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the Provinces, and I am now prepared
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hold with long experience, desires
to be engaged. Address X. 1. 2, Times Office.

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BERRY PLANTS—Mascoca, Im-
perial, Sharpless, Royal Sovereign, Glad-
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descriptive price list. Tanner
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Mortgage Sale

and by virtue of the powers con-
ferred on a certain Indenture of Mortgage
dated the 28th day of June, 1904, and
entered at the Land Registry Office,
in Charge Book Volume 13, folio
63, 63B, 63C, tenders will be received at
the undersigned, Bastion
Victoria, B. C., until noon of the
10th day of March, 1904, for the purchase
of the following property, viz: The east
half of section 7 and the east 40 acres
of range V, and the west half of
range V, and the west half of
range V, containing 100 acres, situate
in the County of Victoria, being the
corner of section 7, range V, con-
taining one Water Course, registered in
the Registry Office, Victoria, in
Charge Book, volume 14, folio 93, No.
100. The mortgage does not bind himself
to the highest or any tender.
11th February, 1904.
FELL & GREGORY,

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100. The mortgage does not bind himself
to the highest or any tender.
11th February, 1904.
FELL & GREGORY,

\$1.00 PER YEAR, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE, TO ANY ADDRESS IN
CANADA, UNITED STATES, OR GREAT BRITAIN.



TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION

VICTORIA, B. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1904.

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NO. 98.

JAP TORPEDO BOAT AND RUSSIAN DESTROYER SUNK

Attack Made on the Japanese Fleet This Morning—Details of First Fight at Port Arthur—Russians Busy Building Defences at Wiju.

London, March 11.—Speculation regarding the military situation on the Yalu river is most keen, but no news of a reliable character has been received. The Nagasaki correspondent of the Daily Express says that 200,000 troops have been shipped from Japan, and that a portion of the second corps is now on its way to Korea. The correspondent of the Daily Chronicle at Tokio evidently referring to the same news, cables that the transportation to Northern Korea of three divisions of Japanese troops has been completed, and that these men are beginning to advance while some divisions of the second army corps have already been mobilized.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says that the Japanese, after Port Arthur is neutralized, probably will move two armies to the north simultaneously, one from the southern part of the Liao Tung peninsula, and the other from the Yalu river. The Russians are now moving northward in Korea, this correspondent continues, with the intention of making Wiju their defensive base.

A correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, who was in Japan recently, wires from Seoul that the Japanese are making steady progress with their land movements. The roads are occupied by Japanese troops.

According to the Tientsin correspondent of the Standard the Russians are withdrawing all the superfluous troops from Port Arthur to Harbin and other points because it is doubtful whether or not they would be able to hold either Port Arthur or Newchwang against a resolute attack. The spirit of the Russian troops, who are largely recruits, has been broken by starvation, cold and harsh treatment from their officers. The Russian losses on the Yalu are reported to reach a total of 2,000 men.

Cabling from Tokio, a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says the Jiji Shimpu has received a communication from Pekin declaring that Great Britain and the United States have provisionally tested against Russia sinking junks in the channel of the Liao river at Newchwang, on the ground that this prevents the free movement of warships of these powers from the river.

The Standard this morning publishes an article in which the writer points out the defenceless condition of the Amur river. Russia never profits from the experiences of the Boxer outbreak, it says, and she is short of gunboats on the river. It is probable that when the ice disappears the Japanese will send a fleet of armed gunboats into the river and make themselves felt along its entire length.

The Times publishes a dispatch from Tokio saying the ice on the Yalu river has begun to melt. Japanese scouts have encountered forty Cossacks, the correspondent writes from Kazan, 58 miles north of Ping Yang, on the road to Wiju.

