CHANCE ON YALU

Japan in a Good Position to Win.

EXPERT REVIEWS SITUATION

Fire on Port Arthur Prevents Interference With Plans.

HOUR AT HAND FOR BATTLE

Skirmishers No Doubt Are Now Trying to Cut Off Vladivostok and Port Arthur From Harbin.

SPECIAL CABLE TO THE OREGONIAN.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The expert military correspondent of the London Times believes a battle is imminent in Northern Corea, and that the Japanese have landed a force of skirmishers in Northern Manchuria to break up communication between Vladivostok and Port Arthur with Harbin, the new Russian base.

"One must take the Japanese proceedings at Port Arthur," he says, "as an intimation that decisive events are in progress elsewhere, and that the task allotted the navy is to keep the Russian squadron fully occupied in its own defense.

"If the report from Vladivostok is to be credited, Vice-Admiral Kamimura is now off the Russian coast line in the north, and should the report be confirmed, the resulting increase in the naval tension would point to the striking of the hour for the commencement of serious operations on land.

"Unless the Russian destroyers at Port Arthur can gain the open sea unobserved and reach the point of assembly of the Japanese transports during the critical operations of disembarkation, there seems little chance of interference with Japanese plans.

"There can be no doubt, judging from the facts before us, of the clearing up of the situation on the Yalu, which is of the first military interest of the moment. The Japanese army has never encountered an European foe, and prudent statesmen who direct the counsels of the Japanese are not likely to fail to take into account the tremendous moral results that would accrue from a first success. Here is the Russian force near the Yalu, separated by a great distance from the other fractions of the Russian army. Here on the other side is the whole mass of an amphibious force, fit and ready to strike. The chance of an initial success is too great to be disregarded. If by a combined attack by land and sea, the Japanese can hope to grip and destroy the Russian force on the Yalu, it would be flying in the face of fortune not to seize the opportunity."

HAY'S POLICY IRRITATES HER.

Russia Contends America Is Unfriendly Without Reason.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—The Novoe Vremya this morning published a long leading article regarding the relations existing between the United States and Russia. In considering the unfriendly manifestations against the latter in the United States, the Novoe Vremya argues distinction must be made between the people and the Government, and it attributes the agitation in the press to a campaign engineered by the Jews, who, it has been said, even talk of building a battleship for the Mikado.

The paper insists, however, that the traditional friendship for Russia occupies a firm position in the American mind and heart, and the people cannot really prefer the Japanese to the Russians, who never have harmed them.

The Novoe Vremya on the other hand contends that without reason the Washington Government has been unfriendly to Russia, and compares the most brilliant feat of the State Department, the telegraphic ratification of the Chinese open-port treaty, to telegraphic marriages, which it says sometimes are practiced in America. But it is idle, the article goes on, to talk now of sending United States Consuls to Manchuria. Unsatisfied with his success, Secretary of State Hay undertook to secure the neutralization, the inviolability of the Administration, and the entity of China. Diplomatists, lexicographers and publicists being in doubt as to what all this meant, Secretary Hay kindly announced he did not care to have his proposal defined in detail. The article concludes:

"The American Government has taken a position which ill accords with the former good relations with Russia, and we are convinced that the conduct of the United States gunboat Vicksburg, in refusing to protect and receive drowning Russians, will not meet wide sympathy in America nor will the Americans sympathize with the naval demonstrations at the mouth of the Yalu River, of which telegraph brought a report yesterday.

As cabled from London February 22, the Nagasaki correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph asserted that "the American squadron, the vessels of which are variously reported at Cheefoo and Shanghai, is going to make a demonstration at the mouth of the Yalu River."

It is possible that this is the report to which the Novoe Vremya refers.

NAVY APPROVES HIS COURSE.

