JAPANESE ARE FIGHTERS

Score Another Big Victory off Port Arthur.

A despatch from Chefoo says: News of Second Bombardment of Port Arthur was brought here by British Steamer Chefoo. The bombardment took place on Wednesday, and lasted nearly an hour. The Japanese shells killed and wounded a number of people and damaged houses on the hillsides. People are fleeing from Port Arthur and the Steamer Chefoo brought a large number of foreigners and others.

MORE VESSELS CAPTURED.

Lloyd's Shipping Index in London has received a cable despatch from Nagasaki, dated Feb. 13, 9.30 p.m., stating that the British steamer Hermes, together with her cargo, has arrived there, having been captured by the Japanese. The vessel is a China Sea trader. It is reported that the Japanese have captured the Norwegian vessels Activ, Lena, Sentis, Seirstad, and Argo, all of which were chartered by a Russian naval contractor. The Russian steamer Manchuria, which is being repaired at Nagasaki, will be arrested on Feb. 16th, as she will not be able to complete her repairs by that date, which is the limit of the time fixed for the departure of all Japanese and Russian vessels from the ports of the belligerents.

JAPANESE REPULSED?

A Port Arthur despatch to the London Daily Mail, dated Feb. 12, says that according to the Russian official story the Japanese landed 600 men near Ta-lien-wan (Dalny) with disastrous results. Four hundred and ten of them were sabred by Cossacks. The remainder escaped to their ships. It is also stated that the Japanese landed at Dove Bay, where thirty of them were killed. The others retreated.

The Mailis New-Chwang correspondent says that the Russians allowed the Japanese to land at Pigeon Bay (Pove Bay), a few miles west of Port Arthur. They were attacked by troops and the batteries, and retired defeated with heavy losses.

NOW SUPPORTS JAPAN.

A despatch from the London Daily Express, dated Tokio, Feb. 12, says that the Japanese Minister at Seoul, M. Consouke Hayashi, had a protracted interview Thursday with Yi-Hyeung, the Emperor, who has been converted into a supporter of Japan by the events of the past few days. The despatch adds that some credit is given to rumors here that Japan's American-built cruiser the Chitos, was sunk during the second fight at Port Arthur, and that the Matsushima, which was Admiral Itos' flagship at the battle of the Yalu River in the Chinese-Japanese War, was crippled.

CRUISERS BLOWN UP.

It is officially announced at Tokio that three of the four ships comprising the Russian Vladivostock squadron were blown up Friday night while attempting to pass through the Tsugaru Straits, separating the Islands of Hondo and Yezo. The Russians suffered heavily. The action was north of Aomori, a town in northern Hondo. It is stated that all three vessels were blown up by torpedoes. They were all cruisers.

BOMBARDED FUKUYAMA

A telegram received in London on Saturday afternoon reports that the Russians bombarded the Town of Fukuyama, at the south-western extremity of the Island of Yezo. The vessels which did the bombarding are supposed to have been the cruisers that have been sunk by Japanese torpedoes in Tsugaru Straits.

RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

Admiral Bayle, commanding the cruiser Gueydon, of the French Far Eastern squadron, has sailed from Nagasaki for Chemuipo to take on board the survivors of the crews of the Russian warships Variag and Korietz. They will be taken to Shanghai and set at liberty on parole

RUSSIANS LOST OVER 500.

The Russian losses in the Chemulpo fight, in which the Variag and Korietz were sunk, were one officer and 40 men killed, and 464 wounded

TRANSPORT BLOWN UP.

A report has been received at St. Petersburg from Viceroy Alexieff saying that the Russian torpedo boat transport Yeniseih has been blown up as the result of accidentally striking a mine at Port Arthur. The Yeniseih and Capt. Stepanoff, 3 officers and 91 men were lost.

FOUR KILLED, 54 WOUNDED.

The Japanese naval attache at Washington has received an official cablegram from Tokio to the effect that the total casualties of the Japanese at Port Arthur were four killed and 54 wounded. Not one of the ships was damaged to an extent that would injure its fighting power. The officers and crews of the Japanese are reported to have engaged in the action with the same calmness which would have characterized their conduct during ordinary naval manoeuvres.

