

RUMOR OF A FRESH REVERSE TO THE RUSSIANS EIGHT VESSELS WERE SUNK AND TEN CAPTURED

Blowing Up of the Russian Cruiser Boyarin Is Verified at St. Petersburg—All Her Officers and a Crew of 187 Believed to Have Perished.

BRITISH GUNBOAT THREATENED BY RUSSIAN SOLDIERS AT YING KOW

New Japanese Cruisers Purchased From Argentine Arrive Safely at Yokohama—A Big Battle Reported as Raging On the Northern Banks of the Yalu—Mikado's Troops Likely to Attempt a Landing Near Dalny—The Foxton Hall Burned.

London, Tuesday, Feb. 16. — The dispatches from the far east contain numerous unconfirmed and conflicting rumors, among them a report of another engagement at Port Arthur, in which the Russians lost eight vessels sunk and ten captured.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16. — The report circulated here today that the Russian cruiser Boyarin was blown up last Saturday and that all her officers and crew, 197 in number, were lost is confirmed from a private source.

The Boyarin was 348 feet long, 41 feet beam and 16 feet draught. She was of 3,200 tons displacement and her trial speed was 25 knots. Her armament consisted of six 4.7 inch guns, eight 1.8 inch guns, two 3.4 inch and three machine guns. She was also fitted with six torpedo tubes. The Boyarin was last reported as having taken part in the engagement of Feb. 9 at Port Arthur.

THREATENED THE BRITISH.

Ying Kow, Monday, Feb. 15. — Threatening demonstrations have been made against the British gunboat Espiegle and the United States gunboat Helena by Russian soldiers, whose assaults upon and depredations against other foreign vessels continues. The civil administration is making every effort to arrest the offenders and has assured Captains Barton and Sawyer and Consul Miller that full reparation will be made.

The Eleventh Siberian Regiment paraded at New Chwang today in full strength.

The Russian authorities deny the report of loss of Russian vessels near Wei Hai Wei.

It is stated here that Japan will wait indefinitely to land troops in Manchuria as she considers that the control of the seas obtained by Japan nullifies to a great extent Russian interests in the Far East.

A BATTLE RAGING.

A Paris dispatch says that news from a Russian source states that a battle between the Russian and Japanese forces is now being fought on the northern bank of the Yalu River, where the Russian land forces are concentrated.

A dispatch to the Paris Echo from St. Petersburg says it is affirmed there that after the bombardment of Hakodate (which has not been officially corroborated), the four Russian cruisers which took part in the engagement were driven back to Vladivostok by a storm.

NEAR PORT DALNY.

Cablegrams to the Daily Mail from Wei Hai Wei and New Chwang report a Japanese fleet, with transports, cruising in the Gulf of Korea, and apparently with the idea of effecting a landing near Port Dalny.

NEW CRUISERS ARE SAFE.

Yokohama, Feb. 16. — The cruiser Nishin arrived safely at Yokohama at 10 o'clock this morning. The cruiser Kasuga at 11 o'clock.

These two vessels, recently purchased from the Argentine Republic, all increase materially the preponderance of the Japanese naval strength.

THE FOXTON HALL BURNED.

In connection with the rumors of another bombardment at Port Arthur, the owners of the British steamer Foxton Hall, which was detained by the Russians at Port Arthur, have received news that she has been destroyed by fire.

A RUSSIAN FLEET.

A Port Said dispatch says: The Russian battleship Oslabya, the volunteer fleet transport Saratoff, and four torpedo boats, including the Jemel Zupik in the Red Sea, 90 miles from Babel-el-Mandeb, and the volunteer fleet transport Smoleusk and another destroyer are at Dadaalus, or Abdul Khassan, on the Red Sea, 350 miles south of Suez.

JAPANESE LOSSES.

A correspondent of the Daily Mail who witnessed the engagement off Port Arthur, confirms previous accounts of the fight, and asserts again that one Japanese torpedo boat was sunk and another deserted by its crew in a sinking condition. It was subsequently captured by the Russians. He says also that the Japanese lost one battleship, and had one cruiser put out of action, and the colonel of the Fifth Russian Regiment was killed by a shell during the bombardment.

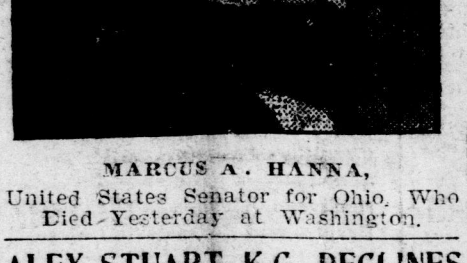
In a dispatch from Tokyo dated Feb. 12, a correspondent of the Times urges the British Government to avail itself of the present unique opportunity of studying the developments of

RUSSIA AGREEABLE TO HAY'S PLANS

Considers the Limiting of War Operations Practicable.