Commander at Chemulpo Justified in Refusing to Receive Russians.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Without waiting for any suggestion from St. Petersburg, though that has since come, and more than three days after the Navy Department cabled to the commander of the United States steamship Vicksburg requesting an explanation of the facts connected with his reported refusal to take aboard on his ship sailors from the Russian warships sunk by the Japanese.

From their knowledge of the United States naval regulations and from the comprehensive press reports as to what did occur at Chemulpo, the navy officials here have not the slightest hesitation in giving their unqualified approval of the course pursued by Captain Marshall. In the first place, it is understood here that it was not a matter of saving life. It is doubtful whether if the men were drowning an American warship could aid them before they had surrendered without violating international law. It is believed here that these men, who were in boats, could have landed, and only refrained from doing so because they feared to be captured by the Japanese soldiers of the town. Had Captain Marshall received them aboard the Vicksburg he must have taken them in as prisoners, for that was the status accorded them by the French and the British naval forces present. Therefore, as the Russian sailors would have been practically Japanese prisoners in either case, the American captain is regarded as justified in declining to receive them.

The following bulletin was posted at the Navy Department this afternoon:

"A dispatch from Commander Marshall, commanding the United States steamship Vicksburg, states he sent medical aid as well as boats to the assistance of the Variag."

The cablegram is badly garbled and the officials have not been able to fully translate it.

CONSUL MILLER STILL ACTIVE.

Alexieff to Be Asked to Tell Him Part He Can Play in Caring for Refugees.

YANGTSE, Manchuria, Feb. 26.—An American refugee from Harbin says the authorities there have discriminated in the expulsion of Americans, Japanese and British subjects. Persons of other nationalities have not been molested. This is virtually the situation at other places and especially Port Arthur, where nearly all the Germans are officers.

The few American and British subjects at Port Arthur have been required to sign an agreement to leave within a given time. The authorities say all Japanese have left Port Arthur, but an English refugee says there were 200 Japanese women at Port Arthur unable to secure passage, and who were sent north again by the authorities last Sunday. These women cannot be accounted for, although Henry B. Miller, United States Consul at Niu Chwang has repeated his inquiries concerning their whereabouts. As a result of the representations made by Mr. Miller as to his rights to investigate the cases and care for them personally, the Civil Administrator of Niu Chwang has gone to see Viceroy Alexieff.

The rumors of numerous engagements on the Yalu River are discredited here. It is said Russia has no definite plan of campaign and that she does not intend to move before the reorganization of the Manchurian regiments which cannot be effected before two or three weeks or a month. The expectation that the powers will interfere to secure the protection of Niu Chwang has almost been abandoned.

JAPAN WELL PROVIDES TROOPS

Arrangements for Transport of Commissariat Praised by All.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—Foreign military experts loudly praise the excellence of the Japanese arrangements for the transport of their commissariat, says a World dispatch from Koyang, Corea. General Allen, United States Army, who is here on leave of absence, especially commends the arrangements.

Each infantry unit has a detachable cylinder two and a quarter feet high and two and a half feet in diameter in which to build fires. The cylinder seats a large sheet-iron kettle, and this again holds a perforated kettle in which can be cooked enough rice for one meal for a hundred men.

With the troops are carried half-pound tins of meat. Eighty of these tins are packed in a box and three boxes make a load for a horse. Rice is carried in 60-pound sacks, one sack being a load for a man-carrier, two sacks for a pony. The army takes with it a quantity of sulphate of sodium to purify drinking water. Each soldier carries an aluminum mess pan of German pattern, which contains two rations of cooked rice and in addition six emergency rations of rice which, having been boiled and dried in the sun, is wrapped in cotton bags and weighs very little.

EXPLAINS FOR DENMARK.