RUSSIA SHELLS STEAMERS.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister at London, has received a despatch from Tokio announcing that on Feb. 11 two Japanese merchant steamers, the Nakanoura Maru and Zensho Maru, while on their way from Sakata to Otaru (on the island of Hokkaido), were surrounded and shelled by four Russian warships, presumably the Vladivostock squadron off the coast of Herunshi. The Nakanoura Maru was sunk but the Zensho Maru escaped and arrived safely in port.

WILL MOBILIZE TROOPS.

A Russian Imperial ukase, dated Feb. 10, was issued on Friday. It commands that all the troops in the military establishments in Siberian military districts be placed in readiness for war, that all the divisions in the Far Eastern Viceroyalty be brought to war strength, and that the army and navy reserves in the Siberian districts be called for active service. The authorities are empowered to requisition the necessary.

$5,000,000 FOR WOUNDED.

The Russian Red Cross has received an appropriation of $2,500,000 from the City of St. Petersburg, and the merchants of the city have promised to give $750,000 more. The City of Moscow and the merchants there have contributed $900,000, and it is expected that the amount available for Red Cross work will reach $5,000,000 within a week. All the officials in the Ministries have promised to contribute from 3 to 10 per cent. of their salaries. Four thousand hospital beds are ready for shipment and will go forward within a fortnight.

NO ATTEMPT TO LAND.

A despatch was published in London on Thursday afternoon to the effect that the Japanese endeavored to land men in some of the bays in the vicinity of Port Arthur, but were driven off.

A later despatch from St. Petersburg states, however, that the Admiralty absolutely denies the report that the Japanese attempted to land.

JAPAN TO STRIKE QUICK.

The Tokio correspondent of the London Times intimates that the promptitude of the Japanese in opening hostilities and the scenes of naval conflicts are significant of what will follow. He says that military developments will come as quickly as the naval blows. He adds that the quiet reserve of all classes is most impressive. There is deep determination, which is not demonstrative. The Japanese have entered the struggle with clenched teeth.

BOXERS TO AID JAPS.

There is great anxiety in official circles at Vienna over despatches from Pekin reporting that China intends to send 200,000 Boxers to Manchuria to destroy the railroad.

40,000 MORE RESERVISTS.

A despatch to the London Times from St. Petersburg says that Russia will mobilize 40,000 more reservists. Nine thousand men and 22,000 tons of stores are at Sebastopol awaiting shipment to the Far East. The officials of the Ministry and Marine, particularly Grand Duke Alexander, are greatly annoyed that the Admiral at Port Arthur allowed himself to be surprised. Admiral Alexieff, Viceroy of the Far East, received a share of the reproach.

RUSSIANS FOUGHT WELL.

The newspapers at Tokio are printing a great variety of war stories, none of which has official corroboration. Most of them are apparently based on belated versions of the fighting at Port Arthur, although the facts are treated as though they were new. Later accounts of the engagement with the Variag and Korietz at Chemulpo indicate that the Russians made a brave fight against an immensely superior force. The engagement was watched by thousands of persons on shore, who had gathered in anticipation of a collision. The American gunboat Vicksburg, the British cruiser Talbot, the French cruiser Pascal, and the Italian cruiser Elba also witnessed the engagement and saluted the victorious flag. The Korietz was utterly overmatched. The broadsides from the Japanese vessels raked her continuously until she sank. Many of her crew were killed by shells or drowned. Those of the survivors who swam ashore were captured by Japanese soldiers.

As the cruiser Variag was steaming out of the harbor she was met by a hail of shells, and her mast speedily fell. Her crew fought with desperate energy for several hours. According to one report, after she had taken refuge among the Polynesian Islands, her captain ordered the crew to save themselves, and then himself blew up his ship.

FRANCE GROWING ANGRIER.

A despatch from Paris says: The feeling against the Japanese is growing here. Angry indignation is expressed at what is described as their brutal violation of the law recognized by civilized States in attacking the Russians without a formal declaration of war. Such a treacherous act, it is declared, proclaims the barbarism of the Japanese. The Nationalist press is particularly noisy and violent. The bulk of other press opinion is naturally for Russia. The Journal des Debats, discussing the proposal of Secretary of State Hay, sees in it an intention to side directly with Japan by raising the Manchurian question. It says that if the United States does not desire more than the maintenance of the open door she ought to be satisfied with the assurances Russia has given to all the powers. Russia will simply refer the United States to her former statement. The Journal advises the United States to abstain from a step that is destined to end in her own confusion.

