

RUSSIANS SCORED A GREAT VICTORY.

Japs Tried to Bottle Up Admiral
Stark's Fleet and Utterly
Failed.

RETVIZAN'S SPLENDID WORK.

First to Observe the Attack—Sank
Two Vessels—People of Russia
Wild With Joy.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—The Port Arthur correspondent of the Novosti telegraphs that at Port Arthur the Japanese lost steamers (number not stated) and one torpedo boat.

"At the moment of writing," the correspondent continued, "23 Japanese vessels are visible on the horizon, and cross fire has begun, in which the Russian cruisers Bayan, Novik and Askold are participating."

ALEXIEFF'S ACCOUNT.

2:45 a. m.—A telegram from Viceroy Alexieff to the czar says:

"At a quarter before 3 in the morning of Feb. 24, numerous Japanese torpedo boats attempted to attack the battleship Retvizan. The Retvizan was the first to observe the torpedo boats and opened a strong fire on them. She also destroyed two Japanese ships near the entrance of the harbor; they were coming directly toward her. One of them went on the rocks near the lighthouse on Tiger peninsula and the other sank under Golden Hill. The Retvizan observed four steamers in the sinking condition and eight torpedo boats departing slowly to rejoin the waiting Japanese warships. A portion of the crews of the Japanese vessels were drowned. The grounded steamer is still burning."

JAPS SAVED THEMSELVES.

"The enemy is observed in the offing of Port Arthur in two lines.

"The Japanese crews saved themselves in boats, and it is possible that some of them were picked up by the enemy's torpedo boats.

"I am proceeding to examine the coast. The entrance of the harbor is open. I attribute the complete derangement of the enemy's plan to the brilliant action and destructive fire of the Retvizan. Floating mines are still visible in the roadstead. I have recalled the three cruisers sent in pursuit of the enemy. In order, in the first place, to clear the roadstead of floating mines. We had no losses."

REPORTS OF VICTORY.

2:12 a. m.—Reports of a Russian victory at Port Arthur were current late yesterday afternoon and early in the evening, and about midnight they seemed to have been definitely confirmed here, but in the absence of an official announcement, which is momentarily expected, the stories of the dimensions of this victory are conflicting and confusing in character.

IMITATED HOBSON.

The most circumstantial report is that the Japanese had attempted to bottle up Admiral Stark's fleet in Port Arthur by sinking two stone-laden vessels at the entrance of the harbor, employing the tactics of the United States navy with the Merrimac at Santiago during the Spanish-American war.

According to this account two Japanese ships appeared off the harbor, with a Japanese fleet behind them and ostensibly in pursuit. The Russians, however, suspected a ruse and their ships

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steamed out, sank the stone-laden vessels, engaged and defeated the enemy and drove them off. The reports of the loss inflicted, however, are conflicting.

All the stories included the feature of the vessels loaded with stones, but according to some versions the Japanese fleet was conveying transports with both of the reports are without confirmation, and they are given simply as examples of the stories which floated about in the excited crowds.

Instead of diminishing, the crowds at the admiralty and newspaper and telegraph agency offices kept increasing, and the excitement attained the fever point when it was known definitely that the emperor had received a telegram giving more details and showing the Russian victory was even greater than at first reported.

Newspaper messengers waited at the admiralty with fast horses, ready to carry away the news which was known was being prepared.

When the sheets were finally distributed at 2:30 o'clock this morning a rush was made for the exits and the assembled officers cheered wildly and repeatedly.

NEWS OF VICTORY.

The news of victory was accompanied by two stories, one that after the first decisive Russian victory the emperor would offer peace, and the other that Japan had deposed the emperor of Korea and formally annexed the country.

Both of the reports are without confirmation, and they are given simply as examples of the stories which floated about in the excited crowds.

Further details of this engagement from independent sources are awaited with the greatest interest, but it is believed that the reports that Japanese battleships or transports were sunk should be taken with a degree of allowance.