Premier Relates Her Preparations to Insure Neutrality.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 26.—Replying to an interpellation today in the lower house of the Danish Parliament, the Premier, Professor Deuntzer, explained the necessity for preparations to assure the complete neutrality of Denmark during the Russo-Japanese war. In order adequately to secure the sea defense of Copenhagen, he said, reserve men had been called out, the forts had been equipped with searchlights and electric cables, the submarine stations had been manned, four torpedo-boats had been cleared for action, repairs to the warships were being hastened, various improvements in the materials of the navy, especially torpedoes were being made. In the event of its being necessary to call out more men and make other extraordinary defense preparations, the government would do what was necessary, relying on the assent of Parliament.

PORTUGAL REARMING ITS FORCE

Everything Is in Readiness for Mobilization of the Troops.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Dispatches from Lisbon to the Vossiche Zeitung state, cables the Herald's Berlin correspondent, that in carrying out the alliance between Great Britain and Portugal, the latter country is now serving out to its army new rifles, and the representative of a German firm is at present at Lisbon instructing artillery officers in the handling of the recently purchased field artillery. Coast defenses are being overhauled in Lisbon, Fayal and Lagos, which could serve as naval stations. Telegrams from Amsterdam assert that everything is ready for the mobilization of the Dutch Army. All leave is refused to officers.

Will Be Prepared for Contingencies.

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—M. Leitao, of Lisbon, Portugal, an agent of his government, is in Chicago. He is on his way to Macao, China, the Portuguese port on the Southern Coast, and will sail from San Francisco. M. Leitao said:

"My government is by no means alarmed by events in the Far East, but we wish to be prepared for contingencies as they may arise, and I am going out to make a report upon the condition of the colony for defense. Portugal is simply doing what England is doing at Hong Kong and France in Tonquin, that is, putting things in order so that if trouble is widespread in China we may be prepared."

CZAR ISSUES FEELING MESSAGE

Kouropatkin Is Praised and Asked to Convey Blessing to Men.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—A stirring manifesto to the army was issued by the Czar today in the form of a message to General Kuropatkin, the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Army in the Far East, as follows:

"Although as head of the military administration since 1898, you have worked with energy and assiduity to reorganize and perfect the army, your work is not yet done. The hour has come when I must summon you to head my valiant army, to defend the honor and sovereignty of Russia and her sovereign rights in the Far East. Knowing your brilliant gifts and the eminent preparations for battle, I am glad to entrust to you the responsible command of my Manchurian army against the Japanese, on your leaving your work as Minister. May God help you in your official difficult task, which you with such self-denial have assumed. In taking leave of you, and thanking you for your six years of work for the good of my dear army, I confer on you the Order of St. Alexander-Nevski in brilliants. Wishing success to you, and trusting to you to transmit to my brave army my imperial greeting and my blessing. May God keep you unharmed. NICHOLAS."

BATTLE WAS SHORT

Japanese Bombarded Port Arthur But Thirty Minutes.

PFLUG REPORTS TO THE CZAR

Enemy's Squadron Separated and Cruisers Opened Heavy Fire on Torpedo-Boat in Tolubensia Bay and Coast Batteries.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—A dispatch to a news agency from St. Petersburg says the official report of Major-General Pflug, Chief of Staff of Viceroy Alexieff, on the details of the attack on Port Arthur during the morning of February 25, is as follows:

"The enemy's squadron of 16 warships approached from the Dalny side toward the harbor of Port Arthur, at 11 o'clock this morning, and at once opened fire on our three cruisers, standing outside the roadstead, namely, the Askold, the Bayan and the Novik, and also against the land forts. The bombardment lasted half an hour. At its conclusion our cruisers retired into the harbor. The enemy then bombarded our land battery for several minutes. The enemy then retreated, remaining out of the range of our guns.

"In the meanwhile, four Japanese cruisers separated from the enemy's main squadron and went into Golubinsja Bay, where they opened a heavy fire on one of our torpedo-boats stationed in the bay, and also on the coast batteries. Consequently the commander of the fort sent troops to this point, but no landing took place. The bombardment there lasted 22 minutes, at the expiration of which the Japanese cruisers retreated. The loss on our side this day was one man wounded in one of the land batteries.

