JAPANESE WARSHIP SUNK

Lose Two of Their Best Vessels and 600 Men Drown.

STRUCK A MINE.

The Japanese fleet has suffered a serious loss, says a Tokio despatch. While removing mines and covering the landing troops near Dalny on Monday the battleship Hatsuse, the largest warship in the Japanese navy, and one of the most powerful in the world, struck a Russian mine and sank. Of the 741 men on board, less than one-half were saved, the vessel sinking in two minutes. The same day the cruiser Yoshino was rammed by the Kasuga, and also sank, only 60 of the crew of 300 escaping. The loss in men was 681, as follows:—

	Saved.	Drowned.
Yoshino (cruiser)	60	240
Hatsuse (battleship)	300	441
	360	681

Giving details of the disaster, Vice-Admiral Togo reports:—

"At fourteen minutes past one in the afternoon of May 15, in a deep fog off Port Arthur, the Kasuga rammed the Yoshino, sinking the latter in a few minutes. Ninety of her crew were saved.

"The same morning the Hatsuse, while cruising off Port Arthur, covering the landing of the soldiers, struck a mine ten knots south-east of the harbor entrance. She signaled for help, and instantly struck another mine. She sank in half an hour. Three hundred of her crew were saved by torpedo boats."

The Yoshino was a protected cruiser of 4,180 tons, with 15,750 horse-power, 350 feet long. Her armament consisted of four 6-inch guns, eight 4.7-inch guns, and twenty-three 6-pounders. Her speed was 23 knots, and her crew numbered 300 men. The Kasuga, with which it collided, was one of the two fast protected cruisers which Japan bought from Chili just before the war commenced.

The Hatsuse was a battleship of 15,000 tons, and of the latest model. She was only completed in Great Britain in 1900, was 400 feet long and was heavily armored. Her armament consisted of four 12-inch guns, fourteen 6-inch guns, twenty 12-pounders, and eight 3-pounders, and four 2½-pounders. She had four torpedo tubes, estimated speed 19.11 knots, and her crew numbered 741 men.

TOGO SENDS HIS REPORT.

Vice-Admiral Togo's full report is as follows:—

"It is regrettable to have to report a double misfortune. At 5 o'clock Sunday morning I received a wireless message from Rear-Admiral Dewa, saying that on that day at five in the morning, while returning from the work of blocking Port Arthur, he encountered a dense fog north of the Shan Tung promontory. The Kasuga collided with the port stern of the Yoshino, which was sunk Boats from the Kasuga saved 90 of her crew. The dense fog still continues.

"This has been a most unfortunate day for our navy. While the fleet was watching the enemy off Port Arthur the Hatsuse struck one of the enemy's mines and her rudder was damaged. She sent a message for a ship to tow her, which was being sent when another message brought the lamentable report that the Hatsuse had struck another mine and immediately began to sink. The Hatsuse then was ten knots off Liao-Te-Shan promotory. No enemy was in sight. It must have been a mine or a submarine boat. Three hundred of the officers and crew were saved. The Hatsuse sank in thirty minutes. While sinking, sixteen of the enemy's torpedo craft appeared and were driven off.

"Our fleet report is somewhat vague on account of the fact that some of the messages were received by wireless telegraphy."

KUROKI NOT REPULSED.

So far as can be judged from the news thus far received at London, the St. Petersburg rumor of the repulse of Gen. Kuroki with great loss, is untrue, and is based on the engagement of May 18, reported by Gen. Kouropatkin, which was little more than a skirmish. The fact seems to be that no important information is more likely to be available now than hitherto, either from the Russian or Japanese side, until the commanders have had the final say. Two or three special correspondents with the Russians send colorless messages, which throw no light on the situation. The Harbin correspondent of the London Morning Post says that the Russians only allow telegrams to be sent in the Russian language. They refuse to permit the correspondents at Harbin to leave at present.

The Mukden correspondent of the London Daily Mail refers to the coming battle,, which has for so long been declared to be imminent. He reiterates the report that the Japanese are advancing in Liao-Yang from the east, and adds that the removal of the uncertainty regarding the direction of the Japanese line of attack removes one of the greatest Russian difficulties. Now that the Japanese have revealed their plan, the Russians know where and how to offer resistance. The previous uncertainty involved much superfluous precaution.

Of the operations on the Liao-Tung Peninsula, and in the neighborhood of New-Chwang, there is nothing new. All the despatches from these districts deal with past events.

