Russian tactics of preservawait possible orders for the front. A company of engineers, shouldering hamboo poles and coils of copper wire, began to stretch a new telephone line, while averaged and company and the reservance of the ground.

That stiffness and precision of the square, where the utilized all the cover as they advanced, while the .Russian tactics of preservance in glose company formations sacrities and precision of the bullets. Not since Hamabocation, the began to stretch a new telephone line.

That stiffness and precision of the bullets abled on a small area. Along the line southern wanching would allow the hydrant placed that it would allow the hydrant placed their would allow t which extended across the fields, as fast as the coils could be unwound. Probably no other army has as light and durable material for many uses Japanese in as the Japanese find in their bamboo. abandoned. Occasionally an officer, wearing the gold and white sash of the staff, galloped in from the direction of ment or fuss. The whole machine operated with the same smoothness that it has exhibited from the day the mobilization began in Tokio. The sounds of battle were increasing

at 7 o'clock and the expectant witbecame impatient. The guns began booming about that time the explosion of a shell was heard every two or three minutes, while the unremitting rattle of rifle fire became louder, punctuated by frequent vol-leys, and every one knew that the volleys came from Russian rifles and that the Japanese were firing at will in accordance with their usual tactics. Some fancied that the work was coming closer. It certainly sounded nearer than on the morning of the Fourth, and the listeners began to speculate whether the Russians had carried the pass. The Chinese were getting fright-ened and parties of women and children went skurrying up the hill roads with bundles of valuables. CORRESPONDENTS TO THE

FRONT. About 9 o'clock the telephone bell in the staff office gave a long, sharp ring and an officer emerged to announce that all might start. Word had come that the Russians were running, Cor-respondents and officers were off at full speed, the eavalcade with the various uniforms of different nationalities making an unusual group. The tall German captain towered above all others, wearing a cap of the same color and pattern as a Russian officer's, which suggested the realiza-tion of the Japanese fear that foreigners on the battle field might be shot by their own troops. Just at the foot of the high hill where begins the steep ascent of the pass, came a squad o wounded soldiers going to the base hospital. Some had their arms in lings, others were bandaged across Lieir faces. Most of them were very rale from loss of blood and heat, but drew, thinking that the fighting was all smiled and saluted. A long pro-cession of wounded descended the hill. Japanese, for some reason, refrained Part were carried on stretchers, with their guns and equipments beside them, for nothing is wasted or lost ing in large, compact bodies, presented with the Japanese army, and when the soldiers go into a fight they leave no trail of discarded blankets and haversacks. All the wounded were quiet and stoical, as usual. One boy. The spectators with this army here. shot through both arms, was walking, and as he could not salute, he stopped

A BATTLE SCENE. Emerging from the pass and riding known. idea of the country without maps, nor contrast as in other essentials. Rus- cer knows and is competent to do his

and bowed low to each foreign officer.

Down at the end of the valey gleams a white pagoda, where General Sakaroff, according to his report, witnessed the engagement of the Fourth and was filled with admiration for the valor of his men, and where he was probably a spectator of their second and more disastrous repulse. The advancing Japanese skirmish line was half a mile below the treaches steadily pushing the Russians back. The lire of the Japanese battery had ceased when the enemy began to retreat, the mists had risen and the sun was shiring hotily. The uproar of Japanese rifles will, is the general explanation. Morethrough them. JAPANESE METHODS SUPERIOR.

ground slowly, with their firing line stage of suffering, whose plight at other seldom.

EXPERT USE OF COVER.

the most significant and interesting suing columns. From 7 to 9 the Japa feature of the spectacle was the apfrill and equipment of soldiers is di- Several shells struck the temple walls ind the Japanese officers and individual mel balls were strewn thickly, and the men appeared to have every point in the game at their wit's end. In addition which could be picked up on every to the irregular road, here elevated and ingly to the staving powers of the Rusthere depressed, the banks of a moun-ingly to the staying powers of the Rus tain brook running beside it and the sian soldiery, as convincingly to the that unless the work was immediately clumps of trees and bushes, and also judgment of their officers in electing stopped, that the arrest of the workthe road, and two or three field bat-teries in reserve appeared and un-shelter for the riflemen. The Japanese gateway to southern Manchuria.