"The officer commanding at Vladivostok reports that on February 24, early in the morning, ten of the enemy's ships were seen south of the islands. They disappeared on the horizon in the evening."

BATTERIES INFLICT LOSSES.

Rusisans Do Accurate Shooting in Port Arthur Engagement.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—A dispatch from Port Arthur says the Japanese torpedo-boat attack of February 25 resulted in a Russian success. The accurate shooting of the batteries inflicted losses on the enemy, and caused the boiler of one of the Japanese torpedo-boats to explode.

Early in the morning a Japanese fleet consisting of six battleships and four cruisers appeared on the horizon. The Russian cruisers Askold, Bayan and Novik were then in the harbor, and the Japanese torpedo-boats advanced to within 30 or 35 cable lengths to attack them. The Japanese battleships and cruisers separated, and then advanced against two Russian torpedo-boats cruising in Pigeon Bay. One of the latter broke through the enemy's line under a hot fire and reached harbor.

At 10:45 o'clock a fierce engagement took place between a Japanese battleship and the Russian cruisers supported by the shore batteries. In view of the superiority of the enemy's six battleships over the three Russian cruisers, the latter were withdrawn. The enemy ceased firing at 11:25 o'clock and at 12 o'clock the Japanese cruisers which were chasing the Russian torpedo-boats began to fire on the forts, but the firing did not last long.

The Japanese maneuvering was clumsy, and in turning their vessels came so close to one another that Russian shells could be seen falling on them as they huddled together. A Japanese torpedo-boat which was driven ashore near Fort Djetywoi is supposed to have belonged to the flotilla which was escorting the fire ships destroyed on the night of February 23.

BLOCKADE EVIDENTLY FAILED.

Tokio Reports That the Vessels Lost Were of No Great Value.

TOKIO, Feb. 26.—Vice-Admiral Togo's attempt to bottle up the Russian fleet at Port Arthur by sinking a fleet of stone-laden merchant steamers in the mouth of the harbor evidently failed, though the venture caused no loss of life and the vessels lost were not of great value.

Five ships were prepared by Vice-Admiral Togo for the attempted blockade. Four are reported to have been sunk, but the fate of the fifth is unknown here. It is presumed that it withdrew with the other Japanese vessels. The five vessels were filled with stone so as to make the obstruction permanent, and were manned by volunteer merchant crews. It was impossible to select naval officers and sailors on account of their great rivalry to participate in the daring venture.

Accompanied by four battleships, nine cruisers and numerous vessels of the torpedo flotilla, the stone-laden steamers reached Port Arthur on Wednesday. While the fleet engaged the shore batteries the steamers made a dash for the mouth of the harbor, directly under the Russian guns.

Details of the attack have not been received here, but it is evident that the Russian fire sank the steamers before they reached the points planned for their foundering by the Japanese. It is said that all of the crews of the four vessels escaped in boats and were picked up by Japanese torpedoboat destroyers. The report that two of the torpedoboat destroyers were sunk by the Russians is denied.

The Naval Department has received a brief dispatch from the commander of one of the torpedoboat destroyers, saying that no lives and no warships were lost, and no damage was inflicted by the Russians. Pending the receipt of the official report of Vice-Admiral Togo, the Naval Department declines to make any announcement regarding the affair.

The five merchant vessels which were prepared for sinking were the Jinsen Maru of 2331 tons, the Tien Tsin Maru of 2943 tons, the Hokoku Maru of 2775 tons, the Buyo Maru of 1159 tons and the Bushiu Maru of 1349 tons.

Each carried five men, two steering and three firing and running the engines.

Advices to Minister at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Japanese Minister has received the following cablegram from the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated Tokio:

"Before dawn on the 24th instant four old ships, under escort of torpedoboats, proceeded to the mouth of the harbor of Port Arthur, where they were sunk with success in order to close it.

"The officers and crews of the vessels returned safely.