RUSSIA'S ARTILLERY.

A despatch from London says: According to a despatch mailed from St. Petersburg, Russia completed her artillery equipment in the Far East by despatching on Feb. 7th seventy-two quick-firing guns, of the type that were conspicuous in the Dreyfus case, which have since then been much improved. It is stated that they are now superior to any guns of that class in the world. They fire 28 rounds a minute. Seventeen carloads of ammunition accompanied the guns.

JOY IN BRITAIN.

A despatch from London says: The great joy of the British people at the news of the Japanese successes in the Far East is plainly manifested at the Japanese Legation in hundreds of letters and telegrams from all parts of the country. The communications are so numerous that it is impossible to reply to them individually. Many of the letters contain requests for permission to serve in the Japanese army and navy.

COMMAND OF THE SEA.

A despatch from London says: All the papers recognize that Japan has secured beyond dispute the command of the sea, and the general tendency is to believe that this ensures final victory.

The Daily Telegraph says:—"Upon one point of vital interest and importance, the opening movements of the struggle have removed all uncertainty. There is no longer any doubt as to Japan's main objective.

"Whether she means to occupy Corea or not, she does not mean to confine herself to Corea. She has satisfied herself that her national destiny must be fought out in Manchuria, and, throwing herself at once against Port Arthur, she lays her axe to the root. If the Mikado's fleet can obtain command of the sea, they can isolate Port Arthur sooner or later, and in that case it would be starved out, even if it were not carried by assault at one of the several points where the immense perimeter of its fortification is believed to be inadequately garrisoned.

"Should Japan prove able to sieze the Gibraltar of the Far East and to hold it, the Manchurian Railway would lose, from the Russian point of view, its reason of being. The head of the lance, as it were, would be snapped off, and in her attempt to retake Port Arthur the Russian power in the Far East would bleed to death, even if the Japanese army refrained for some time from carrying the military part of the campaign into the heart of debatable territory."

CHINA MAY TAKE A HAND.

A Hong Kong despatch says:—Gen. Yuan-Shi-Kai, the Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese army, is drilling 30,000 new troops. He has applied to the Government for funds, and if unable to obtain them proposes to raise the required money himself.

Gen. Ma has been ordered to Shan-Hai-Kwan to hold it against Russian occupation.

The Chinese Minister declared on Wednesday that while China is pledged to strict neutrality, yet if Japan has notable victories it may be difficult to keep the Chinese in hand.

INSURANCE RATES.

Modern Conditions Have Increased Fire Risk.

A despatch from Toronto says:—The Mutual Fire Underwriters' Association of Ontario are seriously considering the advisability of raising their rates in order to meet the increased hazard that modern conditions have created. At the Parliament Buildings on Thursday afternoon their annual convention opened. Representatives from thirty-four companies doing business in the province were present, and James McEwing, of Drayton, was in the chair.

The meeting was largely taken up with the reading of a series of papers showing how modern improvements had increased the danger of fire, and a debate took place as to the wisdom of appointing an influential committee to draft a new set of regulations and of recommending increased rates.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese, and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—Wheat—The movement in Ontario grades is very small, and little wheat is coming forward. The market is strong in consequence, with No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at 87 to 87½c low freights. No. 2 Spring steady at 80c east, and No. 2 goose at 75c. Manitoba wheat unchanged. At upper lake ports No. 1 Northern is quoted at 93c, and No. 2 Northern at 90 to 90½c. No. 1 hard nominal at 95c, lake ports. For grinding in transit quotations are 6c higher than above.

Oats—The market is quiet, with prices firm. No. 2 white quoted at 31c north and west, and at 31½ middle freights. No. 1 white quoted at 32¾ to 33c east, and No. 2 at 32¼ to 32½c east.

Barley—The market is quiet, with the prices steady. No. 2 quoted at 44c middle freights; No. 3 extra at 42c, and No. 3 at 41c middle freights.

