on Shoe Co. Ld.
LE AND RETAIL.)
nd Shoes,
Boots, Etc.
dealers in Boots and Shoes in the
stocks of every description of Boots
Boots, etc., etc., in each of our five
ar a Specialty. Letter orders
Write for Catalogue to
on Shoe Co. Ld.
ORIA, B. C.
O.; Nanaimo, B.C.,

cy & Co.,
E DRY GOODS
ORIA, B. C.
he Celebrated Brand of
alls, Top Shirts, Etc.

HE
ber Co., Ltd.
nd Smelters of
and Silver Ores.
Works at
OUVER ISLAND, B. C.
& N. Ry. or the sea.
TON, THOS. KIDDIE
Smelter Manager.

WES'
and Borax Hair Wash
ladies and school children. Used once a
g erms. 5c., 6 for 25c. Two packages by
Chemist and Druggist, 98 Government St.,
Near Yates St., Victoria, B. C.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to make application to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands:

Lot I. Commencing at a stake planted about half a mile south from the entrance of Warner Bay, Seymour Inlet, thence south 160 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence north 160 chains more or less to shore, thence following shore line to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Lot II. Commencing at a stake planted at the northwest corner of Lot I., thence south 160 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence north 160 chains more or less to shore, thence following shore line to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Lot III. Commencing at the northeast corner of Lot I., thence east 60 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains more or less to shore of Warner Bay, thence following shore line to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Lot IV. Commencing at a stake planted about one-half mile south of the head of Warner Bay on the west side, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence east 80 chains to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Dated June 14th, 1904.

Lot V. Commencing at a stake planted about one and one-half miles west of Warner Bay, on the south side of Seymour Inlet, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence east, following shore line to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Dated June 16th, 1904.

Lot I. Commencing at a stake planted on the right bank of Weewattle River, about one mile from its mouth, at the head of Seymour Inlet, thence north 160 chains, thence east 40 chains, thence south 160 chains, thence west 40 chains to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Lot II. Commencing at a stake planted at the southwest corner of Lot I., thence south 40 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 120 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 40 chains to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Lot III. Commencing at a stake planted at the northeast corner of Lot I., thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, to place of commencement.

WILLIAM M'NEILL.

Dated June 15th, 1904.

WANTED—Agents to sell for Canada's greatest nurseries. Bigger and better selection of varieties and specialties than ever. Liberal terms; pay weekly; exclusive territory; outfit free. Send 25 cents for our pocket microscope. Everyone should have one to examine plants and trees for insects. Stone & Wellington, Toronto, Ont.

WANTED—We have continual inquiries for Vancouver Island farm lands. If your property is for sale write us at once, giving full particulars, and we will sell it for you if it can be sold. Heisterman & Co., Victoria, B. C.

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

$2.00 PER YEAR, TO OTHER COUNTRIES, POSTAGE PREPAID, PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

The Victoria Times.

TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION

VOL. 35. VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1904. NO. 34.

RUSSIANS RETREAT BEFORE JAPANESE

Will Probably Be Unable to Offer Any Resistance at Haicheng--Cruise of Vladivostock Squadron.

London, Aug. 1.—A dispatch to a news agency from Tokio, says there is reason to believe that after two days' fighting the Japanese have occupied Simoucheng, thus cutting off General Stakelberg from General Kouropatkin.

POSITIONS CARRIED BY THE JAPANESE.

London, Aug. 2.—British correspondents with General Kuroki in the field, in brief dispatches dated July 31st, concur in the statement that the Japanese have carried positions leaving only one defensible position between them and Liao Yang. The Daily Mail's Tokio correspondent asserts that the fall of Port Arthur is imminent.