SOMEONE BLUNDERED.

Among the professions of calmness over the late disasters there are indications of a belief that somebody has blundered or failed in watchfulness, says a Tokio despatch. Some of the newspapers add to their earnest comments the hope that the disasters will lead to increased prudence and care. There is acute recognition of the fact that the lost ships cannot be replaced during the war. The public mourning is general. Flags everywhere are half-masted, and many of the theatres are closed. It is recalled that the public sympathy when Admiral Makaroff was lost was similarily, if less generally, shown.

THE GREEN PLAGUE.

A new disease, called the green plague, has broken out amongst the Russians quartered in Chinese houses in Mukden. Their eyesight is first affected, after which green spots appear on the body. The disease is highly contagious. A majority of cases are fatal. The doctors are baffled. The Chinese seem to be immune.

JAPS BEAT A RETREAT.

The reports of the Japanese retreat to Feng-Wang-Cheng are officially confirmed says a New Chwang despatch.

The Japanese, numbering 20,000 men, came upon 32,000 Russians in a strong position on Monday, sixty miles west of Feng-Wang- Cheng. It being unwise to risk a battle the Japanese retreated in good order and with great rapidity.

An unofficial Russian authority says a pitched battle was not fought but rumor says there was considerable loss on both sides during the clashes, with the Cossacks harassing the flanks of the Japanese. This division presumably was executing a reconnaissance. The pursuit was checked when the main body of the Japanese was rejoined.

This news apparently accounts for the withdrawal to an unknown destination of warships and transports from Tower Hill, ten miles north of Kai-Chou, Liao-Tung peninsula, and of renewed defensive activity at New Chwang.

BOMBARDED THE COAST.

A Tokio despatch says: Admiral Hosoya, commanding the third squadron, reports that with the third squadron, consisting of the Fuso, Hei Yen, Tsukushi, Sai Yen and other vessels, he protected the landing of the troops at a new unnamed place, probably Taku Shan, on Thursday, bombarded the coast, and landed a party of blue jackets, who occupied a point of land and raised the Japanese flag at 8 o'clock on Friday morning. The landing of troops immediately commenced and was accomplished very quickly.

RUSSIANS WERE REPULSED.

The following official statement has just been issued at Tokio:

"A section of infantry of the Liao Tung forces went in the direction of Shen Chusan to reconnoitre and met two sections of Russian infantry. The Russians were repulsed in thirty minutes. Our casualties were one officer and four men killed, and one officer and eight men wounded. The Russian casualties were one officer and forty to fifty men killed.

"The landing of Japanese troops at Taku Shan began on Thursday."

NUMBER UNKNOWN.

The loss of life incurred by the sinking of the cruiser Yoshino, included Captain Sayeki, Commander Hirowateri, three first lieutenants, five second lieutenants, five midshipmen, a paymaster, surgeon, three engineers, cadets and eight boatswain mates. Of the crew the number of those lost is unknown.

Those who went down with the battleship Hatsuse when she foundered were Commander Tsuksmoto, Commander Viscount Nire, Commander Arimori, five second lieutenants, five sub-engineers, two surgeons, six midshipmen, four cadet engineers and ten non-commissioned officers.

It is not known yet in this case how many of the men perished. The Hatsuse was surely sunk by coming in contact with a submerged mine, and not by the attack of a submarine boat.

The report that the battleship Shikishima was damaged and the battleship Fuji sank is denied at Tokio.

A BRISK FIGHT.

An official report has been received at St. Petersburg to the effect that General Rennenkampff's Cossacks fell on the Japanese column advancing on Fengwang-cheng on Wednesday and that the Japanese were compelled to retreat for a distance of twelve miles.

The Russians have evacuated Kai-Ping (or Kai-Chou), about 35 miles south of New-Chwang, without a fight.

CRUISER ON ROCKS.

The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Echo de Paris says:—

"The Russian cruiser Bogatyr grounded during a fog on the rocks near the entrance to Vladivostock. Her position is critical. Her crew was saved."

COREA IS TOTTERING.

Corean independence is tottering, says a Seoul despatch. The court is shaky and reeks with intrigues that surpass even the worst periods of the last ten years. A weak Emperor is appointing, and removing a faction-torn Cabinet, and is concentrating in himself whatever semblance of government the country still possesses. Yet he is a complete prey to the witches and fortune-tellers who are infesting the palace, and the victim of two scheming women, who enjoy Japanese support.

