FIFTY GUNS CAPTURED

Japs Used Two Tons of Dynamite to Blow Up Rihlung Fort.

CAPTURED FIFTY GUNS.

A despatch from Tokio says:—The headquarters of the army besieging Port Arthur telegraphs that on the night of Wednesday, after the occupation of Rihlung fort, a small body of Russians still offered resistance in the passage between the siege gun line and the gorge. At three o'clock in the morning they were dislodged entirely and the occupation of the fort became secure.

According to the statement of three prisoners the defenders of Fort Rihlung numbered about 500, besides some sailors. A majority of the defenders were killed.

The trophies captured with Fort Rihlung include four large calibre guns, seven small calibre guns, thirty-seven millimetre guns, two machine guns, and much property as yet unenumerated.

Rihlung fort, captured Wednesday, is the largest and strongest of the eastern fort ridge. Tunnels for mines were cut through solid rock, and two tons of dynamite were used to blow up the walls. The spectacle was magnificent, and the work of the assaulters was splendid. Half the garrison was killed by the explosion of the first charge. The remainder of the Russians made a stubborn resistance. Four heavy guns, seven rapid-firing guns, and two machine guns were captured, as well as thirty quick-firing guns, which were stored in the fort.

DESPERATE FIGHTING.

A despatch from Tokio says: After months of fighting, sapping, and mining, the Japanese forces occupied Rihlung Mountain on Wednesday night.

A report from headquarters of the third Japanese army before Port Arthur says:

"On Wednesday, at 10 o'clock in the morning, the left centre column of our army, following some heavy explosions on the frontal parapet of Rihlung Mountain, charged and occupied the parapet under cover of fire from heavy guns and constructed defence works, despite the enemy's fierce fire.

"At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when our occupation was practically assured, we charged and occupied the inner lines of heavy gun positions, subsequently dislodging a remnant of the enemy's force, stubbornly holding the gorge fort, which we occupied and captured the entire works."

JAP CASUALTIES 1,000.

A despatch from Headquarters of the Japanese Army before Port Arthur, via Fusan, says: Rihlung Fort was captured at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, with a thousand Japanese casualties. Seven dynamite mines, exploded at 10 o'clock Wednesday, made breaches in the front wall, through which a large body of Japanese troops charged, under cover of a tremendous bombardment, and captured the first line of light guns. A bitter fight resulted in the capture of the fort. The garrison, numbering 500 men, escaped.

NEW NAVAL BASE.

A despatch from Tientsin says:—Recent advices from Japan of a reliable character state that as the Japanese headquarters staff ascertained that the Baltic fleet was to make a base in the Pescadores Islands, the Japanese Government determined to forestall the Russians. The Japanese are already shipping heavy guns to the islands from the Kanonsayi forts, and also large supplies of coal. An experienced officer has been despatched to take command.

MINIMIZING EFFECT.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The War Office points out that the occupation of Rihlung Mountain, at the best, only makes the Japanese masters of the entire terrace beyond the principal forts of Keekwan, and still leaves the main line unbroken.

COSSACKS REPULSED.

A despatch from Tokio says: Despatches from Seoul state that Japanese scouts attacked fifty Cossacks on Sunday at Shungshuken, killing four and wounding four of them. There were no Japanese casualties.

Thirty Russian infantry proceeding to Monau on the same day were repulsed.

The Kokumin suggests that the disturbed conditions in Corea may necessitate soon Japanese military intervention, according to the protocol agreed upon between Japan and Corea. Despatches from the island of Formosa state that the harbors have been mined and the fortifications of the ports strengthened. Shipping has been warned of the mines.

BIG GUNS MOUNTED.

A despatch from Chefoo says: It is reported here that the Japanese in front of Port Arthur have mounted two 28-centimetre guns on 203-Metre Hill.

The persistent rumor which has been in circulation for the past two weeks that several torpedo-boat destroyers had escaped from Port Arthur and succeeded in reaching Vladivostock is denied by the officers of the British steamer Ellamy, which arrived here from Vladivostock on Wednesday. These officers say that the cruisers Rossia and Gromoboi are in good shape.

