JAPS RECRUIT BANDITS

Are Now Superior to Russians in Number of Men.

RETREATING.

...ianshu Pass says: ...the Japanese have ...ese bandits, and ...are now able to ...in cavalry as ...

...the following, the ...which is moving ...upon at the rate of ...miles a day. On ...Japanese are operating movement but ...the flanking forces ...nitely ascertained. ...places along the ...Sanotopou and ...are broken hills ...and gorges at the ...stubborn resistance ...but it is doubtful ...Meyitch will make a ...reaches the Sungari ...Manchuria. Unless he is ...line of the river the ...will be so weak ...that he may be com... back of Harbin, into ...the fact that as ...Harbin the Russian ...the railroad, render... ...a severance of the ...communication constant... ...prospect of the isolation ...stock must also be ...apidly necessary to ...with provisions ...not for a few ...two years.

...thousand reinforcements ...Russia are now neces... ...possible for the ...the Japanese on ...terms.

...of the Russo-Chinese ...moved from Kirin to ...attack on the bank ...two of the guards ...with cobblestones. ...Japanese report that a ...took place in the ...March 10, when a ...Russians, the last ...were entrapped by ...and a few Japanese ...closed the city gates ...the narrow streets. Ac... ...report, which is not ...a Russian escaped.

...Oyama has com... ...Gen. Linevitch the ...entire Russian medical ...remained in Mukden after ...is uninjured and well.

WASTE OF GRAIN.

...correspondent of the ...Guard says it is estimated ...two milliards of roubles ...on the war are all ir... ...This is causing in... ...that is proportionate to ...of the great need for ...aid to agriculture and ...works. The correspond... ...enough grain is thrown ...well alongside the rail... ...to lack of transporta... ...to cover St. Pauls.

...Guard's Odessa correspond... ...that three thousand reser... ...are quartered upon the in... ...of Xiolaieff are terrifying ...They parade the streets, ...to wreck everything ra... ...go to Manchuria. The ...has telegraphed for regular ...to check the disorder.

...AS MARCHING ON.

...patch from Gumtzuling says: ...that the Japanese east... ...is marching towards Kirin, ...the western army is moving ...between the Mongolian fron... ...the railway with Harbin as ...The Russian front ...south east and north-west. ...reports have reached here, ...terms of peace are being dis... ...Everybody is intensely in... ...but nothing definite is ...

...an engagement is now at ...70 miles north of Tie ...The Japanese are slowly pur... ...are not energetically ...the rear. Apparently Field ...Oyama is holding his main ...Tie Pass. When the Rus... ...evacuated Tie Pass March 15, ...of the five-span bridge over ...River, just north of the ...was destroyed by dynamite ...only after the last train had ...dispatched northward. As the ...moved northward the bridges ...railroad were disabled and ...in the shape of stores, ...which could not be taken was ...

...bandits report that Col. ...in command of an irregu... ...the mountains, far east... ...himself cut off before ...of the great battle of ...was compelled to re... ...north east, probably making his ...towards Kirin.

TO RESIST ADVANCE.

A despatch to the London Times from St. Petersburg says that the Russian armies are concentrating and reorganizing south of Shangchun. It is confidently claimed in official circles that the armies will contest every foot of the remaining 150 miles to Harbin. It is stated that the food problem has been temporarily solved by the receipt of supplies from Chita, but it must be confessed that the optimism is not widespread.

There was a spontaneous peace demonstration on the Nevsky Prospekt Wednesday afternoon, 500 persons shouting "Down with the war!"

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Telegraph affirms that the Czar's determination to continue the war is unchanged. The Minister of Finance and the Minister of Agriculture have almost tearfully besought the Czar to end the campaign, but they made no impression.

GRIP FOLLOWS TRAFFIC.

Spreads Along Railroad Says Cambridge Professor.

A London despatch says: Dr. Thomas C. Allbutt, regius professor of physic at Cambridge University, in an address to the Hunterian Society declared that influenza was disseminated by express trains and steamships. He said that when there is an influenza epidemic the towns served with quick trains are always the first to be attacked.

