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The Toronto World.

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THE TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR

TEN PAGES—MONDAY MORNING MAY 29 1905—TEN PAGES

ONE CENT

TOGO DISPERSES BALTIC FLEET IN KOREA STRAITS RUNNING FIGHT FOLLOWS NIGHT TORPEDO ATTACK

Washington, D.C., May 28.—The following is the text of a cable despatch received at the State Department to-day from the American consul at Nagasaki: "Japanese sunk the Russian battleship Borodin and four more warships and a repair ship."

Another from Tokio, dated Sunday, says: "Japanese fleet engaged Baltic squadron this afternoon in the Straits of Tsushima, which was held; cannonading heard from shore."

London, May 28.—The Tokio correspondent of The Daily Mail says that the Russian fleet has dispersed, that several Russian ships have been disabled and that the remainder are in flight, with the Japanese pursuing.

Tsingtao, May 29.—There is a running naval engagement between the Russian and Japanese fleets in the Straits of Korea, near the Islands of Oki. It is reported that the whole Russian fleet is not participating, all the slower vessels having steamed around Japan. The Japanese losses so far are stated to be one cruiser and ten torpedo boats.

London, May 29.—The Times' Tokio correspondent says that telegrams from apparently trustworthy sources show that Rojestvensky approached Tsu Islands Saturday forenoon during a fog, which cleared up in the afternoon, when the Russians were sighted by the Japanese. The battle commenced between 2 and 3 o'clock. There was a strong breeze blowing, with a high sea.

ST. PETERSBURG 'TWIXT DOUBT AND FEAR BELIEVES IT WAS A TORPEDO ATTACK

Experts Declare Togo Would
Not Risk His Fleet In
Battle at Night—Running
Fight on Sunday.

St. Petersburg, May 29.—(2:15 a.m.)—In this momentous hour the emperor, the admiralty and the Russian public are waiting breathlessly for the Japanese to furnish authentic news of the fate of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky and his fleet, in which the hopes of the Russians are centred. The official disposition is to construe Tokio's silence favorably, but at the same time the strategic reason for such silence is recognized. The public, after the premature jubilation of Saturday, is inclined to reverse its attitude and to become pessimistic. The report sent to Washington by the American consul at Nagasaki of the sinking of five Russian warships, including a battleship and a cruiser, was accepted as the most definite and the most authentic piece of news received up to midnight and undoubtedly produced a bad impression. The few who expected that the Japanese would have been Rojestvensky's flagship, the Kniaz Suvorov, on which the Japanese were awaiting the repair of their ships, which was filled with the most modern machinery, might, it was thought, prove later to be a mere guess, lost in the fact that a warship, but at the admiral's own crowded segregated Sunday afternoon and evening, the opinion was expressed that if.

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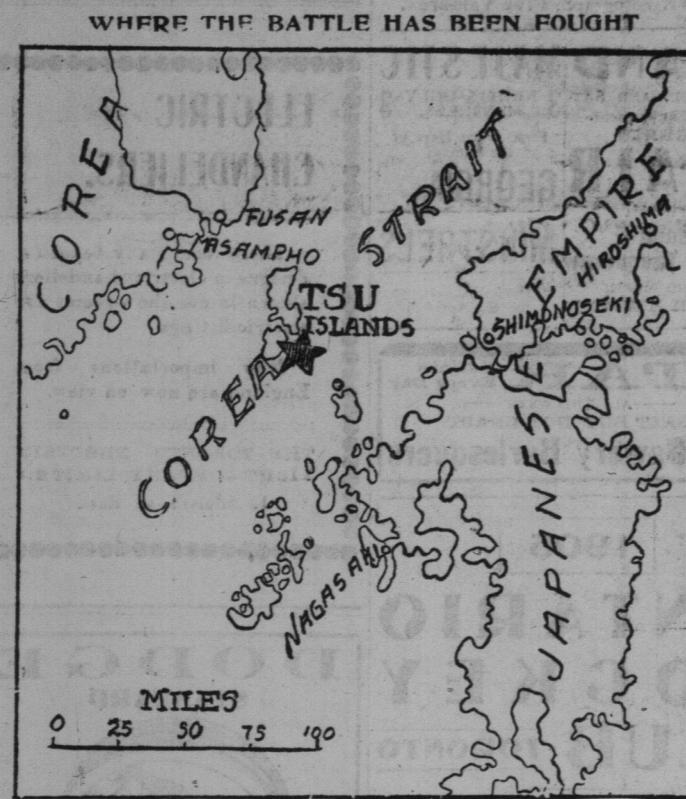
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TOLD BY BULLETINS.

Washington, D.C., May 28.—Japanese Minister Takahira has received a despatch from Tokio, saying, in effect, that the fighting in the naval battle thus far has been with favorable prospects to the Japanese. The minister's despatch is from private sources.

DEFEATED AND FLEEING.

