They dug fresh trenches and opened a heavy artillery fire on our new position and began to turn our left flank towards Chingow.

"Two battalions of the 11th regiment, and the third battery of the third brigade of artillery, belonging to the main reserve, were ordered to Laofunhou. They occupied a position with a double firing line, thus permitting our advance line, which had suffered heavily, and our wounded, to retire. A battalion of the 11th regiment, both flanks of which were repeatedly turned by the enemy, advanced with fixed bayonets, preceded by buglers, to clear a passage. The Japanese, however, declined a hand-to-hand conflict and recoiled. In front of the regiment, a chaplain, bearing a cross, was struck by two bullets.

"It was only by advancing on the Japanese with the bayonets that the 7th regiment was able to retire. On the arrival of the battalion of the 10th regiment, all the troops were able to beat a retreat.

"The losses of the 11th and 12th regiments were very great, but they are not yet exactly known. In the 11th the killed included Colonel Laming and Lieut.-Colonels Dometti and Raievsky. The 12th lost nine company commanders killed or wounded.

"The second and third batteries of the 6th brigade, having lost the greater number of their men and horses, were compelled to abandon their guns. For some reason six guns of the third battery of the third brigade of artillery, and eight poulemets, which could not be brought away, were also disabled. The mountainous nature of the country made it impossible to save the guns by means of drag ropes.

"Up to the present 800 wounded, including fourteen officers, have been brought to the hospital at Fengwangcheng. Their eventual transportation elsewhere is fully assured.

"Japanese cavalry appeared to the southeast of Feng Huang Cheng, but seeing two companies with two guns opposed to it, it did not venture to approach. The transportation of the wounded by hired Chinese bearers to Feng Huang Cheng was very difficult. Two-wheeled carts and horses lent by the cavalry were also utilized for this purpose. Most of the wounded, however, arrived on foot, assisted by their comrades, and reached Feng Huang Cheng within twenty-four hours.

"Lieut.-General Zassalitch declares that the troops retained their morale notwithstanding their losses and are ready for fresh engagements.

"The Japanese losses were very heavy at the passage of the Ai river at their position at Turencheu, and on the hill occupied by the two battalions of the 11th regiment."

According to the statements of participants in the battle at least 3,000 to 4,000 were killed.

The Japanese Losses.

Tokio, May 3.—A supplemental report was received here to-day from Gen. Kuroki. It is dated to-day and says:

"A preliminary report from the chief surgeon of the Japanese army shows that we had 798 killed and wounded. These casualties are divided as follows: Imperial Guards, 132; second division, 350; third division, 316."

May Isolate Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—The official report of the appearance of a number of Japanese ships off Kaiping and Sinjuchen on the west coast of Liaotung peninsula, below Newchwang, foreshadow the disembarkation of Japanese troops with the intention of cutting off Port Arthur.

The war may now be said to have begun in deadly earnest.

Important as was Alexieff's achievement at Port Arthur in repulsing the Japanese attempt to bottle the place, it is dwarfed by the details of the fighting on the Yalu, showing the severe losses suffered by the Russians, who have removed 800 wounded alone to Feng Huang Cheng, while it is estimated that the Japanese loss is between 3,000 and 4,000. If this statement of the Japanese loss is correct the Russian authorities say that Gen. Zassalitch must be given credit for carrying out that part of his orders, to make the crossing of the Yalu as costly as possible to the enemy.

Unfortunately Zassalitch had only 10,000 men, of which 2,000 men were unable to participate in the fighting, as they were occupying Antung, and Kuroki, appreciating the inability of his opponent to bring up reserves, threw his weighty force upon the points selected for attack. The Japanese had from 35,000 to 40,000 men, besides the greater quantity of guns, many of them being of heavier calibre than those of the Russians, thus outnumbering the actually engaged by more than 5 to 1.

No such determined stand as that made by the troops was intended by Gen. Kouropatkin, but their tenacity in holding their positions, it is said by the general staff, is worthy of the highest traditions of the Russian army. Three times the Russians halted and twice the Mikado's cavalry were halted only to come again, one repulse did not sicken the fighting stomach of the assailants.