The correspondent of the London Times with Gen. Kuroki in the field, in a dispatch dated July 30th says: "This army began a general attack at daylight to-day which lasted until sunset. The Japanese centre took the town, capturing the enemy's northeastern positions. The left advanced and occupied a position jeopardizing the Russian right. The Japanese right carried the position against superior numbers. There was tremendous artillery firing throughout the day and the infantry finished with a brilliant march under the enemy's shrapnel. I believe that the Russian position will be untenable to-morrow."

It will be noted that the foregoing dispatch does not name the town captured by the Japanese. It may refer to Haicheng, reports of the capture of which have been sent out from Tokio.

ANXIETY AT THE RUSSIAN CAPITAL.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—2.36 a. m.—The greatest anxiety prevails here for news of the general advance against the southern and eastern divisions of Gen. Kouropatkin's army. The public believes that the decisive battle of the campaign is being fought. Keen military observations, however, declare that for several days the main body of the Russian army has been moving north towards Mukden, and that when the present lines to the southeast is forced the Japanese will find that they have crushed only the shell. Should this prove to be so, General Kouropatkin will doubtless be obliged to destroy the immense quantities of stores accumulated at Liao Yang.

Shrewd military critics, however, do not believe that Gen. Kouropatkin can escape a general engagement. His army forms a wedge, and Kuroki is operating with driving movements of great force against the side. If one of the latter should break through, the southern force would be doomed.

The general staff seems amazed at the immense strength of these co-operating armies. The Japanese evidently have succeeded in concealing the real number of their men and guns, which the general staff now believes must be over 300,000 men with between 300 and 400 guns.

While Gen. Oku is holding the Russian army at Haicheng in check, Gen. Nodzu is evidently trying to work around the vital positions at Simoucheng. At the same time Gen. Kuroki is trying to flank the first Siberian army, which was commanded by the late Lieut.-General Count Keller at Yanzalin on the main Feng Huang Cheng road, which is also passing a strong column through direct towards Liao Yang on the Saimatza road. There is a road leading north from Simoucheng, which strikes the Feng Huang Cheng-Liao Yang road west of Yanzalin. If Simoucheng should be forced a rapid advance along this road would pocket the first Siberian army corps.

If the report from Tokio that Simoucheng has been actually forced is true, it leaves the Russian forces in an exceedingly serious position.

JAP CAPTAIN PREVENTED LOSS OF GUNBOAT.

Tokio, Aug. 1.—Admiral Togo reports that while engaged recently in sweeping for Russian mines near Tungwangtao, a mine became fastened to the sweeping machine of a Japanese gunboat. This rendered the gunboat helpless and it drifted to Shensen point, where it was exposed to a heavy Russian cannonade. Captain Hirose, on board another gunboat, then went to the rescue of the vessel. He succeeded in getting her away, when he was suddenly attacked by a Russian torpedo boat destroyer. After a fight, which lasted one hour, Captain Hirose succeeded in extricating both gunboats.

The vessel under the command of Captain Hirose, was hit twice and three men on board of her were killed. Captain Hirose and ten men were wounded.

The funnels of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer which was sunk on Sunday, July 24th, are visible off Shensen point.

REPORTED THAT MAIN FORCE IS RETIRING.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—4.05 a. m.—A report from an apparently reliable source late to-night was to the effect that Gen. Kouropatkin's main force had been rapidly moving north for several days.

According to the report no troops proceeding to the front from Russia had gone past Harbin Pass this three days. They will be detained there and every available piece of rolling stock will be rushed south for the removing of troops at Liao Yang and other points, to the northward, leaving a skeleton force to contest the Japanese advance on these positions.

BEZOBRAZOFF ALLEGED TO BE IN COMMAND.

Paris, Aug. 2.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo De Paris says that Vice-Admiral Bezobrazoff entered Port Arthur two weeks ago on the torpedo boat destroyer Burkoff, which has since been sunk with all on board, except three persons. Admiral Bezobrazoff is now commanding the Russian Port Arthur squadron.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—1.52 p.m.—The feeling at the war office here was distinctly gloomy this morning. No official telegrams had been received by the general staff from General Kouropatkin, who was communicating direct with the Emperor, but from private sources at the front it already was apparent that Simoucheng (15 miles southeast of Haicheng, at the junction of Feng Huang Cheng-Suiyen roads) had been lost, Gen. Stakelberg's outposts having fallen to Haicheng.

