MAY CUT OFF SUPPLIES

Indications That Chinese Intend to Assist in the Work.

ALMOST CUT TO PIECES.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The War Office is considerably alarmed by the new danger threatening the Manchurian army from the systematic attempts by Japanese and Chinese bandits to cut the line of communication back of the army. According to reports, about 10,000 men divided into bands of several hundred are operating from Mongolia and are striking at the railroad. A Russian detachment following the Japanese band which cut the road below Harbin fell into an ambuscade of two regularly organized Japanese regiments, and was almost cut to pieces, losing half its men and one gun.

The fear is that if the bands move farther north or west they might interrupt communication to such an extent as to make it impossible to supply the army. This danger has compelled the triple re-enforcement of the railroad guards below Harbin.

BLEW UP BRIDGE.

A despatch from Harbin says: A party of Japanese and Chinese bandits destroyed the abutment of the railway near Yaomin, a hundred miles distant from here, early on Sunday morning, but the damage was all repaired in a few hours. Frontier guards heard an explosion and found that a charge of guncotton had been exploded against the abutment. Two telegraph poles were also destroyed. An unexploded charge of guncotton was found 400 feet from the place where the explosion occurred. Traffic on the railway was resumed later. These attempts on the railway are believed to have been made to cover movements of large bodies of Chinese bandits across Mongolia.

PREPARING TO ADVANCE.

A despatch from Tokio says: Field-Marshal Oyama reports that the Russians are continuing their defensive works in all directions. They continued to shell portions of the Japanese line on Friday. On the same day they essayed a small infantry attack, but were repulsed.

According to reports from the Sha River, the Russians are showing increased activity on both flanks, and are extending and strengthening their right. They also seem to be concentrating a heavy force on their left line in front of Gen. Kuroki. Fushan is the base of the late operations, and it is estimated that the Russians there number six divisions. The impression exists that Gen. Kouropatkin is preparing to assume the aggressive. The weather is still unfavorable, but the excessive cold will soon be over.

Reports from the front state that the Russian force that attacked the flank of the Japanese left last week has retired as far north as Alima, near Mukden. It is being closely pressed by a detachment that was sent in pursuit.

Opposite the Japanese right, in the direction of Fushan and Hingking, there are upwards of 50,000 fresh troops from Russia.

JAPS MOVING EAST.

A despatch from London says: Reports received here show that part at least of the Russian cavalry reported to be at Tacha have gone back to the north with some loss, but the precise outcome of the raid is not known. It does not seem to have developed importantly.

It is reported in St. Petersburg that a large Japanese force is moving east to outflank the Russians.

A correspondent at the Russian headquarters says that the position seems to have been made more complicated and more uncertain by the Battle of Heikoutai and the approach of an early Spring. The Japanese have brought up many siege guns from Port Arthur, and some of them are pounding Putiloff Hill. Chinese report that 350 siege guns are in position at Liao-Yang.

The Tokio correspondent of the Standard says that the Japanese are entertaining no illusions concerning the peace rumors. The educated classes and the best newspapers agree that Japan cannot possibly accept peace until she has achieved her definite object, which is the destruction of Russian power in the Far East, which must be so complete as to render its revival impossible.

The Daily Telegraph's Shanghai correspondent reports that Gen. Stakelberg and three Russian infantry colonels were wounded in the fighting on the Hun River.

EIGHT-INCH GUNS.

A despatch from Mukden says: The Japanese fired Tuesday and Wednesday on Poutiloff Hill, with 8-inch guns, carrying 250-pound projectiles, indicating that they are siege guns, used at Port Arthur, and the first to be mounted in position before the Russian lines below Mukden. A new situation, therefore, confronts the Russian centre, and the general situation appears to have been rendered more uncertain and more complicated by the Battle of Sandepas and the arrival of open weather indicating an early spring.

ON THE SHA RIVER.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The gloom in Governmental circles is intensified by the news of the desperate situation on the Sha River. Despatches from the front state that the same 11-inch guns with which the Japanese took 203-Metre Hill are now cannonading the Russian centre. These guns were conveyed by a newly built field railway, branching from the main line, to positions from which heavy siege guns can make the Russian centre untenable. Staff officers say it has become necessary to either advance or abandon the Sha River position. They anticipate a Japanese movement in the direction of Sinminting, the objective being Tieling.