It is officially stated that this fearless pursuit cost the Japanese 3,000 men. Gen. Zassalitch's retirement is noteworthy because it was encumbered by a large number of wounded. Had the Japanese been able to bring up their entire cavalry strength it might have been a far blacker day for Zassalitch.

No Confirmation.

London, May 4.—The Daily Chronicle's report of the capture of Newchwang is not confirmed from any quarter, and it is hardly likely it is true. However, official dispatches seem to indicate that the Japanese are directing their attention to this point.

A special dispatch from St. Petersburg asserts that Lieut.-Gen. Zassalitch fell into an ambuscade owing to the Japanese intercepting a telegram from Gen. Kouropatkin.

According to the Standard's St. Petersburg correspondent, Gen. Kouropatkin is recalling the troops from the neighborhood of Gensan. He is, the correspondent says, opposed to fighting many minor actions.

The correspondent at Shanghai of the Daily Telegraph says it is understood that all non-combatants, officials and valuables have been removed from Dalny, and that all the guns from the disabled warships at Port Arthur have been taken ashore to the forts.

The Daily Mail's Chefoo correspondent reports that the Japanese fleet is off Port Arthur.

Sinking of Fireships.

St. Petersburg, May 3.—Vice-Admiral Grand Duke Alexis has received the following official telegram, from Viceroy Alexieff, reporting the Japanese attempt to take Port Arthur early this morning:

"I respectfully report to Your Highness that a fresh attack was made by the enemy last night with the object of obstructing the entrance to the port, and that it was successfully repulsed.

"At 1 o'clock this morning five torpedo boats were perceived near the coast from the eastern batteries. Under the fire of our warships and the batteries they retreated southward.

"At 1.45 o'clock the first fireship escorted by several torpedo boats was sighted and we opened on them from the shore batteries and the warships.

"Three-quarters of an hour afterwards our searchlights revealed a number of fireships making the entrance of the harbor from the east and southeast. The coast defence vessels Otvashin and Gremieschi and the gunboat Gilak repulsed each by a well directed fire.

"Altogether eight ships were sunk by our vigorous cannonade by whitehead torpedoes launched from torpedo boats and by the explosion of several submarine mines.

"Further, according to the reports of the officers commanding the batteries and the gunboats Gilak, two Japanese torpedo boats were destroyed.

"After 4 o'clock the batteries and warships ceased fire, subsequently firing only at intervals on the enemy's torpedo boats, which were visible on the horizon.

"All the fireships carried quick-fire guns, which maintained a constant fire.

"Up to the present twenty men including two mortally wounded officers, who took refuge on a launch have been rescued from the fire boats by us.

"The inspection of the roadstead and work of saving the enemy's men were hindered by the heavy sea running. We suffered no casualties with the exception of a midshipman.

"On the appearance of the first fireship accompanied by the enemy's torpedo boats we boarded a launch and proceeded to the Otvashin to take immediate measures for repulsing the fireships. With me were Lieut.-General Zalinski and Capt. Eckhardt of the naval general staff, Lieut.-Gen. Stovel was on the fortifications at the same time, and Gen. Leschinsky, chief of the defending forts, was on board the Gilak."

"GLORIOUS FIGHT."

Russians Regard It as Japanese Defeat Rather Than Victory For Kuroki.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—1.24 p. m.—The gloom which prevailed here yesterday was almost completely dispelled this morning when the people read the story of the glorious fight made by Gen. Zassalitch's handful of rough regiments, against the flower of the Mikado's legions at the Yalu, and of the utter defeat of Vice-Admiral Togo's new attempt to seal the entrance to Port Arthur.

It is now plain that not more than 8,000 Russians were actually engaged in the fighting at the Yalu against the Japanese army of a total strength of between 30,000 and 40,000.

The losses on both sides, which are expected to reach 1,000 and possibly 1,200 in the Russian forces and twice that number for the Japanese, make it one of the bloodiest fights in history.

