

## BATTLE ON LAND

**Russians Badly Beaten on Yalu.**

**THOUSANDS DEAD**

**Their Advance Guard Driven Back.**

**EFFORT TO SUPPRESS NEWS**

**Reports Agree That Japanese Gained Great Victory.**

**LARGE FORCE WAS ENGAGED**

**Russians Lose 2500 Dead—News Leaks Out at St. Petersburg, Despite the Censor, and is Confirmed at Niu Chwang.**

### THE WAR SITUATION.

Russian preparations for a siege of Port Arthur indicate no chance in place. Whether the Russian lines are thrown forward to the Yalu or withdrawn to Harbin, Port Arthur will be held. The Japanese are not likely to attempt the sudden capture of the fortress if the Russians fall back, but will probably invest the place, which must eventually capitulate. Reports concerning the Vladivostok cruiser squadron are indefinite, and should be regarded as doubtful. In the hands of daring seamen the Russian cruisers might be used to inflict great damage on Japanese shipping, but past events show that the Russian navy is not likely to accomplish much.

**SPECIAL CABLE TO NEW YORK HERALD AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN.**  
ST. PETERSBURG, Sunday, Feb. 21.—I have authority which prohibits me doubting the veracity of the report that, in spite of the official dispatches stating that nothing is taking place and everything is perfectly quiet, outpost engagements have taken place on the Yalu resulting in the Russian Advance Guards being driven back with considerable losses, which are estimated at 2500 lives, but whether this means those who fell on the Yalu or the entire Russian losses since the commencement of the war is not exactly clear.

**LARGE FORCE ENGAGED.**  
Report from Niu Chwang Says Russians Lost Several Thousand.  
**SPECIAL CABLE SERVICE.**  
NIU CHWANG, Feb. 21.—A Japanese victory is reported near the Yalu River.

**AT THE TOP OF THE LIST FOR MERIT**  
**OAKWOOD MALT**  
THE CANADIAN MALT WHISKEY  
MOST OFTEN IMITATED  
**ROTHCHILD BROS.**  
PACIFIC COAST AGENTS

## BARGAINS IN CAMERAS

We have a few second-hand and old-style cameras which we must get rid of regardless of cost, to make room for our new stock. You will have to hurry. They will not last long.

**BLUMAUER-FRANK DRUG CO.**  
142-148 Fourth St.

**OLD KENTUCKY HOME CLUB**  
**O. P. S. WHISKEY**  
Favorite American Whiskey  
**BLUMAUER & HOCH, SOLE DISTRIBUTORS**  
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but is unconfirmed from any source. According to the report current here a large part of the forces of both Russians and Japanese were engaged. The Russians are said to have lost several thousand men. There are no details of the engagement obtainable.

### SEEKING RUSSIAN SHIPS.

**Japanese Fleet Wants Battle With Cable-Cutting Squadron.**  
**SPECIAL WAR SERVICE.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—The American's Tokyo cable, dated February 21, says: Russian warships are reported between Japan and Korea. Transports carrying troops across are heavily conveyed in consequence. Half the Japanese fleet is occupied in surveying and protecting the landing of troops in Korea and the other half is searching for the Russian Vladivostok warships.

The prefectural office has received a telegram from the chief magistrate of the Island of Miyako, south of the Gulf of Corea, reporting that 12 Russians disembarked in a boat from a vessel in the offing on February 19. The subsequent movements of this mysterious party are not reported, but inquiry is under way. The Russians were probably seeking to cut the cable, as three warships were reported off Okinawa Island today searching for the cable.

### ARMING BLACK SEA COAST.

**Russia Mounts Big Guns, Showing Fear of Other Powers.**

**SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN.**

WARSAW, Feb. 21.—Heavy siege guns are being mounted on the coast 15 versts (ten miles) from Odessa. They will cover the approach to the harbor. Russia's feverish military and naval activity belies the optimistic official assurances to the effect that nothing untoward is anticipated and that no other power is expected to become involved in the present conflict.