The Attack on Port Arthur. St. Petersburg, March 10.—The czar has received the following message from Viceroy Alexieff, dated to-day at Mukden: "The commander of the fortress at Port Arthur reports that at about 1 o'clock this morning the outlines of vessels, apparently torpedo boats, were seen at sea within the area swept by our searchlights. Our batteries opened fire upon these vessels. Our torpedo boats set out to sea at 2.40 a.m., and about 4 o'clock met the enemy west of the Liao Tshin lighthouse. After firing several shots the enemy retired to the south in the direction of Shandui. Our torpedo boats returned to the harbor at 6 o'clock.

Later, the torpedo boats were again sent to sea to reconnoitre. They returned in half an hour, having learned that an enemy's squadron was approaching.

"At 8 o'clock the Japanese opened fire upon our batteries, and the enemy's squadron had fourteen ships, and fired the entire time from behind Liao Tshin.

"I have the honor to report the above to Your Majesty. (Signed) Alexieff."

Russia has served notice on China that the latter must not send troops beyond the great wall, and that she must exercise her influence to restrain the Chinese bandits, who are partially under the control of Chinese officers, from interfering with the railway and telegraph lines. A refusal to heed these warnings will be considered as a breach of neutrality.

The Novik St. declares Japan is beginning to lose her illusion regarding Anglo-American support, but still looks to China, forgetting that Chinese intervention would be the signal for the interference of European powers.

General Kouropatkin is busy preparing for his departure to the front on Saturday.

To facilitate the working of the army machinery, upon Gen. Kouropatkin's recommendation important reforms will be enacted in the army administration whereby much of the existing tape will be abolished, and commanders in the field will be allowed more authority in matters that pertain to military operations.

Another Skirmish. Tokio, March 10.—Russian and Japanese mounted scouts met south of Ping Yang yesterday. After a brief engagement the Russians retreated. No casualties are reported on either side.

It is believed in diplomatic circles here that Marquis Ito, who is to leave Tokio March 10th for Korea, will be able to allay the doubts and imagined dangers which are reported to be haunting the Korean Emperor, who has not yet published the text of the Japanese-Korean protocol in the official organ of Korea.

The Japanese government expects to donate \$5,000,000 by increased taxation. The Emperor and Empress have donated \$6,000, and the Crown Prince and Crown Princess \$1,200 for the relief of the widows and orphans of Japanese soldiers. The Japanese journals are rejoicing at the friendly tone observable in the American papers which have just been received in this country.

Information obtained from private sources is to the effect that the Japanese squadron has bombarded Vladivostok twice since March 8th.

Denial. Vladivostok, March 10.—The acting chief of the staff to-day officially announced that the reports of a sea fight between the Russian and Japanese squadrons on Sunday last are absolutely unfounded. (The sea fight was supposed to have taken place Monday).

Military Train Derailed. Tomsk, Western Siberia, March 10.—A military train bound for Irkutsk, Western Siberia, was derailed to-day. One person was killed and a number of others injured.

Chinese Homeless. Yin Kow, March 10.—The concentration of troops at the Russian strategic base has resulted in much suffering among the Chinese inhabitants, especially at Liao Yang, where even private buildings have been appropriated to accommodate the soldiers, and thousands of Chinese are consequently without homes. Russian troops are encamped at all essential points along the railroad.

They Might Disband. Paris, March 10.—A report just received here through official channels describes as a result of the recent fighting the Chinese forces marching northward as being an undisciplined and almost grotesque military organization, showing an entire absence of equipment and training. As evidence of the unreliability of the forces, the following occurrence is cited: A body of Yuan-Shi-Kai's cavalry was paraded before the French and German military attaches. The former asked the commander why the cavalry remained in the towns and had no field manoeuvres. The Chinese general answered: "Because many horse men are sick, and we have no horses, and the cavalry men would sell their horses, and leave us without cavalry."

The report gives this as showing lack of reliability and unity of the Chinese forces.

