BATTLE IN COREAN STRAIT

Russian Cruiser Rurik Sunk With Most of Her Crew.

KAMIMURA VICTORIOUS.

A despatch from Tokio says :—Vice Admiral Kamimura encountered the Russian Vladivostock squadron at dawn on Sunday, north of Tsu Island, in the Strait of Corea, and attacked the enemy at once. The battle lasted for five hours and resulted in a complete Japanese victory. The Russian cruiser Rurik was sunk and the cruisers Rossia and Gromoboi fled to the northward after having sustained serious damage.

Vice-Admiral Kamimura cables the Navy Department that the injuries inflicted upon his vessels were slight.

The fate of the crew of the Rurik is not known. It is presemed that many of them were killed or drowned. The strength of the fleet under Vice-Admiral Kamimura is not known but it is presemed that he had the Asumi, Idzumo, Iwate, Takashiho and other light cruisers.

Tokio is joyous over the news, as it gives Japan mastery of the sea and restores commerce.

FIRING STILL GOING ON.

A despatch from Tokio says :—The Chefoo correspondent of the Jiji Shimpo reports that the Japanese have occupied three forts near Port Arthur and are keeping up a continuous fire upon the fortress, the condition of which is said to be pitiful. Another fort in possession of the Japanese has the Russian ships and forts as clear targets.

The crew of the Russian destroyer Ryeshitelni, which escaped to Chefoo after the sortie of the Russian squadron from Port Arthur, reported that from Tuesday morning until Wednesday the Japanese attacked the fortress in great force and seized strong positions near the Russian rear. The losses on both sides were enormous. It was impossible for the Russians to move their dead and wounded. This was the reported condition of affairs at noon Wednesday.

The Emperor, prompted by feelings of humanity and a desire to spare non-combatants, has directed Field Marshal Oyama, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese forces in Manchuria, to permit women, priests, merchants, the diplomatic officers of neutral powers, and other non-combatants to leave Port Arthur and to give them shelter at Dalny.

MASSACRED BY RUSSIANS.

A despatch to the London Telegraph from Tokio says that a telegram from Nemuro states that the crew, numbering 87, of the Japanese schooner Teiichi Maru have been massacred by Russian soldiers at Kamchatka.

STORY OF THE BATTLE.

A despatch from London says: The naval battle between the Port Arthur squadron and Togo's fleet it would now appear dealt the heaviest blow Russia's prestige has yet had to suffer. Although none of the Russian battleships were destroyed or captured, several of them were badly crippled, and every succeeding report makes only more apparent the smashing blows which the Russians received. The squadron which left Port Arthur consisted of six battleships, four cruisers and eight torpedo-boat destroyers. The following have been accounted for:

Battleships.—Czarevitch, in Tsingchou harbor, a German port; badly damaged. Admiral Withoeft, her commander, and four other officers and 210 men killed and 60 wounded.

The Pobieda and the Retvizan, both badly damaged, are believed to have put back into harbor at Port Arthur.

The Bayan has not been heard from since the fighting.

The Sebastopol was so badly damaged that she could not be manoeuvred and is stranded somewhere in the vicinity of Port Arthur.

Cruisers.—The Novik reached Tsingchou harbor, where it coaled and subsequently put to sea.

The Poltava is missing, no reports of her whereabouts having been received.

The Askold reached Shanghai and went into dry-dock. Fifteen of her crew were killed and 50 wounded.

The other cruiser is believed to be off the Saddle Islands, awaiting coaling vessels.

Torpedo-Boat Destroyers. — Two stranded in the vicinity of Wei-Hai-Wei. Their crews reached port in safety.

The Ryeshitelni put into Chefoo, but was subsequently cut out and captured by the Japs.

The Grozovoi is at Shanghai.

Two others are at Tsingchou slightly damaged.

AN AWFUL SCENE.

A despatch from Tsingchou to the London Daily Telegraph describes how the Czarvitch was surrounded by four battleships and two cruisers, which rained shells upon her from all sides at close quarters. Her gun crews were annihilated. Her deck gear was curled into fantastic shapes like pieces of tin. The survivors describe the scene as infernal. The hair of some of the men turned grey. Admiral Withoeft, before he was killed, cried, "This is our last fight, men; be brave!"

TOGO'S REPORT.