GARRISON IS CHEERFUL.

A despatch from Tokio says: Trustworthy advices from Port Arthur confirm the report that Gen. Kondrachenko has been killed and that Gen. Stoessel has been injured by falling from his horse. Gen. Smilnoff is also reported wounded

The advices further say that the stern of the battleship Sevastopol has sunk in shallow water. Her bow is damaged in two places and the steerage room gear is also damaged.

The garrison is reported to be confident in the belief that relief will arrive before March 1. Despite its heavy losses Nov. 26, and subsequently, the garrison is said to be cheerful, and resolved to continue the struggle as long as a single soldier remains. The army claims to have sufficient provisions to last until February. The navy possesses about one month's stores. The price of food in the beleagured fortress is high. Beef is a rouble and one-half per pound; horse meat six copecks per pound; dog meat twenty-five copecks per pound; turkeys 150 roubles apiece; eggs 160 roubles per hundred. But a few junks bearing supplies reached the garrison the past month.

It is expected that the capture of the heights of Pigeon Bay will further curtail the landing of supplies.

REPLACED WITH JAPS.

A despatch to the London Morning Post from Shanghai says that China is discharging the German military instructors through the Yangtse region and substituting Japanese.

HAS A CRUISER SUNK?

A despatch from Tokio says: The Navy Department publishes a list of nine officers and sixty-five men who were killed while on special duty. The time, place, and circumstances are not explained, and it is presumed that another cruiser has been mined and sunk or damaged. An explanation is expected shortly.

BUBONIC PLAGUE.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: It is officially announced that a disease whose characteristics are similar to bubonic plague has appeared among the Kirghizoo Cossacks in two settlements of the Ural territory. resulting in 19 deaths between Nov. 24 and Dec. 26. The localities have been declared to be infected with the plague.

TRY TO DIVIDE GARRISON.

A despatch from Tokio says:—It is unofficially stated that the Japanese sapping of the north-eastern forts at Port Arthur is going on steadily and successfully, preparatory to another attack at an early date. It is expected that this attack will be made concurrently from the east and west sides, the object being to try to divide the garrison.

It is reported that a Japanese mine was exploded on Tuesday destroying the parapet of the Ehrlungshan Fort. An infantry attack followed, but the result is unknown. A Russian who was captured on Dec. 16 is quoted as saying that the Japanese fire destroyed five guns and disabled a thousand men at Etseshan.

CONSIDERING MEDIATION.

A despatch from Berlin says:—It is believed here that the latest rumor regarding the willingness of Emperor Nicholas to listen to mediation proposals rests upon a fresh enquiry of France as to what terms his Majesty is willing to accept in the case of mediation. Official circles in Berlin entertain the possibility that something in this direction has been going on since it has been known that France and Great Britain were anxious to terminate the war.

WAR BUDGET PASSED.

A despatch from Tokio says:—The House of Peers on Wednesday unanimously passed the war budget as originally proposed, and the ordinary budget for 1905, as amended by the House of Representatives, and also approved the bills providing for additional taxation and other financial measures, as passed by the House of Representatives.

NO FIGHTING UNTIL SPRING.

A despatch from Huanshan says:—Everything continues quiet along the front of the hostile armies. There is little expectation of a decisive movement till spring, when it will be possible for both sides to throw in strong reinforcements to commence the campaign in earnest.

LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices In Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Jan. 3.—Wheat—Ontario continues dull; 97c to 97½c bid for red and white; spring, 92c to 93c; goose, 86c to 87c. Manitoba firmer; No. 1 northern, $1.06; No. 2 northern, $1.01 to $1.01½; No. 3 Northern, 95c to 96c, Georgian Bay ports, 6c more grinding in transit.

Flour—90 per cent. patents, $4.20 to $4.35, buyers' sacks, east and west, 15c to 20c higher for choice. Manitoba, $5.40 to $5.70 for first patents, $5 to $5.40 for second patents, and $5 to $5.20 for bakers'.

Millfeed—$14 to $14.50 for bran in bulk, $17 to $18 for shorts, east and west. Manitoba, $21 for shorts, $18 for bran, exports.