Editors Warned. Paris, March 11.—A correspondent of the Figaro in St. Petersburg writes that as a result of the recent letters from King Edward to the czar, which His Majesty expressed in cordial terms his desire for peace, the editors of several papers in St. Petersburg were ordered to moderate their anti-British tendencies. This correspondent also says that the czar has requested the Emperor of Germany to contribute to him his personal criticism of military and naval events in the Far East, as the news of such occurrences is received.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—The Russian torpedo boat flotilla left Port Arthur at broad daylight this morning and attacked the Japanese fleet. One Japanese torpedo boat was sunk and one Russian torpedo boat destroyer sunk.

The fate of the latter's crew is not known.

THE FIRST FIGHT. Japs Lost Six Killed and Fifty Wounded in Attack on Port Arthur. Chicago, March 11.—Capt. Matsumura, who acted as signal officer on the Mikasa, Admiral Togo's flagship, during the first attack on Port Arthur, on February 9th, gives a graphic story of the fight in the Jiji Shimpu, the most widely circulated newspaper, of the date of February 10th. Copies of the paper have just been received by Sheeharou Shimizu, Japanese consul for Chicago. The account by Capt. Matsumura is the first from a Japanese eye-witness. The captain was standing on the foot as he stood on the bridge of the Fuji by a shell from one of the Port Arthur batteries.

Capt. Matsumura's story reveals the fact that the Japanese battleship Fuji was badly damaged by the Russian shells, while two of its officers, Commander Nakayama and Lieut. Miura, were killed by a single shell while standing on the bridge. Capt. Matsumura's description of the naval battle and the events leading up to it is as follows: "Admiral Togo called the captain of the battleship to his cabin in the Sasebo harbor on February 9th. Plans were discussed, but of course were not revealed. At 2 o'clock that afternoon the fleet left the harbor.

"At 8 a. m. on February 7th, smoke was noticed on the horizon, the Tsuchiki was dispatched to investigate, and discovered the Russian steamer Kossia, which was captured.

"Shortly after this prize was taken, Rear-Admiral Uriu, and one of the division commanders, were ordered to proceed to the left bank of the Yalu river, and the Russian torpedo boat was seen, and shots were exchanged at a distance of about 3,000 metres.

"The second-class cruiser Chitose, and two other smaller vessels were dispatched at 9 a. m. to reconnoitre the Russian fleet. They reported sighting five of the enemy's boats, who fired at them. The fortress did not fire, so Admiral Togo signalled: 'Attack the main fleet at once.'

"As the Japanese fleet proceeded towards Port Arthur they met, coming out of the harbor, a Japanese and a Russian merchantman, the Manchuria. The Russian vessel was captured without firing a shot.

"At 11 a. m., at a distance of 10 knots from Port Arthur, one of the enemy's scout boats was sighted, and two boats were sent after it. It returned to the harbor.

"When the Japanese fleet formed in line and approached the harbor, we saw Russian men-of-war trying to get back under shelter of the fort's guns. The Mikasa fired first and they raised the attack flag. The Russian answered, and the engagement became general. The Russian shells fell short, but the fire from the forts damaged the fleet slightly.

"Our men behaved splendidly. They showed no excitement, but great enthusiasm in their work at the guns. We wished the Russian shells to stop, but shells from the shore batteries were falling alarmingly close, and we feared the torpedo boats, so the signal was given to retire.

"Our casualties in this first attack on Port Arthur were: Killed, two officers; three non-commissioned officers and one man; seriously wounded, two officers, one non-commissioned officer, four midshipmen and eighteen men; slightly wounded, four officers, five non-commissioned officers and twenty-five men."

By the Korean Government Are Nullified By Recent Protocol.

Tokio, March 11.—The Japanese-Korean protocol was published at Seoul in an extra edition of the Gazette yesterday. The Korean government will publicly announce that the publication of the protocol nullifies the concessions granted to Russia, such as the non-alienation of coal mining at Kichio Island and Japan and the forestry concessions in the Ullungdo, Tokun and Yalu valleys.

