



The human heart is practically a force pump, about six inches in length and four inches in diameter. It beats seventy times per minute, 4,300 times per hour, 100,800 times per day, 36,792,000 times per year and 2,575,440,000 times in seventy years, which is "man's appointed three-score years and ten." At each of these beats it forces 2 1/2 ounces of blood through the system 175 ounces per minute, 650 1/2 pounds per hour, or 703 tons per day. All the blood in the body, which is about thirty pounds, passes through the heart every three minutes. This little organ pumps every day what is equal to lifting 122 tons one foot high or one ton 122 feet high—that is, one ton to the top of a forty-yard mill chimney, or sixteen persons seven-sevens each to the same height. During the seventy years of a man's life this marvelous little pump, without a single moment's rest, night or day, discharges the enormous quantity of 178,850 tons of blood.

The best time to drink water or other liquid quantity is on rising, an hour and a half before luncheon and dinner and half an hour before retiring. Generally speaking, people do not drink water enough, or if they do, it is at the wrong time. Water may be taken at the close of a meal, but if many glasses are drunk with meals, disorders of digestion may follow. In fact, the desire to drink water copiously at meal-time is often an evidence of indigestion. Not more than two glasses of water or other liquid should be taken at meal-time, and practically no water should be taken when soup is served. Hot water may be taken on rising and retiring for those who are sensitive to cold during the winter months. Hot water is soothing and quickly absorbed. It stimulates the secretion of bile, especially if the liver is repeatedly signaled, by taking the water in sips. Cold water in the morning is to be preferred if there is constipation. Pure water washes waste products from the system, but impure water, although it may be rendered safe by boiling, is of little use in removing waste from the system. The protracted use of hot water internally is debilitating, as is also the too free use externally. Ice-water, unless sipped slowly, retards digestion. Water that is refreshingly cool is best at all times when there is no good excuse or reason for the use of hot water.—New Century.

Canary Birds in London.
The recent sale in London of a pair of canaries for £70 has directed public attention to the "boom" now raging in these diminutive pets. Since King Edward took up the hobby of canary breeding prices have been steadily rising, and in many instances birds have changed hands for four times their weight in gold.

The most expensive variety are those with crests, or topknots, and feathers. Perfect crested canaries are very difficult to breed, and they are subject to blindness, the crest being cultivated to such an extent that it grows over the eyes and hides even the beak. Prices for good "crests" range from £5 to £40.

Norwich plainhead canaries are far more popular, but do not realize such high prices. At Huddersfield show recently a young bird, in its first season, was sold by auction for £5 10s. Mackley Brothers, of Norwich, whose last consignment of canaries to New York numbered 5,000, have sold several plainheads at prices ranging from £15 to £25 apiece.

Plainhead Norwich are bred almost exclusively for color properties, the most highly colored specimens invariably heading the list. For the purpose of enhancing the natural color large quantities of cayenne and other peppers are imported from Spain and given to the birds in a preparation of egg food. For first-class Yorkshire canaries there is a strong demand, but prices are not so remarkable, the highest reported being £30 for a sprightly young fellow exhibited at the recent Manchester show.—London Mail.

Maligning the Sex.
He—Women always have to monopolize the conversation. A woman can't sit still and listen for one consecutive minute.

She—No? Unless the other party to the conversation were making a proposal of marriage, eh?

He—Not even then. She'd say "yes" before he had spoken a minute.—Philadelphia Press.

Warm Uncertainty.
"Cheer up, brother," said the preacher to the sick man; "there's a warm welcome for you over yonder."

"Parson," gasped the man, "which way do you reckon I'm a-goin'?"—Atlanta Constitution.

When some men give a social blow-out they never stop blowing about what they blew in on the affair.

Women are seldom up to date in the matter of birthdays.

Those who assume the most usually know the least.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS.

The giving of a note secured by deed of trust to a husband and wife jointly to secure payment of a loan a portion of which was advanced by each, is held in *Johnston vs. Johnston* (Mo.), 61 L. R. A. 196, not to create an estate by entirety, where, by statute, a man has no control of his wife's property.