A despatch from Tokio says :—Admiral Togo has reported as follows :

"On Aug. 10 our combined fleet attacked the enemy's fleet near Gugan Rock. The Russian vessels were emerging from Port Arthur, trying to go south. We pursued the enemy to the eastward. Severe fighting lasting from 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon until sundown. Toward the close the enemy's fire weakened remarkably. His formation became confused and then his ships scattered. The Russian cruisers Askold and Novik and several torpedo-boat destroyers fled to the southward. Other of the enemy's ships retreated separately towards Port Arthur. We pursued them, and it appears that we inflicted considerable damage. We found lifebuoys and other articles belonging to the Russian battleship Czarevitch floating at sea. The Czarevitch probably was sunk. We have received no reports from the torpedo boats and the torpedo-boat destroyers which were engaged in the attack of the ships of the enemy. The Russian vessels, with the exception of the Askold, the Novik, the Czarevitch, and the cruiser Pallada, appear to have returned to Port Arthur. Our damage was slight. Our fighting power has not been impaired."

The casualties to the Japanese navy numbered 170.

PURSUED BY JAPANESE.

A despatch from Chefoo says :—The Russian fleet emerged from Port Arthur at 7 a. m. Wednesday morning. It is stated that only the smaller Japanese vessels engaged and pursued it. The pursuit lasted two hours and a half. The hospital ship Mongolia, carrying women and children, is said to have accompanied the fleet.

The refugees from Port Arthur state that during the last five days Japanese shells from Wolf's Hill have been dropping into the town, causing much damage. Several civilians have been hurt. One shell hit an oil storehouse under Golden Hill. Five hundred sailors vainly attempted to extinguish the fire it caused.

SAFE IN GERMAN WATERS.

The Chefoo correspondent of the London Telegraph, in a despatch dated Friday, says that at 5 a. m. the Russian cruisers Askold and Novik and two destroyers entered Tsingtao harbor.

Tsingtao is a port in the German concession of Kiao-Chau.

THE KASUGA SUNK?

A despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company, London, from St. Petersburg says that the Japanese armored cruiser Kasuga (formerly the Argentine warship Rivadavia) was sunk with all on board during the engagement off Port Arthur on Wednesday last.

ASKOLD REACHES PORT.

A despatch from Shanghai says :—The Russian protected cruiser Askold arrived at Woosung on Friday with her fifth funnel gone close to the deck, all the funnels riddled with shell holes, one gun on the port side dismounted, and seven large shell holes above the water line. One lieutenant and 11 men have been killed and 50 men wounded.

JAPANESE CASUALTIES.

A despatch from Washington says :—The Japanese Legation has received a revised list of casualties on the Japanese side from the Battle of Ching-Jiu, March 28, up to and including the Battle of Yangtse-Ling, Aug. 1st, showing the total estimated casualties to be 12,055.

The largest losses resulted from the Battles of Kinchau and Nanshan, when 33 officers and 716 men were killed, and 3,455 wounded. The next largest loss was in the Battle of Telissu, June 15th, when the total casualties were 1,174, including seven officers killed and forty-three wounded. The actual known losses for the period of this report are given as follows :—

Killed—	
Officers	54
Men	1,509
Wounded—	
Officers	96
Men	6,330

to which are added the estimated casualties for some of the engagements, amounting to 4,066, making the grand total of 12,055.

SHELL'S AWFUL HAVOC.

A despatch from Chefoo says :—A junk which has arrived here, having left Port Arthur on Aug. 8, brings confirmation of previous reports of severe fighting day and night. One Japanese shell struck the corner of a building in Port Arthur and killed or wounded 200 people. Fifteen 6-inch shells fell at one spot on the water front in one day, but hurt no one. It is roughly estimated that the Japanese are from five to eight miles from Port Arthur.

JAP CRUISER SUNK?

It is reported that the Japanese protected cruiser Kasagi was sunk off Round Island in the recent engagement.

The Russian ships, before leaving Port Arthur, took on board heavy stores, machinery, and material for ship repairing.

The torpedo-boat destroyer Ryeshiteini has been dismantled by the removal of the breeches of her guns.

JAPS SEIZED DESTROYER.