At the river crossing the Japanese dead lie piled up literally in heaps, and Gen. Kuroki's success was purchased at such a heavy cost, that the Russians are disposed to regard it as rather a defeat than a victory for him.

Gen. Kouropatkin's dispatch shows that the Russians fought with such bulldog tenacity and bravery, against the overwhelming superiority of the enemy that the latter's nominal victory was eclipsed by the prowess of the Czar's soldiers.

General Kouropatkin's report also served to restore General Zassalitch to public favor. Those who were disposed to criticise him, even at the headquarters of the general staff, where it is considered that he made a tactical blunder, now say that he redeemed himself by his gallantry in action, and the damage he inflicted upon the enemy.

About the bulletin boards people are especially impressed with the desperate bayonet charge of the Eleventh Regiment. Mental picture of the regiment advancing against the enemy with bands and bugles blaring, and the priest with cross aloft at the head, appealed to the dramatic sense of the Russian population as nothing else could. The survivors of this heroic regiment, which cut its way out, declare their position was surrounded by more than a thousand dead Japanese.

The loss of the guns, which, according to the best information obtainable, consisted of 22 field pieces and eight machine guns, is considered particularly unfortunate, even though they will be of no service to the enemy, on account of the removal of their breach locks. Members of the general staff says that the science of war offers many instances where guns have been sacrificed to allow infantry to retreat in good order. The official reports were issued too late for comment in this morning's papers.

ALMOST ANNIHILATED.

Russian Regiment Charged Two and a Half Divisions of Japanese.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—The appointments of Vice-Admiral Bezobrazoff to command the first Pacific squadron and of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky to command the second squadron are confirmed.

A story is circulated here of a striking episode during the fighting on the Yalu river and the desperate bravery of a Russian regiment, which, without artillery, attacked two and one half divisions of Japanese. The Russians, headed by a chaplain bearing a cross, fought like lions, but were crushed and almost annihilated by overwhelming numbers, the scene after the fight resembled a shambles.

PREPARING FOR ADVANCE.

Japanese Cavalry Have Been Scouting Southeast of Feng Huang Cheng.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—6 a.m.—St. Petersburg is electrified by the sensational news of fighting on land and sea.

From Gen. Kouropatkin conveying Lieut.-General Zassalitch's report, came graphic details of the battle of Turencheu, as the combat on the banks of the Yalu is officially designated, which shows the savage character of the fighting displayed by the Russians in their effort to hold a position commanded by the Japanese fire, and their orderly retreat to Feng Huang Cheng, where they are now entrenched, conducting en route a brilliant rearguard engagement in which they inflicted a heavy loss on the enemy.

Viceroy Alexieff's command of Port Arthur has been signalized by the repulse of another desperate attempt by the Japanese to close the entrance to the harbor, adding to this his quota of the war news.

The general staff does not expect an immediate forward movement of the Japanese, but the latter is preparing a way for an advance as is shown by the appearance of a cavalry detachment to the southeast of Feng Huang Cheng.

The retirement of the detachment when sighted by a Russian force, indicate simply that it was scouting in order to locate the next point where the resistance may be looked for.

The Associated Press is informed by the general staff that Major-General Kashtalinsky is alive and that Lieut.-General Zassalitch was wounded, but that the lieut.-colonels and a majority of the company commanders of the 11th 12th and 22nd regiments were either killed or wounded.

It is evident that in order to weaken the resistance which will be offered Gen. Kuroki, the Japanese are preparing to land on the west coast of the peninsula of Liao Tung so as to prevent the Russian ships coming out of Port Arthur in an attempt to attack the transports.

Vice-Admiral Togo is continuing his efforts to block the harbor, and in order to insure the success of this plan the Japanese are employing a larger number of steamers than heretofore. The fact that the last effort failed is attributed to the sharp lookout which was kept, and to the Russian preparations for which Viceroy Alexieff received considerable credit.

THE JAPANESE ATTACK.

Another Description of the Attempt to Close the Entrance to Harbor.