North China is the cradle of the disease, as the Ganges Valley is of cholera. The Trans-Siberian Railway greatly facilitated the spread of the disease. Bokhara was the disseminating point of the epidemic of 1889. From England the disease reached New York in just the time occupied by the fastest steamer in crossing the ocean.

Dr. Allbutt said he believed that only those cases are infectious in which the respiratory organs are affected. He mentioned a new type of the disease, which he called continued influenza. In this form all special sensations are affected throughout convalescence. For instance, a music-lover would find good music painful boredom until he had completely recovered, when his taste would return.

The misery and depression so frequently following influenza can be shortened by a plain diet of milk and vegetables. Beef tea and other subsequently following influenza can be lay recovery.

WELCOME TO QUEEN

Grand Pageant Greets Alexandra at Lisbon.

A Lisbon despatch says:—Queen Alexandra of Great Britain on Wednesday was given a hearty welcome to Portugal. The harbor was crowded with gaily decorated steamers and yachts, and the British Royal yacht ascended the river amid volleying salutes. Two great golden galleys, pulled by 80 boatmen in mediaeval costumes of scarlet and gold, took out King Charles, his suite and Ministers to meet the Royal guest. A beautiful pavilion had been erected on the quay for the reception formalities. After the Queen Dowager of Portugal had met Queen Alexandra at the steps of the quay, an imposing procession of State carriages and officials took the guest and her suite to the palace amid rousing cheers. The route of the procession was decorated with flags and streamers, and many thousands of camelias and other flowers had been distributed to be thrown to Queen Alexandra as the procession passed, while hundreds of pigeons with ribbons of British colors tied to their necks were liberated and mingled in the shower of flowers.

ABIGAIL BAKER DEAD.

The Heroine of Long Point Has Passed Away.

A Langton, Ont., despatch says:—Mrs. Roher, or familiarly known as Abigail Becker, the heroine of Long Point, died suddenly on Wednesday at her home in Walsingham Centre. Her husband was absent only a few moments. When he returned he found his life partner had passed away. Mrs. Roher achieved fame on a stormy Winter night in November 1854, when she risked her life to save Capt. Packett and crew of the three-masted schooner Conductor, which was wrecked on Long Point. For her bravery and untiring efforts in saving the crew the Government gave her a farm of 100 acres, and a purse of $1,000 was given her by Buffalo ship-owners. The New York Life Saving Association decorated her with a handsome gold medal, and with modest pride she displayed the medal up to the very last. She also received letters from the late Queen Victoria and also one from Lord Aberdeen.

WARSHIP LAUNCHED.

Another Japanese Leviathan Leaves the Slips.

A Newcastle-on-Tyne despatch says —The new Japanese battleship Kashima was launched on Wednesday at the Elswick ship-building yards, in the presence of Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister to Great Britain.

In a subsequent address Minister Hayashi said the Japanese successes on the sea were largely due to the fact that more than a dozen of their great warships were built in England. He was sorry the Kashima could not participate in the war; but the war must end some time, and thereafter the powerful vessel would be used to maintain peace in the Far East.

The Kashima's main battery will consist of four 12-inch, four 10-inch, and 12 6-inch guns. She is of 16,400 tons. A sister ship is being built at Barrow-in-Furness.

The revolt of the peasants in Russia has assumed the dimensions of an uprising, and they are murdering and burning estates.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, March 28.—Wheat—No. 2 white and red Winter quoted at $1.04 to $1.05 at outside points. No. 2 goose quoted at 80 to 90c east. Manitoba wheat is unchanged. Quotations at North Bay as follows:—No. 1 Northern, $1.09; No. 2 Northern, $1.06; No. 3 Northern, $1.

Oats—No. 2 white are quoted at 41 to 42c at outside points, and at 44c here. No. 1 white at 45c east.

Barley—No. 2 quoted at 47 to 48c middle freights; No. 3 extra at 45c, and No. 3 at 43c middle freights.

Peas—The market is steady, with dealers quoting 67 to 68c at outside points.

Corn—Canadian yellow quoted at 47½ to 48c, and mixed at 47c west, guaranteed sound. American No. 2 yellow, 57c, Toronto, and No. 3 mixed at 56½c.