A boarding party from Japanese torpedo destroyers boarded the dismantled Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Ryeshitelni on Friday morning at 3.30 o'clock. The Japanese discharged their small arms, and during the firing a Russian was wounded in one of his legs. Daybreak showed a third Japanese destroyer towing the Ryeshitelni out of the harbor, and all disappeared. The Japanese Consul claims that the Jauanese ships were ignorant of the dismantling of the Ryeshitelni. A correspondent, however, informed the Japanese naval officers of the fact when he visited the two Japanese destroyers at 2.30 o'clock on Friday morning.

Two large Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers had been hovering outside the harbor, under the cover of darkness, on Thursday night, showing no lights, and anchored a quarter of a mile from the Russian torpedo-boat destroyer, which had been moved to a permanent anchorage. The Japanese officers said they would depart at daylight. It is understood that the Chinese admiral discovered the presence of the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers, and presented the same demands to them that he had earlier given to the Russian destroyer Ryeshitelni, namely, either to leave port or to disarm.

Shortly after the arrival of the Russian destroyer here the Chinese Admiral, Sah, sent an officer on board, who demanded that the destroyer either leave port or disarm. It had previously been ascertained that her engines were disabled. The captain of the Ryeshitelni agreed to render the engines absolutely useless, and to disarm in such a manner as Admiral Sah demanded.

The captain of the Ryeshitelni requested the Admiral to indicate a position nearer the shore where the destroyer might lie till the end of the war under the protection of the Chinese Government.

The Ryeshitelni showed the effects of long service. Her paint was scratched and faded to yellow owing to exposure to the sun, and her deck resembled a machine shop, but she had not been damaged by gunfire, although it is stated that the ship was exposed constantly for three months to the fire of the Japanese.

The passengers of the Ryeshitelni included two women, one of whom is said to be the wife of Gen. Stoessel. This, however, is denied.

It is evident that grave reasons caused the Ryeshitelni to undertake her hazardous voyage. Presumably she came here to file urgent despatches.

AWFUL CARNAGE.

Whole regiments were annihilated in steel-to-steel conflicts, when the Japanese attacked the main line of fortifications at Port Arthur three days ago. The Russians, worn out by their heavy duty, dropped from exhaustion alongside their guns. Gen. Stoessel rode along the line urging the troops to be brave for God and the Fatherland. At daybreak the Japanese concentrated their reserves for a final attack, in which they swept the Russians back. Out of 200 men in one fortified position only two survived. More than half of them succumbed from exhaustion.

On Tuesday the Russians stealthily attacked, crawling among the rocks and up the mountain sides. The first line rushed the Japanese outposts, and fighting ensued at close quarters. Simultaneously the Russian fleet opened with its guns. Finally, the position at Takushan, the highest eminence in the immediate vicinity of Port Arthur, facing the Kekwan and Erlung forts on the landward side of the eastern basin, which was captured by the Japanese Monday night, was recaptured by the Russians, who now hold the main line. The carnage is described as ghastly. The Japanese forces are estimated to number one hundred thousand, having been recently increased. Desultory firing is proceeding night and day. The Japanese are shelling the town. The fire brigades are ready to extinguish the flames caused by shells Only a few private residents remain in Port Arthur.

MAY CUT THE RAILROAD.

A despatch from Mukden says: There is much speculation as to whether the Japanese intend to attempt to turn Gen. Kouropatkin's flank between here and Liao-Yang or north of Mukden. The Russians appear well satisfied with the situation. Officers and men anticipate a big battle around Liao-Yang, but the fear is expressed that the Japanese, instead of joining issue there, will seek to turn the Russian position above Mukden, and cut the railroad.

Germany, Austria, Italy and Russia have agreed not to ask that a time limit be set to the British occupation of Egypt.

LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices In Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Aug. 16.—Wheat—Is in active demand and strong. Some No. 2 red and white sold outside to-day at $1 and local dealers quoted 98c to $1 east or west, Goose is steady at 81c for No. 2 east. Spring is steady at 91c for No. 2 east. Manitoba wheat is firm at $1.05 for No. 1 northern, $1.02 for No. 2 northern, and 99c for No. 3 northern at Georgian Bay ports, and 6c more grinding in transit.

Flour—The market is firm at $4 to $4.10 for cars of 90 per cent. patents in buyers' bags west or east. Choice brands are held 15c to 20c higher. Manitoba flour is firm at $5 for cars of Hungarian patents, $4.70 for second patents, and $4.60 for strong bakers', bags included, on the track, Toronto.