### FIGHT BETWEEN OUTPOSTS.

**Japanese Attempt to Destroy Railroad, but are Repulsed.**  
**SPECIAL CABLE.**

TIENSIN, Feb. 21.—What is reported to have been a band of Chinchuts, but is believed to have been a scouting party of Japanese, attacked the Russian force of railroad guards at Fu Chan and attempted to destroy the railway. A pitched battle followed, and the attacking party was driven off, with loss. It is not known if the Russian guards suffered any loss.

### Russian Wounded Go to Hong Kong.

**SPECIAL CABLE TO THE OREGONIAN.**

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The correspondent of the London Times cables that the British cruiser Amphitrite has sailed for Hong Kong with the Russian wounded who were injured in the battle of Chemulpo, in which the Russian cruiser Varig was destroyed. They will be landed there, and, on giving their parole not to fight again during the war unless exchanged, will be taken care of by Russian agents.

A dispatch from Shanghai to the Times states that the Russian Consul is making arrangements to send the Russian refugees from Chemulpo and the survivors of the cruiser Varig, who have been brought to Shanghai, to Odessa. They are destitute and suffering, and the Russian Consul is unable to supply their wants.

### Russians Chase Japanese Ship.

**NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—A Tokyo dispatch to the American says:**

The crew of the Yamaguchi Maru, which arrived at Shimoda Sunday, reports that the ship was followed by four warships from a point seven miles off the harbor of Fusan until close to the island of Tsushima, where the chase was abandoned.

### More Troops for Manchuria.

**SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND PORTLAND OREGONIAN.**

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 21.—Eleven thousand troops are leaving South Russia immediately for Manchuria.

## PUT IN COMMAND

**Kouropatkin Will Lead Russian Army.**

**IS LOVED BY HIS SOLDIERS**

**Four Grand Dukes Will Accompany Him to Orient.**

**ALEXIEFF IS PUSHED ASIDE**

**Alexis, Who Has Visited the United States, Will Command Navy—Russians Command Action of the Vicksburg.**

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 21.—The appointment of General Kouropatkin, who was yesterday relieved of his functions as Minister of War, to the chief command of the Russian army in the Far East, was gazetted this morning.

With the possible exception of General Dragomiroff, formerly Governor-General of Kiev and later member of the Council of State, General Kouropatkin is the most popular man in the Russian army. As a bluff old soldier who has fought his way up from the bottom to be Minister of War, he is the ideal of the enlisted men. Not one in the Czar's army has seen more fighting and no one can tell a story better. There is never a dull moment in his company, for he intermingles the humorous incidents of his campaign with tales of the self-sacrifice of the men whom he led with Shkoleff over the parched wastes of Gork-Tepe or over the icy slopes of Fleva. No one meeting the stout, grizzled warrior in his charming home on the sunny side of the Moika would guess the extent of his power or the burden of responsibility weighing on his shoulders. As Minister of War he was considered a just chief who gave rewards and administered punishments without fear or favor. It is small wonder, therefore, that the Russian army adores him.

### Confident He Will Win.

The appointment of General Kouropatkin to direct command in the field has been received with enthusiasm and his leadership inspires complete confidence that there will be no mistake and that Russian arms will be carried to success on land. General Kouropatkin will be accompanied to the front by the Grand Dukes Boris, Alexis, Nicholas and Michael Nikolaevich.

### The Emperor and Empress gave a luncheon today to General Kouropatkin and the Grand Dukes at the Alexandria Palace, Tsarskoe-Selo, and bade them farewell.

The exact mission of Grand Duke Alexis is unknown, but it is undoubtedly an important one, as he has been in supreme command of the Russian army as president of the Board of Admiralty, taking an active part in the negotiations preceding hostilities. He presided at the special council which prepared Russia's unfettered reply to Japan. Alexis paid a memorable pleasant visit to the United States when a young man. His career as High Admiral is well known and brilliant and he has always surrounded himself with a notable staff. Grand Duke Alexis is now in very bad health, but his desire to go to the front could not be resisted. If his health permits, he may exercise general direction of the naval movements in the Far East.