A dispatch received here from Tokyo this morning explains the recent suspension of Japanese naval operations to have been due chiefly to bad weather prevailing in the Gulf of Pe-Chi-Li, where there have been heavy winds, snowstorms and fogs.

The general opinion here is that Admiral Togo after possibly returning to Japan to make repairs will next devote his attention to the Russian Vladivostok squadron.

AMERICAN VESSEL PRAISED.

The greatest praise is given to the commander of the Retvizan, and the splendid action of this American-built

vessel places her name foremost on the roll of the Russian navy.

Viceroy Alexieff's dispatch was an amplification of a brief telegram received by the emperor, but which was not given out.

Later it was said that Russia sustained no losses in the engagement. It is evident that Vice Admiral Stark no longer commands the Russian Port Arthur naval forces, Viceroy Alexieff mentioning a temporary commander of the fleet, without giving any names.

DISCOUNTING ALEXIEFF'S ACCOUNT.

London, Feb. 24.—Viceroy Alexieff's dispatch to the czar of Russia, clearing up the doubts caused by the sensational versions of the last Port Arthur affair, was received in London too late to be published in the early editions of the morning papers, but it confirms the opinion, founded upon earlier rumors, that Admiral Togo made a daring attempt to bottle up the Russian fleet at Port Arthur and although Viceroy Alexieff asserts that the entrance to the harbor at Port Arthur is still free, the fact that Admiral Togo's fleet, minus the vessels injured in the courageous exploit, was soon steaming at full speed on a southeast course from Wei Hai Wei, is interpreted as an indication of the Japanese admiral's satisfaction with the accomplishment of his design.

It is pointed out here that it would be difficult for the Russians in the darkness of night to ascertain just what had happened to Japanese vessels or to distinguish between the hulks of their intention to sink and torpedo boats.

As two injured vessels were observed steaming slowly away from Port Arthur and as the Japanese fleet was going at full speed off Wei-Hai-Wei, it is presumed that the two injured vessels might have gone elsewhere to repair.

Another explanation of the incompleteness of Admiral Togo's squadron as seen off Wei-Hai-Wei is that he possibly left some vessels to watch off Port Arthur.

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ALEXIEFF'S PROCLAMATION.

It Notifies the Chinese That Russia is at War With Japan.

Yinkow, Feb. 24.—Viceroy Alexieff has caused a proclamation to be issued throughout Manchuria notifying the Chinese that Russia is at war with Japan on account of Japan's treacherous attack on the fleet. This proclamation is under six headings.

First—The inhabitants must prevent the encroachment of Chinese on Russian territory.

Second—Russian and Chinese interests are declared to be identical; but, as China says she wishes to maintain neutrality, therefore all officials in Manchuria, instead of hindering, must assist the Russian army.

Third—The people shall continue their occupations, and shall treat the Russian troops with confidence.

Fourth—The railroad telegraphs are left to the protection of the people, who will be responsible in case they are injured.

The fifth heading warns the people not to obey the threats of the chunchus (bandits), who are the cure of Manchuria, but to assist the troops to exterminate them; if they do not assist in this they also will be treated as robbers.

Sixth—If the people antagonize the troops or show them hatred, they will be exterminated without mercy. The government is taking all steps, in any event, to protect its interests.

The proclamation makes an earnest appeal for the sympathy of the people in the present crisis, when it says, "Russia must put her back to the wall."

H. B. Miller, United States consul at Newchwang, is increasingly active in his endeavors to protect Japanese refugees, and has made further demands for information as to the whereabouts of refugees. He has made strong representations in the matter of right of search and inspection.

The reorganization of the vice-regal administration is now going forward.

Kuropatkin Leaves for East.

Paris, Feb. 24.—A dispatch to the Figaro from St. Petersburg says Gen. Kuropatkin had advanced his departure and will leave for the far east tomorrow.

The Korean minister at St. Petersburg, the correspondent says, has subscribed \$25 for the Russian fleet.