London, May 28.—The correspondent of The Morning Post at Shanghai says that a telegram has been received from Pekin announcing that Rojestvensky's fleet has been defeated on the Tsu Islands, and is fleeing northward, and that four Russian ships, including the battleship Borodin, have been sunk.

RUSSIAN LOSSES.

Tsingtao, May 29.—A telegram from Chinese sources says that in the naval battle in the Straits of Korea Saturday and Sunday the Russians have probably lost two battleships and two cruisers. This report has not been confirmed.

FAVORABLE TO RUSSIANS.

St. Petersburg, May 28.—The St. Petersburg Telegraph Agency publishes the following from Shanghai: "From all quarters telegrams are arriving here announcing that a naval battle is in progress between the two powers. No details are given, but the tone of the telegrams from Chieffoo is favorable to the Russians. The telegrams say that the Vladivostok squadron participated in the engagements.

"There is the greatest excitement in Shanghai. All the warships in the harbor have cleared for action.

FIGHT BY NIGHT.

London, May 28.—A telegram from Paris says that a private telegram from Chieffoo, probably from Russian sources, reports that Rojestvensky began to force a passage of the Korean Straits Saturday night without lights, in two lines, one on each side of the Tsu Islands. Heavy firing is said to have been heard in the strait between 9.30 and 10.30 o'clock at night. Then it ceased.

One of Rojestvensky's ships returned to Kiachou Friday night, having been badly damaged by a collision.

GREAT VICTORY.

London, May 29.—According to The Daily Telegraph, a private telegram was received from Chieffoo last night in a very high quarter to the effect that Vice-Admiral Togo had won a great victory. Based on the meager details already received here, most of the newspapers are ready to believe the Japanese have secured a victory.

The indications from many of the despatches are that Rojestvensky sent some of his vessels thru the Tsingtao Straits, with the view of mystifying the Japanese.

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THE BATTLE, AS IT IS KNOWN DETAILS FEW; END IN DOUBT

Reports, However, Indicate That
Japanese Have Scattered the
Invading Force.

On Saturday at noon, the first gun was fired in the fatal naval battle, the issue of which the nations have been awaiting with keen anxiety. The earliest report of the encounter came from the United States consul at Nagasaki, who cables the state department on Sunday afternoon that the Japanese had sunk one Russian battleship—afterwards reported to be the Borodin—and four smaller ships, and had captured a repair ship. That the massed fleets had actually met has been confirmed from various sources, but definite information regarding the course and the result of the engagement is still wanting. The most favorable account for the Japanese is that of the Tokio correspondent of The Times, Engle-Davies, who cables that the Russian fleet has been dispersed; that several Russian ships have been disabled, and that the remainder are in flight with the Japanese pursuing.

The course of events, which have led up to the battle, seem to be pretty clear. Rojestvensky's massive fleet, consisting of battleships, cruisers and smaller craft, sailed from Sasebo Islands, near Shanghai, for the last time, on May 25, steered direct for the Tsu Islands, where he was observed approaching the entrance in double column at full speed, the battleships on the starboard and Japanese sides, and the smaller craft on the port or Korean side. The straits are divided midway by the Tsushima Islands, and the Russian fleet took the eastern channel, which is 25 miles wide, and the western part.

Admiral Togo's fleet, which had been stationed almost constantly at Sasebo, followed the Russians and appeared to have maintained a running fight in which torpedo boats probably took a leading part. A cable from Tokio states that the lower vessels of the Russian fleet were sent round the Japanese islands, and there are reasons why Rojestvensky would prefer to have his fleet dispersed rather than be hampered by this class of craft.

While a final estimate cannot yet be formed regarding the results of the battle, the agreement in the reports so far received, indicate that victory has again remained with the Japanese, who are stated in the Tsingtao paper to have captured four of the lower vessels of the Russian fleet. They will consider a small price to pay for the holding and dispersing of the Russian fleet, and it is likely that it has managed in whole or in part to break thru and head for Vladivostok, its destination. The Tsu Islands are about thirty-seven miles in length and possess a large sound containing a number of small harbors, as well as several smaller sounds and bays. Itsuhara, the capital of the Tsu Islands, is situated in a valley between high ridges of hills in a sight of Isahaya Bay. The place has about 500 inhabitants or more, according to estimates. At the outbreak of war between Japan and China in 1894 it was understood that the Japanese had established a strong naval base at the Tsu Islands, and that had been fortified.

On Saturday at 2 p.m., from Mount Pleasant.

MCLINTOCK—On Sunday, May 28th, at late residence, 308 Dundurn-street, Elizabeth Ann, dearly beloved wife of W. J. McLintock, aged 39 years.

Funeral from her late residence on Tuesday, May 30, at 1:30 p.m., to Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Alliston and Owen Sound papers please copy.

NEWLOVE—At Irlington, on Sunday, May 28th, at late residence, 308 Dundurn-street, Elizabeth Ann, dearly beloved wife of W. J. McLintock, aged 39 years.

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