

RUSSIANS NOT DISMAYED

They Say Port Arthur is Provisioned for Nine Months.

JAPS DRIVEN BACK.

A correspondent of the London Daily News, who has just arrived at Chefoo, from Port Arthur, which place he left Thursday, says that although 25,000 Japanese have landed north of Port Arthur the garrison there is not dismayed. The place is provisioned for nine months. The garrison numbers 15,000 men, exclusive of 30,000 Chinese coolies. The correspondent denies that Admiral Togo's bombardments were effective. He says that not a single gun was disabled. The populated parts of the city were slightly damaged but the arsenals and dockyards were not injured. The Retvizan is permanently disabled. The Askold has been docked, and is being repaired. The other ships are not injured. The warships are able to get to sea as the channel has been cleared. Two cruisers and two torpedo-boat destroyers steamed outside last Sunday.

The garrison holds all the good positions within 20 miles of the fortress. A battalion of Japanese advanced last Sunday from Kin-Chau Bay. They were met with artillery fire, which was followed by a charge of the Cossacks. The Japanese retreated, leaving eighty-five dead on the ground.

JAPS ENTERED DALNY.

The Chicago Daily News publishes the following from its Chefoo correspondent:—

"When the Daily News despatch boat Fawn arrived off Dalny early yesterday a heavy bombardment was in progress. As the channel was thickly mined by the Russians, and the Japanese Admiral Kataoka had issued strict orders that non-combatant boats were to be excluded, it was impossible to get within the roadstead. Hence an accurate report of the proceedings is impossible. "So far as it was possible to ascertain, the armored cruiser Yakumo, four other cruisers, one gunboat, and one battleship, having cleared the channel, entered the harbor shortly after daylight and began a heavy fire, which was still in progress at noon.

"It is estimated that 20,000 Japanese troops are investing the town, and there is every reason to believe that they delivered the assault that afternoon, and are now in possession of the city.

"It is estimated that the landing of the second army was completed on Friday at Pitsevo. There are now 50,000 Japanese troops on the peninsula."

RUSSIANS OUTNUMBERED.

Gen. Kuroki, commander of the first Japanese army corps, reports the occupation of Kaun-Tien-Cheng, sixty miles north-east of Feng-Wang-Cheng, on May 7. Seiyojin, sixty miles east of Liao-Yang, was occupied Thursday, while the rumor that Siuyen was occupied after an engagement leads to the deduction that the Japanese plan is to mask Port Arthur with a relatively small force, and to endeavor to envelop and destroy Gen. Kouropatkin's force before it can be organized and reinforced. The St. Petersburg estimate of the number of Japanese actually landed is taken as probably near the truth, that is, eight divisions of 23,000 men each. There may be more, but the available statistics show even as matters stand that the Russian field force is inferior to the armies advancing against it.

The Times estimates that Gen. Kouropatkin has more than 100,000 men and 256 guns, apart from his heavy guns, to defend 100 miles of front from New-Chwang to Mukden. These are drawn up parallel to his line of communications, and there is only a single line of retreat.

JAPS CLOSING IN.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Shan-Hai-Kwan says that bandits are gradually approaching New-Chwang. For three nights in succession there has been sharp fighting with them, and a number of the marauders have been killed. The evacuation of New-Chwang by the Russians is almost completed. Only a small force remains in the fort. Communication with Port Arthur has not been restored. The Chinese state that the Japanese are closing in on all sides of New-Chwang.

TORPEDO BOAT DESTROYED.

The Japanese torpedo boat No. 48 was destroyed while removing mines from Kerr Bay, north of Talienwan (Port Dalny) on Thursday. Seven men were killed and seven were wounded. This is the first warship Japan has lost in the war.