A statute giving mortgages to building and loan associations priority over other liens upon the mortgaged property filed subsequent to the recording of the mortgage is held, *Julien vs. Model building, L. & I. Assn.* (Wis.), 61 L. R. A. 608, not to be void as depriving any one of the equal protection of the laws.

In California, an order of a referee allowing bankrupt's homestead exemption may not be set aside because the bankrupt shortly before bankruptcy, out of the proceeds of the sale of his business, paid off a mortgage upon the homestead but made no payment to the creditors who sold him goods. In *re-Wilson*, 10 Am. B. R. 522.

If a person makes a contract with another for the benefit of a third person, the latter is held, in *Tweeddale vs. Tweeddale* (Wis.), 61 L. R. A. 500, to be entitled to enforce it at law regardless of his relations with the first person, or whether he had any knowledge of the transaction at the time of its occurrence, and regardless of any formal assent thereto on his part prior to the commencement of the action.

A statute making void all sales of intoxicating liquors, and providing for a return of the price paid, is held, in *Brown vs. Wieland* (Iowa), 61 L. R. A. 417, not to apply to sales consummated in another State, although they were made in response to an order procured by a local agent, and were delivered by the carrier to the purchaser in the State where the statute exists. A note to this case reviews all the authorities on conflict of laws as to sales of intoxicating liquors.

A statute permitting the sale at auction of trespassing animals after the posting for ten days by the proper officer of notice that the animals had been impounded, and are detained for a certain amount of damages and costs, without providing any judicial proceeding to ascertain either the damages to be paid or whether or not the animals were in fact running at large within the meaning of the statute, is held, in *Greer vs. Downey* (Ark.), 61 L. R. A. 408, to be void as depriving the owner of his property without due process of law.

A combination to fix prices in restraint of trade is held, in *State ex rel. Crow vs. Armour Packing Company* (Mo.), 61 L. R. A. 464, to be properly shown by acts on the part of several competing dealers in the same line of trade, such as selling at a fixed price, from which rebates are given in goods or weights, giving notice of coming advances in price, which always follow as announced, securing concessions from competitors of the right to sell shop worn goods, gathering evidence of sales under price, and abandoning such conduct as soon as legal proceedings are instituted to punish them.

UNIQUE WAR RECORD OF A DOG
Once Owned by Both and Followed the Irish Troops in Boer War.
Unusual interest centered in a case heard in the Dublin court yesterday, in which the leading figure was a bulldog that formerly belonged to General Philip Botha and went through a general portion of the South African war. Ernest Warmlington, canteen manager for the contractors, was summoned for cruelty to the animal, which has been stationed for some time past with the Royal Irish Rifles at Richmond Barracks.

The bulldog, which now belongs to Color Sergeant Edwards, Royal Irish Rifles, was accompanied with a sent in the witness box, from which point he seemed to take a languid interest in the proceedings. He was dressed in a red and blue uniform with brass buttons. The animal's record is an eventful one. During the Boer war he was captured by the Second Royal Irish Rifles, mounted infantry, from Commandant Phillip Botha's farm in the Doornberg, in September, 1900.

From that time until the end of the war he trekked with the rifles' mounted force from Griqualand in the west to Basutoland in the east, and he still bears the scar of a wound received in action. Later he was with General French's column in Cape Colony. For his service the bulldog now wears the queen's South African medal with two clasps. Mr. Drury remarked, when the case was called, that this was the most distinguished dog in the country, as he had medals.—London Telegraph.

Liszt's Reproof of a Caesar.
Once so the story goes, Emperor Nicholas of Russia asked Liszt to play in his presence. The musician complied, but during the performance the czar started a conversation with an aide-de-camp. Liszt stopped playing at once. The czar asked what was the matter. "When the emperor speaks," said Liszt, "everyone must be silent." The czar smilingly took the hint, and the playing proceeded.

Not Good to Eat.
"This is a new shaving soap I'm using," said the barber; "how do you like it?"
"Externally," spluttered the victim, as the brush slipped into his mouth.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Out of Danger.
Miss Anteeck—I wonder if there really are microbes in kisses?
Miss Shrapley—That needn't worry you. You're an "immune."—Philadelphia Ledger.