CRUISER WAS DESTROYED.

A despatch to the St. James' Gazette, London, from Kobe, Japan, dated Saturday, after confirming the report of the stranding of the Russian protected cruiser Bogatyr on the rocks near the entrance to Vladivostock, adds that the Bogatyr subsequently was blown up by the Russians to prevent her falling into the hands of the Japanese.

JAPS CALM UNDER LOSS.

The loss of the warships at Port Arthur is received by the Japanese with profound regret, but courageously. They do not consider that it was due to carelessness. Earlier in the war, they say, the loss would have been serious, but now it will not affect the result. Japan's position at Port Arthur, Dalny and Kin-Chau might have cost half the fleet.

The Jiji considers that the clearing of the sea at Kin-Chau so facilitates Japanese movements that the fall of Port Arthur may be expected soon.

JAPS WIN NEAR TAKUSHAN.

The Japanese force which landed at Takushan had an engagement with a body of Russian cavalry, about a squadron strong, at 7 o'clock Friday evening, near Wanchitun seven miles north of Takushan. The Japanese surrounded and routed the Russians, who lost many killed and wounded. A Russian captain was taken prisoner. No Japanese casu-

LOSSES AT YALU FIGHT.

Gen. Kuroki reports that the Japanese losses at the battle of Chiu-Tien-Cheng (May 1) were:— Killed, five officers and 218 men. Wounded, 33 officers and 783 men. Thirteen hundred and sixty-three Russian dead were buried and 18 officers and 595 men were made prisoners. The Japanese captured 21 quick-firing guns, 19 ammunition wagons, 1,417 shells, eight machine guns, and 37,-300 rounds of ammunition for these guns; 1,031 rigs and 350 good rounds of ammunition; 63 horses, 10 wagons and 1,244 coats and 541 tents.

The Japanese captured 357 shells for mountain guns, 188,000 rounds of rifle ammunition, 1,720 coats, 400,-000 loaves of bread and other supplies, together with a quantity of tools and telegraph stores.

CROPS LOOK WELL

Wheat in Farmers' Hands Has Been Underestimated.

A Montreal despatch says: G. C. Hastings, the well known miller, of Winnipeg, who is in the city, says that the crops in the West are looking exceedingly well, though, of course, it is yet too early to judge of how matters will turn out. As in the East, the season is about two weeks late, but in spite of this everything is looking up, including the blades of wheat.

In speaking of wheat available in the West, Mr. Hastings is of the opinion that the Montreal Board of Trade has been inclined to underestimate the amount. He states that there are still two million bushels in farmers' hands outside of elevators, and that the old wheat, which will be exported during the set season, will be a good amount above the usual estimate, which was 2,500,000 bushels.

The acreage increase over last year he estimates at about ten per cent., which would mean 400,000 acres more land under cultivation than there was a year ago.

CZAR REVIEWS TROOPS.

Receives an Enthusiastic Welcome at Kharkoff.

A Kharkoff despatch says: Emperor Nicholas was enthusiastically received on his arrival here on Wednesday by a large crowd of people. His Majesty reviewed the troops under orders to go to the front. During his stay here the Emperor received deputations from the Jewish and other communities, who presented loyal addresses, to which his Majesty made gracious responses. The Emperor left here for Poltava.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, May 23.—Wheat—No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at 94 to 95c on low freights. Spring wheat is nominal at 90 to 91c east, and goose at 81 to 82c east. Manitoba wheat is unchanged; No. 1 Northern, 92c, Georgian Bay ports; No. 2 Northern, at 89c, and No. 1 Northern is 87c. No. 1 hard is nominal at 93c. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

Oats—No. 2 white quoted at 31½ to 32c west, and at 32½c middle freights. No. 1 white, 33½ to 34c east, and No. 2 at 33c east.

Barley—No. 2 quoted at 42c middle freights. No. 3 extra, 40 to 40½c, and No. 3 at 38 to 39c middle freights.

Peas—No. 2 shipping peas quoted at 61 to 62c west or east.

Corn—No. 2 American yellow quoted at 60c on track, Toronto; No. 3 mixed at 58 to 59c. Canadian corn is scarce, with sound marketable stuff quoted at 44 to 45c west.

Rye—The market is quiet, with prices nominal at 57 to 58c outside.