"No official report has as yet been received from the Admiral commanding the squadron, but there is no doubt that the squadron itself is all safe."

Austria Will Co-Operate With Russia.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Austria, it is asserted by the Herald's Berlin correspondent, expects to intervene in the Balkans in co-operation with Russia. Orders are reported to have been issued to prepare for the mobilization of the army. Commanders of the army corps have been told to grant no leave to officers, and horses liable to requisition have been called in and military railway and transport officers have been already appointed.

The Austrian Ambassador in Berlin while dining with the Kaiser received a telegram summoning him to Vienna to confer with the Foreign Minister. He will leave for Vienna, where, it was explained, the terms of the Austro-German commercial treaty will be discussed.

MISSION WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

Russian Correspondent's Description of Attempt to Close Harbor.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—The Rus this morning publishes the following from Port Arthur, under date of February 25:

"On the night of February 24 the Japanese attempted to blockade the exit from Port Arthur Bay in order to inclose our fleet concentrated within. Under convoy of torpedoboats and transports, the enemy advanced four freighters, in ballast, at full speed to the gateway, where it was intended to sink the latter vessels; but the maneuver was immediately observed on the battleship Retvizan, which was standing in the bay before the entrance. The Retvizan at once opened fire, and, after it, the batteries on the peak and those on the promontory took part; as a result, the ships with which it was designed to blockade the port were destroyed, and their mission rendered unsuccessful. According to a wholly unsupported report, one Japanese torpedoboat was sunk.

"The cannonade began before 3 o'clock in the morning and continued until 7 o'clock. From 5 A. M., however, there were merely single discharges. The Japanese fleet, at long distance, answered our fire ineffectively. This evidently was done merely to cover the retreat of their torpedo flotilla.

"The enemy's squadron, consisting of ten large vessels and 17 torpedoboat-destroyers, which appeared yesterday about 9 o'clock in the morning, maneuvered in sight of Port Arthur until noon, and then began to withdraw and disappeared from the horizon in the morning. The cruisers Novik, Askold and Bayan put to sea, and after the inconsiderable fire, returned unharmed."

Less Fear of War in Balkans.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 26.—In consequence of the understanding already reached as a result of the communications exchanged between the Porte and the Bulgarian diplomatic agent here, the conviction prevails that there will be no complication in the Spring. It is understood that Turkey undertakes to grant amnesty to the Macedonians convicted of disturbances in 1900, to permit the return of the refugees and to annul the vexatious regulations directed against Bulgarians. Bulgaria agrees to stop the Macedonian agitation in the principality and to prevent the incursions of revolutionary bands.

London Has End Sought Attained.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The Japanese Legation today gave out the following official dispatch from Tokio, dated February 26:

"Early in the morning of February 24 four old vessels, escorted by some torpedo-boats, were run into the entrance of Port Arthur for the purpose of blocking the mouth of the harbor. The object of sinking these vessels was attained and the officers and crews returned safely. Although there is no report regarding our fleet direct from Admiral Togo, no doubt can be entertained as to its safety."

Railway Progress Pleases Kaiser.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—Emperor William has telegraphed to Dr. Fischer, president of the Shan Tung Railway, as follows:

"The news of the arrival of the first railway train at Tsi Nan Fu afforded me much gratification. I congratulate the management upon the success which the German spirit of enterprise has achieved in the Far East and hope your indefatigable labors in China will be rewarded with further similar successes.

"WILLIAM."

Both Squadrons Were Engaged.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—(6 P. M.)—A long official telegram giving details of the attack on Port Arthur February 25 was received this afternoon and is now in the hands of the military censorship committee. The correspondent of the Associated Press learns that the attack developed into a general engagement between the Japanese squadron and the Russian squadron and forts, which continued for three hours and resulted in the repulse of the Japanese.