LOSS OF NATION

MARCUS ALONZO HANNA PASSES TO ETERNAL REST.

End Came After Two Months of Illness. Filled With Apparent Recoveries Followed by Relapses—Last Moments Were Without Pain—Was Kept Alive by Powerful Scientific Agencies.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Senator Marcus Alonzo Hanna died at 6:40 o'clock last night at the family apartments in the Arlington hotel, after an illness extending over nearly two months, filled with apparent recoveries followed by relapses, and finally drifting into typhoid fever, which, in his weakened condition, he was unable to withstand. When the end came all the members of the Senator's family were in the room except Mrs. Hanna, the Senator's wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hanna. Mrs. Hanna had left the room only a few minutes before.

The last sinking spell began at exactly 6:39 o'clock. Doctors Carter and Oster were then in attendance. They did not conceal the fact that life was about to end, and all the members of the family were sent for. Mrs. McCormick, one of the Senator's daughters, and Miss Phelps were present when the end came. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hanna were the first to arrive, and they withdrew immediately to the chamber of the Senator's wife to summon her to the bedside. It was while they were absent that the Senator breathed his last.

There were no distressing incidents attending the last moments. It was a sinking spell, which terminated in 19 minutes. Just after his eyes closed if death Mrs. Hanna was able to come into the room. She bore up well under the ordeal, and tonight she is showing calmness and bravery.

The courage displayed by Mrs. Hanna is the subject of the greatest surprise. She was in almost constant attendance on her husband, though realizing fully there was no hope for recovery. Nevertheless, the remonstrances of the physicians and the added implorings of her children that she take some rest were unavailing until late in the afternoon, when she was attacked by a violent headache. She was given a narcotic and then she retired to her chamber, but requested that a call be sent as soon as there appeared any change for the worse.

For the last two days Senator Hanna had not been conscious except at intervals and then only to obey mechanically some instructions given him by the physicians. Fourteen hours before the end was announced life had practically suspended, the flickering spark being kept aglow by the most powerful scientific agencies.

UNDER GUARD OF JAPANESE.

Russian Consul at Chemulpo, Corea, in Safe Hands—Minister at Seoul to Withdraw.

Seoul, Feb. 17.—The Russian Consul at Chemulpo is guarded by Japanese troops. Today all the other Russians in the city have been ordered into one large house, where they will be detained awaiting action of the authorities in regard to their disposal.

The Russian Minister at Seoul has been requested by the Japanese Minister through a neutral legation to withdraw, and he has consented to do so.

There are now on British and French cruisers 214 Russians, of whom two commanders, 14 officers and 31 men are wounded. Six wounded men have already died.

It is now known that the Russian cruiser *Variag* lost 40 men and one officer, a Count, killed during the recent engagement of Chemulpo. This officer was a midshipman named Niro. The *Variag* lost 64 men wounded, and among them was Captain Budef, who was in command of the cruiser. His wounds are not considered serious. The Russian dead, with the exception of the young officer, who fell on the bridge, were locked up in the cabin when the *Variag* went down.

Seoul remains quiet. The Japanese have demanded the use of several government buildings in this city to be used as barracks for the troops.

On the English and Italian cruisers a number of Russian refugees, just how many is not known. Only the wounded are on the British vessel.

ICE BREAKS THROUGH.

Russia's Transportation Across Lake Baikal Disrupted.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 17.—According to telegrams from Missoula, one of those dreaded storms that terrorize Lake Baikal has broken out, most unfortunately, just at the moment when the rails were being laid on the ice. A double rupture of the ice has taken place some versts from Tanhol, on the eastern side, leaving open gaps of several yards, which will have to be filled up with ice blocks. The work has been interrupted some days, while wood sleepers are still missing. Big stocks at Irkutsk have been employed in consolidating the railway there.

ELEVEN SHIPS NEED REPAIRS.

Put Out of Commission by the Japanese Shells at Port Arthur.