Peas—The market is steady, with No. 2 quoted at 63c west and 64c east.

Corn—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged. No. 3 American yellow quoted at 52½c on track, Toronto, and No. 3 mixed at 51½c. Canadian corn 43c on track, Toronto, and 38c west.

Rye—The market is firm, with No. 2 quoted at 54c east and west.

Buckwheat—The market is unchanged, with demand good. No. 2 quoted at 48c middle freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are firm at $3.25 to $3.30 middle freights in buyers' sacks, for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $4 to $4.10 in bbls. Manitoba flours are firm. No. 1 patents, $4.75 to $4.90; No. 2 patents, $4.45 to $4.60, and strong bakers', $4.25 to $4.50 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran steady at $17, and shorts at $18 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $15, and shorts at $17. Manitoba bran in sacks, $19 and shorts at $21 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Trade here is quiet, with prices steady at $2 to $2.50 per bbl. for the best stock.

Dried Apples—The demand is small, and prices are unchanged at 4 to 4½c per lb. Evaporated apples, 6c per lb.

Beans—Trade is dull and prices steady. Prime beans are quoted at $1.30 to $1.50 per bushel.

Hops—The market is unchanged at 26 to 32c, according to quality.

Honey—The market is firm at 6½ to 7½c per lb. for bulk, and at $1.25 to $2 for comb.

Hay—The market is quiet, with little or none coming in. Prices are nominal in consequence, with No. 1 quoted around $9 on track here.

Straw—The market is quiet at $5 to $5.50 per ton for car lots on track.

Potatoes—The market is firm, with offerings very small. Choice cars are quoted at 85 to 90c per bag on track here, and inferior quality at 75 to 80c per bag.

Poultry—The demand is fair, and prices generally unchanged. Chickens 11 to 13c per lb. Turkeys are quoted at 13 to 15c per lb., and geese at 9 to 10c per lb.; ducks at 10 to 11c per lb., or $1 to $1.50 per pair; fowls, 7 to 8½c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The market is steady, with offerings fair. There is a good demand for choice qualities. We quote:—Finest 1-lb. rolls, 17 to 18c; choice large rolls, 15 to 16c; selected dairy tubs, 16 to 17c; medium and low grades (rolls and tubs), 13 to 14c; creamery prints, 20 to 21c; solids, 19 to 19½c.

Eggs—The market is very firm. We quote:—Strictly new laid, 35 to 40c; cold storage, 32 to 35c, and limed, 30 to 32c per dozen.

Cheese—Market is unchanged. We quote:—Finest September's, 10¾ to 11¼c; and inferior at 10 to 10½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with offerings moderate. Car lots sold at $6 to $6.15 delivered here. Cured meats are in fair demand. We quote:—Bacon, long clear, 8½ to 8¾c per lb., in case lots. Mess pork, $16; do short cut, $18.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12½c; do, heavy, 11½ to 12c; rolls, 10c; shoulders, 9½c; backs, 13 to 13½c, breakfast bacon, 13c.

Lard—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged. We quote:—Tierces, 7½c; tubs, 7¾c; pails, 8c; compound, 7 to 7½c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—No. 2 oats, Montreal inspection, are quoted firm at 37½ to 38c for carloads, in store for local account, the demans being reported fair; No. 2 oats, low freights west, for export, 31c; No. 2 peas, 64c; rye, 52c; No. 2 barley, 43½c; No. 3 extra barley, 42½c; No. 3, 41½c. Flour—Quotations given out by the large Manitoba millers are 15c apart; patents range from $4.90 to $5; strong bakers', $4.60 to $4.70; Winter wheat patents, $4.25 to $4.35; straight rollers, $3.90 to $4; extras, $3.50 to $3.65; straight rollers in bags, $1.85 to $1.90, and extras in bags, $1.65 to $1.75. Feed—One of the large millers advanced prices on bran yesterday to $19; Manitoba bran in bags, $18 to $19; shorts, $20 to $21 per ton; Ontario bran in bulk, $17 to $17.50; shorts, $19.50 to $20; moulle, $26 to $27 per ton. Rolled oats—The association price seems to be in force, $2.15 being asked for bags and $4.40 for bbls. on track. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $18 to $18.50; light short cut, $17.50 to $18; American short cut clear, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $18 to $18.50, compound lard, 8c; Canadian lard, 8½ to 9c; kettle rendered, 10½c; hams, 11½ to 13c; bacon, 14c; fresh killed abbatoir hogs, $7.50; country dressed hogs, $6.75 to $7; live hogs, $5.25 to $5.40. Eggs—New laid, 38 to 40c; candled selected 32 to 34c; limed, 28 to 30c; refrigerator, 28 to 30c. Butter—Winter creamery, 19½ to 20c; full grass, 21c; Western dairy, 15 to 15½c; rolls, 16 to 16½c. Cheese—Ontario, 11 to 11½c; Townships, 10½ to 10½c.