German school which some foreign where the Russian wave broke it left officers, noting in the home manoeu a fringe of dead and wounded. Five vres, had thought might handicap the bodies were close together in the road Japanese in the field was entirely just above the temple, all lying with abandoned. When a battallon went into action the companies worked most independently. Sections of companies and dropped, apparently in the first most independently. Sections of com-rush. One corpse was on its hands and panies found positions separately knees, still clutching a rifle, and but where the country and cover favored for the head fallen forward on the firing. But there was no confusion nor disorder, and seemingly little hurry. Every officer and man and every organization knew its business and proceeded about it without excitement or fuss. The whole machine operated with the same smoothness firing a few rounds they would dash for the head fallen forward on the chest, might have seemed alive and dash. The rolling ground permitted them to advance by rushes effectively. After operated with the same smoothness firing a few rounds they would dash that the same smoothness firing a few rounds they would dash that the country and cover favored them, without atempting to preserve length them. The head fallen forward on the chest, might have seemed alive and dash. The rolling ground permitted them to advance by rushes effectively. After length them, without atempting to preserve length them. And on the chest, might have seemed alive and dash. The rolling ground permitted them to advance by rushes effectively. After length them, without atempting to preserve length them to advance by rushes at a second them. firing a few rounds they would dash ahead to another hillock, and, dropping and rocks in hope of shelter. Two rifles into the grass, empty their magazines stuck up in the road against little piles again. The uniforms of khaki from of stones, with handkerchiefs tied to ap covers to leggins made them as the bayonet just as had been done at nconspicuous at possible.

INCONSPICUOUS UNIFORMS. On the Peking relief expedition Japnese regiments took the field dressed an see regiments took the held dressed don the business. The squads searching for wounded discovered several stalwart soldiers without any marks on them huddled in the shrubbery. Of these a foreign attache, speakreasonable rifle range. Since that them huddled in the shrubbery. Of campaign, in the evolution of this one of these a foreign attache, speaklives has come to be reckoned with. So ashamed. "No," replied the soldier, "I far has the spectacular deferred to effectiveness in uniforming, that even the regimental numbers on shoulder-the first time I found a chance." The straps are abandoned, that the enemy reports current in the army credit many may find no distinguishing marks Russian prisoners with the same action. about prisoners or dead to give a clue to the identity of the organizations which oppose them. The occasional glint of an officer's sword scabbard when the sun struck it was the only in a roll over his shoulder. guide for a marksman a few hundred yards distant. The officers yet re-tain their swords in the field because at close quarters they wield them with the old fury and skill of the Samural strapped to him, and I saw a Japanese sighting before their clans. How perfeetly khaki fuses with an ordinary my and drag him into the shade of a background was illustrated later in the bush, putting a blanket under his head day when the Russian battery, with an and a handkerchief over his face. Rusunexpected burst of energy dropped sian impedimenta were strewn all over half a dozen shells over a hill to the right of the temple. No one had heavy snuff-colored coats which prove noticed soldiers there until, after the dropping of the shells, it suddenly seemed to swarm with men and two or three companies scrambled down the slope running for shelter. One of the shells 'fell short almost on the crest of the hill where the attachees and correspondents had been grouped until a respondents had been grouped until a few minutes before, when they with-

down a stretch of fortuous road under the shelter of a hillside the party came abruptly upon the stage of action. It is impossible to convey an the two armies, there was as great a have confidence that every under offi-

WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY. was it practical to see more than that section of the fighting directly below the outpost trenches which guard the northern entrance a mile or more to the front. The trench lies along a ridge between two hills and Japanese of All Ranks Know Their and the practical to see more than that section of the fighting directly below the outpost trenches which guard the northern entrance a mile of discharging one gun after another rapidly and with precision To-day four Russian guns saluted the Japanalong a ridge between two fills and is not more than half a mile wide. In front of it is the slope where the daylight surprise of the Fourth was fought, and the road winds down toward the left through a gradually widening valley with fields of beans and corn on both sides and hills coverage or the state of the same or the same o ed with young trees and thick bushes. volleys, but most of the time they fire Down at the end of the valey gleams at will, giving the enemy less informa-

> had risen and the sun was shining to use his ammunition of his own free hotily. The uproar of Japanese rifles will, is the general explanation, Morewas like the popping of hundreds of corks, while the Russian volleys seen the two in battle that the Russian volleys seen the two in battle that the Russian volleys same a crashing of tree tops as the Japanese, although the latter are though a gigantic ax cut a swattle of the latter are bloomed and the Japanese, although the latter are though a gigantic ax cut a swathe not rated as high as certain other armies.