Grand Duke Boris is a Lieutenant of Hussars and is considered a dandy of the soldier sort. He is likely to distinguish himself in battle, and probably will be on the staff of Grand Duke Nicholas. After Boris returned from the United States, he bought a palace formerly occupied by Ambassador McCormick. Grand Duke Nicholas is 47 years of age and is considered the foremost cavalry expert in the Russian army. As the occupant of the responsible post of Inspector-General of Cavalry, he will be able to advise General Kouropatkin, who is an infantry specialist. Nicholas is one of the few Grand Dukes who married a commoner, and though his marriage has not been recorded, it is none the less happy. His wife was the widow of a wealthy merchant named Borenin.

**Alexieff is Sidelined.**  
With General Kouropatkin's appointment as Commander-in-Chief the army and the presence of Grand Duke Alexis in the Far East, the opinion is strengthened that, while Admiral Alexieff may remain as Viceroy, the active direction of operations will pass out of his hands.

### Vicksburg's Action Criticized.

The action of the commander of the United States gunboat Vicksburg in declining to join the commanders of other foreign warships in a protest against the attack of the Japanese fleet at Chemulpo which resulted in the sinking of the Russian cruisers Varig and Korietz promises to cause much discussion here. The Novoe Vremya's London correspondent writes that the protest of the British Captain against the Japanese attack on the ground that it was a breach of neutrality proved ineffectual, because the American commander would not assent.

### Newspapers here are laying stress on the personal note of M. Kurino, the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg, to Count Lamsdorff, the Russian Foreign Minister, on the eve of the notification of the severance of diplomatic relations, in which M. Kurino expressed the hope that the rupture would be of brief duration. They point to this incident as a proof that Russia had no reason to believe that

Japan intended to follow up the rupture with actual hostilities.

Official news received here confirms the report that none of the crew of the Korietz was lost.

### ADVANCE TO THE YALU.

**Japanese Mass on Korean Frontier—Russians Threaten India.**

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The cables are absolutely silent with regard to the progress of the war, but there are vague rumors of land fighting. As an instance, the Paris edition of the New York Herald's correspondent at St. Petersburg talks of a Russian repulse on the Yalu River with a loss of 5000 lives. These rumors are unconfirmed, and from a reliable quarter the Morning Post's Chiao Choo correspondent says he learns that tens of thousands of Japanese are advancing by forced marches from the various ports of Corea on the Yalu River, and that severe fighting is expected shortly. These are the only references to actual operations that have reached London.

The Viceroy has issued proclamations to the Chinese throughout Manchuria, seeking to enlist their sympathy in behalf of Russia and their assistance in maintaining the railway intact. He adds that the Japanese alleged treacherous methods in beginning the war.

A Port Arthur dispatch received at St. Petersburg reports that the Russian cruiser Novik had been repaired and had left her dock.

The Standard's Kiev correspondent hears that the Caucasus and Turkestan armies are to be mobilized. He adds that the rumor is not confirmed officially, but says, if it is true, it can only be interpreted as a veiled threat against India in certain emergencies.

The correspondent at Tien Tsin of the Standard reports an attack by 500 Chinese "brigands" on the Russian posts at Poochow as probably an attempt to wreck the railway.

### HER CREDIT IS LOW.

**Doubt Whether Russia Can Raise Money for Prolonged War.**

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The question as to how long Russia will be able to bear the financial strain caused by the war without having recourse to a foreign loan is a great influence in the money markets. It is the general belief that, owing to economic conditions resulting from the bad harvests and other causes, it will be difficult for Russia to raise internal loans, and that, if the war lasts beyond a couple of years, that country will be bound to raise money abroad.