UNITED STATES MARKET.

Minneapolis, Feb. 16.—Wheat—May, 94½ to 94⅝c; July, 93¾ to 93⅞c; September, 83½c; on track, No. 1 hard, 96⅜c; No. 1 Northern, 95⅛c; No. 2 Northern, 91⅞c; No. 3 Northern, 85 to 89c. Flour—Higher; first patents, $4.85 to $4.95; second patents, $4.75 to $4.85; first clears, $3.55 to $3.65; second clears, $2.55 to $2.65. Bran—In bulk, $15 to $15.25.

Buffalo, Feb. 10.—Wheat—Spring firm; No. 1 Northern, Chicago, c.i.f., $1; Winter nominal Corn—Weak; No. 2 yellow, 52c; No. 2 corn, 50¼ to 50¾c. Oats—Steady, No. 2 white, 48½c; No. 2 mixed, 46½c. Barley—55 to 65c asked for Western in store. Rye—No offerings.

Milwaukee, Feb. 16.—Wheat—1c higher; No. 1 Northern, 93 to 94c; No. 2 Northern, 88 to 92c; May, 96¼ to 96⅜c. Rye—½c higher; No. 1, 66½ to 67c. Barley—Steady; No. 2, 62 to 63c; sample, 38 to 59c. Corn—½c higher; No. 3, 44 to 45c; May, 54⅜ to 54⅞c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—The run of stock received at the city Cattle Market was 22 loads, with 520 head of cattle, 421 sheep and lambs, and 620 hogs, and 15 calves. The market continues just about steady, with practically no changes in the quotations. The runs are light, and straggling, and few loads arriving every day. These so far have been sufficient to keep the trade going, and there has been no actual scarcity though some of the butchers are prepared to buy more cattle as soon as they are available. They prefer to wait, however, until the heavier receipts, which are looked for as soon as the roads are well opened, rather than pay higher prices than have of late prevailed.

There are very few export so far offering, and the demand is not at all active under present conditions as regards the weather, with shipping facilities uncertain.

About the top price for butchers' cattle is from $4.25 to $4.30; ordinary butchers', $3.85 to $4.

Sheep and lambs are steady, with prospects fair.

Hogs steady and unchanged.

Export, heavy	$4 60 to $4 65	
Bulls, export, heavy, cwt	3 75	4 00
do light	3 00	3 75
Feeders, 800 lbs. and upwards	3 00	3 25
Short keep, 1,100 lbs.	4 00	
do 900 lbs.	2 75	3 50
Butchers' cattle choice	3 65	4 25
do medium	3 30	3 40
do picked	4 25	4 30
do bulls	2 75	3 00
do rough	2 50	2 60
Light stock bulls, cwt.	2 25	2 50
Milch cows	30 00	65 00
Hogs, best	4 75	
do light	4 50	
Sheep, export, cwt.	3 50	4 00
Lambs	4 60	5 60
Bucks	2 50	3 25
Culls, each	3 50	4 00
Calves	5 50	6 50
Stockers, 400 to 800 lbs.	2 50	3 12½

Captain—"Sergeant, note down Private Dobbs three days on bread and water for slovenly turning out on parade." Sergeant—"Beg pardon, captain, that won't make the slightest difference to him. He's a vegetarian." Captain—"What! Then put him for three days on meat and soup."

A philosopher who had married an ignorant girl used to call her "brown sugar," because he said she was sweet but unrefined.