The torpedo boat was lost during a series of bombardments and surveying operations at Talienwan, Neep and Kerr Bays, by Admiral Kataoka, commander of the third squadron. The Admiral arrived at Kerr Bay early in the morning, and detached the cruisers Itsukushima, Nisshin, and Miyako, ordering them to bombard the land batteries, while

a flotilla of torpedo boats swept the harbor of mines. A second flotilla of torpedo boats, which had been engaged in guarding Port Arthur the previous night, joined the squadron and began the work of surveying the harbor. The Miyako discovered a company of Russian infantry with a detachment of cavalry on shore and dispersed them. The survey was completed at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Two torpedo boats that were reconnoitering and removing mines on the west shore of Kerr Bay discovered a telegraph line running along the Takushan Peninsula. In order to destroy it, Lieut. Hotte and four sailors landed and scaled the heights under the protection of the guns of the torpedo boats, and cut the line.

The Japanese vessels then discovered three bodies of Russian troops, one large and two small ones, whereupon the squadron advanced close to the shore and shelled them.

The Miyako, which was reconnoitering in Neep Bay, discovered a Russian guard post on a mountain to the northwest of Robinson promontory, and destroyed it.

A Russian force, estimated at ten companies, took refuge behind an eminence, but it was dispersed by the Japanese. Torpedo boats Nos. 48 and 49 discovered a large mine in Kerr Bay. The various attempts to blow it up failed and it suddenly exploded itself, cutting No. 48 in two. The torpedo boat sank in seven minutes. The squadron hurried boats to the rescue and picked up the wounded. Three other mines were discovered and exploded. The squadron completed its operations at 6 o'clock in the evening, and returned to its base.

30,000 AT PORT ARTHUR.

The presence of Gen. Pock at Port Arthur, which was announced in Wednesday's St. Petersburg despatches, was not previously known here. It possibly indicates that the garrison is far stronger than the Russians have admitted.

Gen. Pock commands the Fourth Siberian Rifles, numbering 10,000 men. If these troops are at Port Arthur, the garrison probably numbers 30,000. Such a large force will render the investment of the place very difficult unless the Japanese are able to concentrate three times that number.

The rumors that the Japanese have cut off Port Arthur's water supply is ridiculed. The chief supply is obtained by condensing sea water. Only the Chinese residents use wells.

JAPS PUSHING CAMPAIGN.

Much uncertainty exists at St. Petersburg as to exactly what is occurring at the theatre of war, as much in regard to the Russian movements as to those of the enemy. Gen. Kouropatkin's plans are most carefully guarded. Although he is believed to be concentrating troops near Liao-Yang, very little actual information on the subject is obtainable. The general impression, however, is that heavy fighting will occur within a fortnight.

Advices received by the general staff indicate that the Japanese are pushing the campaign in Southern Manchuria with great energy. The rainy season, which will render the roads almost impassable, begins in six weeks, and the latest belief here is that the enemy hopes to make his position secure by a decisive engagement before the rains set in. The army organ believes that at least eight divisions of the enemy, not counting 20,000 men in the lower part of the Liao-Tung Peninsula, are in Southern Manchuria. As to the force advancing along the littoral from the Yalu, where it is believed another army has landed, information is very incomplete.

The three divisions of Gen. Kuroki's army separated at Feng-Wang-Cheng. According to the reports of the Russian scouts, 10,000 infantry with 40 guns and 1,500 cavalry, moved north to Samatz (Sai-Ma-Ki) whence they could strike either Mukden or Liao-Yang. The flank of this force is protected by a battalion of infantry, three squadrons of cavalry, and a mountain battery at Kuang-Chan-Siang. A division of Japanese Guards proceeded west to Hai-Cheng and 10,000 infantry, with fifty guns, mostly mountain pieces, moved south-west toward Kal-Ping and reached the Slidzaypu ford of the Ta-Yang River Tuesday, leaving on Wednesday for Suyan-Chou. How many reserves came up behind them on the Feng-Wang-Cheng road is not known.

All of these forces, at the rate of traveling, are due at their destinations Sunday or Monday. The Russians are in the dark as to the place where to await the Japanese attack. It is considered possible that the northern force will be heavily reinforced, and that a simultaneous attack of the southern force will clear the road to New-Chwang and permit

the enemy to move directly northward and strike the Russian flank at Liao-Yang or Mukden.

MUST WIN A FIGHT.

A despatch to the London Standard, from St. Petersburg, says there are persistent rumors of a serious disturbance at Warsaw, and that a high official has been killed. The feeling is increasing that a successful battle is very necessary to ensure internal order in Russia.

