

LAND BATTLE IN KOREA IS EXPECTED VERY SOON

Russians Baltic Fleet Starts for the Far East—Japan Has Two Lines of Defence Ready to Repel Russian Invasion of Korea—Reinforcements Cannot Reach Russian Ships for Six Weeks.

(Special to The Planet.)
New York, Feb. 12.—The Japanese landed at Gonsen are intended to operate with the troops that have now been successfully landed at Ping Yang, on the opposite side of the Korean peninsula, says a World dispatch from Kobe, Japan.

These two forces constitute Japan's second line of defence against the Russians who are marching over the Yalu into Korea.

A first line of defence has been arranged. It is composed of picked troops, who are lined up along the south bank of the Yalu.

It is, however, considered most unlikely that this army will reach its destination in time to intercept the invading Russians.

The second line may fail to hold the invaders, in which case it is expected that a land battle would take place not far from Seoul.

In any case, the Japanese preparations are made with a view of closing in on any body of Russian troops that succeeds in forcing its way into the interior of Korea.

Mobilization of the army has been effected without hitch. The transportation of soldiers and supplies by means of the railway from the interior to the coast proceeded with great rapidity.

LANDING TROOPS WITH GREAT RAPIDITY.

Tien Tsai, Feb. 12.—The Japanese are now landing troops in Korea with great rapidity. It is estimated that 3,000 are being landed daily. Chaulpoo will apparently be made a base of operations. A forward movement toward the Yalu river is planned. The Russians are in large numbers there and a big battle is expected before the end of the week. The Japanese are rushing all the artillery possible to Korea, as Cosacks will be rushed upon them and they intend to meet their attacks with artillery.

RUSSIAN REPORTED TO HAVE BOMBARDED HAKODATE.

London, Feb. 21.—The Tien Tsai correspondent of the Standard cables it is rumored that five Russian cruisers from Vladivostok bombarded Hakodate, Japan, on Tuesday.

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BOMBARDMENT OF PORT ARTHUR BY JAPS.

London, Feb. 12.—In a despatch from Shanghai, dated Feb. 12, a m. a. correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says:

"The bombardment of Port Arthur continues. Three Russian cruisers have been sunk. The Russian bank building has been destroyed."

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"There has been a renewed attack on Port Arthur. The Japanese captured seven Russian ships and chased others."

"There have been disturbances at Port Arthur, in which a number of Japanese civilians were killed or imprisoned."

"A Chinese mob has destroyed the telegraph line around New Chwang."

London, February 11.—7:20 p. m.—A despatch to Reuters' Telegraph Company from Tokyo, dated 7:10 p. m. yesterday, says an unofficial report was current there that the Russian fleet was destroyed, four battleships and three cruisers being sunk, and that two Japanese warships were damaged, in an engagement yesterday off Port Arthur, the Japanese getting between the Russians and the entrance of the harbor before the fight commenced.

THE ATTACK RENEWED.

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BOMBARDMENT CONTINUES.

In a despatch from Shanghai dated Feb. 12, 2 p. m., a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: "The bombardment of Port Arthur continues. Three Russian cruisers have been sunk. The Russian bank building has been destroyed."

MOST OF THEM DISABLED.

A despatch to the Vossische Zeitung from Yokohama says the greater number of the Russian warships at Port Arthur have already been disabled, and that several Japanese warships have been sent home for repairs.

THE PORT ARTHUR FIGHT.

Statements of all kinds concerning the Port Arthur fight are published here this morning. According to the Che-Foo correspondent of the Daily Mail, the lack of preparation on the part of the Russians at Port Arthur was due to the fact that all the naval and military officers were attending a circus performance in Port Arthur, which did not terminate until early Tuesday morning. According to the correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald at Che-Foo the Japanese torpedo boats succeeded in entering the outer harbor by a ruse, they using the Russian flash-light signals. This correspondent adds that three Japanese torpedo boats were sunk with great loss of life.

ENTIRELY NEW ACCOUNT.

A correspondent of the Standard at Tokyo sends in this morning an entirely new account of the Port Arthur encounter. He says Admiral Togo's fleet arrived on Monday night and found the Russian squadron drawn up in battle formation outside the harbor and under the shadow of the forts, but destroyers being spread out in front over a distance of five miles. Admiral Togo decided on a night attack and opened fire at 10 o'clock. While the cannonade was hottest a number of Japanese torpedo boats crept close in shore at the foot of the cliff and succeeded in the darkness in getting between the Russian ships and the land. Here they lay unnoticed until the Russians began to give way before the Japanese fire and sought to re-enter the harbor. The Japanese torpedo boats then opened fire at comparatively close range, and sank two Japanese ships and one cruiser close to the entrance of the harbor. The effect of this coup was the retreat of the remainder of the squadron into the harbor. All was safe on board the Japanese ships at noon of Tuesday, the correspondent concludes, and the engagement was then still in progress.