Port Arthur, May 4.—The Japanese attempt to block Port Arthur was begun a few minutes before 1 o'clock yesterday morning, when the first shots were fired, awakening the town with the thunderous noises. The gunboats lying at the mouth of the harbor joined in the cannonade, and the firing gradually increased in volume until there was a continuous crash of great guns. Some of the enemy's torpedo boats were discovered, but they were finally swallowed in the darkness, and the batteries and warships, after 40 minutes' activity, were again shrouded in gloom, though the flashing searchlights showed that the military were alive to the warning conveyed of the approach of the Japanese ships.

Shortly before 2 o'clock a searchlight played from the sea directly upon the entrance of the harbor, lighting it up to show the way for the fireships. The projector moved to the right from Liao Tishan to Golden Hill. For a quarter of an hour the light was watched with curiosity, and then a second cannonade began, the heaviest fire being directed to the left of the Golden Hill, where the fire ships were located.

At about 4 o'clock the batteries ceased fire, save for an occasional shot.

Just about dawn the bark of the rapid fire guns and the crackling of the mitraileuse were heard from Golden Hill. Occasionally there were sounds of explosion as of mines going off. It was the enemy's ships striking one of the Russian torpedoes. At this hour a magnificent sea picture was formed by the soft light of the waning moon, the orange flashes of the guns, the signal rockets and the purple fires on the steel colored sea, which were alternately lighting up and going out.

The fire ships were ten in number, and of about 2,000 tons each.

It is reported that two Japanese torpedo boats were sunk, and very few of their crews were saved. Most of them were killed.

In the morning many dead bodies were seen floating about outside the harbor. These were collected by the Russians, who brought them ashore, and buried them.

The vigilance of the men on the watch towers and on the guard boats was astonishing. To their keen eyes was due the prompt sighting of the enemy.

The Japanese attacked brilliantly, without seeming to notice the murderous fire directed on them.

The Russians captured two officers and 30 men.

It is stated that the crews of the fire ships included a number of Japanese cadets, who showed extraordinary bravery, especially when the ships were sinking. Several of the crew stood at the mast heads firing revolvers and then plunging into the sea. It is supposed that none of the cadets were saved.

The attempt to close the mouth of the harbor failed.

QUIET SINCE YESTERDAY.

There is No Change in the Situation at Port Arthur.

Port Arthur, May 4.—There has been no developments since the attack on Port Arthur on May 3rd. During the bombardment the big guns of the Russian ships and batteries fired 2,500 shots, while the machine guns of the gunboat Giliak fired 3,000 shots.

The Novi Krai says it learns that the Russophobe Chinese, headed by Viceroy Yuan Chi Kai and Gen Ma, are carrying on an active anti-Russian campaign, and that travelling operators are spreading false reports of the strength of Japanese and the magnitude of their victories, and are telling malignant stories of Russian designs throughout the Chinese towns and villages, with the object of inciting the masses against Russia.

IS HARBOR CLOSED?

Japanese Claim That Togo Succeeded in Blocking Port Arthur Entrance.

Tokio, May 4.—3 p.m.—The Japanese authorities have received a report of the attempt made on Monday night to block the entrance of Port Arthur harbor. It is without details, but these are expected shortly. It is reported, however, that the attempt was successful.

NOT CONFIRMED.

No Further News Received Regarding the Attack on Newchwang.

New York, May 4.—The special telegram to the London Chronicle, dated Chefoo, asserting that the Japanese had taken Newchwang, is obviously false. Newchwang, which is on the river, and about 30 miles from the sea, could not possibly be taken except as the result of an attack of at least two or three days' duration. The Associated Press has American correspondents at Chefoo, Shanhai Kwan, Newchwang and Yin Kow, any one of whom would certainly have reported an attack upon Newchwang.

PLANS MISCARRIED.

Zassalitch Had Orders to Avoid Anything Like a General Engagement.

St. Petersburg, May 3.—The Emperor is understood to be greatly grieved over the losses sustained on the Yalu. Those who have seen His Majesty say he was dumfounded when he was informed of the heavy fighting which attended the passage of the Yalu. It is well understood here that Gen. Kouropatkin's plans did not contemplate such resistance to the Japanese advance. It is said, moreover, that Kouropatkin himself was equally surprised and so chagrined over the miscarriage of his plans that he sent his first telegram to the general staff, and not direct to the Emperor.