CARNIVAL AT ST. PETERSBURG

Merrymaking Season Opens at the Russian Capital, but True Carnival Spirit is Lacking.



MARCUS A. HANNA, United States Senator from Ohio. Who Died Yesterday at Washington.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16. — Information has been obtained at the foreign office that Secretary Hay's proposition to limit the area of war operations, is considered "practicable," and that a response will soon be forthcoming. Viceroy Alexieff is being consulted regarding the matter, and the authorities are doubtless awaiting an indication as to how the proposition will be received by Japan.

The sympathetic reception given by the powers to Mr. Hay's note, and the representations the powers have made here have undoubtedly had a good effect upon official opinion, and the Russian Government shows a more friendly spirit toward the direct representations made by the United States.

Carnival week, usually the gayest of the year in Russia, opened yesterday, but, under the shadow of the war, the merry king was only a ghost of that of former years. In St. Petersburg all the festivities, including balls, public and private social functions and fashionable weddings, planned months in advance, have been abandoned. Business, however, is as usual, suspended only for the few hours of the day which people through the snow-covered streets at cut prices, although their occupants evidently are not possessed by the true carnival spirit.

The rush of crowds to buy extra editions of the newspapers, the intense activity at the war and marine ministries and the thoughts of the people are anxiously inquiring regarding the fate of relatives are grim reminders of the horrors of the war.

Instead of the customary festivities the theater gave double performances for the benefit of the Red Cross. Last night the artists' ball, one of the biggest events of the social season, which it was intended to abandon, was held in a hall, the proceeds to represent the feast of Bonaparte. The artists were attired in the garb of Hircos. The object was to swell the Red Cross Society's funds.

ACETYLENE GAS WRECKS HOUSE

Disastrous Explosion at Bridgen Ont.—Dr. Seager's Residence Ruined—Narrow Escapes.

Bridgen, Ont., Feb. 16. — The brick residence of Dr. F. R. Seager here was wrecked by the acetylene gas plant blowing up about 10 o'clock this morning. Fire quickly started and consumed everything. Dr. Seager escaped by jumping from an upstairs window. Mrs. Seager and daughter, Blanche, escaped, being slightly burned. The walls over the gas machine were torn away from the ground to the roof, and the large frame kitchen adjoining the main building completely collapsed. Within 45 minutes from the time of the explosion the fine residence was completely ruined, and only part of the brick walls now stand.

BRITISH SCHOONER LOST

Scotia Queen From Nova Scotia Lost on Atlantic Coast.

Nantucket, Mass., Feb. 16. — Nothing could be seen today of the British schooner Scotia Queen, which struck on Tucker's Shoals last night, and it is feared that the vessel was lost during the heavy northwest gale with all hands.

The Scotia Queen was bound from River Herbert, N. S., for Berwick, with a cargo of lumber.

PERMANENT CAMPS Fifty Square Miles Will Be Required By Militia Department.

Toronto, Feb. 16. — Col. Biggar, transportation agent, of Ottawa, is conferring with the Ontario Government concerning the establishment of permanent camps. Fifty square miles will be required by the militia department. This cannot be obtained west of Toronto. It is stated that the land can be obtained between Toronto and Montreal, within easy reach of the C. P. R.

GREAT STORMS EAST AND WEST

Blizzards and Intense Cold Sweep Northern States.

TWO MEN FROZEN TO DEATH

Trains Buried in Snowdrifts — Acres of Wheat Laid in New York State Ruined.

Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 16. — This was the coldest day in Cleveland and Northern Ohio in five years. The thermometer recorded 8 degrees below zero and at some points 14 below zero.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 16. — Last night was the coldest of the winter in the lower peninsula of Michigan. It was 9 below zero, here; 10 below at Grand Rapids, and 16 below at Alpena. Forecaster Conger says that the crest of the cold wave has passed.

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Provincetown, Mass., Feb. 16. — The entire Cape Cod section, which was swept by a furious blizzard yesterday and last night, the worst since that of November 1888, has not recovered today, and traffic on land and navigation was delayed. The employees of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad today dug out of snowdrifts a Boston train which had been stalled with passengers all night, and two relief trains, which had been unable to reach the stalled train.

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In several inches thick snow covers after acre of wheat, and the plants are rotting.

ALEX. STUART, K.C., DECLINES Will Not Accept Solicitorship of the Ontario Treasury.

Mr. Alex. Stuart, K. C., of this city, announced today that he would not accept the position of solicitor of the Ontario Treasury, made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Frank Ford, and which was offered him by Hon. George W. Ross.