A RUSSIAN OFFICIAL.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says:—The czar to-day received a telegram from Viceroy Alexieff describing the damage done to the Russian warships during the bombardment by the Japanese fleet at Port Arthur. It says "The Czarevitch and Pallada were brought into the harbor Tuesday. The Retvizan is making temporary repairs to a hole. B-pairs to the battleship to say when they will be ready. The Pallada and Novik will be docked in turn, and expect them to be ready in a fortnight. All the other vessels injured are now repairing and coaling in the harbor. I expect them to be ready in three days. The wounded officers, Lieut. Colonel Zolotchovsky, of the artillery corps, and Lieut. Petrov are doing well. Four of the wounded have died. A majority of the injured belonged to the cruiser Pallada, and

their injuries are due to gases from the explosion of a midget torpedo. A careful search by cruisers and torpedo boats day and night has not revealed the presence of the enemy."

KEPT IN IGNORANCE.

It is officially announced at St. Petersburg that no news has been received there of the fight at Chemulpo, the landing of Japanese or the blowing up of a bridge on the Manchurian railway.

THE CHEMULPO FIGHT.

A despatch to the Petit Parisien, of Paris from Tokyo, says the Japanese squadron which engaged the Russian and Korean at Chemulpo consisted of five vessels. The Japanese admiral has sent no information concerning the losses and injuries inflicted upon the Japanese.

The correspondent says also that Great Britain has sent 70 men to Shan-Hai-Kwan to guard the railway.

A FALSE REPORT.

A despatch from St. Petersburg, stating that the Russian Ministry of Marine had declared there was absolutely no foundation for the report that the Japanese had effected several attempts to land at Port Arthur effectually disposed of the reports, via Paris, that the Japanese had been repulsed in making such an attempt.

NEARING THE SCENE.

A cipher cablegram received at Rome, contains the information that the Japanese cruisers Naha and Kasuga are expected to reach the scene of war on Sunday, and that they will disembark their Anglo-Italian crews and substitute Japanese.

ITALIAN NEUTRALITY.

The Rome Official Gazette publishes the Italian statement of neutrality regarding the Russo-Japanese war.

WAR RISKS.

At Lloyd's yesterday thirty percent was paid to insure against the risk of war between France and Great Britain within three months, yesterday the rate was 20 per cent. The Yuson Kaisha announces that the steamer Amaba Maru arrived safely at Hong yesterday morning.

PORT ARTHUR LOST TO RUSSIA.

A Rome despatch says, "Admiral Candiini, who commanded the Italian squadron in the far east during the Chinese-Japanese war, and who is considered a most competent judge of the present situation there, has given an interview to the Giornale d'Italia. He said:—"It is reported that Port Arthur has provisions for eighteen months, and there are no civilians there, but this is doubtful. I believe Port Arthur to be lost to the Russians, and that their fleet is destined to be gradually destroyed excepting the few ships seeking refuge at Vladivostok. I believe Russia can bring together 150,000 men on land, and it would be difficult to increase this number, while Japan can concentrate 500,000 troops in Korea, where she would be supported by local sympathy."

Maple City En Masse

Continued from Page One.

popular young Maple City contralto, who took the part of the Maid of the Woods, again won the hearts of the audience and was accorded one of the heartiest encores of the evening. She never sang better than in her beautiful solo, "Good-bye," for which, on behalf of the Regiment, she was presented with a lovely bouquet of roses.

When it is remembered that J. W. Wilson was called upon to retire from the musical direction of the opera only ten days or so ago, when he was prevailed upon by his loyal and sympathetic company to accept the important part of the Sheriff of Nottingham, his triumph in that big role is all the more wonderful and distinct.

Mr. Wilson was splendid, both in his singing and his acting, and his impersonation of the inimitable Sheriff, with his colossal intellect and eagle eye, was capital. To Mr. Wilson the people of Chatham are mainly indebted for this great production. From the outset he conducted the entire opera and his splendid work resulted in success. Mr. Wilson has established himself as the leader in Maple City musical circles, he has demonstrated his abilities and energies and the people will look to him for many more good things in the future.