JAPAN-KOREA TREATY.

Russia Will Absolutely Ignore It.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Russia will ignore Japan's newly negotiated treaty with Korea guaranteeing the independence and integrity of the hermit kingdom, and has so informed the United States. Japan, it may be stated, assumes practically the same attitude of indifference toward Russia's protest to the powers, which, on high authority it is declared, will be ignored by the Tokyo government.

In diplomatic circles here, Hay's announcement of the negotiations of the Japanese-Korean treaty created a sensation. While the treaty it is said, opens possibilities for new international complications in the far eastern war,

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quality.

the diplomatic corps here continues firm in the belief that there is no ground for apprehension at present that the war will extend beyond the two belligerents and Korea.

It will not surprise diplomats conversant with Japan's plans to see an early announcement from Tokyo declaring that practically all Korean ports will be opened eventually to the commerce of the world.

RUSSIAN STUDENTS.

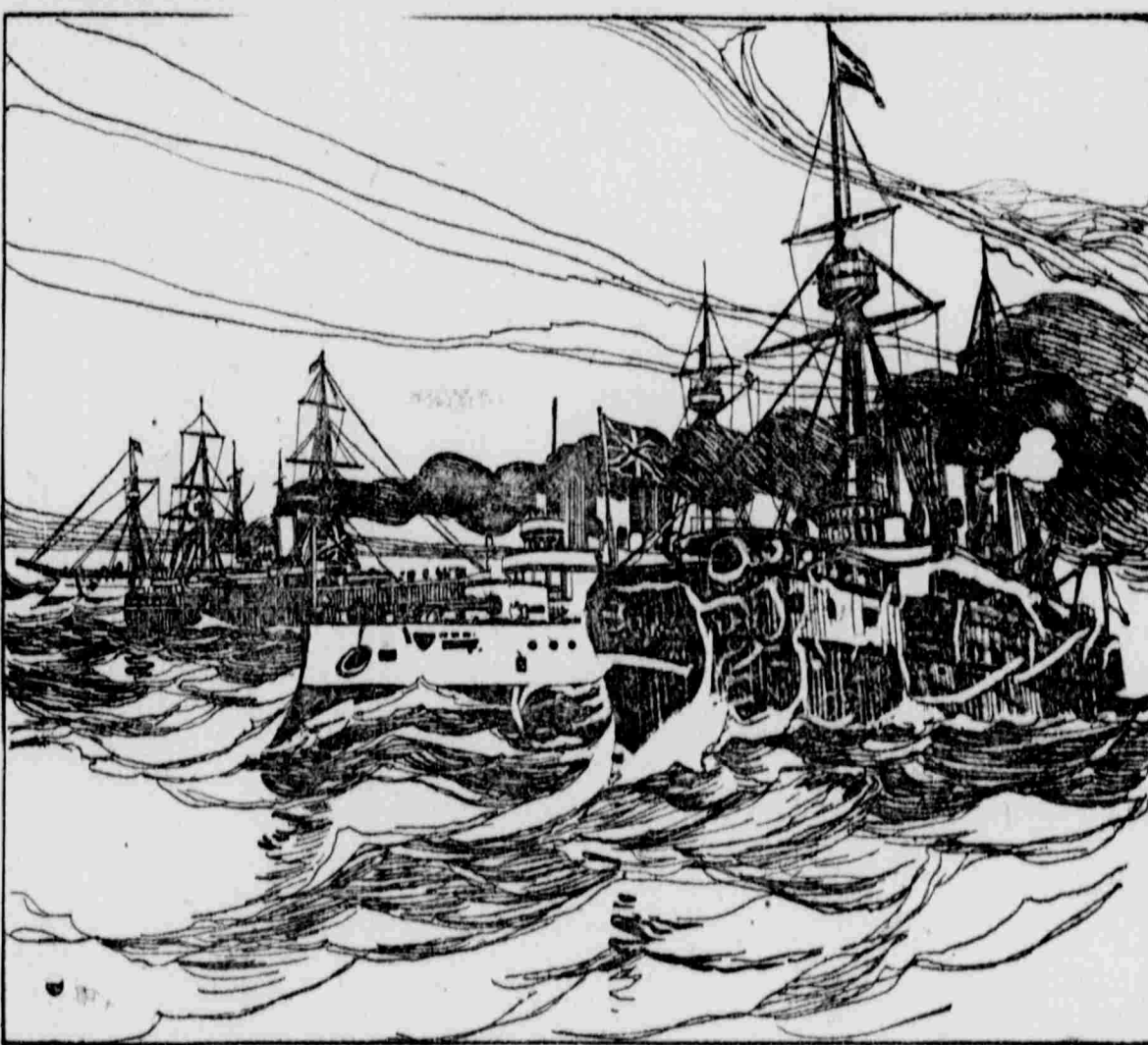
Would Make War Occasion to
War on Official Russia.