The understanding here is that Gen. Zassalitch had specific orders to avoid anything like a general engagement, and it is believed that the Russian commander at the front probably was deceived in his estimate of the strength of Gen. Kuroki's artillery, being in entire ignorance that 4.2 guns had been posted and got into a position from which he had the greatest difficulty in extricating his men. The cause of the loss of guns was the shooting of the horses. They will be of no value to the enemy as the breeches were taken away.

ASSISTED BY KOREANS.

Those Naturalized Accompany the Cossacks as Interpreters—Mines at Vladivostock.

Seoul, May 1.—(Delayed in transmission).—A custom officer at San Jiu, named Olsen, a Norwegian, reports that many Koreans, who are naturalized Russians, accompanied the scouting expedition of Cossack cavalry as interpreters, all being well received by the local officials. The captain of the Cossacks, after personally firing a custom warehouse, accompanied by a party of soldiers, reached the office which he was finally persuaded not to burn down. When it was explained to him that the property was Korean and not Japanese, he threatened to arrest Olsen as a Japanese spy.

English missionaries who have successfully interceded with the civil authorities at Vladivostock have been urged to notify the governor of Hanheundo that Russia is Korea's truest friend, and to warn Korean vessels not to enter Vladivostock harbor, which has been extensively mined, except during the hours of noon, also to request the people to aid the Russian troops with provisions and funds.

An additional forces of 350 men has arrived to push the Seoul-Wiju railway to completion.

CHINA'S NEUTRALITY

Will Be Strictly Maintained—Government Takes Vigorous Measures.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—The Chinese minister, who in consequence of rumors of the possibility that China might not remain neutral, applied to Pekin for information, has received a cablegram from the Pekin government, which reads as follows:

"In reply to your telegram of April 23rd, and with the object of putting a stop to unfounded rumors, request you to deny them, and declaring again in the most formal manner that China and the Chinese people will faithfully observe neutrality.

"You are authorized to say that the central government has given vigorous orders to the local authorities to see that neutrality is strictly maintained, and that the most complete order is preserved in the whole territory declared neutral. Moreover, we are able to guarantee that in consequence of the measures we have taken any renewal of events like those of 1900 is impossible."

STOPPED BY RUSSIANS.

British Steamer Boarded Near Brindisi and the Mails Examined.

Port Said, April 4.—The Peninsula & Oriental steamship Oziris, nine hours from Brindisi, has been stopped, boarded and her mails examined by the Russian warship Krabin, which fired a blank shot across the Osiris's bows. The Russians detained the Oziris for two hours, searching the mails. They demanded the Japanese mails, but these were at the bottom of the mass of mail and remained untouched.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—Since the Emperor's removal to Tsarakoye Salo a new system has been introduced of communicating official messages intended for publication to a special commission of military and naval censors. Formerly all telegrams addressed to the Emperor received direct at the Winter Palace were sent to Admiral Abaza, who deciphered them and forwarded them to a commission sitting in the telegraph. The present arrangements involve further delay, as messages have to come back from Tsarakoye Salo after being deciphered. Those relating to the land operations go to the war minister, and those referring to the sea movements are taken to the marine minister, who are, respectively, entrusted to give them out. Yesterday Gen. Kouropatin's first telegram reached the war minister at noon, but the official in charge had taken a train to Tsarakoye Salo to report to the Emperor, and consequently the dispatch did not reach the public till night.

The Emperor has received additional details of Sunday's fight on the Yalu river from Gen. Kouropatkin, but probably they will not be given out till to-night.

The general staff explains that the Russian batteries at Kiuliencheng and Pollelinsky succeeded in withdrawing to a second position, from which they pointed a great fire on the Japanese, who were occupying the heights, the Russians' left. The Japanese attacked at three points, the frontal at Kiuliencheng, on the flank at Chiu Gow and on the other flank at Listan Gow, or Lia Tun Gow, northeast and southeast, respectively of Kiuliencheng.