No word was received enabling the staff to either confirm or deny the reported capture of the late Gen. Count Keller's position at Ikhavuen (east of Liao Yang) and Yangse Pass (30 miles east of Liao Yang), but heavy fighting continues on both the southern and eastern fronts, the object of the Japanese in the east being to flank Gen. Keller's corps from the south and north, which is easily possible. The progress of the enveloping movement may have forced the corps to retire to Liao Dan Sian, which is the next position in the direction of Liao Yang.

Official dispatches detailing the engagement are hardly expected till the evening.

The failure of the garrison of Simoucheng to retreat along the northern road probably was due to the presence of a Japanese column flanking the late Gen. Keller's corps from the south.

In view of the inability of the Russians to hold Simoucheng, it is considered unlikely that Generals Zaroubaieff and Stakelberg will attempt to offer stubborn resistance at Haicheng. It is possible that they are already retiring on Anshanshen (also written Anschantschan), half way between Haicheng and Liao Yang, as indicated in these dispatches last night.

There is reason to believe that Gen. Oku's divisions are advancing from Newchwang with a view of flanking and cutting off Gen. Stakelberg's retreat, but this movement is not likely to succeed on account of Stakelberg's ability to retire northward on Aushansheu.

An interesting detail evidencing the fierceness of the artillery duel south of Haicheng on July 31st, is the fact that the Russian batteries on the left of the flank fired 4,842 shots in four hours.

Later.—Gen. Kouropatkin reports that the Japanese have occupied Ikhavuen (east of Liao Yang) and the Yangse pass (30 miles east of Liao Yang).

It is officially announced that the Russians have fallen back from Yangse pass but were holding their positions on the Siamatsza road and at Haicheng yesterday.

JAP ASSAULTS WERE REPULSED ON SUNDAY

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—All the newspapers were late in publishing this morning, the editions evidently having been held back in hope of receipt of later advices from the front.

The only special dispatch published was one appearing in the Official Messenger under date of Haicheng, August 1st, referring to events of the previous day. According to this dispatch numerous assaults were made upon the positions of Lt.-Gen. Count Keller and Lt.-Gen. Zassalutch; all of which were repulsed.

The Japanese on July 29th, the dispatch says, fired upon a supply train running south of Haicheng and a car was wrecked but no one was killed.

DECISIVE MOMENT OF CAMPAIGN ARRIVES.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—All the military critics this morning take the view that the decisive moment of the campaign has arrived.

The army organ says that Gen. Kuroki prepared for his advance by drawing his forces which were scattered over a front of forty miles. The paper says it is evident that a large Japanese force is working along the Siamatsze-Liao Yang line. It expresses doubt, however, which advance the enemy will push home, and whether it is Kuroki's intention to try to flank Kouropatkin north or south of Liao Yang.

The Russ says: "The decisive moment has arrived, but judging from the latest reports the Russians have retained their positions, and this time it will not be an order to retreat."

RUSSIAN RETREAT AN UNORGANIZED ROUT.

Tokio, Aug. 1.—Another detailed report of the fighting at Taitchekiao has been received from Gen. Oku, in which he emphasizes the enormous advantage which the entrenched position held by the Russians gave them. Their first and second lines of defence were established along the twin chains of hills and commanded every foot of the roads leading from the south. Moreover, their batteries were so well masked that they could not be reached by the Japanese siege guns, while at the same time they fully commanded all of the territory which the Japanese were compelled to vacate in their attack upon the Russian position. So powerful was their position and so difficult of approach that although Gen. Oku made his plans carefully and was fully confident that his losses would be enormous, he found it absolutely impossible to force the enemy's defence at a single point during daylight.