Miss Flossie Bogart is also deserving of exceptional credit for the production. True, the talented little pianiste shared Mr. Wilson's disappointment in being debarred from final participation in the work of accompanying and directing, but her splendid services throughout the entire time of rehearsal and production have been much appreciated and praised by the officers of the Regiment and the members of the company. Miss Bogart is an exquisite pianiste and Director Depuy says her well-deserved compliment of stating that she is one of the best and most perfect accompanists with whom it has ever been his good fortune to be associated.

R. Will Angus secured distinction in his own role of Little John, leader of Robin Hood's outlaw band, which he sang and acted to perfection, but he demonstrated his musical calibre when, last evening, without a single rehearsal, he took Sade's musical and singing parts throughout, in addition to his own heavy role of Little John. Mr. Angus never appeared nor sang to better advantage and certainly carried off the many hearty plaudits he received. Mr. Sade's role of his work in the dual roles, "We are all proud of him. He is a credit to your town. It isn't everyone who could have jumped in and saved the situation by taking the two parts—the one without rehearsal—as he did."

Burney Weldon as the jolly Friar Tuck was immense. Mr. Weldon enjoys a personal popularity and is always and deservedly a pronounced favorite with the audience. His interpretation of this exalting role was simply grand and his every appearance was greeted with round

upon round of genuine, hearty applause.

Mrs. R. V. Bray has certainly established herself as without a peer in operatic histrionic work. Mrs. Bray, although also far from well, played the exacting part of Dame Durdan in a manner that was really brilliant. She possesses marked dramatic instinct and faultlessly presented the part, revealing several splendid situations.

All the chorus were well worth the commendation did space permit. The charming milkmaids with their pretty chorus and graceful dance proved one of the special attractions of the evening.

The links secured four encores, which alone bespeaks the manner in which they did their work. The outlaws must also come in for a large share of credit, while the full chorus acquitted themselves admirably.

To G. Arthur Depuy, the talented and brilliant conductor of the orchestra and company, is due unlimited credit for the excellence of the performance. Mr. Depuy is a wonder and it is his skill much honor and pride that the people pointed out the fact that he was an old Chatham boy—having spent all the first years of his life in the Maple City. He is a musician of the highest reputation and his fame has preceded him here. The audience expected much of him and they were in no way disappointed. Both chorus and orchestra were ever with his baton and he managed them to his credit with the finished artist.

It is Mr. Depuy's organ and choir master of the First Presbyterian church, Detroit, and in that city his opinion in anything musical is respected and admired by both critics and professed amateurs. He has previously appeared in this city in piano recitals, and his marked success on such occasions, and all remembered by Chatham's critics, but this is the first time he has ever given local evidence to his skill with the baton. He has had the management of the chorus work for a very short time and the work he has accomplished has been a matter of wonderment to the audience and should be a source of satisfaction to himself.

Mr. Depuy has also written many successful compositions. His latest, a "two-step," "Daughter of Shiloh," was played between Acts I and II. It is a magnificent composition, and it was received with great applause. He was forced to acknowledge one of the heartiest encores of the evening.

Of the many people who contributed to the success of the performance, and credit to Mr. Clarke, manager of the Detroit Dramatic Agency and School of Rehearsal, the able and energetic stage manager of the production. His work has been miraculous. Ten days ago he was given the stage manager's book. After a couple of hours' study he had the conception of the play and had worked out his stage business and picture effects. To a person who understands stage business this seems practically impossible, but Mr. Clarke has proven that he is an artist, far above the ordinary—in fact, he has few equals as a stage manager. From the first rehearsal his opinion has been repeated and looked up to by the chorus and cast. His bearing of a man who understands the business and the manner in which he manipulated the performers, and formed them into striking stage pictures; demands for him respect and admiration. His pictures were the best ever seen on the Grand Opera House stage, and Mr. Clarke would feel that his work has not been in vain. The audience realized this and were not slow in showing their appreciation.

In short language Mr. Clarke is a hustler. He has worked faithfully and well since the time he came to Chatham and the success of the opera last night should be attributed very largely to his indomitable push and energy. It should also be remembered that in addition to his own duties Mr. Clarke directed the construction of all the scenery and stage properties, which in itself is an arduous task and a source of worry. That Mr. Clarke was satisfied with the work of his chorus was shown in his remarks to the company after the production, when he said: "Ladies and gentlemen, you have put on the best ever!"