Czar Still Awaiting Details.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—1:30 P. M.—The government is still awaiting details of the second night attack on Port Arthur of February 25. A long telegram from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar arrived during the night, but it dealt exclusively with the disposition of the Russian forces in Manchuria and of course for strategic reasons will not be published.

Japanese Ships In Dock for Repairs.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—The Birshewja Viedomosti says a telegram has been received from Baron Guisburg, who has a contract for supplying coal to the Russian Navy (but whose present address is not stated) asserts that 12 armored Japanese ships are now in dock undergoing repairs for the injuries inflicted upon them in their battles with the Russians.

Gendarmerie Commission In Row.

VIENNA, Feb. 26.—Die Settung says the gendarmerie commission at Constantinople broke off its conference after the thirteenth sitting because of serious differences of opinion among the members. The military representatives have asked their respective governments for instructions.

Now Armed Cruisers.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 26.—By an order just received here from the British Admiralty, the Canadian Pacific steamships of the Empress Line plying between Victoria and Oriental ports have shipped their six-inch guns and are now armed cruisers.

LIKE KNIGHT OF OLD

Kouropatkin Seeks Divine Aid in War Task.

IMPRESSIVE CHURCH SCENE

Russian General Is Greatly Overcome When Priest Bids Him Godspeed, Embracing Many of His Comrades.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—Like a knight of olden times before going to battle, General Kouropatkin today performed the most solemn rites of the mother church. After fasting this week he went to the church in the Cadet Corps Academy, where he was educated, made his confession and partook of the sacrament. The officiating priest, holding up the sacred image of St. Sergius, which has just arrived in Moscow, blessed the prostrate Commander and bade him Godspeed. The General was shaking with emotion and embraced many of his assembled comrades.

The Metropolitan of Moscow, who accompanied the Ikon of St. Sergius to St. Petersburg, has received letters from the Czar recalling the overthrow of the Tartar hordes under its auspices, and prophesying that it will also lead the Russians to victory over the Japanese.

MAJESTIES AT CONFESSION.

Victories in Far East Make Day One of Praise as Well as Prayer.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—Like millions of their subjects, the Czar and Czarina today made confessions of their sins. It was a day of praise as well as of prayer, however, and the solemn rites attending the ceremony of confession alternated with thanksgiving for the news from the East. Their Majesties confessed in the Church of the Winter Palace to Count Chaplain Yanisheff, and afterward walked in the palace garden.

The visit of the Czar and Czarina to the Imperial tombs in the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul and the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul occurred this evening. They prayed for a long time beside the tombs of the Czar's father and brother, and a cheering multitude greeted them as they drove to the Chapel of the Saviour in Peter the Great's house, which is a short distance from the fortress. There they attended a special service of prayer.

At Cronstadt tonight, a general confession was given by Father John, of Cronstadt, in St. Andrew's Church. Since the beginning of Lent, pilgrims have been arriving at Crontadt from throughout European Russia, and the lodging-houses are full. The church was thronged with worshippers and there was an immense crowd outside. With the opening of the service the congregation began to wail, and their cries, groans and shouts produced a weird effect. The tumult ceased suddenly when Father John arose and pronounced forgiveness of the sins of all present.

MAPS ABOARD LOST VESSELS.

Russians Find Outline of Port Arthur and Chart of Yellow Sea.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 26.—The following telegram, dated February 24, from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar, is published here:

"On February 24, 17 of the enemy's warships, with 12 torpedo boats and steamers, were cruising outside Port Arthur, but keeping out of range. On the same day the Russian cruisers Bayan, Askold and Novik left the roadstead. Two Japanese cruisers advanced toward the Novik, which returned to Port Arthur, accompanied by our torpedo boats from Pigeon Bay. The enemy's cruisers were left far behind. In the evening our cruisers returned to the roadstead.

"On the night of February 25 our torpedo boats proceeded seaward. The same night the Japanese torpedo boats again appeared in the roads and the battleship Retvizan and the fort batteries opened fire on them. Battery No. 18 reports having sunk one of the enemy's torpedo boats.