The losses were very severe on the flanks, which protected the retreat of the main body from Kiuliencheng. The eleventh regiment made a heroic stand at Lai Tang Gow, the Russian second position along the heights, whence it was impossible to remove the guns on account of the nature of the ground and heavy mud.

Gen. Zassalitch's force is resting at Feng Huang Cheng. No renewal of the attack has been made. It is believed that Gen. Kuroki is also resting on the river. There is a strong Russian position back of Feng Huang Cheng, on a line parallel with Mukden and Liao Yang, where troops are concentrating, and it is considered likely that a really decisive engagement may be fought there to force the pass beyond Feng Huang Cheng.

Gen. Zassalitch had only forty guns altogether, and sixteen of these left Antung early Sunday morning and reached Feng Huang Cheng safely. The second and third batteries of the sixth brigade lost all but two guns, namely, 22. Eight machine guns, which were used to cover the retreat, were also lost.

The Japanese Prisoners.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—United States Consul Greener, at Vladivostock, has sent the following telegram to the United States embassy regarding the treatment of the 26 Japanese and 184 men captured on board the steamers Kinshiu Maru, Nahmura Maru and Goyo Maru sunk by Rear-Admiral Yeszen's squadron on April 25th.

"The survivors left here, through a dense crowd, soldiers and sailors guarding the carriages of the officers, for Irkutsk, Siberia, on April 28th. Along the route through the city there were no hostile demonstrations or expressions. The Russian naval and military authorities were courteously attentive. Food, tobacco and money were furnished to the prisoners for the journey. The Japanese were deeply grateful for their kind treatment."

Russia has agreed to recognize and afford every facility to the four Japanese red cross ships Seiko Maru, Kobe Maru, Sakua Maru and Kossi Maru.

Official Dispatches.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—The Emperor to-day received the following dispatch from General Konropatkin:

"Major-General Kashtalinsky reports as follows: I consider it my duty to report the circumstance of the grievous, yet glorious, battle fought by the troops under my command with the superior forces of the Japanese on May 1st.

"Early on the morning of April 30th the Japanese began to press our left flank, having on the previous evening occupied the Khussan heights, after an attack, in consequence of which I ordered the 22nd Regiment, which had occupied the Khussan to retire across the Ai river to our position at Potitinsky. On the evening of the same day an extraordinary prolonged and violent bombardment of our whole position at Kiuliencheng commenced from Wiju.

"I foresaw that the Japanese, after the bombardment, in which over 20,000 projectiles were discharged, would take the offensive. I received orders from Lieut.-General Zassalitch to accept battle and to retain my position at the forts of Poutinsky. My left flank was defended by two battalions of the 32nd Regiment and third battery of the sixth brigade.

"The Japanese took the offensive at 5 o'clock in the morning, dispatching at least one division of infantry, which, advancing in column, sustained enormous loss, but crossed the ford and attacked our position, which was exposed to the fire of 36 field guns and siege batteries. The Japanese advanced and occupied the position. Towards noon I ascertained that the Japanese had routed the battalion of the 22nd Regiment, posted at Chingow, and were turning my left flank.

"At 1 o'clock in the afternoon my left flank was reinforced by two battalions of the 11th Regiment and a battery commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Morawsky, which were sent from the reserve by General Zassalitch with orders to hold their ground until the departure of the 9th and 10th Regiments from Sakodsea. I ordered the 11th Regiment to occupy a commanding position in the rear, from which they could fire on the enemy from two sides. I held Colonel Moravsky's battery in reserve and ordered the 12th Regiment, the third battery and the quick-firing guns to retire under cover of the 11th Regiment. My chief of staff led the rear guard to its position.

"At 1 o'clock the Japanese approached so close to the position held by the 11th Regiment that the third battery could not pass along under the cross fire, and, taking up a position a short distance from the Japanese, remained there until the end of the fight, losing its commander, Lieut.-Colonel Moravsky. A company with quick-firing guns was brought up from the rear guard, and the officer, thus foreseeing the difficult situation of Moravsky's battery, took up the position on its own initiative. He lost half of his men and all his horses, and attempted to remove his guns by hand to the shelter of the hills under the Japanese cross fire. The quick-firing pieces discharged 35,000 bullets.