Chefoo, Feb. 16.—The steamer *Wenchow*, arriving from Port Arthur, reports that 11 Russian ships were struck in Wednesday's engagement. It is stated that the cruiser *Askold*, with a big hole at the waterline has been towed into the inner basin and beached.

The battleship *Sebastopol* has a shell hole just above the waterline and is useless in rough weather.

The cruiser *Novik* has a hole in her after port side.

The battleship *Retvizan* is on the beach and her bottom has fallen out.

The cruiser *Pallada* was torpedoed about the engine-room.

The battleship *Czarevitch*, which was also torpedoed, has been docked. The others were chiefly damaged in their upper works.

The whole of the fleet has been taken into the inner harbor and Port Arthur is depending for protection on her forts, which have been reinforced. There is frequent firing which is presumably drawn by Japanese torpedo-boats.

Firing was heard at midnight February 11, at intervals, also on the nights of February 12 and 13. On February 14 the firing continued until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. An eye-witness claims to have seen 18 dead landed from the Russian ships Wednesday.

It is understood that Admiral Stark has been reduced for his failure to repulse the Japanese attack. The cruiser *Novik* was the only vessel to do effective work. She gave chase to the Japanese torpedo-boats and, according to the Russian account, sank two and captured one.

RUSSIANS LIE CLOSE.

Withdraw Into Inner Harbor at Port Arthur and Prepare for Jap Attack.

Chefoo, Feb. 17.—Nothing has been heard here of the Russian *Vladivostok* fleet since Saturday, when it was seen cruising off the sea of Japan. The Russians have withdrawn from the roads off Port Arthur and are now well within the inner harbor, protected by the forts. Great activity is being displayed in the fortifications. Works are being strengthened and more guns are being placed in position. General Stark, it is said, has been reduced as a result of last Monday night's defeat. The *Wenchow's* officers say an intermittent firing has gone on from the night of the 11th until last night, when the vessel left Port Arthur. They were told that in Wednesday night's sortie two Japanese torpedo boats were sunk and one captured. During the fight there was a panic among the 400 Jap fugitives on board the *Wenchow*. Shells fell all around the *Wenchow* and the fugitives became frantic with fear. When the vessel sailed, the Japanese were given a supply of rice, but the Russians denied them fresh water.

USED BRITISH PORT.

Japs Accused by Russia of Making Headquarters at Wei Hai Wei.

New York, Feb. 17.—In spite of the denial of Lord Lansdowne, it is still believed here that the Japanese fleet had its headquarters at Wei Hai Wei, says a Herald dispatch from St. Petersburg. A note has reached the British Ambassador here, asking him if the Japanese by some misunderstanding had been allowed to enter Wei Hai Wei. If so, England is requested to occupy the place, otherwise her failure to do so will be regarded as a hostile action by the imperial government. Further, the British Ambassador has received a note containing the formal protest of Russia against a British expedition to Pekin.

Much attention is given here to the Danish action calling upon 15,000 men and naval reserves to man sea fortresses. This is supposed to be the first move toward closing the sound.

REVOLUTIONISTS CAPTURE CITY.

Army of 450 in Control of Navarrette, Santo Domingo.

New York, Feb. 17.—General Jimenez forces, numbering 450 men, with one cannon, have been at Navarrette, Santo Domingo, correspondent of the Herald. They have cut the railroad and telephone wires, and are in complete control of the city.

Traffic between here and Santiago de Loscaballeros has been paralyzed for nine days past.

The revolutionary forces have advanced to Laguna, where a battle took place with the government troops under the command of Colonel Camacho. The conflict raged for several hours, and there were heavy losses on both sides, but the rebels won, and forced Colonel Camacho to retire to Arroyo de Las Piedras.

Business is at a standstill, and crops are ruined on account of nearly every man being compelled to fight.

Red Cross Women at Work.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 16.—American and English women here have started on the preparation of materials for the Red Cross Society with just as great heartiness as the Russian women engaged in the same work. Various committees and sewing circles that had been already organized effected a general organization today at a meeting held in the Anglo-American Church.

These women realize that both armies engaged in the conflict will make large demands on humanitarianism, irrespective of race and they have naturally decided to assist the sufferers they can most easily reach, namely, the Russian wounded.