VLADIVOSTOCK MENACED.

A St. Petersburg report represents the appearance of a Japanese torpedo boat in the roadstead of Pallada, on the north-east coast of Corea, as being more important than was at first believed. It says that transports, accompanied by torpedo boats, have arrived there. This is supposed to indicate a landing near Vladivostock.

Another report says it is doubtful whether the vessels are transports or warships.

CLEARING THE CHANNEL.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Daily Express says:—"I learn from official sources that, so far from blowing up their warships, which would be done only at the very last extremity, the garrison at Port Arthur is engaged in clearing the entrance of the harbor, which was more or less completely blocked by the stone-laden ships sent in by the Japanese for that purpose.

"The task is one of extreme difficulty, for the merchantmen are filled with stone, concrete, and masses of iron. In order to remove the obstructions, divers have been sent down with drilling apparatus to bore holes in the 'cargo' for placing dynamite charges in effective positions.

"The divers have been at work for several days, and, according to the latest reports, have sufficiently cleared the channel to admit the passage of torpedo-boat destroyers."

HUGE ELEVATOR BURNED.

1,500,000 Bushel Structure at Port William Destroyed.

A Port William, Ont., despatch says: Elevator B, one of the mammoth grain storage houses at this point, is now a smouldering heap of ashes. At about 12.30 on Wednesday night A. Macdonald, the night watchman, found the structure on fire. It was with difficulty that he made his way to the engine-room and blew a long blast on the whistle. In less than five minutes the C. P. R. brigade and the town firemen had three streams playing on the huge pile. When they thought that they had the fire under control the flames with a sudden roar broke out from the upper storey, and from that moment the elevator was doomed. Flames shot about the cupola for a hundred feet, and a strong wind carried them in sheets of fire above the west end of the town, and blazing pieces of board were scattered broadcast among the wooden buildings.

No human efforts would have saved the total destruction of the main business and residence streets had not rain soaked the roofs of the buildings and made it possible to concentrate all efforts on the places which were in immediate danger. The area to be watched extended for a distance of half a mile west of the fire, and this whole space is to-day covered with charred wood and ashes.

To add to the personal risk, the metal sheeting with which the wooden elevator was covered was caught by the wind and zig-zagged down upon the streets with terrific force. It was nearly 2 when the cupola fell, and for another half-hour the danger was the worst.

TEN THOUSAND HOMELESS.

Result of an Earthquake in the Balkan Region.

A London despatch says: A man who recently returned from Sofia writes to the newspapers, giving a description of the results of a Balkan earthquake on Easter Monday, which has practically not been noticed by the press, though it must have been of extraordinary magnitude.

Two thousand houses were destroyed and 10,000 people made homeless in a fertile valley in which lies Jumabala, the scene of the disaster. The writer describes a ride through the villages a week after the seismic disturbance. Houses were leveled to the ground, and there were huge cracks across the streets. Sulphurous streams of mud and water were ruining the crops.

The smashed arsenals of the Khan were crumbling to the ground, and the Government Buildings littered the earth like rubbish heaps.

FOOLS AMONG EMIGRANTS.

A Liverpool Paper Offers an Explanation.

A Liverpool despatch says: The Mercury says it is in no way surprising that among the thousands who emigrate to Canada there should be a few who come back disappointed. Possibly they found public houses somewhat sparsely distributed over the prairies or may have been grieved because no penny electric trams carried them to work. As a certain percentage of fools emigrates to Canada, we must expect a number of unwise voyagers come back plucked.

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

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

Toronto, May 17.—Wheat—No. 2 white and red winter sold to-day at 95c at outside points. Spring wheat is nominal at 90 to 91c east, and goose at 81 to 82c east. Manitoba wheat is unchanged. No. 1 Northern 92c Georgian Bay ports. No. 2 Northern at 89c, and No. 3 Northern at 86c. No. 1 hard is nominal at 93c. Grinding in transit prices are 6c above those quoted.

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

Barley—No. 2 quoted at 42c middle freights. No. 3 extra at 40 to 40½c, and No. 3 at 30c middle freights.

Peas—The market is unchanged, with No. 2 quoted at 64 to 66c, according to quality and location.