Bravery such as was displayed by the Japanese was of a character seldom seen, and one regiment actually penetrated up to the muzzles of Russian cannon before being compelled to retreat in the face of a counter attack by a vastly superior force. After this experience Gen. Oku decided that his only hope lay in a night attack, and he made his plans accordingly.

About 10 o'clock, when darkness had fully set in, a general assault was ordered, and, although a complete surprise to the rank and file, it was carried and the entire Japanese army moved on the Russian position. Not a shot was fired until the first picket of the Russians was encountered, but at the first alarm the massed Japanese artillery opened on the Russian position at the range which had been secured during the day, and for more than an hour a terrific fire was kept up.

Word was then passed for the left wing of the Japanese army to advance, and at the same time the "cease firing" order was given to the artillery.

The Japanese found the Russians badly confused at the heavy shells, and drove them from the first and then from the second line of rifle pits. Before the Russian commanders could reassure and steady their commands the Japanese right wing charged and drove them out of their last line of defence.

The Russian retreat was an unorganized rout, men and officers abandoning their guns and arms in order to be able to be the first to get the news to Alexieff at Mukden, many miles to the northward.

Officers who were captured declare that Gen. Kouropatkin commended in person, and that he did all in his power to hold his men, but they were too badly demoralized by the accurate Japanese shell fire to obey any orders.

All accounts agree that the Russian loss exceeded 2,000 in killed and wounded.

The Japanese had 140 killed, including ten officers and 925 wounded, including forty-seven officers.

Gen. Oku is universally commended for his night attack, and while his losses are abnormally large, yet it is argued by army experts that the end justified the means.

RELEASE OF BRITISH STEAMER MALACCA.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—The Official Messenger publishes the notice of the release of the steamer Malacca, which was seized in the Red Sea by the Russian volunteer steamer St. Petersburg, and reviews the case. The article concludes thus: "The arrangement for her inspection and release is now taken in abrogation of Russia's right, which she still maintains, and her cruisers and warships will stop vessels and search them for contraband destined for the enemy."

The text of the Russian government's statement regarding the release of the British steamer Malacca, seized in the Red Sea by the Russian volunteer fleet steamer St. Petersburg, is as follows:

"From the beginning of the Russian-Japanese war the Imperial government took measures to prevent the transport of contraband of war to Japan by vessels of neutral countries.

"In the regulations sanctioned by the Emperor on February 14th, 1904, which Russia proposed to follow during the war, a list was given of the articles regarded by us as contraband. It was also declared that the military and the maritime authorities would reserve to themselves the right of rigidly executing the decisions contained in the regulations for naval prizes sanctioned by the Emperor on March 27th, 1895, and in the instructions confirmed by the council of the admiralty on September 20th, 1900, regarding the procedure for stopping, visiting and seizing, as well as for carrying off and delivery over of vessels and cargoes seized.

"The volunteer fleet vessels, St. Petersburg and Smoleusk, having received a special commission, the term of which has now expired, on proceeding to their destinations acted in accordance with the above decision, and while passing through the Red Sea stopped and visited all suspected vessels encountered in these waters.

"It was under these conditions that the commander of the St. Petersburg stopped among others the British steamer Malacca, the captain of which refused to show his ship's papers relating to the cargo, a refusal which led to the seizure of the vessel and the decision to send her to Libau with the view of throwing light on the matter. Nevertheless, in view of the official statement of the British government that the Malacca was carrying British state cargo, the Imperial government, acting in agreement with the British government, decided that a fresh visit should be paid to the seized vessel at the nearest port on its route in the presence of the British consul. This visit occurred at Algiers. The British consul-general officially certified that the Malacca's cargo contained the property of the British government, and that the rest of her cargo was not contraband of war.

"Taking this attestation into consideration, the Imperial government decided to liberate the cargo and vessel.