TO WEAR OUT JAPS.

A despatch from Paris says: The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris says that Marshal Oyama's force is estimated at 384,999 men. That under Gen. Kouropatkin is believed to be about the same. The plan of the Russians appears to be to increase Gen. Kouropatkin's army to 500,000, and keep it at that strength, and, in time, wear out the Japanese.

VLADIVOSTOCK HIS AIM.

A despatch from Tokio says: There is reliable information to the effect that when Gen. Kawamura left Tokio early this month for Corea his mission was to make an advance against Vladivostock. The route of his advance has not been disclosed.

The Tokio newspapers have noted the continued withdrawal to the northward in Northern Corea of small bodies of Russians. It is stated that the fortifications of Vladivostock have been greatly strengthened lately.

A GENERAL ATTACK.

A despatch from Mukden says: The Japanese began a heavy cannonade Tuesday afternoon on the Russian right flank, and the firing continued all through the day. It is thought the Japanese are preparing for a general attack. The Russian guns are replying.

The entire detachment of Japanese cavalry which had destroyed the railway bridge between Mukden and Harbin was wiped out. Russian cavalry overtook the raiders, who refused quarter, and fought until the last man was killed.

A CAVALRY MOVEMENT.

A despatch from Tokio says: The Russians have begun an extensive cavalry movement against Field Marshal Oyama's extreme left. Tuesday night they were attempting to cross the Hun River, west of Liao-Yang with 9,000 horsemen. The operation began west of Chitaitzu. One force of cavalry stole into Laohunshi, and simultaneously another cavalry force approached Tacha, which is situated 13 miles southwest of Chitaitzu, and 27 miles west of Liao-Yang. Nine thousand cavalry, with artillery, approached the river a mile below Tacha, and attempted to cross at 6 o'clock in the evening advancing on Heikoutai (Pekowtai).

The shelling of Oyama's centre continues

LEGATION WAS IN DANGER

Spaniard Tried to Blow Up Mexican Legation in Paris.

A Paris despatch says:—Inhabitants of the Champs Elysees quarter on Saturday night were aroused by a loud explosion. The police discovered in front of the Mexican Legation a man severely wounded and lying amid fragments of a bomb. He was taken to a hospital and cross-examined.

He claimed that his name was Garcia, and that he was a Spaniard. He asserted that he had been ruined by the Mexican Government, and in revenge threw a bomb, which, however, exploded too soon, and he himself was injured. The police found a revolver, a dagger, and some Anarchist pamphlets on Garcia, and a search of his lodgings led to the discovery of two bombs, identical to that which he had exploded. Garcia arrived in Paris two days ago.

Garcia declares that he was born in Santander in 1862, and denies that he is an Anarchist. He is wounded in the arms and hands. Prompt action by the police prevented his being lynched.

The Belgium coal strike shows signs of collapsing, the resumption of work becoming more general in different districts.

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. 21.—Wheat.—No. 2 white and red Winter are quoted at $1.06 at outside points. No. 2 goose quiet at 99c to $1 east. Manitoba wheat is firmer; No. 1 Northern was quoted at $1.10½; No. 2 Northern at $1.06½, and No. 3 Northern at $1.01½, Georgian Bay ports. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

Oats—No. 2 white are quoted at 39 to 40c high or low freights, and No. 1 white at 40c east.

Barley—No. 2 quoted at 47c middle freights; No. 3 extra at 45c, and No. 3 at 43 to 44c middle freights.

Peas—The market is dull, with dealers quoting 66 to 67c at outside points.

Corn—Canadian yellow quoted at 43½ to 44c, and mixed at 43c west, guaranteed sound. American No. 3 yellow, 52½c Toronto, and No. 3 mixed, 52c.

Rye—The market is unchanged at 75 to 76c at outside points.