"The 12th Regiment cut its way through and saved its colors. The second battery of the sixth brigade, having attempted to rejoin the reserves by another route, could not ascend the mountain slopes with only half its horses, and, retiring to its original position, received the Japanese attack. The 11th Regiment, which held its ground for two hours more with heavy losses, forced a passage at the point of the bayonet, and crossed the ravines with its colors. We lost its colonel, commandant, 40 officers and about 2,000 non-commissioned officers and men. The Japanese losses must have been enormous. The Russians retired in good order on Feng Huang Cheng. The men of the third division maintained their excellent morale, and over 700 wounded proceeded with these regiments to Feng Haung Cheng."

The Russian Losses.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—4.45 a.m.—The Russian losses at the battle of Kiuliencheng were 2,000 men and 40 officers, far greater than previously indicated.

This is the official estimate to Major-General Kashtalinsky, who directly commanded the division that suffered the brunt of the attack, and received yesterday by the Emperor. Many believe the Russian losses even higher. General Kashtalinsky mentions also that more than 700 wounded arrived at Feng Huang Cheng, and these may not be included in his calculations. He made no attempt to estimate the Japanese losses, merely stating that they must have been colossal.

Blocking Port Arthur.

London, May 5.—The opinion gains ground here that the Japanese have at last effectually blocked Port Arthur. No official Japanese report on the subject has yet been published, but the Tokio correspondents are positive regarding the matter. The Daily Telegraph's correspondent declares that the entrance to Port Arthur is absolutely sealed, and adds the Japanese fleet, in effecting its purpose, steamed into the entrance at full speed, that the naval officers who made the two previous attempts begged permission to carry out the next attempt by daylight, that being easier, and their request was granted. So determined were they to succeed, adds the correspondent, that they decided, if necessary, to lose half their men. The casualties sustained by the Japanese has not been published.

In view of the supposition of the Japanese success in blocking Port Arthur, it is pointed out that the previous attempts had left the channel so narrow that a couple of vessels sunk in the fairway would possibly suffice to seal up the entrance, while there is a noticeable evasion and half-heartedness in the Russian denials of the enemy's success.

There is no confirmation here of the Paris rumor that an engagement between Russian and Japanese squadrons had taken place off Vladivostock, and St. Petersburg knows nothing of the rumored capture of Newchwang. It is reported that the Japanese advanced to within 18 miles of Feng Huang Cheng and that another engagement is expected almost immediately.

Major-General Kashtalinsky's insistence on the fact that the was ordered to accept battle by Lieut.-Colonel Zassalitch is interpreted as showing his intention to throw the responsibility upon that officer for risking a fight with his inferior forces, and to confirm the reports that General Zassalitch had been censured.

English correspondents with the Japanese forces on the Yalu are permitted to send ample descriptions of the people and country traversed, but not a word about the fighting.

The Standard's Tientsin correspondent says he is convinced that the Russian position in southern Manchuria is exceedingly weak in consequence of the enormous number of men detailed to guard the railway and to obtain provisions. He believes that the force at Liaotang and Haicheng are greatly overestimated. The camps, he says, are numerous, but there are few men in them. There are several fortifications in the hills between Feng Huang Cheng and Haicheng, but the lines of communication are weak and straggling.

London, May 5.—A dispatch to the Central News, dated at Seoul, Tuesday, says:

"Heavy cannonading was heard off Gensan, on the east coast of Korea, on Monday and this morning. It is supposed that Rear-Admiral Uriu's fleet has succeeded in engaging the Russian Vladivostock squadron."

A rumor to the effect that the Japanese had succeeded in bringing the Russion Vladivostock squadron, of four cruisers, to battle off Vladivostock, was circulated in Paris, but up to this morning no confirmation had been received. Evidently this dispatch refers to the same rumor.