The Stock Exchange experienced a very depressed and nervous week, due largely to the fears of trouble in the Balkans. Rumors of the illness of Emperor William, as well as the war in the Far East, have also exerted considerable influence in causing this depression. Foreign stocks of all classes were almost demoralized, quantities of them being thrown upon the market from Paris and Berlin, where operators were overloaded by recent heavy purchases made under the belief that peace in the Far East would be maintained.

The other markets were dull and depressed, in sympathy with foreign markets, while American securities were characterized by an almost complete absence of dealings.

### Spain Only Taking Precautions.

PARIS, Feb. 21.—The correspondent at Madrid of the Temps says that in the session of the Cortes on Monday the government will deny the report of foreign alliances, which were the cause of the excitement Sunday, and will say that the movements of troops are only precautionary and for the purpose of enforcing Spanish neutrality in the war in the Far East.

## RUSSIAN SICK AND WOUNDED HAVE A TRUE FRIEND IN HER



THE CZARINA.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 20.—The Czarina, who continues to take great personal interest in the work of providing for the sick and wounded of the war, presided today at a special meeting of the Ladies' Patriotic Society, which was attended by several Grand Duchesses and others of the highest ladies in the land, and presided at a service held at the Winter Palace at which the girls of the Imperial Schools acted as choristers. During a discussion in regard to clothing the services unparaphrased offered by the girlhood and womanhood of Russia for the relief of the wounded, the Czarina proposed temporarily to suspend the studies in the girls' schools, in order that the girls might be able to devote the school hours to sewing. The suggestion was applauded, but no definite action was taken. Her Majesty, who is an expert needlewoman, has done much to encourage sewing among Russian society women.

## GLAD TO ACCEPT

**Hay's Note on Neutrality of China.**

**THE POSITION OF RUSSIA**

**She Will Publish News of the War, Good or Bad.**

**CASSINI DEFINES THE POLICY**

**American Sympathy Not All With Japan—Captain of Varig a Hero—Russia Will Give Japan Her Fill.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—"Russia gladly and willingly favored the suggestion of Secretary Hay that, as far as possible, the belligerents in the Far East War localize hostilities and respect the neutrality of China in the interest of a continuance of peaceful intercourse of the rest of the world. My government expressed the conviction that Mr. Hay's suggestion was prompted by motives of the highest humanity and was mutually advantageous to the belligerents."

This statement was made by Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador at Washington, in the course of a conversation with a representative of the Associated Press at the Embassy tonight. The Ambassador spoke in general on the Far Eastern situation. Although the negotiations on the neutrality proposition have been carried on almost entirely between the several foreign governments addressed and the American Embassy accredited to them, the weight of the work of the Russian Ambassador at Washington in the councils of his Imperial Majesty was strongly influential in the shaping of Russia's reply. As soon as the note was addressed to the Russian government, Count Cassini was advised of the fact by Secretary Hay and a long and earnest conversation followed on the motives of the Washington Government in indicating this movement, unique in diplomacy. To the frankness of this conversation, a frankness made possible by the cordial and intimate relations which Mr. Hay and Count Cassini have enjoyed at Washington, is largely due, it is said, the prompt response of the Russian government, which is materially concerned with many matters of the gravest importance and some of them demanding the most speedy attention, such as war measures.

### Offers of Aid to Russia.

"It is fortunate," continued the Ambassador, "that whatever may be the feeling here and there in the United States of sympathy for Japan, the traditional, and so far as Russia is concerned, the highly-prized friendly relations between the Washington Government and St. Petersburg government in no way have been interfered with. Every mail brings to the Russian Embassy some 25 to 30 contradictions, in the form of offers of assistance, medical and military, of the statement that Russia is without friends in this country. It is in this country, as in every other, the smaller nation can count on a certain amount of sympathy, arising solely from the fact of its minority, but it is a tribute to the fairness of your Government that the official conduct of your Government certainly has been all that either belligerent could expect in the preservation of the strict neutrality which the President directed shall be observed by

his people. So numerous have these offers of medical and other aid become that I have felt it my duty to bring them to the attention of my government. It is possible that in recognition of the kindly spirit of humanity and friendliness which is evidenced by the American physicians who have offered their assistance, my government may find a way to accept some of them and that American physicians and nurses may aid us in caring for the wounded in the Far Eastern War. I am daily expecting answer from St. Petersburg on this point.