Buckwheat—No. 2 quoted at 52½c, high freights; and 53½c low freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are quoted at $4.30 to $4.45 in buyers' sacks, east or west; straight rollers of special brands, for domestic trade in bbls., $4.85 to $5. Manitoba flours are firm. No. 1 patents, $5.60 to $5.70; No. 2 patents, $5.30 to $5.40, and strong bakers', $5.10 to $5.30, on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—At outside points bran is quoted at $15, and shorts at $17. Manitoba bran, in sacks, $18, and shorts at $20.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—Choice stock, $2.50 to $3 per bbl.; cooking apples, $1.50 per bbl.

Beans—Prime quoted at $1.40 to $1.50, and hand-picked at $1.55 to $1.60.

Hops—The market is unchanged at 32 to 35c, according to quality.

Honey—The market is quiet at 7¾ to 8c per lb. Comb honey, $1.75 to $2 per dozen.

Hay—Car lots of No. 1 timothy are quoted at $8 to $8.50 on track here, and No. 2 at $6.50 to $7.

Straw—Car lots are quoted at $6 to $6.25 on track, Toronto.

Potatoes—Car lots of Ontarios are quoted at 70 to 75c per bag on track and jobbing lots at 80 to 85c.

Poultry—Spring chickens, 11 to 12c per lb.; hens, 8 to 10c; ducks, 12 to 13c per lb.; geese, 10 to 11c per lb.; turkeys, dry picked, 14 to 15c; scalded, 10 to 11c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Finest 1-lb. rolls, 20 to 21c; ordinary to choice large rolls, 17 to 18c; low to medium grades, 14 to 16c; creamery prints, 24 to 25c; solids, 22 to 23c.

Eggs—Case lots of new laid eggs are quoted at 26c per dozen; held stock at 18c, and limed 16 to 17c per dozen.

Cheese—Large cheese, 11c, and twins 11½c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Car lots are quoted at $7 to $7.25. Bacon, long clear, 8 to 8¼c per lb. in case lots; mess pork, $14 to $14.50; short cut, $17 to $17.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 12 to 12½c; do., heavy, 11½ to 12c; rolls, 9½c; shoulders, 8¾ to 9c; backs, 14 to 14½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c.

Lard—Tierces, 7¾c; tubs, 8c; pails, 8¼c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Feb. 21.—Grain—Oats were firmer again to-day. Quotations are generally 44c for No. 3 store, and 45c for No. 2. 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, $2.50 to $2.55, and 25 to 50c extra in wood. Rolled oats $2.05 to $2.07 per bag of 90 lbs.; $4.30 to $4.45 in barrels. Feed—Ontario bran in bulk at $17 to $17.50, shorts at $19 to $20; Manitoba bran in bags, $18 to $19; shorts, $19 to $20. Beans—Choice primes, $1 40 to $1.45 bush.; $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 cut fat backs, $20; compound lard, 6½ to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾ to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c; hams, 12 to 13c; bacon 12 to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $8 to $8.25; heavy fat sows, $4.75 to $5; mixed lots, $5.60 to $5.75; select, $5.75 to $5.80, off cars; country dressed, $7 to $7.25. Cheese—Ontario Fall white, 10⅜ to 10½c; colored 10⅜ to 10⅞; Quebec, 10 to 10½. Butter—Finest grades, 26 to 27c; ordinary finest, 23 to 24c; Western dairy, 21 to 21½c; dairy rolls, 20 to 21c. Eggs—Straight cold storage stock, 17¾ to 19c; No. 2, 16½ to 17½c; Montreal limed, 19 to 19½c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Milwaukee, Feb. 21.—Wheat closed:—No. 1 Northern, $1.16½; No. 2 Northern, $1.12 to $1.14; May, $1.19¾ asked. Rye—No. 1, 83c. Barley—No. 2, 52c; sample, 36 to 50c. Corn—No. 3, 44 to 44½c; May, 47 to 47¼c.

St. Louis, Feb. 21.—Wheat—Cash, $1.15⅜; May, $1.16⅜; July, 97⅞c; Sept., 93⅞c.