"This decision must not, however, be interpreted as a renunciation by the Imperial government of its intention to dispatch cruisers and warships in general to prevent the carrying of contraband for the enemy."

VLADIVOSTOCK SHIPS RETURN TO PORT

Vladivostock, Aug. 2.—The Vladivostock cruiser division returned to port at four o'clock yesterday afternoon. The cruisers were in perfect condition.

They captured during their cruise the steamer Arabia and destroyed some schooners, a small Japanese steamer, one German steamer and one British steamer. The last mentioned two were carrying contraband and had nearly reached their destination, Yokohama, but were almost without coal and it was therefore impossible to send them to Vladivostock.

The cruisers steamed up and down in front of the Japanese capital and saw nothing of the enemy's warships.

Although the Russian vessels had only three doors through which to get home, the Straits of Korea, La Perouse strait and Tsugaru strait, which apparently could easily have been barred by Vice-Admiral Kamimura's vessels, bad luck pursued the Japanese admiral, and the Russian cruisers had no difficulty in eluding him.

WHY RUSSIANS SANK THE KNIGHT COMMANDER

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—The Associated Press dispatch from Vladivostock brought the first statement of the reason for the sinking of the steamer Knight Commander, which was that she was so short of coal she could not be sent to Vladivostock. It also contained the first announcement that a German steamer had been sunk for the same reason, but gave no clue to the identity of the latter vessel.

NO NEWS REGARDING GERMAN STEAMER.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—The officials of the German embassy here have no information concerning the report from Vladivostock that a German ship was sunk by the Vladivostock squadron.

The correspondent of the Associated Press learns that the steamer Prinz Heinrich's incident is considered cleared. The volunteer fleet steamer, having on board the two sacks of retained mail of the Prinz Heinrich, has been instructed to put them ashore at the first port for forwarding to their destination. The only question remaining is that of damages, which it is said will be settled amicably and without difficulty.

STEAMER ARABIA IS HELD BY RUSSIANS

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—4.25 p.m.—Mr. McCormick, the American ambassador, arrived here to-day from Carlsbad. The United States government has been informed that no decision has been reached relative to the release of the Portland and Asiatic line steamer Arabia, captured by the armored cruiser Gromoboi, of the Vladivostock squadron. The admiralty has not yet received official confirmation of the sinking of a German steamer by the Vladivostock squadron and its name has not been revealed.

Up to this hour the general staff has not received an official report of the fighting east of Liao Yang.

SAY THE RUSSIANS MUTILATE JAPANESE.

Toko, July 30.—Delayed in transmission.)—A Japanese field burial party, which is working before Port Arthur, and a Japanese who was made prisoner by the Russians and escaped, charge the Russians with robbing Japanese wounded and with mutilating Japanese dead. They assert that the bodies of wounded and dead soldiers are stripped of their watches and valuables and that the dead have been beheaded and bayoneted and their eyes have been gouged out.

RUSSIAN SHIPS MAY COAL AT CHERBOURG.

Cherbourg, France, Aug. 2.—A trustworthy report is circulated here that six Russian warships are expected to coal at this port shortly.

FRENCH OPTIMISTIC REGARDING FORTRESS.

Paris, Aug. 2.—It is believed in well-informed quarters here that the position of Port Arthur is much less critical than generally supposed, the Japanese efforts being directed towards strengthening their positions round Port Dalny rather than to advance to the attack. As a matter of fact it is said that advance has not made serious progress during the past three weeks.

THE ENGAGEMENT OF JAP MOSQUITO FLEET.

Tokio, July 31.—A belated report from Admiral Togo relating an engagement of the mosquito fleets off Port Arthur last Sunday was made public here to-day.

A Japanese flotilla composed of torpedo boats, gunboats and the vidette boats attached to the battleships Mikasa and Fuji attacked Russian torpedo boat destroyers off Shensen point at 3 o'clock in the morning. Three fish torpedoes fired by the Japanese were seen to explode, but the Japanese could not tell with what result because of the fog.