"At 9 o'clock in the morning a squadron of 14 vessels was sighted in the distance.

Maps of Porth Arthur and Port Adams and a chart of the Yellow Sea were discovered aboard the enemy's vessels which were sunk in the night attack of February 24. Conducting wires and electric batteries were found on the vessel which caught fire. The wires were cut by Port miners. The fire has been extinguished.

RUSSIA'S EYES ARE TRAINED.

Alexieff Says Japanese Can Not Creep Up on Fleet.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 27.—2 A. M.—A copy of a telegram from Viceroy Alexieff to the Czar has just been given out. It is dated February 25. The place whence it is sent is not given, but is supposed to be Mukden. The message follows:

"A squadron of the enemy's vessels, numbering 16, approached the fortress at about 11 o'clock this morning and opened a bombardment on the cruisers Askold, Bayan and Novik, which were in the outer harbor and also on the fortress. The firing continued for half an hour. Then our cruisers went into the harbor. The enemy fired for several minutes on one of our batteries and then began to leave. They stopped within sight of the fort, but out of range of fire.

"At this time, four of the enemy's cruisers detached themselves from the squadron and proceeded to Pigeon Bay, where they quickly opened fire on our torpedo boats that were cruising there. They directed also a strong cannonade against the shore. The Commandant consequently sent troops to Pigeon Bay. The firing lasted for 30 minutes, but no landing was made. The Japanese cruisers then departed. Suitable measures have been taken to oppose a possible move on the part of the enemy to creep up by sea.

"Our losses this day were one man wounded at the battery.

"I respectfully report the above to your Imperial Majesty.

"ALEXIEFF."

Russian Squadron From Jibutil.

SUEZ, Egypt, Feb. 26.—The Russian squadron from Jibutil is reported to be anchored in the Gulf of Suez, 25 miles south of Suez. A torpedo destroyer which had already entered the canal has sailed south again to rejoin the squadron.

French Troops to Go to Asia.

CHERBOURG, Feb. 26.—A strong contingent of French colonial troops is being organized for service in Indo-China.

THE WINTER GIRL.

The Girl Who Braves the Stress of Storm and Weather.

THE best plan for a man or woman to avoid taking cold is to endeavor to harden oneself as the cold weather advances by becoming accustomed to the out-of-door air. By living in stagnant air, in a close room, night or day, the beauty of the complexion is spoiled. Many people imagine night air is dangerous and exclude it from the sleeping rooms as far as possible by keeping doors and windows closed, which is a mistake. The crisp, cold winter air out of doors is good air. In a moderately cold winter day one's body takes in one-seventh more oxygen than in warm weather. The air is purer because the snow and winds clear off the smoke, dust and germs. We quote Dr. Pierce, who is an authority on the diseases prevalent among women, young and old, who says, "if fresh air be excluded from the bedroom the sleeper is obliged to breathe and rebreathe an atmosphere charged with impurities thrown off from the body and lungs. At this time of the year people hover about the register or stove, clothing themselves too warmly and spending their time in the warmth indoors, with the result that they become tender and sensitive and are almost certain to catch cold. Then too, there is marvelous power in God's sunlight. The young girl is like a plant which if set in a dark corner becomes scrawny and struggles hard for existence, but if put in the sunlight puts on more vigorous growth." Dr. Pierce further says, "of the patients in a hospital ward, those on the shady side never progress so well as those on the sunny side. Thousands of girls lose health and grow thin and sickly because they live indoors. Fresh air stimulates the blood, for when we breathe the fresh air into the lungs the blood takes up the oxygen, the pores of the skin are invigorated, and if one has a naturally sluggish circulation a tepid bath every morning, or a cold bath if the girl is strong enough, is a great thing for the skin and complexion. Colds, catarrh of the nose, throat and lungs and consumption come when the skin is dead and inactive, when we breathe impure air and do not exercise sufficiently to expand our lungs in the good air. The vital organism of the young girl requires fresh air and sunshine, just as do plants." If the woman is run-down and weak it is not possible for her to take the vigorous measures suggested above, but she should then consult with some prominent specialist, and if she does not like to confide in some one at home, it would be well for her to consult, by letter, with some physician of world wide reputation, who will carefully scrutinize her symptoms and give her the best medical advice free of charge and in perfect confidence, such as Dr. R. V. Pierce, the specialist in woman's diseases at Buffalo, N. Y. Dr. Pierce was early a student of plant life as well as the human system and he found that certain herbs, roots and barks made into a tonic without the use of alcohol or narcotics would cure the diseases peculiar to women, this he called Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