A hot attack ensued in which torpedo boat destroyer Vlastini discharged a Whitehead torpedo and sunk one of the enemy's torpedo boats.

"On the way back the torpedo boat destroyer Stereguschich, commanded by Lieut. Sergueieff, sustained damages. Her engine was disabled and she began to founder.

"By 8 o'clock in the morning five of our torpedo boat destroyers returned. When the critical position of the Stereguschich became evident, I hoisted my flag on the cruiser Novik and went with the Novik and cruiser Boyarin to the rescue. But as five of the enemy's cruisers surrounded our destroyer, and as the Whitehead torpedo was approaching, I did not succeed in saving the Stereguschich, which foundered. Part of the crew were made prisoners and part were drowned.

"The United States' attitude towards Japan is understandable because of her commercial relations with Japan and Manchuria, and by reason of her aspiration to the hegemony of the Pacific. If the United States should maintain her neutrality in the present war, she must reckon with Japan, either as a friend or an enemy. The moment the United States interests require friendly relations with Japan, taking into consideration the limited strength of the American navy and the existence of the British-Japanese alliance for the time, this alliance will check American hegemony on the Asiatic side of the Pacific." The editor regards an American-British-Japanese alliance as a possibility.

REVOLUTIONARY MANIFESTO Distributed in St. Petersburg—Citizens Asked Not to Contribute to War Fund. New York, March 11.—Thousands of copies of a revolutionary manifesto appealing to citizens not to contribute to the war fund were distributed about the city yesterday, says a St. Petersburg dispatch to the Sun. Some were posted on walls until the police removed them. The manifesto also warns citizens not to support the government because it brought about, for dynastic purposes, a war which will cost millions of rubles and ruin the country.

MYSTIFIED. Russian Military and Naval Authorities Guessing at Object of Japanese Movements. St. Petersburg, March 11.—2.45 p. m.—Up to this hour no further news is obtainable of the bombardment of Port Arthur, which was progressing, according to the latest advices, at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. Whatever later information, if any, the Emperor may have, is not known.

They were steaming in line abreast. Four of the cruisers took up a position behind the heavier ships.

"The Japanese opened fire at four miles; the Russians immediately replied. The latter which had been disposed in line altered their position. The Askold and Boyarin advanced abreast and the Novik moved down the coast towards Liao Tshin, while the Boyan advanced and led the rest of the fleet between the heavier vessels of Russia's enemy and the coast. The land batteries followed the fleet into action. Viceroy Alexieff and his staff observing the engagement from Golden Hill.

"The enemy steamed to within forty cable lengths (about 8,000 yards), and in the three-quarters of an hour approached to within 25 cable lengths (5,000 yards), and then heading about toward the south the fleet soon disappeared in the distance behind the horizon.

"The enemy's fire was directly chiefly against the Golden Hill and the electric searchlight station batteries, upon which the Japanese aimed the entire storm of shells. Many shells fell in the west basin, a few even reaching Quail Hill.

"Only the Novik, Askold and Diana escaped uninjured. Viceroy Alexieff and the engagement a column of steam and smoke poured out of one of the Japanese vessels, and it is believed she sank."

The Novik Kral says it was learned later that six of the enemy's ships were damaged, and that 150 men were killed or wounded.

The Russian losses as given by the Novik's squadron was composed of the Novik's squadron, the Russian protected cruiser Pallada, although torpedoed and ashore, participated in the action. The Russian torpedo boats avoided the enemy's attack, east of the squadron, but the enemy did not approach within the distance desired.

The account concludes: "Although the enemy's squadron was composed of the best ships in the Japanese fleet, all being excellent armor, while most of ours were without armor, our ships did not hesitate to approach the enemy at full speed; the pace being so rapid that the enemy could not get their range. The Novik particularly distinguished herself several times, attacking the Mikasa, the Japanese flagship."

BUILDING DEFENCES. Russians Preparing to Withstand Japanese Assaults on Wiju.