### The Truth Will Come Out.

"What will be the effect of the removal of the censorship on all news from St. Petersburg to the outside world?" the Ambassador was asked. He replied: "It is believed that this will effectively diminish the number of canards which have been secretly sent from Russia, especially to England and the United States, about my country. Censored dispatches were wrongly considered abroad as having the approval of the government. Nothing could have been further from the truth, unless it was the additional false impression that uncensored dispatches represented the facts as they were. With the censorship removed, it is hoped that the outside world will have a better idea of my government and my people. It was gratifying to hear from a representative American several days ago of the approval in this country of the policy, which has been strictly adhered to, of making public the news from the Far East, whether good or bad."

"In the earnest hope that peace might be preserved with Japan, my government was giving more attention to the methods by which a diplomatic settlement might be reached than to preparations for the recourse to arms which we are now convinced Japan had determined on at the outset of the negotiations. For this reason, the first chapter in the Far Eastern War have not been characterized by Russian victories."

### Heroism of Russian Captain.

"The truth, however, has been made public as rapidly as Admiral Alexieff's dispatches have been made known to His Majesty. In this first chapter, however, is contained a picture, which, as was to be expected, the Americans were quick to appreciate and applaud. I refer to the noble conduct of the Captain of the Varig, who, after refusing to surrender his ship, came out of the harbor of Chemulpo to face an overwhelming force of Japanese warships, to whose fire he replied as effectively as he could and then blew up his own ship that she might not fall into the hands of the enemy. The contribution of such a page to Russian history more than compensates for any losses sustained by our navy as a result of Japan attacking us before a declaration of war, and while her envoy at St. Petersburg was still enjoying the courtesy and protection of the Russian government."

### Will Give Japan Enough.

"The Associated Press dispatches from St. Petersburg have correctly reported the tidal wave of national feeling and enthusiasm which has swept over my country. No longer is the struggle in the Far East a political one, interesting for the most part diplomats and statesmen. It has flared up into a national war. My august master has shown extraordinary patience in endeavoring to arrive at a settlement without war. But, now that Japan has made war, the determination of the Russian Emperor is to give the people that she shall be satisfied with the result, which she has seemed so anxious to make stronger by the patience and forbearance which have hitherto characterized our dealings with the Japanese."

### In the interests of the world's humanity, I am confident all nations will hope for the success of Secretary Hay's effort to limit the deplorable war to the belligerents now engaged."

### JAPANESE ARE AFTER IT.

**Russian Gunboat Must Leave Shanghai or Suffer Results.**

SHANGHAI, Feb. 21.—Urged by the Japanese Consul here, the Taotai ordered the Russian gunboat Mandchur to leave the harbor before 5 o'clock this afternoon, the order, however, being ignored. It is said that a Japanese squadron has been ordered to enforce the Taotai's demand and to enable Japanese steamship companies to resume service between Japan and Shanghai.

### WILLING TO MEDIATE.

**King Edward Offers His Services to Russian Ambassador.**

PARIS, Feb. 21.—The Petit Parisien's London correspondent says that during an interview preceding the departure from London for St. Petersburg yesterday of Count Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador, Lord Lansdowne, the British Foreign Minister, intimated to him that King Edward was willing to offer his mediation in the war in the Far East if the Czar thought he could accept it.