This report from Admiral Togo tends to confirm the reports received from Chinese quarters that three Russian torpedo boat destroyers were sunk last Sunday. The Japanese suffered no loss in the engagement in question.

STOESSEL'S REPLY TO DEMAND FOR SURRENDER.

Tokio, Aug. 1.—A few days ago the Japanese made a formal demand upon General Stoessel to surrender Port Arthur, and he replied in a bombastic proclamation which would have been worthy of Admiral Alexieff himself. In it he declared that he knew that Field Marshal Oyama and his staff, together with siege trains and guns destined for service at Port Arthur, were sent to the bottom in the transport Hitchi Maru, sank by the Vladivostock squadron.

TRIBUTES TO THE LATE GEN. COUNT KELLER.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—The Russian press to-day is filled with the eulogies of late Lieut.-General Keller, who was considered to be one of the dashing commanders in the Russian army.

TWO FIGHTS WON BY THE JAPANESE.

Tokio, Aug. 2.—General Kuroki has administered a severe defeat to the Russian forces which defended the Russian east flank at Liao Yang, winning separate actions at Yushulikzu and Yangse pass. These two places are 26 miles apart, but the two actions were fought at the same time. The Russians held strong positions. The thermometer registered over 110 degrees Fahrenheit, and the soldiers suffered cruelly from heat and exhaustion. At Yushulikzu the Russians had two divisions of infantry and some artillery, and they resisted the Japanese assault vigorously.

Both attacks were begun at dawn Sunday, July 31st. At Yushulikzu the Japanese carried the Russian right and left wings, but on account of the strength of the main Russian position they were unable to press the attack. The two armies rested on Sunday night, facing each other. At dawn on Monday the Japanese resumed the attack, and by noon they had dislodged the enemy and had driven him four miles to Liaohaling.

At Yangse pass also the Japanese were successful. The artillery opened on the enemy, and the infantry moved forward from Makumeza. The attack on this place was made at 1 o'clock on Sunday, and by nightfall the Japanese were in possession of a majority of the Russian positions. Although the enemy had resisted with determination, the Japanese force passed the night in battle formation, and another assault was made on Monday at dawn. By 8 o'clock Monday morning Yangse pass and the surrounding heights had been captured.

General Kuroki explains the slowness of these actions by saying that the difficult topography of the battle fields made it impossible to secure good artillery positions, and that the great heat fatigued his troops.

The Russian force at Yangse pass was estimated at two and one-half divisions and four batteries of artillery. The enemy retired toward Tanghoyen.

General Kuroki reports the capture of some field guns, but the number is not given. The Japanese casualties are being investigated.

OFFICIAL DISPATCHES FROM KOUROPATKIN.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 2.—The Emperor has received the following dispatch from General Kouropatkin, dated August 1st:

"According to the report of the officer commanding the eastern portion of our army, his troops, after abandoning advanced positions in the Yangse pass, retired in the direction of Liandiansian, towards Saimatsze and Liao Yang.

"Yesterday our troops, after a stubborn fight, retired from their advanced positions to their principal positions, but although our troops held their advanced positions well for a time, they sustained heavy losses. I hope that in their main positions they will maintain a successful struggle even against the numerically superior enemy.

"According to reports received during the last few days General Kuroki has effected a concentration of his forces in order to strike in the direction of Saimatsze and Liao Yang.

"All the Japanese troops which were posted in the direction of Bensikon and near Saseyr seemed to be intended to operate on the right bank of the Taitse river.

"To-day the enemy acted undecidedly on the southern front, but a reconnaissance has just ascertained the beginning of a turning movement of the left wing of our troops posted at Haicheng by at least three divisions. Our eastern detachment was engaged until noon to-day in the direction of Saimatsze and Liao Yang. It was seen that the enemy was advancing apparently in small bodies against the right flank of our rear guard."