Mr. Stuart has notified the Premier of his intention to remain in London. There are said to be a number of applicants for the position.

VAN HORNE IN IT American Company Gets Control of Guatemala Railway.

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 16. — Robert H. Van Horn, manager of the United Fruit Company at Belize, British Honduras, who is in Mobile, says that an American company, including Sir William Van Horne, of the C. P. R.; Minor C. Keith, of the United Fruit Company, and other capitalists and railroad men, have acquired the Guatemala Railway, running from Port Barrios, 135 miles inland. The new company binds itself to extend the road 65 miles.

60,000 TROOPS AT IRKUTSK. Russian Fleet is Moving in Direction of Southern Japan.

New York, Feb. 16. — The arrival is reported of 60,000 Russian troops at Irkutsk, says a Herald dispatch from Port Arthur by way of Chefoo. They are being sent to the Manchurian front, where they are now running regularly, bringing supplies from Siberia.

Admiral Alexieff, Viceroy of the Far East, is still making his headquarters at Mukden.

The telegram reiterates the statement that the Russian fleet is reported to be moving in the direction of Korea or Southern Japan with the intention of bombarding the nearest port, causing a diversion in favor of Port Arthur.

A TURKISH TRADE.

Constantinople, Feb. 16. — An article has been issued commanding the Turkish press to refrain from publishing comments unfavorable to Russia during the war.

JAPS SEIZE A CARGO.

San Francisco, Feb. 16. — Cable advice has been received by the California Fruit Cannery Association that their shipment of canned goods, shipped on the steamer Coyote a month ago, and consigned to Port Arthur, had been seized by the Japanese Government at Nagasaki. As shipments consigned to neutral ports are not subject to seizure.

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RUSSIAN MINISTER DEPRESSED Scenes at Departure of the Legation From Seoul.

Seoul, Feb. 16. — The Russian minister and all the resident Russians left this city on Friday last, the 12th inst., on a special Japanese train. Upon its arrival at Chemulpo it immediately went to the jetty between Japanese lines of soldiers. The Russian minister bowed to the westerners present, but not to the Japanese, boarding a launch in attendance with 100 Russian soldiers. On board the minister appeared very much depressed, and his wife wept. The party went on board the French cruiser Pascal, which sailed for Chefoo this morning at 10 o'clock. She had in all 700 Russians on board.

WEATHER BULLETIN TOMORROW—FAIR AND VERY COLD.

London, Tuesday, Feb. 16. Sun rises, 7:36 a.m. Moon sets, 7:08 p.m. Sun sets, 5:28 p.m. Moon rises, 6:18 p.m.

Toronto, Feb. 17—3 p.m. A snowstorm, accompanied by high winds, prevails tonight in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, while elsewhere it is fair. A pronounced cold wave, which was over the Territories yesterday, has since spread rapidly eastward and is now affecting Ontario. The outlook is decidedly cold in Ontario and Quebec.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 14 below—4 below; Victoria, 40—56; Calgary, 18 below—4; Qu'Appelle, 35 below—8 below; Winnipeg, 28 below—10 below; Port Arthur, 20 below—zero; Parry Sound, 8 below—15; Toronto, 5 below—10; Ottawa, 10—15; Montreal, 4—20; Quebec, 12—20; Halifax, 4—20.

FORECASTS.

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TEMPERATURES.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	4	—4	Fair
Winnipeg	28	—20	Clear
Parry Sound	22	—22	Clear
Toronto	10	—10	Clear
Ottawa	15	—8	Fair
Montreal	2	—2	Snow
Quebec	22	—2	Snow
Halifax	22	—16	Snow

WEATHER NOTES.

A heavy snowstorm has been general in the Maritime Provinces. Extreme cold prevails from Ontario westward to the Territories, with little prospect of much change at present. Stormy conditions are also prevalent in British Columbia.

Local temperatures: Monday—Highest, 21° above; lowest, 6° below.

First Trophy of the War To Be Presented to Mikado

Tokio, Feb. 16. — The first of the Russian cruiser, Variag, recently sunk off the harbor of Chemulpo, which will be presented to the Emperor as the first trophy of the war, reached Sasebo yesterday on the cruiser Chiyoda, together with the anchor, a gun and other souvenirs of the destroyed warship. The captain of the cruiser Chiyoda has been summoned to Tokyo to recount to the Emperor the story of the engagement.

He will present the first trophy to the Emperor.

The German steamer Batavia has just reached Moji with 1,500 Japanese refugees on board including the commercial agent of Japan at Vladivostok. The latter reports that ten Russian torpedo boats were frozen up at that port unable to move. The commander of the garrison and the local authorities at Vladivostok called on the departing agent, and complained that the Japanese had opened hostilities without having declared war.

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