Buckwheat—The market continues quiet, with demand limited. No. 2 quoted at 49 to 50c east.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are unchanged at $3.65 in buyers' bags, for export, middle freights. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $4.25 to $4.40 in bbls. Manitoba flours are steady, No. 1 patents, $4.80; No. 2 patents $4.50, and strong bakers', $4.40 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran is steady at $17 to to $17.50 and shorts at $16 here. At outside points bran is puoted at $15.50 and shorts at $16.50. Manitoba bran, in sacks, $17, and shorts at $19 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Dried apples—The demand is limited, prices are steady at 3 to 3½c per lb. Evaporated apples, 6½c per lb.

Beans—Prime beans are quoted at $1.50 to $1.60, and hand-picked at $1.65 to $1.70.

Hops—The market is unchanged at 28 to 32c, according to quality.

Honey—The market is quiet at 6 to 7c per lb. Comb quiet at $1.50 to $1.75.

Hay—The market is quiet, with offerings moderate. Timothy quoted at $9.50 to $10.25 a ton, on track, Toronto.

Straw—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged at $5.50 to $6 on track, Toronto.

Maple syrup—The market is quiet at $1 per Imperial gallon.

Potatoes—The market is quiet and steady. Choice cars are quoted at $1.05 to $1.10 per bag, on track here, and jobbing lots at $1.15 to $1.25.

Poultry—Chickens, 12 to 13c per lb.; turkeys at 15 to 17c per lb. for fresh killed.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The market is dull, with supplies of medium and inferior qualities very large. They are hard to sell. We quote:—Finest 1-lb. rolls 13 to 14c; ordinary large rolls, 11 to 12½c; medium and low grades, 10c; creamery prints, 17 to 18c; solids, 16 to 17c.

Eggs—The market continues quiet and firm, with receipts light. Case lots sell at 15c per dozen.

Cheese—The market is quiet, with prices unchanged. Old quoted at 9 to 9¼c per lb., and new at 7½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs are unchanged, with offerings small. Cured meats are in good demand at unchanged prices. We quote:—Bacon, long clear, 8 to 8¼c per lb. in case lots. Mess pork $17; do., short cut, $18.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12½c; do., heavy, 11½ to 12c; rolls, 9 to 9½c; shoulders, 10c; backs, 13½ to 14c; breakfast bacon, 13½c.

Lard—The demand is fair, with prices unchanged. We quote:—Tierces, 7⅞c; tubs, 8c; pails, 8¼c; compound, 7½ to 8¼c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal May 23.—The market for oats was steady to-day, and there was apparently little doing for local consumption, though some sales were being made for outside points, through shipment. Prices for these were said to be rather more favorable for sellers. Quotations are generally 37½ to 38c for No. 1 and 38½ to 39c for No. 2; a few carloads of Peterboro' oats were sold at 38¾c track to-day; peas were about steady at 71c afloat May; No. 2 barley, 70c; and No. 3 extra, 49c; No. 2 rye, 62c. Flour—The market was steady; Manitoba patents, $4.90 to $4.95; strong bakers', $4.60 to $4.65; Winter wheat patents, $4.80 to $5.10; straight rollers, $4.65 to $4.85; straight rollers, in bags, $2.20 to $2.30. Feed—The market was quiet; Manitoba bran in bags, $19; shorts, $21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, $18.50 to $19; shorts, $19.50 to $20; mouillie, $26 to $28 per ton. Rolled oats—The market is firm; dealers are asking $2.32½ for bags, and $4.90 in barrels on track. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $17.50 to $19; light short cut, $16 to $17.50; American fat backs, $17.50; compound lard, 7½ to 8c; Canadian lard, 7 to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c; hams, 11 to 13c; bacon, 13 to 13½c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $7.35 to $7.50; live hogs, $5.25 to $5.50. Eggs—New laid, 15 to 15½c. Butter—New made 15 to 16c; Western dairy, 12 to 13c; rolls, 12 to 13c. Cheese—New fodder Ontario, 7¼c; best Quebec, 6¾ to 7c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, May 23.—Flour—Strong. Wheat—Spring, no Duluth wheat here. and No. 2 hard Winter about cleaned up; No. 1 Northern, Buffalo inspection, $1.13. Corn—Strong for good grades; No. 2 yellow, 60c; No. 2 corn, 56½c. Oats—Quiet; No. 2 white, 47c; No. 2 mixed, 42¾c. Barley and rye—Nothing doing.