Minneapolis, Feb. 21.—Wheat—Close—May, $1.17½; July, $1.15⅛ to $1.15¼; September, 95⅜c; No. 1 hard, $1.18¾; No. 1 Northern, $1.16¾; No. 2 do., $1.13½. Flour—First patents, $6.30 to $6.40; second do., $6.10 to $6.20; first clears, $4.15 to $4.35; second clear, $2.60 to $2.70. Bran in bulk, $13.75.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Feb. 21.—The Western Market was characterized by great activity to-day, caused by the shortness in the supply of cattle.

Milch cows were quoted at $30 to $50 each.

The prices of exporters ranged from $4.35 to $4.90 per cwt.

The following quotations were prevalent for butchers' cattle—Select butchers', $4.50 to $4.75; good butchers', loads of, $4.10 to $4.60; fair to good, $3.20 to $3.90; cows, $2.50 to $3.12½; common to rough, $1.25 to $2.

Stockers and feeders were quoted nominally as follows:—Feeders, short keeps, 1,200 to 1,275 lbs. at $4 to $4.35; stockers, 600 to 800 lbs. at $2.50 to $3.50; stockers, 400 to 600 lbs., at $2 to $2.25.

The prices of sheep and lambs were as follows—Export ewes, $4.50 to $5; export bucks, $3.50 to $4 per cwt.; cull sheep, $2 to $3 each; lambs, $5.50 to $6.35 per cwt.

Calves sold at 3½ to 6c per lb., and $2 to $12 each.

The quotations for hogs were $5.40 for selects, 160 to 200 lbs. and $5.15 for lights and fats, off cars, Toronto.

MINE OF BIG DIAMONDS

Another Monster Gem Taken from Premier Diggings.

A London despatch says:—The Premier Mine, Johannesburg, in which a 3,030 carat diamond was discovered last month, has produced another of phenomenal size. One of 334 carats has just been found in it.

REIGN OF TERROR IN RUSSIA

Grand Duke Sergius Assassinated in the City of Moscow

Moscow, Saturday, Feb. 18.—Within the walls of the far-famed Kremlin Palace, almost underneath the historic tower from which Ivan the Terrible watched the heads of his enemies falling beneath the axe on the famous Red Square, and within a stone's throw of the great bell of Moscow, Grand Duke Sergius, uncle and brother-in-law of Emperor Nicholas, and the chief of the reactionaries, met a terrible death shortly before 3 o'clock Friday afternoon. The deed was committed by a single terrorist, who threw beneath the Grand Duke's carriage a bomb charged with the same high-power explosive which wrought Minister von Plehve's death. The missile was loaded with nails and fragments of iron, and its explosion tore the imperial victim's body to ghastly fragments, which strewed the snow for yards around. Every window in the great lofty facade of the Palace of Justice was shattered, and bits of iron were embedded deeply in the walls of the arsenal a hundred yards away.

THE ASSASSIN

belongs to the noted "fighting group" of the socialist revolutionary party, which has removed other prominent officials, and long since passed sentence of death upon Grand Duke Sergius.

The Grand Duke knew that he stood in the shadow of death. He was the recipient of repeated warnings, and elaborate precautions were taken to insure his safety, but all the resources of the gendarmerie, secret police, and soldiers proved unavailing against an attempt almost exactly duplicating the procedure that caused the death of Minister von Plehve in July of last year.

It was the irony of fate that Sergius, after taking refuge in his country villa during the strike troubles of a month ago and later seeking even more secure shelter in the palace within the Kremlin walls, should be killed while proceeding to the Governor-General's palace beyond the walls, and which he abandoned to enable the police to better protect him. Grand Duchess Elizabeth, who had engaged daily in the task of preparing comforts for the sick and wounded Russian soldiers in Manchuria, was about to drive to the palace to join her husband. When she heard of what had befallen the Grand Duke she was driven in haste to the scene of the tragedy and knelt hatless and coatless, on the blood-stained snow and murmured prayers for the welfare of the soul of her slain consort.

SCENE OF THE CRIME.