General Sakharoff, under date of Aug. 1st, reports obstinate fighting in the direction of Saimatsze, Liao Yang road, July 30th and July 31st, the Russian vanguard retaining its positions until August 1st, when it retired to Yangse pass. During a reconnaissance in the direction of Feng Huang Cheng, July 30th, General Sakharoff reports that two officers and 34 men were wounded, and on July 31st, during a reconnaissance in the direction of Tackhuatsia, two officers were killed and one officer and 20 men wounded. The same day, when the Japanese occupied the pass between Yanshukan and Houtsiatze (25 miles from Liao Yang) five officers and 40 men were wounded. General Sakharoff also says: "The enemy is acting undecidedly on our south front."

REPORTED CAPTURE OF HAICHENG BY JAPS.

Newchwang, Aug. 2.—A large depot of army supplies has been captured by the Japanese at the old Russian railroad station. Two thousand troops are kept on guard there. Japanese transports and hospital ships are expected here hourly.

Rumors are current in Chinese quarters that General Oku captured Haicheng yesterday afternoon. They cannot, however, be verified.

General Fukushima arrived here this morning, having marched up from Port Dalny.

The Japanese here are confident that the reported capture of Haicheng by their troops is true. They say the Russians there probably were outflanked by General Nodzu.

RUSSIANS AGAIN FORCED TO RETIRE.

Liao Yang, Aug. 2.—After a fierce battle the eastern Russian force has evacuated Yangtsouling, six miles west of Motien pass.

CLAIM RUSSIAN LOSSES WERE SLIGHT.

Haicheng, Aug. 1.—9.40 p.m.—(Delayed in transmission.)—The battle raged the whole day, July 31st, along the southern and eastern fronts. The Japanese advanced with overwhelming forces, outflanking the Russians on their right. The losses of the Russians, however, were slight. The 17th Siberian regiment drove the Japanese out of two positions.

IMPORTANT POSITION TAKEN BY JAPANESE.

Tokio, Aug. 2.—1 p.m.—It is reported here that after three days of desperate fighting the Japanese have captured Shantaikow, one of the important defences of Port Arthur.

In the Japanese-Chinese war, when the Japanese besieged Port Arthur, Sywangtakow, probably identical with the Shantaikow referred to in the above dispatch from Tokio, was used by the Japanese as the mustering place of the various battalions of the first division, who gathered together on the south side of the Shantaikow or Taikow mountain, situated north of Port Arthur previous to the assault of the fortress. Shantaikow is situated on the railroad leading from Port Arthur to Kinchou, and is between Ingentzi bay and Victoria bay, but closer to the former than to the latter. Roughly speaking, Shantaikow is about ten miles from the actual fortress of Port Arthur. It is a position of great natural importance, commanding a broad plain leading to Wuchiatun, another strong position on a hill about four miles from the fortress.

THE CRUISE OF THE VLADIVOSTOCK FLEET.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—In a lengthy telegram to the Emperor Vice-Admiral Skrydloff relates the doings of the Vladivostock squadron under Rear-Admiral Jessen. With the cruisers Rossia, Gromoboi and Rurik, Admiral Jessen left Vladivostock on July 20th. After sinking a small Japanese vessel the cruisers held up a British steamer, but let her go. A Japanese coasting steamer was next met, but as most of her passengers were women we determined to release her. Two Japanese steamers were sunk.

Then Admiral Jessen fell in, in quick succession, with the British steamers Arabia and Knight Commander.

"The Knight Commander only stopped after the fourth shot," the admiral reports. Her cargo, being railroad material, "undoubtedly contraband for the belligerent party, and not being able to bring her to the nearest Russian port owing to her not having enough coal, without manifest danger to the squadron, we sunk the Knight Commander after taking off all her crew and removing her papers." Two more Japanese schooners, laden with salt, were then sunk. The steamer Schinau, from Australia for Yokohama, was inspected and released. On July 24th the Thea, a German vessel of 934 tons register, "with a full cargo of fish from America to Yokohama, was stopped. She was regarded a legal prize and her crew was taken off and the vessel sunk owing to the impossibility of bringing her to a Russian port."