Corn—No. 3 American yellow quoted at 57½c on track, Toronto; No. 3 mixed at 56½c. Canadian corn is steady at 41 to 42c west for guaranteed delivery in good condition.

Rye—The market is steady, with No. 2 quoted at 59 to 60c east.

Buckwheat—No. 2 quoted at 48 to 49c middle freights.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents are unchanged at \$3.60 in buyers' bags for export, middle freights. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at \$4.25 to \$4.35 in bbls. Manitoba flours are lower. No. 1 patents, \$4.80; No. 2 patents, \$4.50, and strong bakers', \$4.40 on track, Toronto.

Milled—Bran is steady at \$17 to \$17.50 and shorts at \$18.50 here. At outside points bran is quoted at \$16, and shorts at \$17. Manitoba bran, in sacks, \$20, and shorts at \$21 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Apples—There is a quiet trade, with prices unchanged at \$2 to \$2.50 per bbl. for the best stock.

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

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

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

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

Hay—Timothy quoted at \$9.50 to \$10.50 a ton, on track, Toronto.

Straw—The market is dull, with prices unchanged at \$5.50 on track, Toronto.

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

Potatoes—Choice cars are quoted at \$1.05 to \$1.07 per bag, on track here.

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

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The ordinary run sells at 10 to 12½c per lb. We quote:—Finest 1-lb. rolls, 13 to 14c; ordinary large rolls, 11 to 12½c; medium and low grades, 10c; creamery prints, 17 to 18½c; solids, 16 to 17c.

Eggs—Case lots sell at 15c per dozen.

Cheese—Old quoted at 9½c per lb., and new at 7½ to 8c.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs unchanged, with offerings small. Cured meats are in good demand at unchanged prices. We quote:—Bacon, long clear, 8 to 8½c per lb. in case lots. Mess pork, \$17; do, short cut, \$18.50.

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

Lard—The demand is fair, with prices unchanged. We quote:—Tierces, 7½c; tubs, 8c; pails, 8½c; compound, 7½ to 8½c.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, May 17.—The market for oats was firmer this morning; it was stated that private cables received from England offered equal to about 36½c here, afloat May, for No. 2 oats. Buyers are bidding 34½c track, for Peterboros, but holders are demanding 35c, and sales are being put through at that figure. Peas were about steady at 71c afloat May; No. 2 barley, 49c, and No. 3 extra, 48c; No. 2 rye, 62c. Flour—The market was steady to-day after the sharp decline in Manitobas reported yesterday. We quote:—Manitoba patents, \$4.90 to \$4.95; strong bakers', \$4.60 to \$4.65; winter wheat patents, \$4.80 to \$5.10; straight rollers, \$4.60 to \$4.85; straight rollers in bags, \$2.20 to \$2.30. Feed—The market was steady; Manitoba bran in bags, \$19; shorts, \$21 per ton; Ontario bran, in bulk, \$18.50 to \$19.50; shorts, \$20.50 to \$21.50; mouille, \$26 to \$28 per ton. Rolled oats—The market is firm; dealers are asking \$2.32½ for bags, and \$4.90 in bbls. on track. Hay—The market is steady \$7.50 in car lots.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, May 17.—Flour—Steady. Wheat—Spring, offerings light; No. 1 Northern \$1.10; Winter firm; State, red, to arrive, \$1.09 to \$1.09½. Corn—Easy; No. 2 yellow, 59c; No. 2 corn,

57c. Oats—Steady; no offerings. Barley—Nothing doing. Rye—Nothing doing.

Milwaukee, May 17.—Wheat—1c lower; No. 1 Northern, 97½c; No. 2 Northern, 95 to 96½c; old July, 86½c. Rye—1c lower; No. 1, 74½ to 75½c. Barley—Dull; No. 2, 63c; sample, 40 to 61c. Corn—Steady; No. 3, 50 to 53c; July, 48½ to 48¾c asked.