The scene of the crime was the great open triangle of the Kremlin, bounded by the arsenal and treasury courts of justice, in one angle of which is the Nicholas, or Little Palace, where the Grand Duke dwelt. At the opposite corner is the Nikolsko gate, the exit to the town beyond the ramparts. A few minutes before the bell of the gate sounded the hour of three, the equipage of the Grand Duke emerged from the gates of the palace and proceeded, followed by sleighs containing secret police.

It swept at a smart pace toward the gate, passing the Chudoff Cloister, Ivan's Tower, the great Czar bell, and a long row of cannon captured from Napoleon in the Winter retreat of 1812. In a minute the carriage was in front of the Courts of Justice, where the walls of the triangle approach, forming a narrow entrance to the Nikolsky gate. There a man clad in workman's attire stepped forward from the sidewalk and threw a bomb which he had concealed beneath his coat. A terrible explosion followed, and a hail of iron pelted the grim stone walls of the arsenal and the Courts of Justice.

A thick cloud of smoke, snow, and debris arose. When it had cleared, a ghastly sight was presented. On the snow lay fragments of the body of Grand Duke Sergius, mingled with the wreckage of the carriage. The Grand Duke's head had been torn from his body, and reduced to a shapeless pulp, and the trunk and limbs were frightfully mangled. A finger bearing a rich seal ring was found lying several yards away. A crimson tint and a sickening smell of blood were everywhere. Only a few fragments of cloth indicated that the body once had been clothed. The coachman lay moaning with pain beside a deep hole in the pavement.

The horses, dragging the front wheels of the carriage, had dashed off, maddened with pain, to sink dying before they reached the gate.

BELIEVED TO BE A STUDENT.

Although the murderer refused to give any account of himself, the general public believes that he is a student, chiefly because it is known that students had sworn to assassinate the Grand Duke in revenge for the massacre in Moscow on Dec. 29. The authorities are reticent.

The body was immediately placed in a coffin. It will remain in the monastery until it is removed for burial in St. Petersburg, where, according to precedent, it must be interred in the Petropavlovski fortress, in the presence of the Czar and all the Grand Dukes.

ONE BY ONE.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Chronicle says that the Czar, who was fond of Sergius is reported to have broken down upon hearing the news. He exclaimed wildly, "When will all this end?" The correspondent quotes a Liberal leader as saying to him: "The reactionary party is now a headless trunk. Our party is consequently immensely strengthened M. Boulyguin, Minister of the Interior, now has no force behind him, and Gov.-Gen. Trepoff is also without support. Another fetter has been struck from Russia, yet the violence of Sergius' death may retard reform."

An advanced revolutionist gloated over the assassination, saying. "Wait. There will be more work. Slowly, but surely, one by one, we will rid the country of its oppressors. This is our resolution. I rejoice that Sergius is done for."

WOMAN AND CHILD KILLED

Mrs. Hanna Run Over With Her Grandson in Her Arms.

A Peterboro despatch says:—Saturday night a shocking double railway fatality happened here. Mrs. Thomas Hanna, widow, residing at 13 Lake street, was returning by Grand Trunk from Port Hope. At the diamond crossing of the C. P. R., near her residence, where the train halts for a moment, she, with her granson, about seven years old, asleep in her arms, left the car, which was again under motion, and as she stepped to the ground she must have run against the wall of snow which rises along the track, and was thrown back on the rails. After the train had passed her body was found almost cut in two at the waist across the rail, and her grandson was also frightfully mangled. Death in both cases was instantaneous. The deceased was 55 years of age, and was a native of Hope township, where thirteen years ago her husband, a farmer, was gored to death by a bull.

MUST PROTECT THE WEAK

Montreal Woman Sent to Jail for Thumping Husband.

A Montreal despatch says:—Recorder Weir has had many men before him on the charge of wife-beating, but Wednesday was the first time he has had a woman before him charged with beating her husband. The amazon was Mrs. Purcell, 245 Centre street. She was found guilty of assaulting her husband, and was sentenced to ten months for assault. Her husband said she was drunken and had abused him for years, but he had stood it for the sake of his children.

Riots have broken out in the Chinese Province of Shantung, owing to a new tobacco tax having been imposed.