Milwaukee, May 23.—Wheat.—No. 1 Northern, 98½c; No. 2 do. 96½ to 97c; old July, 87⅜ to 87¾c asked. Rye—No. 2, 77 to 77½c. Barley—No. 2, 63c; sample, 32 to 60c. Corn No. 3, 50 to 53c; July, 47⅞ to 48c asked.

Minneapolis, May 23.—Wheat—May, 94¼c; July, 92⅞ to 93c; September, 81 to 81⅛c; on track, No. 1 hard, 97¼c; No. 1 Northern, 96¼c. Flour—First patents, $5 to $5.10; second do, $4.90 to $5; first clears, $3.50 to $3.60; second do, $2.50. Bran—In bulk, $16.50 to $17.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, May 23.—The number of operators seeking butchers' cattle was large, and trade in the best grades was brisk. Values were firmly maintained, and some of the finest cattle sold at $4.75 for straight loads. Picked lots sold in excess of that figure. Choice heifers, averaging about 1,000 lbs., were scarce, and wanted.

Short-keep feeders continued to be wanted, but the offerings were small, and several gentlemen who were prepared to buy went away without any cattle. The firm tone prevailing in the butchers' and exporters' lines had a tendency to stiffen values in these, and in stockers and feeders, which were offered pretty freely, but not in sufficient numbers to supply the demand. Stock calves of 400 lb. and upwards were in particular request, and hardly any were sold below $3.-50 per cwt.

Trade in sheep and lambs was good on account of the limited offerings thereof, and prices were about steady at Tuesday's quotations. Calves were in fair demand, and prices in the best kinds were pretty steady. The most of these sold about $4.25 per cwt.

The range in exporters' was $4.60 to $5.17½ per cwt. The bulk of the cattle sold for less than $5 per cwt.

Quotations for butchers' cattle follow:— Choice butchers', $4.50 to $4.-75; fair to good, $4.15 to $4.35; common to fair cows, $3.50 to $4.10; rough cows, $3.25 per cwt.

The prices of feeders and stockers were firm. We quote:— Feeders, 1,-000 to 1,300 lb., at $4.40 to $4.-90; feeders, 800 to 1,000 lb., $4 to $4.35; stockers, 600 to 800 lbs., $3 to $3.75; stock calves, 350 to 800 lbs., $3.80 to $4.20; off-color and rough, same weight, $3.25 up.

Sheep and lambs were unchanged. We quote:— Heavy ewes, $4 to $4.40; light sheep, $4.25 to $4.50; bucks, $3 to $3.50; grain-fed lambs, $5.50 to $5.75; barnyard lambs, $3.50 to $4.50 per cwt.; Spring lambs, $2.50 to $5.50 each.

Calves brought $2 to $10 each, and 3½ to 5½c per lb.

Milch cows were steady at $30 to $60 each. The bulk of these sold below $40 each.

Hogs—Quotations follow:— Selects, 160 to 200 lbs., of prime quality, off cars Toronto, $4.90; fats, $4.65; sows $3.50 to $3.75; stags, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.

FIRST CIGAR KILLED HIM.

Ten-Year-Old Boy's Life the Penalty of a Smoke.

A Philadelphia despatch says: A Coroner's inquest was held on Tuesday to investigate the death of ten-year-old William Black, who on Sunday smoked his first cigar. The lad's father, who lives at 107 South Bonsall street, said that Willie came home late Sunday afternoon and complained of a severe pain in his stomach. Two physicians from the Children's Hospital found the boy in convulsions. An emetic resulted in bringing up the stump of a cigar. The boy recovered consciousness shortly before he died, and said that he had tried to smoke his first cigar.

ACCIDENTS TO WORKMEN

Number During April Reached a Total of 197.

An Ottawa despatch says:—The Department of Labor has been notified of 197 accidents to workmen during April in different parts of the Dominion, resulting in the loss of 59 lives, and in severe injuries to other workmen to the number of 138. Twenty-three were killed in railway service and eleven in running machinery. Compared with the month of March a decrease of 77 is shown in the total number of accidents to workmen, the number of deaths being the same.

DESTROYED 17 VILLAGES.

Armenian Insurgent Bands Cause Great Havoc.

A Constantinople despatch says: According to a despatch from the Vali of Bitlis, Asiatic Turkey, seventeen villages have been destroyed by Armenian insurgents in the district of Sussam. More than 600 Armenian families have taken refuge in Mush, a town in Bitlis.