Rye—No. 2 is nominal at 70 to 71c at outside points.

Buckwheat—No. 2 quoted at 58 to 59c low freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are quoted at $4.50 to $4.55 in buyers' sacks east or west; straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade, in bbls., $5 to $5.10. Manitoba flours are firm. No. 1 patents, $5.60 to $5.70; No. 2 patents, $5.30 on track, Toronto.

Millfeed—At outside points bran is quoted at $15.50 to $16, and shorts at $17.50. 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—Primes sell in small lots at $1.60 to $1.65, and hand-picked at $1.70 to $1.75 per bushel.

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

Honey—The market is quiet at 7½ to 8c per lb. Comb honey, $1.75 to $2 per dozen.

Evaporated apples—Dealers quote 5½c, and dried at 3 to 3½c per lb.

Maple syrup—Genuine syrup quoted at $1 to $1.15 per Imperial gallon, and mixed 90c. Sugar is quoted at 9 to 11c per lb.

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—The market is unchanged, with car lots quoted at $6 to $6.50 on track, Toronto.

Potatoes—Car lots of Ontarios are quoted at 65 to 70c per bag, on track, and jobbing lots at 80c.

Poultry—Spring chickens, 12 to 13c per lb.; hens, 9 to 10c; ducks, 11 to 12c per lb.; geese, 10 to 11c per lb.; turkeys, dry picked, 14 to 15c; do scalded, 11 to 12c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Finest 1-lb rolls are quoted at 24 to 25c per lb.; large rolls, at 22 to 23c; tubs, 20 to 21c, and low grades at 16 to 18c. Creamery prints, 26 to 27c per lb. and solids at 25 to 26c.

Eggs—New laid are selling at 17c per dozen, in case lots.

Cheese—The market is very firm, with demand good. Large cheese are selling at 11¼ to 11½c, and twins at 12c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Car lots quoted at $8 to $8.25 on track. Bacon, long clears, 9 to 9½c per lb. in case lots mess pork, $15; short cut, $19.

Smoked meats—Hams, light to medium, 13 to 13½c; heavy, 12½c; rolls, 9½c; shoulders, 9c; backs, 14 to 14½c; breakfast bacon, 12½ to 13c.

Lard—Tierces, 8½c; tubs, 9½c; pails, 9c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, March 28.—Grain—Sales of No. 2 Oats 46½c store, and of No. 3 at 44 to 44½c. Flour—Manitoba patents, $5.70 to $5.80; strong bakers', $5.40 to $5.50; high Ontario blended patents, $5.75 to $5.90, 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—$2.10 to $2.12½ per bag of 90 pounds, $4.45 to $4.50 in barrels. Feed—Ontario bran, in bulk, $17.50 to $18.50; shorts, $19 to $20; Manitoba bran, in bags, $18 to $19; shorts, $20 to $21. Beans—Choice primes, $1.40 to $1.45 per bush.; $1.25 to $1.27½ in car lots. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, $16.50 to $17.50; light short cut, $16.50 to $17; American cut clear fat backs, $20; compound lard, 6¾ to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾ to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 12 to 13c; bacon, 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $9 to $9.25; heavy fat sows, $5.15 to $5.35; select, $6.65 to $6.75 off cars; country dressed, $7.25 to $7.75. Cheese—Ontario Fall white, 11 to 11½c; colored, 11½c Quebec, 10 to 10½c. Butter—Finest grades, 26 to 27c for 30-lb. tubs, 26c for 56-lb tubs, choice Fall and Winter make, 23 to 25c; Western dairy, 21½ to 22c; roll butter, 21 to 22c. Eggs—Montreal limed, nominal, 18 to 19c; new laid, 20c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Milwaukee, March 28.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, $1.16; No. 2 Northern, $1.12 to $1.12½; July, 91½c. Rye—No. 1, 81½c. Barley—No. 2, 51c; sample, 39 to 50c. Corn—No. 3, 47½ to 47½c; May, 48½c bid.