On July 30th, near the northern coast, a Japanese third class cruiser and seven torpedo boats, taking the same course as the Russians, were sighted, while on the western coast, near the Tsungari straits, a coast defence battleship hove in sight.

"All these ships," Admiral Jessen says, "kept far astern of our cruisers, and afterwards they turned back. The Russian squadron suffered no loss in men, and there was no loss of life on the vessels sunk or taken."

TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Chefoo, Aug. 3.—11 a. m.—A desperate three days' assault on the inner defence of the northern and eastern sides of Port Arthur has failed.

A Russian states that the earth trembled under the terrific cannonading, which began July 25th and ended during the night of July 28th, when the battle ceased.

A Chinese who has arrived here on a separate junk, confirms the Russian's statement that the Russians killed and wounded during the assault a number between five and six thousand. The Japanese, in their repeated assaults against the eastern forts on the hills through barbed wire entanglements and over mines, displayed fanatical bravery. They were mowed down by the hail of shells and bullets and explosion of mines under their feet. Their losses are estimated at 20,000.

The Russian declares that the Russians held all the eastern forts leading to Golden Hill, and that the Japanese, shattered and exhausted, retired to the eastward.

As related by the passengers from the two junks, the Japanese advance, which began from Kwokau before daybreak on July 26th, was directed against Kikwan, Kinkitun, Kinkishan and Pichtoushan forts, lying near the shore. The Russian outposts were driven back.

In the meantime Admiral Togo shelled the forts at long range, but the return fire of the forts kept his ships at a safe distance, rendering the co-operation of the fleet ineffective.

On the morning of July 27th the Russian fleet steamed out keeping under the protection of the Golden Hill guns. The Russian vessels did not fire on the Japanese, but soon returned to their anchorage.

The assault on the northern side of the city occurred July 27th. The Japanese left at Hsikau advanced on the Russians at Shinshi Ying, but were repulsed.

The Russian hospitals at Port Arthur are said to be swamped. Thousands of wounded are lying in the houses and shops of the Chinese. The owners have been evicted with the exception of one, who acts as caretaker of each place. Medical attention is inadequate.

CONSUL'S REPORT OF REPULSE OF JAPS.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 3.—The first Russian report of the storming operations at Port Arthur has just been received from the consul of Russia at Chefoo, dated to-day.

It says a general attack began Saturday, with the Japanese in immense force. There were two days of a bombardment of unprecedented violence. The Japanese at the time of sending this dispatch, the consul adds, had everywhere been repulsed with great loss. The Japanese casualties possibly number 20,000, but the Russian losses were insignificant.

The consul further reports that the Russians have an abundance of ammunition.

The exact date of the events reported in this telegram is not clear, as the method of transmission is not disclosed. It is possible that it was by a wireless message reporting events which have occurred since last Saturday.

On the other hand, the message may have gone by junk to Chefoo, in which case it refers to events of a week ago, and practically covers the report mentioned in the Associated Press dispatches from Chefoo. In each case the reports have been received with considerable exultation after the pessimistic rumors spread abroad from foreign sources last week. It seems apparent that the Japanese advance against Gen. Kouropatkin was timed to occur simultaneously with the assault upon Port Arthur.

1,500 RUSSIANS LEFT DEAD ON THE FIELD.

Tokio, Aug. 3.—10 a. m.—The Japanese defeated the Russians at Tomucheng (Simoucheng) and drove them towards Haicheng in a sharp fight, which began last Saturday and ended on Sunday.

The Japanese left 1,500 dead on the field and lost six guns.

The Russians occupied a range of high hills north of Tomucheng (Simoucheng), which were strongly defended with cov-