Minneapolis, May 17.—Wheat—May, 91½c; July, 92½c; September, 80½ to 80¾c; on track, No. 1 hard, 96c; No. 1 Northern, 95c; No. 2 Northern, 93½c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, May 17.—Trade was active, with rising prices in exporters' and butchers' cattle at the Western Market to-day. Buying opened early, and never slackened till all the cattle were sold. Sheep and lambs were a little higher, while hogs dropped 10c per cwt.

Very few choice milch cows were on sale, the bulk of the arrivals consisting of inferior animals, not the readiest to sell. A number changed hands at \$25 to \$30 each, while a choice one brought \$48.

The run of calves were heavy, but good veal calves were wanted, and a sale of 50 by Crawford and Co. was recorded at \$5.25 per cwt.

Export cattle sold at \$4.50 to \$4.90 per cwt. Higher figures than the above were paid in a few instances.

Quotations of butchers' cattle were as follows:—Choice butchers', \$4.50 to \$4.70; fair to good, \$4.15 to \$4.35; common to fair cows, \$3.50 to \$4.10; rough cows, \$3.25 per cwt.

The market was unchanged for feeders and stockers. We quote:—Feeders, 1,000 to 1,300 lbs., \$4.25 to \$4.70; feeders, 800 to 1,000 lbs., \$3.50 to \$3.75; stockers, 600 to 800 lbs., \$3 to \$3.75; stock calves, 350 to 800 lbs., \$3.25 to \$3.50; off color and rough, same weight, \$2.75 up.

Sheep and lambs were higher. We quote:—Heavy ewes, \$4 to \$4.25; light sheep, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bucks, \$3 to \$3.50; grain-fed lambs, \$5.50 to \$5.75; barnyard lambs, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per cwt; Spring lambs, \$2 to \$5.50 each.

Calves brought \$2 to \$8 each, and 3½ to 5c per lb.

Hogs were 10c lower. Quotations follow:—Selects, 160 to 200 lbs., of prime bacon quality, off cars Toronto, \$5; fats, \$4.75; sows, \$3.50 to \$3.75; stags, \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt.

TWENTY HOUSES BURNED

Disastrous Fire Sweeps a Suburb of Montreal.

A Montreal despatch says:—Twenty dwellings destroyed, thirty families rendered homeless, and damage amounting to \$100,000 is the record of a disastrous fire which swept St. Henri, a western suburb of Montreal, on Friday afternoon. The fire broke out shortly before 2 o'clock, in a store owned by Joseph Gaulte, at 60 Beaudoin Street. In the vicinity were a large number of small brick dwelling houses, the homes of workmen and their families.

The assistance of the Montreal and St. Cuneonde brigades were asked and detachments were sent out to aid the St. Henri firemen. The combined forces fought the flames for several hours before the fire was got under control. The whole row of dwelling houses on Beaudoin Street and a number of houses on Marguerite and St. Emile Streets, with nearly all their contents, were destroyed. Many of the inmates had narrow escapes, and a number were rescued from the flames by the firemen and removed to the hospital. A total area of 20,000 square feet was destroyed by the flames. Over 150 people were rendered homeless and lost most of their effects.

BALLOON ON A RAMPAGE.

Dashes Into Street, Explodes, and Burns Eight People.

A Paris despatch says: A balloon belonging to the well known aeronaut, Capt. Surcour, came down in the Place d'Aumessnil on Friday, and the wind drove it into the narrow entrance of a street. A moment later it came in contact with the side of a house. A flame issued from the envelope, and then a violent explosion followed, the sheets of flame from which penetrated the open windows of the building. Eight occupants of the house were burned or otherwise injured, two of them dangerously. The aeronauts were not hurt. The explosion caused a panic among the crowd watching the descent, and a number of persons received slight injuries.

HOLDING HUDSON'S BAY.

Supply Ship to be Sent to Canadian Expedition.

A St. John's, Nfld., despatch says: The Canadian Government has chartered the sealing steamer Erik to proceed to Hudson Bay in July next with supplies for the steamer Neptune, now with the Canadian expedition sent for the purpose of enforcing the Canadian laws against American whalers. The Erik will also convey stores to the north for the steamer Gauss, recently purchased from the German Government by Canada, in which ship Capt. Bernier will proceed to the north and annex a number of Arctic islands for the British crown, and will then attempt to reach the North Pole.