Minneapolis, March 28.—Wheat—May, $1.13½; July, $1.0[illegible] to $1.09½; September, 87½ to 87½c; No. 1 hard, $1.16½; No. 1 Northern, $1.14½; No. 2 Northern, $1.11½. Flour—First patents, $6.20 to $6.30; second patents, $6 to $6.10; first clears, $4.35 to $4.55; second clears, $2.80 to $2.90. Bran—In bulk, $14.25.

St. Louis, March 28.—Wheat—Cash $1.05½; May, $1.05½; July, 85½c; September, 83½c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, March 28.—The export trade is steady, though no higher prices were paid to-day, and generally not quite so high as a few days ago, but this was because of the poor quality of the cattle offering, which are not at all well finished cattle. There was good demand for shortkeep feeders.

Run—52 cars, with 764 head of cattle, 128 sheep and lambs, 1,100 hogs, and 90 calves.

Export—Market firm at $4.85 to $5 for picked, and $4.40 to $4.85 for the general run; cows, $3.50 to $4; bulls, $3 to $3.40; export bulls, $3.25 to $3.75.

Butchers—Market 25c higher; choice picked butchers, $4.40 to $4.70; the latter good enough for light export; good butchers, $4 to $4.25.

Short-keep feeders—Very good demand and market higher, at $4.10 to $4.70.

Stockers—Market steady at $3.25 to $3.50; feeders, short-keep, at $3.80 to $4.50.

Sheep and Lambs—Market firm; prospects steady. Export ewes, $4.75 to $5.25; bucks, $3.50 to $4.25; lambs, $6.75 to $7.35; barnyard lambs, $5.50 to $6.50; dull; spring lambs, $4 to $8 each.

Calves—Market firmer.

Hogs—Market steady to firm; selects, $6.25; lights and fats, $6 to $6.75.

TROOPS SHOOT PEASANTS.

More Labor Disturbances in Russian Poland.

A Kutno Russian Poland despatch says: Ten peasants were killed and fifty were wounded at Lamenta, on Tuesday, as the result of the shooting of infantry sent to quell disturbances. A crowd of peasants from Benignowa proceeded to Lamenta to induce the farm laborers to strike, and rioting occurred. The chief of police, with a company of soldiers, went to the scene, and the troops fired two volleys at the peasants, killing two on the spot and wounding fifty. The latter were brought in carts to the hospital here, where seven men and one woman subsequently died. Eleven others are dying. Kutno is situated 70 miles west of Warsaw. It has a population of about 10,000.

GAS SUPPLY EXHAUSTED.

Wells Near Brantford are Now Declared Worthless.

A Brantford despatch says: The supply of natural gas in this city and vicinity has been exhausted, and the score of wells of the Brantford company, on which thousands of dollars have been expended, are worthless. Since June natural gas has been used here exclusively. A change has been made to the manufactured product at higher rates to consumers.

SOLDIERS' TEETH BAD.

Recruits Have to Be Discharged in Consequence.

A despatch from London says:—The War Office is afflicted with a "dental trouble." Some time ago the military authorities sanctioned the enlistment of men whose teeth were bad, on the condition that they should pay for false teeth, or else have the defective molars stopped. It appears now that many of the "toothless" who enlisted have refused to fulfill their engagement and pay a dentist's bill. The War Office has come to the conclusion that the men cannot be forced to carry out their contract, and must be discharged as not likely to become efficient soldiers. The Brigade of Guards is the worst delinquent. About a hundred men have already been discharged on account of their teeth, while as many more are likely to share the same fate.

BIG FIRE IN DURHAM.

Flames Wipe Out the Furniture Factory.

A despatch from Durham says:—Fire broke out in the finishing-room of the Durham furniture factory here about 7.30 on Thursday night, and in spite of the splendid efforts of the firemen, by 9.30 had completely destroyed the building and contents. The dry kiln and a large stock of lumber was saved, but with difficulty. It is not known how the fire originated. The company has been six years in operation, and was in a flourishing condition, employing about sixty men, and paying some $16,000 in wages annually. About $10,000 worth of stored stock ready for shipment was destroyed. The total loss is estimated at $50,000. The loss to the town is severe, but undoubtedly the factory will be rebuilt immediately.

NERVOUS SHAREHOLDERS.

Feared Attack on Bank Vaults Through Tunnels.