Barley—45c for No. 3, 43c for extra, and 41c for No. 3 malting outside, Toronto freights.

Rye—74c to 75c for No. 2.

Corn—A little firmer; new Canadian yellow, 43c; mixed, 42c, f.o.b., Chatham freights; new American, No. 3 yellow, 52c to 52½c, mixed 52c, on track Toronto.

Oats—33c to 33½c for No. 1 white east low frieghts; No. 2, 32½c, low freights, and 32c north and west.

Rolled Oats—$4 for cars of bags and $4.25 for barrels on track Toronto, 25c more for broken lots here, and 40c for broken lots outside.

Peas—67c to 68c for No. 2, west and east.

Buckwheat—51c to 52c, east and west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Trade in this, as in all lines, continues quiet. The demand is only fair, but receipts are light. Quotations are unchanged.

Creamery, prints	22c to	23c
do tubs	19c	20c
Dairy tubs, good to choice	16c	17c
do medium	13c	15c
do inferior grades	10c	12c
Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice	17c	18c
do large rolls	16c	17c
do medium	14c	15c

Cheese—Is quoted unchanged at 11c to 11¼c per lb for large and 11¼c to 11½c for twins in job lots here.

Eggs—The market has a firm tone. Fresh are quoted at 21c and limed at 20c.

Poultry—There is little doing at the moment. Prices all round are unchanged. Turkeys, 11c to 14c; ducks at 10c to 11c, geese at 9c to 10c, chickens at 5½c to 9c, and hens at 5c to 6c.

Potatoes—Are quoted unchanged. Ontario stock, 65c to 70c on track, and 75c to 80c out of store. Eastern, 75c to 80c on track and 90c to 95c out of store.

Baled Hay—There is a better demand for cattle hay and the market has a firmer tone at $6.75 for No. 2 and mixed clover. No. 1 timothy is unchanged at $7.50. All in car lots on track here.

Baled Straw—Continues firm in tone at $6 to $6.50 per ton for car lots on track here.

Dressed Hogs—The market is quoted unchanged at $6.75 per cwt. for choice lightweights and $6.25 for heavies.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Grain—Oats, 40 to 40½c for No. 2 in store here; No. 3, 39 to 39½c; corn, new American yellow, 54 to 55c, guaranteed to arrive sound; 60c store for No. 3 mixed; buckwheat, 54½ to 55c. Flour—Manitoba patents, $5.80, and strong bakers', $5.50; high Ontario blended patents, $5.75 to $5.80 in wood; choice 90 per cent. patents, $5.50 to $5.60 in wood, and 25c per barrel less in shippers' new bags; straight rollers, $2.5[illegible] to $2.55, and 25 to 30c extra in wood. Rolled oats—$2.12½ to $2.13 per bag, and $4.50 to $4.85 in barrels. Feed—Ontario bran, in b[illegible] $17 to $18; shorts, $19 to $20 [illegible]itoba bran, in bags, $17 to $[illegible] shorts, $21. Beans—Choice primes, $1.40 to $1.45 per bushel; $1.35 to $1.37½ in car lots. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $16.50 to $17.50; light short cut, $16.50 to $17; American clear fat backs, $20; compound lard, 6½ to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾ to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 12 to 13c; bacon, 12 to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $7.20 to $7.25; heavy fat hogs, $4.75 to $5; mixed lots, $5 to $5.15; select, $5.25 to $5.35 off cars. Cheese—Ontario Fall white, 10¼ to 10½c; colored, 10¾ to 10½c; Quebec, 9⅞ to 10c. Butter—Finest grades, 21 to 21½c; ordinary finest, 20 to 20½c; medium grades, 18¾ to 19½c; and Western dairy, 15¾ to 16½c. Eggs—Select new laid, 23 to 24c; straight gathered, candled, 20 to 21c; No. 2, 15½ to 16c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Milwaukee, Jan. 3.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.13 to $1.14; No. 2 Northern, $1.06 to $1.09; May, $1.12½ bid. Rye—No. 1, 77½c. Barley—No. 2, 53c; sample, 36 to 51c. Corn—Easier; No. 3, 43½c; May, 45⅜ to 45½c bid.