Tokio, March 11.—The Wiju Seoul railway connection was signed yesterday by the Japanese government. The Russian experts here declare their belief that the Russians are engaged in building defences at Wiju, which will co-operate with the fortifications already constructed on the left bank of the Yalu river.

It is reported that the Russians have 15,000 tons of coal at Wiju, which will keep the garrison and fleet worked to burn should the Japanese land there.

KOREANS ASSIST. Have Placed Services at Disposal of Commander of Vladivostok.

Vladivostok, March 11.—The Korean inhabitants of Vladivostok, as a tangible proof of their sympathy with Russia, have placed their services at the disposal of the commander of the town for the construction of defences.

Foreign residents of Nagasaki, who have arrived here, report that all Japanese dockers are engaged in making repairs to the ships that were damaged in the engagement at Port Arthur.

NOT FAIR TEST. German Admiral Says Japanese Torpedo Successes Were Accidental.

New York, March 11.—Admiral Von Tirpitz, minister of marine, in a speech before the budget committee of the Reichstag, declared that the Japanese torpedo successes had been made in spite of the opinion of German experts, says a Sun dispatch from Berlin. He declares that the successes were accidental and without real significance. They were not obtained under conditions that made a fair test.

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the night attack one officer was seriously, and five others slightly, wounded, but two sailors were killed and eighteen wounded.

"At 9 o'clock fourteen of the enemy's ships assembled before Port Arthur, and a bombardment was begun with the heavy guns of their battleship squadrons at long range. This lasted until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. It is estimated that they fired 154 twelve-inch shells. The damage to our vessels was insignificant, and they are again ready for battle. Our losses were: One officer slightly wounded and one soldier killed and four soldiers wounded. The illumination of the sea by night by the searchlights was most satisfactory, and several times isolated shots from the batteries forced the enemy's torpedo boats to retire.

"With the commencement of the bombardment at dawn the guns of the fortress replied to the enemy's fire. The crews of all the ships engaged gave proof of remarkable coolness in action. Below decks the work of the enemy's shells falling between the vessels and covering them with fragments. A bombardment at such a distance must be considered ineffective.

"The Japanese cruiser Takasago is reported to have been seen to suffer seriously, the extent, however, is impossible to ascertain at a distance of five miles. Many shells were fired at a range of seven and a half miles.

"I have the honor to report the foregoing to Your Majesty. (Signed) Alexieff."

Admiral Alexieff has sent the following message to the Emperor: "In the fight between our torpedo boats and the Japanese cruisers on March 9th, Capt. Mattonosvitch, Ensign Alexander, and mechanical engineer, received slight injuries.

"The commandant at Port Arthur reports as follows concerning the bombardment of the fortress there on March 10th: 'As soon as the enemy opened fire our batteries replied. Six of the enemy's ships remained behind the Liao Tshin promontory and opened fire on the fortress over that shelter. They ceased bombarding at 1.15 p.m. The enemy fired about 200 projectiles. One shell from battery No. 15 on Electric cliff damaged a Japanese cruiser seriously. The results of the bombardment were insignificant. Six soldiers were wounded, three inhabitants of the town were killed and one was seriously wounded.'

"According to General Stoessel's report the officers and soldiers in the batteries fired their guns in perfect order."

Marakoff's Plans. St. Petersburg, March 11.—The complete story of the fierce fight off Port Arthur between the torpedo boat flotilla which occurred on Wednesday (not Thursday) and the bombardment, which followed on Thursday morning was not given out here until after midnight. Official messages from Viceroy Alexieff had been received during the day, and presented to the Emperor, but the public remained in suspense.

All sorts of rumors of the information contained in the dispatches were spread among the officials, but they did not have the texts and were under the impression that Admiral Makroff had directed that attack upon the enemy's fleet before the texts appeared. It became evident that the collisions between the torpedo fleets had occurred accidentally during the night while the Russians were scouting in search of the enemy. As far as known this is the first time the torpedo boats have engaged each other. Although the odds were against the Russians, the Japanese flotilla was repelled by the cruiser squadron. The Russians made a heroic dash for the foe, and apparently had the better of the result, sinking a Japanese torpedo boat, until the cruisers got within range, and one of the latter's shells crippled the Stereguschich.