A despatch from London says:—At the half-yearly meeting of the Bank of England on Thursday a dividend of 4½ per cent. was declared. The net profits for the six months ending Feb. 28 were $3,291,445. A nervous shareholder drew attention to the railroad tunneling all round the bank, and in close proximity to the subterranean vaults holding the country's billions, offering facilities for the use of explosives by burglars. Governor Morley reassured him.

BRITISH ARMY REMOUNTS.

Question of Placing Order Is Being Considered.

A despatch from London says:—Two and a quarter millions sterling has been sanctioned by the War Office for expenditure by the Quartermaster-General on transport remounts. The question of placing the annual order for remounts in Canada is receiving attention.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE

SPEECH OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR AT THE OPENING.

A Toronto despatch says: The first session of the eleventh Legislature of the Province of Ontario was opened with all due ceremony on Wednesday afternoon. Long before 3 o'clock, the hour set for the opening, the chamber was literally packed. The scene on the floor was brilliant, the ladies as usual occupying the most prominent places. The galleries were crowded just a little beyond their capacity.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

The speech from the throne at the opening of the Ontario Legislature was as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me great pleasure to welcome you to the performance of your duties at this, the first session of the Eleventh Legislature of this Province.

As a result of the labors of the husbandman affords the foundation on which the prosperity of the Province mainly rests, our earnest thanks are due to Almighty God for the bounteous harvest of the past year.

In all sections of the Province are to be seen evidences of steadily increasing activity and enterprise on the part of our people which constitute cause for hearty congratulation.

THE MINTOS' DEPARTURE.

Since the last meeting of the Legislature the term of the Earl of Minto as Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada came to a close. The severance of the relations which had existed between the retiring Governor-General and the people of Canada was sincerely regretted by the people of this Province. During his term of office, Lord Minto strengthened the attachment of the Canadian people to the Empire, and to the principles of constitutional government under which we live, and which we so highly prize, alike by the great interest which he manifested in everything relating to and affecting the progress and development of the Dominion, and by the wisdom and statesmanship which distinguished his administration of public affairs.

The part taken by the Countess of Minto, and the interest which she displayed in philanthropic movements, as well as her evident concern for the happiness and comfort of the people, were sources of great satisfaction. Her departure was therefore, a matter of sincere regret.

A hearty welcome has been extended by the people of Canada to Earl Grey, as the successor of the Earl of Minto, and I have every confidence that he will represent his Majesty the King with ability and dignity in every duty that pertains to his great office.

THE GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

You will be pleased to learn that the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, as originally planned, has been practically completed, and has for some time been carrying passengers and freight. Owing to the uncertainty of the location of the route of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and for other reasons, further legislation will be required with reference to this important Provincial work.

Among the measures to be submitted for your consideration are: a bill making certain amendments to the Education Act, a bill relating to the Forest Reserves Act; bills changing the designation respectively of the heads of the Crown Lands Department and the Public Works Department from Commissioner to Minister; a bill to create a Department of Mines, with a Minister at its head; a bill relating to the County Councils Act; and a bill amending the Ontario Elections Act and abolishing the numbering of the ballot.

TO EXPAND NORTHWARD.

A short time ago it was brought to the notice of my Ministers that the Government of the Province of Manitoba had made application to the Dominion Government for the extension of the boundaries of that Province northward to the shore of Hudson's Bay, and also that the Federal Government might possibly be willing to divide between and transfer to the contiguous Provinces the territory lying west, south and east of Hudson's Bay and James' Bay. My Ministers at once put themselves in communication with the Federal Government, and respectfully urged that before the details of any such division of territory should be decided upon, or even considered, the Government of this Province should be allowed to submit for consideration, with reference to such proposed division, its claim to that portion of the territory which the Province might fairly urge should be allotted to it. I am pleased to inform you that a satisfactory answer has been received from the Premier of Canada, and that we are now, perhaps, entitled to hope and expect that a very large portion of the vast territory lying north of the present northern boundary of Ontario, believed to be rich in minerals, and extending to the southerly and westerly shores of Hudson's Bay, will be included within the boundaries of our Province.

AS TO NIAGARA POWER.