Buffalo, Jan. 3.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Nothing done. Corn—Quiet and easy; No. 3 yellow, 49½c; No. 3 corn, 49½c. Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, 35½c; No. 2 mixed, 34c. Barley—Western, 45 to 55c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 3.—Trade at the Western Cattle Market to-day was again a little quiet.

Export Cattle—There is a demand for good export cattle, but few are coming forward. The market has a better tone, and choice cattle are worth as high as $5 per cwt. This figure, however, is nominal in the absence of good stock. Choice are quoted at $4.50 to $5, good to medium at $4.25 to $4.50, good cows at $3.25 to $4.

Butcher Cattle—Trade was dull, the butchers being pretty well supplied with cattle. The run of cattle, too, was of the poor to medium variety, the highest price on the market being about $4 per cwt. Higher quotations than this were nominal in the absence of stock of that class. Other quotations are unchanged. Good to choice butchers' are quoted at $4 to $4.50, fair to good at $3.50 to $4; mixed lots, medium, at $3 to $3.50; common at $1.75 to $2.50, cows at $3 to $3.40, and bulls at $2 to $2.75.

Stockers and Feeders—Trade in these lines continues quiet. Few cattle were offering. Quotations are unchanged. Feeders are quoted at $2.50 to $3.80, and stockers at $1.50 to $3.40.

Milch Cows—There is a demand for good cows. Quotations are unchanged at $30 to $60 each.

Calves—Trade was quiet. Quotations are unchanged at 3c to 5½c per lb. and $2 to $10 each.

Sheep and Lambs—Export sheep and lambs continue to show firmness, and are quoted higher. Culls have an easier tone. Export sheep are quoted at $2.75 to $4.50, culls at $2 to $3.50 and lambs at $5.25 to $6.

Hogs—The market is dull and quiet. Quotations are unchanged at $4.75 per cwt. for selects and $4.50 for lights and fats.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

No Meeting Will be Held Before January 31st.

After consulting with a number of Institute speakers as well as local officers in different parts of the Province, the Superintendent has decided not to hold any Institute meetings until January 31st. It was the unanimous opinion of both delegates and officers (and a great many were consulted) that a political campaign would interfere very much with the attendance at and the success of Institute meetings. No announcements of meetings had been made for January, although all lists had been about completed. A re-arrangement of the lists has been made, and the same submitted to the secretaries of the various ridings. The revised dates will be announced in plenty of time to allow local secretaries to do the necessary advertising before the date of the first meetings. The regular number of meetings for each riding will be held in all the older sections of the Province, but in the northern districts (St. Joseph's Island, East and West Manitoulin, Algoma Nipissing, Parry Sound and Muskoka) arrangements will be made to hold meetings in June or July or the fall months

HORSE THIEVES ARRESTED.

Mounted Police in Alberta Made a Good Haul.

A despatch from McLeod, N.W.T., says:—For months past settlers in southern Alberta have been harrassed by horse thieves to such an extent that the North-West Mounted Police have stationed extra patrols along the boundary in the North-West Territories and in Manitoba a detachment of provincial mounted police has been formed for the sole purpose of guarding against these invasions.

Sergt. Piper has just rounded up a gang of horse thieves, consisting of seven Indians and three white men. This gang has been stealing horses and selling them to three Frenchmen at $5 per head. These Frenchmen recently arrived from the United States, and settled in Pincher Creek, and disposed of the stolen horses in the United States and British Columbia. The whole 13 have been arrested, and with them was found a band of 50 horses, which has been stolen from Canadian farmers.

The men are being held to take their trial on one of the most serious charges that can be laid against them in the North-West.

HORSEFLESH DIET GROWS.

Year's Figures in Paris Show Astonishing Increase.

A despatch from Paris says:—M. Pelletan, Minister of Marine, presided a few days ago at a banquet in which horseflesh formed the principal portion of the menu. The occasion marked the opening of new abattoirs for butchering horses at Vaugirard.

Nearly every visitor in Paris is familiar with the small butcher shops, with a gilt horse's head over the door, indicating the kind of meat sold there. But the new statistics are surprising. They show that more than thirty-five thousand horses, mules and donkeys are consumed as food in Paris every year.