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## MAKE THEM RUN

**American Tars Chase Dominican Rebels**

**AFTER BOMBARDING THEM**

**Cruiser Newark Shoots Good Manners Into Them.**

**FIRE ON AMERICAN SHIP**

**People of Land of Revolutionists Froth at Insult to Dignity—Decisive Defeat Inflicted on the Rebels.**

PARIS, Feb. 21.—A dispatch from Santo Domingo says that the United States cruiser Columbia and the training ship Hartford have bombarded Durate, which is occupied by the insurgents.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—A belated dispatch dated February 13, from Captain J. M. Miller, of the cruiser Columbia, with which the Newark is in Santo Domingo waters, brings official confirmation of the Associated Press dispatch regarding the bombardment of the insurgents by the war vessels in a position near the capital city, the landing of marines and blue-jackets to punish revolutionists, and their subsequent re-embarkation.

According to Captain Miller's dispatch, the affair occurred on a river about two miles from Santo Domingo, presumably at Pajarito, the place mentioned in the press dispatches as the locality of the bombardment. The insurgents, who were stationed on the mainland, fired on the United States merchant vessel, the New York, which was under the convoy of a launch of the Newark. The shots fell so dangerously near the war vessels that the acts of the insurgents were construed by Captain Miller as an attack on the vessels, and a battery fire was opened on the revolutionists.

This was followed up by the debarkation of 400 marines and blue-jackets from the Columbia and the Newark, who made a successful landing. They dislodged the insurgents from their positions and chased them into the country. After accomplishing this, the marines and blue-jackets took again to their boats and returned to their ships. One man, a bugler named Paister, was seriously wounded by the accidental explosion of his firing piece. There were no other casualties.

Close attention is being given by Administration officers to affairs in Santo Domingo. A number of warships are being kept in the waters of that country, so that American interests may be zealously protected in case of trouble between the regular government and the insurgents. Possible interference in the affairs of the country, however, has been avoided up to this time, so far as news received by the department is concerned. It is authoritatively stated that the question of the annexation of Santo Domingo to the United States has never received the slightest consideration on the part of the United States, and moreover the Administration is unable to take a position or adopt a policy other than the protection of American interests in Santo Domingo, because of the absence of satisfactory information as to conditions there.

### INSURGENTS BROKE WORD.

**Fired After Promising Peace and Got Swift Punishment.**

SANTO DOMINGO, Thursday, Feb. 11.—The Clyde liner New York arrived here this morning, conveyed by the United States cruiser Newark, and Minister Powell instructed the captain of the vessel to discharge his cargo at the wharf. An agreement had been made by Minister Powell and Commander Miller with the insurgents and government that neither party should fire while the New York was at the wharf discharging. The government kept this agreement, but the insurgents fired on the steamer and on a launch from the cruiser Columbia, which was entering the river. Eight rifle shots damaged the New York's woodwork, endangering the lives of passengers and crew.

The Commander of the United States warship then decided to shell Pajarito, near this city, the place occupied by the insurgents, and to land 300 marines with the object of punishing the insurgents for insulting the United States flag and damaging an American steamer. At 1:30 the Newark approached and opened fire, discharging ten shells. The insurgents fired upon the marines while they were landing, wounding some of them. The marines returned the fire and the insurgents ran away.

The marines landed, were divided into two columns and searched the houses, woods and bushes. They then followed the insurgents, who fled while the marines were reloading. The result of the bombardment is not known.

The New York left here at 5 o'clock P. M. for the roadstead, after landing her cargo. All is now quiet and it is supposed that the insurgents have retreated a considerable distance.

Reports from the interior are favorable to the government. Great misery exists in the city for want of food and the arrival of the Clyde-line steamer is a great relief. The steamer could not land a portion of her cargo at Monte Cristi, being prevented from so doing by a Dominican warship.

### REBELS BADLY WHIPPED.

**Driven From Santo Domingo and Siege of City Raised.**

SANTO DOMINGO, Feb. 16, Tuesday.—Yesterday a French merchant steamer entered the river, conveyed by a launch from

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