Millfeed—Is steady at $16 to $16.-50 for cars of shorts and $13 to $13.50 for bran in bulk west or east. Manitoba millfeed is steady at $18 for cars of shorts and $17 for bran included, Toronto freights.

Barley—Is dull at 42c for No. 2, 41c for No. 3 extra and 38c for No. 3 west or east.

Buckwheat—Is nominal at 45c for No. 2 west or east.

Rye—Is steady at 57c to 58c for No. 2 west or east.

Corn—Is steady. Cars of Canada are quoted at 49c bid. American is steady at 61c for No. 2 yellow, 60c for No. 3 yellow and 59c for No. 3 mixed in car lots on the track, Toronto.

Oats—Are firm at 34 to 34½c for No. 1 white and 33½c to 34c for No. 2 white east. No. 2 white are quoted at 33½c west.

Rolled Oats—Are steady at $4.50 for cars of bags and $4.75 for barrels on the track Toronto, 25c more for broken lots here and 40c more for broken lots outside.

Peas—Are dull at 61c to 62c for No. 2 east or west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Dairies continue to come forward freely and the market for them is easy in tone. Creameries are steady and quotations all round unchanged.

Creamery, prints	17½c to	18½c
do solids	15c	16c
Dairy tubs, good to choice	12c	13c
do inferior grades	9c	11c
Dairy pound rolls, good to choice	11c	14c
do inferior	9c	10c

Cheese—The market is firm in inclination, following the rise at outside points, but quotations here are unchanged at 8¾c for large and 9c for twins.

Eggs—The demand is now fairly well met by the supply, and the market has lost some of the strong undertone noticed recently. Quotations are unchanged at 16c to 16½c for new laid and 12c to 13c for seconds.

Potatoes—There are plenty offering here and the market is steady to easy at 80c to 90c per bushel.

Poultry—The movement is still light. Quotations are unchanged at 15c for spring chickens and 9c to 10c for old birds.

Baled Hay—The market is fairly steady, with quotations unchanged at $8.50 to $9 for old No. 1 timothy in car lots on track here and $8 for new.

Baled Straw—The movement is about normal, and quotations are unchanged at $5.50 to $5.75 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Aug. 16.—The tone of the butter market is firm. We quote for fancy grades, 18½c to 19c, and 17¾c to 18c for ordinary finest. Receipts to-day were 5,400 packages.

Grain—Oats, 38½c to 39c for No. 2 in store here; No. 3, 37½c to 38c; corn, American yellow, No. 2, 61c; No. 3, 59c; white, No. 2, 50c to 60c; buckwheat, 59c to 59½c; flour, Manitoba patents, $5 to $5.20; seconds, $4.75 to $4.90; winter wheat patents, $4.85 to $5; winter straight roller, $4.70 to $4.80 in barrels, $2.20 per bag, $4.80 per barrel.

Millfeed—Ontario bran in bulk, $16.50 to $17; shorts, $19 to $20; Manitoba bran, in bags, $16; shorts, $18.

Beans—Choice primes, $1.20 to $1.25 per bushel; $1.15 in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $17.50 to $18; light short cut, $17 to $17.50; American fat backs, $17.50; American clear fat backs, $20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾c to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9½c; fresh killed abattoir hog, $7.75 to $8; live hog, $5.75 to $5.85 off the cars.

Cheese—Ontario, 8c to 8½c; colored, 8c; white, best Quebec, 7⅞c to 7¾c.

Eggs—Select new laid, 18½c, and straight gathered, candled, 15½c to 16c; No. 2, 13½c.

Butter—Fancy grades, 18½c to 19c; ordinary finest, 17¾c to 18c; western dairy, 14c.

Hay—No. 1, $9.50 to $10 per ton on track; No. 2, $8 to $9; clover, $6.50 to $7; clover mixed $7 to $7.-50 per ton, in car lots.

Potatoes—New, $1.75 per barrel of 180 pounds; 90c per bag of 80 pounds.

BUFFALO GRAIN MARKET.