The extraordinary possibilities which the future may have in store with reference to electric power are attracting increased attention on the part of both scientific and practical men. The resources of the Province in this respect at Niagara Falls and elsewhere should be carefully husbanded in the interests of the people of Ontario.

The report of the Commission on Railway Taxation will be laid before you. It is to be hoped that from information derived from this report, and from other sources, the very important matter of railway taxation will receive your attention in the near future.

The Public Accounts will be laid before you for your consideration at the earliest moment, and the estimates for the coming year will also be submitted to you for your approval at an early date.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

Telegraphic Briefs From Our Own and Other Countries of Re-

CANADA.

The details of a new $250,000 G. T. R. station at London are being planned.

The Canadian Northern Railway has placed an order with British works for 20,000 tons of rails.

The birthday of the new Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan will be celebrated by the civic authorities of Regina on July 1.

Hamilton Board of Trade protests against the proposal of the British Columbia Government to place a tax on commercial travellers.

William Phelan, a usually affectionate father, murdered his son at Montreal, on Saturday, beating the boy on the head with an iron poker.

The Hamilton, Ancaster & Brantford Railway by-law was given the third reading by the Hamilton City Council, and work on the road has begun.

The Marine Department has purchased from the British authorities some Nordenfelt quick-fire arms. They were in the naval stores at Halifax and Esquimault, and will be used in connection with the fishery protection service.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The British army estimates show an increase of nearly $5,000,000.

British merchants and manufacturers complain of the advance in Canadian inland freights.

By command of King Edward, Edwin Austin Abbey's coronation picture will be exhibited at the Toronto Exposition this year.

To a deputation of members of the British Parliament Lord Stanley, Postmaster-General, refused to make a reduction of postage on British newspapers and magazines to Canada.

Manuel Garcia, professor of singing at the University of London, celebrated his one hundredth anniversary on Friday, and received decorations from King Edward, Emperor William and the King of Spain.

In a paper read before the Textile Society of Leeds, Mr. B. Shaw said that Canada was in its infancy in woollen worsted manufacturing, and the cloths turned out were not to be compared with goods made in the old country.

UNITED STATES.

E. N. Fairchild, of the Pillsbury-Washburn mills, says that American millers want all the Canadian wheat they can get.

William F. Milton, who died at Pittsfield, Mass., recently, leaves his million dollar estate, on the death of his wife, to Harvard University.

TO STEADY SHIPS.

Invention Which Will Overcome Rolling Motion.

A despatch from Berlin says:—The Hamburg-American Line is building a new steamer at the Vulcan works at Stettin, which will be fitted out with an invention of Otto Schick, an engineer of Hamburg. This invention is expected to reduce the rolling of vessels at sea to a minimum. It consists of a massive balance wheel mounted in such a manner as to counteract the shifting of the centre of gravity of the ship. The invention hitherto has only been tested in connection with models, but the steamship officials are so convinced of its utility that they are advancing money and loaning a vessel for a trial which will take place in June or July. Naval engineers regard the invention as likely to be of the greatest use to warships in adding to the stability of the gun platforms.

JAPAN THANKS BRITAIN.

Without Alliance Might Not Have Drawn Sword.

The Tokio correspondent of The London Times cables:—A leading Japanese journal takes the opportunity of the Mukden victory to thank Britain in the name of Japan for the advantages conferred by her alliance with Japan. It says that while not fearing Russia single-handed, Japan had learned from experience to apprehend the danger of a European coalition, and had therefore many misgivings about drawing the sword without the alliance and assurance that Great Britain would see fair play. The assistance rendered by the alliance is now thankfully acknowledged.

WEEDING OUT THE NAVY.

155 British War Vessels Struck Off Effective List.

A despatch from London says:—According to a Parliamentary return just issued, 155 vessels have been struck off the effective list of the navy, under the recent redistribution scheme. They comprise four battleships, six armored cruisers, first-class cruisers, 19 second-class cruisers, 31 third-class cruisers, torpedo gunboats, 16 sloops, 33 gunboats, and 23 miscellaneous. Of the total the vessels described as "to sale" and "sold" are one armored cruiser, 35 cruisers, eight torpedo gunboats, 14 gunboats, one sloop, two coal hulks, and eight miscellaneous.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

NOTES OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CENTRE TORONTO WRIT.