The young girl or the matron at times in her life is weighted down by periodical disabilities which become hard to bear. What is needed is a tonic for the womanly system. During the past thirty-eight years this vegetable compound of Doctor Pierce has sold more largely than any other medicine intended only for woman's diseases. Few women in the United States have not heard of its splendid remedial qualities, for it is a Prescription that can always be depended upon when women suffer.

The proprietors of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription offer $500 reward for women who cannot be cured of Leucorrhea, Female Weakness, Prolapsus or Falling of Womb. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

"I was troubled with female weakness for eight years, and suffered more than I can tell," writes Mrs. Gust. Moser, of Ovando, Deerlodge Co., Mont. "My disposition was affected to such an extent, that to say a pleasant word to anyone was almost an impossibility.

"I had two operations performed by one of the most skilled surgeons of the West, but did not get relief. Then, against my doctor's strict orders, I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and also followed the advice given in the 'Medical Adviser.' I continued this treatment for three months, and today am as healthy and well as a woman can be. I cannot thank Dr. Pierce enough for his kind letters to me."

PERSONS OF EITHER SEX

Before or after marriage should know themselves. Ignorance of the laws of SELF AND SEX leads to misery and ill-health. Do not permit FALSE modesty to debar you from such knowledge. Know about the Process of Generation, Physical and Vital Properties of the Blood, the Organs of the Body.

A great deal of sickness and a great many doctors' bills might be saved to any family by keeping a copy of Dr. Pierce's great thousand-page free book, "The Common Sense Medical Adviser," at hand. It gives valuable recipes for curing the diseases that are curable without a doctor and comprehensive information about Anatomy and Physiology with over three hundred illustrations. "The Common Sense Medical Adviser" is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the cloth-bound volume.

Women Who Know

Wine of Cardui has been so helpful to me that I feel it my duty to advise sick and suffering women to try this wonderful remedy.

MISS MARTHA HUBER,
505 East 88th St., New York City.

Wine of Cardui is simply wonderful and I wish that all suffering women knew of its good qualities.

MRS. WILHELMINA SNOW,
Treas. Economic League, Portland, Me.

Every woman suffering with female trouble should try Wine of Cardui, and I fully believe she will experience the same benefits and cure which I have.

MRS. L. A. AUSTIN,
606 N. 6th St., Kansas City, Mo.

My advice to suffering women is to take Wine of Cardui and they will never be disappointed in the results.

MISS LOUISE FINE,
125 Hennessy St., New Orleans, La.

WINE OF CARDUI

Hundreds of thousands of women whose advice is worth taking will tell you that Wine of Cardui is the medicine to cure all female diseases. These women are competent to give advice because they have been through the whole gamut of suffering, from incipient menstrual irregularities to bearing down pains, ovarian pains, leucorrhœa, nervousness, pains of childbirth and even the vital suffering during the change of life.

These women say Wine of Cardui will cure menstrual disorders, bearing down pains, ovarian pains, leucorrhœa, nervousness and hysteria—that this pure wine will rob childbirth of its worst agonies, and that the change of life need have no terrors for a woman who takes this great female tonic. Will you take their advice?

Secure a Bottle of Wine of Cardui to-day.