Buffalo, Aug. 16.—Flour—Firm. Wheat—Spring dull; No. 1 northern, $1.20. Corn—Steady; No. 2 yellow, 60c; No. 2 corn, 59½c. Oats—Weak; No. 2 white, 37¾c; No. 2 mixed, 35c. Canal freights—Steady.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Aug. 16.—A heavy run of stock was offering at the Western Cattle Market this morning, but it was mostly composed of rough and inferior cattle, for which trade was slow. The few good cattle offering were in demand, and sold readily at prices steady to firm. Sheep and lambs were dull and lower, and hogs are unchanged.

Export Cattle—A few fair cattle were offering, and they sold well and at firmer prices. But most of the run was poor stock, and for these the demand was light and trade slow. Extra choice cattle are quoted 10c per cwt. higher. Other lines are unchanged. Extra choice, $4.50 to $5.25 per cwt.; medium to good, $4.70 to $4.90, and cows at $4 to $4.50.

Butchers' Cattle—The demand for good cattle continues active, but few of this kind are coming forward. Others are slow. Too many poor cattle are offering, and the demand is slack. Quotations are unchanged. The best steers and heifers are quoted at $4.50 to $4.65 per cwt., and good to choice loads at $4.30 to $4.50. Fair to good loads sold at $4 to $4.25, mixed lots of medium cattle at $3 to $3.75, good cows at $3.50 to $3.75, and common to fair at $2.50 to $3.25.

Stockers and Feeders—The trade in stockers continues fairly active. The cattle coming forward are of fair quality and trade is steady. Quotations all round are unchanged. Short-keeps, in good condition, $3.-25 to $4, and common at $2 to $2.-75, light weights at $3.50 to $4, good stockers at $3.25 to $3.75 and common at $2 to $2.75.

Milch Cows—The demand is quiet. The range of prices is unchanged at $30 to $50 each.

Calves—Trade was a little dull, and prices had an easier tone at 3½c to 5c per lb. and $2 to $10 each.

Sheep and Lambs—The run was heavy, but trade was fair, and everything was sold. Export sheep are easier at $2.75 to $3.85 per cwt., culls are steady at $2 to $3, lambs are lower at $2.50 to $3.75 each and $4 to $4.60 per cwt.

Hogs—The market is steady and is quoted unchanged at $5.60 per cwt. for selects and $5.35 for lights and fats.

BOILER BLEW UP.

Disastrous Explosion in Paper Mill at St. Catharines.

A St. Catharines despatch says :—A disastrous boiler explosion occurred here on Friday night, whereby a large section of the Kinleith Paper Company's mill was badly wrecked. The accident was attended by no loss of life, only two men being injured, and but slightly. The entire business section of the city was severely shaken, breaking several windows on St. Paul Street. At 6 o'clock after the day shift had quit work and the night shift had gone on duty, one of the rotary rag boilers situated on the second floor of a a three-storey stone section of the mill blew up, wrecking the building completely and carrying out another similar boiler into the old canal, together, with all the other machinery and debris. Above the room in which the explosion took place was the liquor room, where were kept the bleach, lime and clay tanks, with the drainer in the room below. This was carried away completely, pieces of the flying wreckage being carried across the canal and partially wrecking a bridge. This building adjoined a big five-storey building with basement, in which was located the beater room. This was also of stone, and a very solid structure. The concussion caused a large portion of the wall of the second and third storeys to be torn out, allowing the floors and machinery to drop. Every window in the main building is shattered, and the walls are in a dangerous condition.

SMALLPOX IN ZION CITY.

Dowie Will Not Use Drugs or Consult Doctors.

A despatch from Chicago says :—An epidemic of smallpox has broken out in Zion City, the home of John Alexander Dowie, the so-called "Divine healer." All told there are said to be fifteen persons ill with the disease, although Dowie's lieutenants claim that there are but eight. All of the patients have been isolated, and Dowie and his elders daily offer up prayers for their recovery. As there are no physicians in Zion City, and Dowie will not permit his followers to use drugs in any form, fears are entertained that the disease may spread to surrounding towns. Zion City is outside the city limits of Chicago, and the city officials have no power in the matter.

TWENTY WERE DROWNED.

Vessel From Australia Sunk off Coast of Ireland.

A despatch from London says :—The British barque Inverkip, from Melbourne for Queenstown, was sunk and 20 persons were drowned as the result of a collision off Fastnet Rock, Ireland, on Saturday night, with the British steamer Loch Carron, from the Clyde.