The Russians were yielding the RUSSIANS BRAVE, BUT UNINTEL

LIGENT spread out across the fields and hill- No one who has seen this campaign sides in an almost solid barrier. Behind questions Russian bravery. The great the firing line and sheltered by a clump superiority of the Japanese lies in the of magnificent trees, which must have head work of officers and men. The Th. vance, a regiment was stopping in solid formation on a cross-road. The men were a long, dark mass, blotting out the tresh green crops, and their officers, in white coats, could be seen riding up and down the lines, apparently trying to re-organize them. With the regiment space redoubts above them. concealed them from the Japanese ad- scene around the tumple nearest the re-organize them. With the regiment was a battery which had fine opportunity for effective action, but was hudat the division general's headquarters fled together in the field where a single square, with a brick wall in front. The well-placed Japanese shell might have compound is perhaps a hundred feet worked great execution in its midst. square, and looking in through the awakened at daylight by the sound of distant volleys. A thick, white fog covered the hills, like a London fog in December, so dense that tents could not be seen a hundred yards away. The ground was muddy and trees dripped as though there had been a heavy rain. The correspondents were soon in their saddles, but word came from the press censor that they were not to go until given permission. Within an hour most of the military attaches and newspaper mehad gathered in front of headquarters from each camp were laboring with the staff officers. Word came from each camp were laboring with the staff officers, word came from within that the general was acquies from each camp were laboring with the staff officers, word came from within that the general was acquies, whose plight at other laboration and encountering many wounded Russians in every within that the general was acquies, and the laboration and encountering to their camping places gailes one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking in through the gates one sees the monster scarled and looking

heads of the men advancing slowly be-low them, and made their way to the vantage point of a high hill close to the right whose summit afforded such a slaughter house. In the road and the view of battle as can be achieved but bushy field beyond it the Russians left more than a hundred dead and wound ed, and it was said that at the angle This letter is not intended to describe of the road, the nearest point to the he engagement, but to give some of pass which they gained, the bodies lay impressions of a spectator who so close that it was necessary to pile could see only a part of the field, and them away to make room for the amthat during the closing hours. By far munition trains that followed the purpearance and methods of Japanese sol-shrappel among the Russian infantry liers at the work toward which all the at a range of about 2,000 yards

rected, and the comparison of them Two of them penetrated 15 inches of depots, with the Russians. The country af- compact bricks and dropped inside the forded the best possible cover for troops yard. All over the temple yard, over who knew how to avail themselves of it, the road and the fields about it, shrapend the Japanese officers and individual nel balls were strewn thickly, and the

> Hamatan. The owners, it seemed, tired of the fight and surrendered when the Japanese came down upon them. They were not the only ones to abandon the business. The squads search-

ing for wounded discovered several modern of armies, economy of ing Russian, asked if he was not The Russians go into battle down by all their effects. One soldier mortally wounded, wore his heavy coat in a roll over his shoulder, an entrenching spade, a cooking pot, a can-vas bag filled with black bread, a can-

BATTLE General Nichi observed the end of practically finished for the day. The Japanese, for some reason, refrained the engagement from the summit of from making the most of their guns on a hill close by the temple. He had this occasion. The Russians, retreat-dressed at his usual hour, taken a leis-The spectators with this army have was practically decided had he startyet to see it engaged in impromptu ed on an unhurried ride to the scene. field work, for all its action as at the His brigade general, Okasawa, mancrossing of the Yalu, has been shooting aged affairs on the spot, and the suat distances and elevations previously hand. Japanese officers explain that



Mooresville Cotton Mill Will Work Double Time-Personals and News

orrespondence of The Observer Mooresville, Sept. 10. The managenent of the cotton mills at this place arranging to resume hight work which will begin in about 10 days, after a suspension of seven weeks. The mill he year.

Alexander, a malive of Hopewell township, Mecklenburg country, but now of Hendersonville is here Maharey at the Presbyterian church to-Mr. Sample represents The Southern Presbyterian, and is working this territory in the laterest of that publication.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank McCraw, of oncord, were here to-day, the guests ing young attorney, of Darlington, S. is on a visit to his father. Dr Stevenson, at this place. - Mr. S. Goodman arrived to-night from Salls.

THOUBLE OVER A HYDRANT.

Rallway Company Wanted Morgan ton Water Commissioners to Pas for Its Location.

orrespondence of The Observer. Morganton, Sept. 10.- At the time the town commissioners entered into a contract with the waterworks company to furnish fire protection to the town, It was agreed that 32 fire by drants were to be located at such point as designated by the commissioners, it. view of this, the commissioners decid fired ed that inasmuch as the Southern was tax-payer it was not more burge than right that it should have fire protection for its passenger and freigh The water company was directed to place a hydrant at a corner of Depot street, and a plot of ground whereon stands the passenger depot. that unless the work was immediately Third and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia. nen employed would follow. Finally the railroad company

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