Berlin, Feb. 25.—A dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger from Berne, Switzerland, says about 400 Russian students of both sexes attending the Berne university held a meeting and adopted resolutions expressing their hope that the revolutionary elements in Russia would mobilize and turn the war against Japan in a war of the masses against official Russia.

The resolutions are concluded with these words: "Down with czarism. Long live international socialism."

Skirmishes With Chinese.

London, Feb. 24.—In a dispatch from Chefoo a correspondent of the Daily Mail says that 5,000 Russian troops have moved from Mukden to Hsin Min Ting and that skirmishes are reported between Chinese regulars and Russians.



Protected Cruiser Admiral Korniloff. Battleship Navarin. Battleship Imperator Alexander II. Armored Cruiser Admiral Nakhimoff.

SECOND DIVISION OF ADMIRAL WRENIUS' FLEET, DESTINED FOR PORT ARTHUR.

near Shan Hai Kwan.

It is announced from Peking, this correspondent continues, that Paul Lasch, Russian minister in China, has offered written assurance that the Russian government will not leave Shanghai until the conclusion of hostilities, but Japan has insisted that the vessel be disabled.

Cabling from Tokyo a correspondent of the Times says the Russian movements on the Yalu are not considered serious in Japan, where the town of Pingyang, Korea, is considered safe. It is reported that the constant exodus of Chinese coolies from Manchuria, the Times correspondent goes on to say, is causing great inconvenience to the Russians.

San Domingo Towns Recaptured.

San Domingo, Saturday, Feb. 20.—The towns of San Cristobal and Bani have been recaptured by forces from the government gunboat Presidente. Another government vessel has been sent to attack the insurgents at San Pedro de Macoris.

United States Minister Powell has notified the government that Washington does not recognize the closing of ports not at present in the possession of the government. The blockade is ineffective.

The insurgents inflicted great damage to property in the vicinity of this city. The town of San Carlos has been almost completely destroyed.

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with nausea of the stomach? Is there a constant bad taste in the mouth? Do you have a hacking cough? Do you cough at night? Do you take cold easily? If so, you have catarrh.

Catarrh is not only dangerous in this way, but it causes ulcerations, death and decay of bone tissue of thinking and reasoning power, kills ambition and energy, often causes loss of appetite, indigestion, dyspepsia, raw throat and reaches to general debility, idleness and

insanity. It needs attention at once. Cure it with Gauss' Catarrh Cure. It is a quick, radical, permanent cure, because it rids the system of the poison germs that cause catarrh.

In order to prove to all who are suffering from this dangerous and loathsome disease that Gauss' Catarrh Cure will actually cure any case of catarrh quickly, I will send a trial package by mail free of all cost. Send us your name and address today and the treatment will be sent you by return mail. Try it. It will positively cure so that you will be welcomed instead of shunned by your friends. Write today, you may forget it tomorrow. C. E. Gauss, 2380 Main St., Marshall, Mich.

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