A Tokio dispatch to the Central News states that after the steamers had been sunk at the entrance to Port Arthur harbor the Japanese fleet bombarded the forts and town on May 3rd. The bombardment was continued on the morning of May 4th.

AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Rumors of Fighting at Vladivostock Are Current in Russian Capital.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—2.16 p.m.—There are persistent rumors here of a naval engagement between the Vladivostock and Vice-Admiral Kamimura's squadron, but no confirmation of the reports had been received here up to 1 o'clock this afternoon. The admiralty says no further news has been received there from Port Arthur.

ANOTHER REPORT.

St. Petersburg Correspondent Sends News of the Fighting.

Paris, May 5.—A dispatch to the Temps from St. Petersburg confirms the previous reports to the effect that the Japanese fleet reappeared off Port Arthur yesterday, and that an engagement occurred off Gensan, Korea, between a Japanese squadron and the Russian squadron from Vladivostock.

NOT CREDITED.

Alleged Victory For Russians Below the Yalu River.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—There are rumors here, which cannot be traced to a responsible source, that the Russian troops in Northeastern Korea have swooped down upon the Japanese below the Yalu river, winning a big victory. The story is not credited.

RUMORS OF BATTLE.

Report of Fighting in Which Russians Lost 7,000 and Japanese 10,000.

London, May 5.—4.02 p. m.—A dispatch to the Central News from St. Petersburg says a rumor is current there that a second battle has been fought at Kiuliencheng, in which the Russian loss was 7,000, the Japanese loss 10,000 men, and which resulted in the Japanese being driven back in disorder.

The dispatch adds that no confirmation of this report is obtainable.

LOCATING FIRESHIPS.

Wrecks of Eight Japanese Vessels Found—Squadron Still in Sight.

Port Arthur, May 4.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The enemy's ships were visible cruising on the horizon this evening and a fresh attack is anticipated.

It has been ascertained that twelve fireships participated in the latest attack to block the entrance to the harbor. The wrecks of eight of these have been definitely located. The positions of two others are not yet known, and the remaining two, unable to withstand the terrific fire of the Russian guns, turned back. The average tonnage of the fireships exceeds 2,000 tons.

This dispatch makes no mention, it will be noticed, of the blocking of the harbor, as has been reported in Tokio. The first dispatch from Port Arthur expressly states that the attack failed to close the channel.

NOT DISCOURAGED.

Russian Papers Make Little Comment on Fighting—Dearly Bought Victory For Japs.

St. Petersburg, May 5.—The Russian papers are rather sparing in their comment on the battle of Kiuliencheng, evidently awaiting more complete details, but what they say contains no trace of discouragement.

The Novoe Vremya says the days of patience announced by Gen. Kouropatkin have now begun, and declares that the Japanese difficulties will increase as they advance. The paper believes the chief danger now is in the attitude of the Chinese, and says: "Our diplomats must make Pekin realize the danger of Chinese violation of neutrality. Russia must win, but heavier sacrifices and a heavier price will be exacted from her foes."

The Viedmosti remarks: "It is a Japanese victory. Do not let us seek for a scapegoat. It is the fortune of war. Glory to the dead and to the survivors of the heroic fight against overwhelming odds, but the Japanese probably would gladly exchange their dearly bought victory for a successful bottling up of Port Arthur."

The Russy Invalid, the army organ, points to the fact that 5,000 Russians fought a rear guard battle against 30,000 in Austria in 1805 and a century later 8,000 Russians fought 40,000 Japanese at the Yalu. "The Russians," the Russy Invalid adds, "are accustomed to lay down their lives when duty calls. The Japanese paid too dearly for their victory. It will take them days to recover."

The Novoe Vremya expert says the reports of Major-General Kashtalinsky proves clearly that the Russians should have withdrawn during the night of April 30th, and adds: "Kashtalinsky foredoomed them to destruction. It was a miracle of heroism and fortitude that they escaped after staying, inflicting such tremendous losses on the enemy. Gen. Kuroki probably has eight divisions available for an immediate advance. This force will be joined by Gen. Oku's army when the latter is landed. The Japanese have every reason to follow the

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