The gallant action of Vice-Admiral Makroff in transferring his flag to the fast cruiser Novik and sailing out in the face of the enemy in an attempt to rescue, received unstinted praise, stamped by the appreciation of meeting with a man of force and action, who insists upon being in the van of the fighting. Not much importance is attached here to the bombardment, on account of the great distance of the enemy from the batteries. Their cruisers took refuge behind Liao Tshin promontory, fearing to expose themselves to the direct fire of the forts.

The removal of the battleship Retzivan from the mouth of the inner harbor, which marked the assumption of command by Admiral Makroff, will permit the free exit of the heavy armored ships. It had been believed that the reason why the Russian ships had not made a sortie before the apprehension of meeting with a superior force, but it is now clear that the ships were unable to leave. With this channel open it is expected that Admiral Makroff will make the squadron an aggressive one.

Appreciating the misfortune of a division of the fleet before the war, it is believed that Admiral Makroff will attempt to unite his forces by bringing the Vladivostok squadron to Port Arthur.

Repairs on the battleship Retzivan will be completed in a few days, but the battleship Czarovitch is so badly damaged that it is thought that she cannot participate in any of the operations for a long time.

No official reports of recent fights have been received here up to this hour.

"Preparatory Bombardment." London, March 12.—Although there is some confusion of dates in the official messages from the Far East regarding the attack on Port Arthur and other engagements, it would appear that

no fresh action took place on Friday. A correspondent of the Daily Telegraph at Seoul describes the Japanese attacks upon Port Arthur as "successful preparatory bombardments," thereby undoubtedly indicating that a greater attempt to reduce Port Arthur is imminent.

The official announcement from Mukden that the Russian army corps which arrived at Harbin will be held there because of the landing of Japanese troops at different points and the reports of the intentions of the Japanese commander, is an unintentional tribute from Viceroy Alexieff to Japan's extraordinary success in concealing her plan of campaign and mystifying the enemy as to her movements.

A Chefoo correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Japanese disembarkation is proceeding at Chemulpo and points to the northward with marvellous rapidity. The correspondent calculates that up to the present, 70,000 Japanese have landed in northern Korea. As an example of the terrible power of the Japanese "Shimosa" powder, a correspondent that a Russian sailor who was hurt in the naval fight off Chemulpo was brought to Matsuyam, Japan. The man had 100 wounds.

The Tientsin correspondent of the Standard reports that influential Chinese living in the United States have telegraphed the Chinese foreign board urging that the Emperor be made head of the army and that China join Japan against Russia. The Chinamen in question offer to raise the funds necessary for this. Refugees from Newchwang this correspondent continues, report that the Japanese are landing at a small bay on the Liao Tung peninsula.

No further news has been received of the reported Japanese movements at Fengwang Cheng, but a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, who is now at Chemulpo, maintains that the most striking developments will occur on the Liao Tung peninsula.

Port Arthur, March 11.—Last night passed without incident. The Japanese squadron, which disappeared after Thursday's bombardment and naval fight, has not returned.

The Russian squadron proceeded to sea this morning, and returned this afternoon. It is understood that no Japanese ships were sighted.

Although during the bombardment a number of shells from the Japanese ships burst in the streets of the town, the damage to the buildings was comparatively slight.

The new town sustained the greatest damage. A shell burst a few yards from the house of M. Sidorski, lawyer, whose wife is the daughter of Col. Baron Frank M. Sidorski, and his daughter was killed on the spot, her head being blown off. Mme. Sidorski was injured by fragments of the shell, and a girl was injured, and died soon afterwards in the hospital.

A Chinaman was killed and several Chinamen were wounded.