The electrical effects were splendid and were in most capable hands—the electrical staff of the Chatham Gas Company—under the excellent management of Frank Hays. Mr. Hays' assistants were Fred Shindrick, C. S. Barfoot and Duke Kolofage.

Robert Potter and his able stage staff were right at themselves, working hard and successfully. The beautiful souvenir programs which were distributed throughout the house and occasioned so much admiring comment were, as was generally supposed, the work of The Planet's unequalled job department and were designed and engraved in the office of The Planet.

CHORUS CAST.

May Pole Fairies—Misses Bessie McKeeough, Margaret Stringer, Gertrude McDonald, Laura Phillimore, Eugene Pilkey, Lulu Chrysler, Maggie Trex, Grace Merritt, Grace Gammon, Ethel Bick's and May Lammond, and Masters Ross Duncan, Donald Rispin, Harry Keller, Charlie Trot, Harold Wing, Jim McLean, Bert Wilson, Murray Patterson, Roy Carney, Chester Glenn and Gordon Bennett.

Milkmaids—Misses Pauline Rose, Kathleen Garrett, Gerlie Potter, Helen Smith, Florence Stephenson, Helen Atkinson, Ethel Baughmann and Eva Deago.

Flower Maids—Misses Georgia A. Morrison, Ethel McGeorge, M. Edna Dennis, Kathleen Campbell, A. Beatrice Brumstinger, Gertrude Tighe, Margaret Houston, Hattie Northwood, Florence W. Glass and Amy Boles.

Archers—Misses Frances B. Campbell, M. Gertrude Holmes, Edith M. Friend.

Reid, Rose Morrison, Isabel Douglas, Marion L. McCall and Helen K. Atkinson.

Soldiers—J. W. Wilson, Harry Scott, W. W. Tuckaberry, J. W. Plevins, W. Stanley Ball, Wilfred M. Smith, Harry Massey and A. Wrigley.

Outlaws—Samuel I. Slade, R. Will Angus, W. W. Anderson, Harry Collins, Kenneth Coatsworth, J. W. Mann, John Reeve, W. M. Smith, John R. Smith, Wm. Turner, W. W. Tuckaberry, A. B. Hutchison and Dr. R. V. Bray.

Soldiers—Marshall Taylor, Robert Toboy, O. K. Lawson, Fred Lee, Frank Thomas and Alfred McKeand.

King's Messenger—Willie J. Hoig.

Villagers—Misses Nita Bounsell, Rose Morrison, Marion McCall, Pauline Rose, Helen K. Atkinson, Florence G. Stephenson, Kathleen Garrett, Helen Smith, E. L. Morrison, Agnes O'Reilly, Gerlie Potter, Georgia McKeeough, M. Edna Dennis, Edith M. Reid, Hattie Northwood, Flossie Atkinson, Amy F. Boles, Florence W. Glass, Ina H. Rankin, Florence O. Butcher, Margaret Houston, M. Gertrude Holmes, A. Beatrice Brumstinger, E. G. Eberts, Frances B. Campbell, G. Louise Richards, E. A. Eberts, Kathleen G. Campbell, Gertrude Tighe, Charlotte Warren, Cora Merritt, Louise Campbell, Ethel Baughmann, Sybil McGeorge, Messrs. J. W. Mann, John Reeve, Harry Collins, J. W. Plevins, H. J. Stevens, W. S. Ball, F. D. Laurie, K. Coatsworth, M. Bogart, F. Dunkley, A. Glassford, R. Richardson, A. Wrigley, H. C. Hall, O. H. Massey, F. Ross, W. M. Smith, O. H. Massey, W. J. Jordan, J. R. Smith, W. Turner, W. W. Tuckaberry, H. W. Anderson, A. B. Hutchison, W. Head and B. Carnovsky.

Orchestra—E. R. Schremer, F. Roberts, M. S. Yakul, W. Addison, C. Brigh, C. Wilde, Al Schremer, C. Brigh, H. Ritz, A. Glebe, W. Volintia and F. Kulson.

STAFF OF MANAGEMENT.

Business Manager—Lieut. J. S. Turner.

Musical Directors—G. Arthur Depuy, J. W. Wilson.

Dramatic Director—Samuel I. Slade.

Stage Manager—Harry Clarke.

Assistant Stage Manager—J. W. Young.

Advertising Manager—J. W. Plevins.

Property Manager—Lieut. W. A. Coltart.

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