M. Decrout, a veterinary, who first advocated horseflesh as a diet, will be honored by a statue to be erected in the courtyard of the new abattoirs.

The Minister of the Interior is considering the offer of a number of first-class Russian farmers who want to come to Canada.

FLASHES FROM THE WIRE

The Very Latest Items From All Parts of the Globe.

DOMINION.

Mr. A. W. Donly has been appointed commercial agent in Mexico by the Dominion Government.

Jokshua Bell will be hanged at New Westminster on July 13 for the murder of Hannah Allen.

An expedition of Mounted Police has left Dawson for the purpose of trying to make their way through to the mouth of Mackenzie River.

Kingston has a deficit of $670.

City Hall employes of Hamilton presented City Clerk Beasley with a music box in celebration of his fifty years in that position.

A prominent grain dealer of Montreal stated yesterday that he would not be surprised to see wheat in Chicago sell up to $1.50 before another crop.

Fred W. Blanche, allias A. Brown, jr., formerly a bank clerk of Sargent, Man., is under arrest of embezzling $22,000.

Representatives of the Dominion Coal Company and the Provincial Workmen's Association have signed a three-years' agreement governing wages and working rules.

Charles A. Young, western representative of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Commission, is in Winnipeg for the purpose of organizing a number of surveying parties to locate the line between Winnipeg and Lake Nepigon.

FOREIGN.

The negotiations in Berlin for a new Russian loan are reported to be progressing favorably.

American railways have levied a tax of $2 per head on Canadians going to Europe via New York.

A dog owned by Wm. W. Walker saved five persons from burning to death in Ithaca, N. Y., by jumping upon the bed and awakening his master, who was nearly suffocated by smoke.

After a fierce battle with a monster eagle, that measured ten feet from tip to tip, C. D. Estell, of Ukeak, California, managed to kill it with a club, although he was gashed in many places and his shoulder muscles were nearly torn out by the bird's talons.

Israel Burt, a pioneer of Elmira, N.Y., died at his home at Ridgebury, aged 104. He was born near the place where he died and up to his 100th year had never ridden on a railroad.

Thomas O'Brien, notorious crook and inventor of the gold brick swindle, is dead in the French penal settlement at Cayenne, where he was serving a 25 year sentence for the murder of his partner, "Kid" Waddell. He was born in Chicago 53 years ago.

NEW NORTH-WEST COLONY

C. P. R. Sells 54,000 Acres to United States Syndicate.

A Winnipeg despatch says: The Canadian Pacific Railway Land Company on Friday sold 54,000 acres of land in Calgary district to the Beiseker, Hoople and Sayer syndicate, of Minnesota. The land comprises a portion of that set aside this year by the company because it was too high for irrigation purposes.

Up to the first of this month the company had sold about 10,000 acres of this block to individuals, the sales amounting to over $250,000. This was the first syndicate to buy lands in the Northwest, having bought 300,000 acres around Wriburn and Milestone for colonization purposes, which is to-day the most densely settled part of Alberta.

The syndicate proposes to do the same thing with this block of land, and it is the first big step towards colonizing the land in the newly-irrigated block. They will put farmers on these lands who will cultivate Winter wheat and other grains.

The plans of the big syndicate involves the settlement of hundreds of families adjacent to the Town of Calgary.

RUMORS OF REVOLT.

Anti-Government Organization is Perfecting Plans

A Kieff despatch says: Sensational reports are current here and elsewhere to the effect that a central anti-Government organization, which has its headquarters in South Russia, and its agents in various large Russian centres, including those of Poland, Lithuania, and the Caucasus, has for some weeks past been perfecting plans for an organized armed rising simultaneously in the more rebellious areas of the Russian Empire.

As a preliminary, the loyalty of the troops in various garrison towns in the empire is being assiduously sapped by the distribution of all manner of revolutionary literature, representing autocracy as the curse of the country and its minions solely responsible for the present wholesale "slaughter" in Manchuria.

The contract for a new Roman Catholic church at Stratford, to cost $20,000, has been let.