The Speaker informed the House that a warrant for a writ had been issued for the election in Centre Toronto to fill the place vacated by the late E. F. Clarke.

APPLE BOX BILL.

Mr. Fisher's apple box bill was presented for a second reading. Mr. Fisher said that the size of the proposed box had been recommended by the fruit-growers of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia. It was decided that the bill should go into force on June 1, 1906, and with this amendment the bill was reported, read a third time, and passed.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER.

The House went into supply upon the Marine and Fisheries estimates. On a vote of half a million dollars for lights, buoys and other safety devices on the St. Lawrence, Mr. Prefontaine said that about two million dollars had been spent upon improving the channel in accordance with the plan adopted several years ago. It was expected that about one million dollars in all would be spent. The work had been delayed by the scarcity of engineers in Canada. Some engineers, however, had now been obtained, and no further delay was expected. As a result of the improvements already made, large reductions had been made in the insurance rates. The large English insurance companies were kept fully posted in regard to the improvements.

Mr. Prefontaine gave a list of the new work to be done by his department in the various provinces. In Ontario the works are as follows: Burlington, new tower, $2,000; Toronto, new tower, $2,000; Victoria Island, fog alarm, $15,000; improvements to existing fog alarm at Victoria Island, $20,000; Welcome Island, new light, $5,000; Sister Island, moving light, $1,000; inspection, $5,000; Colchester reef, protection, $5,000; large repairs, $20,000. Total, $75,000.

BILLS PASSED.

The following bills were read a third time in the Senate and passed:

Respecting the Canada and Michigan Bridge and Tunnel Company.

Respecting the Canada Southern Railway Company.

Respecting the Canada Southern Bridge Company.

To incorporate the St. Mary's and Western Ontario Railway Company.

Respecting the Columbia and Western Railway Company.

Respecting the Ottawa, Northern and Western Railway Company.

Respecting the Vancouver, Westminster, and Yukon Railway Company.

Respecting the Nicola, Kamloops, and Similkameen Coal and Railway Company.

THE AUTONOMY BILLS.

Clause 16 of the autonomy bill, in its original form, was as follows:

(1) The provisions of section 93 of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, shall apply to the said Province as if, at the date upon which this act comes into force, the territory comprised therein were already a Province, the expression "the union" in the said section being taken to mean the said date.

(2) Subject to the provisions of the said section, 93, and in continuance of the principles heretofore sanctioned under the N. W. Territories Act, it is enacted that the legislature of the said Province shall pass all necessary laws in respect of education, and that it shall therein always be provided (a) that a minority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of the said Province, or of any less portion or subdivision thereof, by whatever name it is known, may establish such schools therein as they think fit, and make the necessary assessments and collection of rates therefor, and (b) that the minority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein, and make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor, and (c) that in such case the ratepayers establishing such Protestant or Roman Catholic separate schools shall be liable only to assessment of such rates as they impose upon themselves with respect thereto.

(3) In the appropriation of public moneys by the Legislature in aid of education, and in the distribution of any moneys paid to the Government of the said Province arising from the school fund established by the Dominion Lands Act, there shall be no discrimination between the public schools and the separate schools, and such moneys shall be applied to the support of the public and separate schools in equitable shares or proportion.

The proposed amendment reads as follows:—

Section 93 of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, shall apply to the said Province with a substitution for sub-section 1 of said section 93 of the following sub-section:—

(1) Nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to separate schools which any class of persons have at the date of the passing of this act, under the terms of chapters 29 and 30 of the ordinances of the Northwest Territories, passed in the year 1901.

(2) In the appropriation by the Legislature or distribution by the Government of the Province of any money for the support of schools organized and carried on in accordance with said chapter 29 or any act passed in amendment thereof or in substitution therefor, there shall be no discrimination against schools of any class described in the said chapter 29.

(3) Where the expression "by law" is employed in sub-section 3 of the said section 93, it shall be held to mean the law as set out in the said chapters 29 and 30, and where the expression "at the union" is employed in sub-section 3 it shall be held to mean the date at which this act comes into force.