Japanese Wounded at Chemulpo.
Nagasaki, Feb. 16.—The Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru* has arrived at Saicho with seven officers and 23 men who were wounded in the engagement at Chemulpo.

American Ships Going to Shanghai.

Manila, Feb. 17.—Rear Admiral Cooper, in command of a squadron composed of the *New Orleans*, *Raleigh*, *Frolic* and *Annapolis*, is under orders to sail for Shanghai.

APPEAL OF JAPAN

UNITED STATES ASKED TO APPLY TO RUSSIA.

Japanese Held Captive—Russia's Answer to Secretary Hay's Note Will Be Satisfactory—Assurances Are Received From Paris and London—Chinese Neutrality Secure.

New York, Feb. 16.—A special cable to the Herald says: According to a telegram from Missoula, one of the so-dreaded storms that terrorize Lake Baikal, has broken out and most unfortunately, just at the moment when the rails for the railroad are being laid over the ice. A double rupture of the ice has taken place some versts from Tanhol, on the eastern side, leaving open gaps of several yards, which will have to be filled up with ice blocks.

The work has been interrupted some days, while wood sleepers are still missing, big stocks at Irkutsk having been employed in consolidating the railway there. Thus the anticipated road across the lake will not be completed tomorrow, as was greatly hoped.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Japan will appeal to the United States to prevail on the Russian Government to release the 199 Japanese subjects reported detained at Port Arthur. Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, will, it is expected, present the appeal to Secretary Hay tomorrow.

A cablegram received from Tokio today instructs Mr. McCormick, the American Ambassador at St. Petersburg, to inquire of the Russian Government on the subject as to the Japanese in question.

The best naval opinion here is to the effect that the detention of those Japanese at Port Arthur is a strategic necessity, to prevent the Japanese gaining information as to fortifications, troops, etc. An official said: "During the siege of Paris in the Franco-Prussian war, Representative Hitt, who was then in charge of the American Legation there, looked after the large number of Germans who were detained at Paris by the French Government."

Although Russia's answer to Secretary Hay's note, asking her to respect the neutrality of China and to localize hostilities as much as possible, has not yet been received, the State Department knows indirectly from London and Paris that Russia will reply favorably. It then will remain for the Powers to fix the scope of their note and to draft a more definite proposition for acceptance by the two combatants.

Satisfaction is expressed by Administration circles that Great Britain as well as Russia, has decided to waive objections to the note. It is expected that all the formal answers to the Secretary's note will reach here early this week.

American Consul Looks After Affairs.
Ying Tzu, Manchuria, Feb. 16.—The Japanese Consul at Niu Chwang left here today, transferring the affairs of his consulate to the American Consul.

The whole of the Kwan Tung coast is in total darkness at night in preparation for a torpedo and military attack. Vice-roy Alexieff has issued a warning to all shipping to beware of the coast and has forbidden navigation of the bays at night.

The rumor that the Japanese had landed troops at Pigeon bay or elsewhere on the Liao Tung Peninsula are unfounded.

RUSSIA SENDS A SHORT NOTE.

Wants to Know Whether the Japanese Fleet Is at Wei Hai Wei.

New York, Feb. 16.—A dispatch to the Herald from St. Petersburg says: A courteous but sharp note has reached the British Ambassador here asking him if the Japanese by some misunderstanding had been allowed to enter Wei Hai Wei. If so, England is requested to occupy the place, otherwise her failure to do so will be regarded as a hostile action by the imperial government.

In spite of the denial of Lord Lansdowne, it is still believed here the Japanese fleet had its headquarters at Wei Hai Wei.

Fire in Topeka, Kan.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 17.—The Parkhurst wholesale grocery establishment burned at 2:30 o'clock this morning. Stock and building are totally destroyed. The loss to this firm will aggregate \$250,000. The building occupied by the McCormick Harvester Company is on fire and this, with several other smaller buildings, will be destroyed.

For a time the Rock Island depot was threatened. The fire department was powerless to save any of the buildings. The fire originated in the wholesale grocery building; cause unknown.

Robbing the Tourists.

New York, Feb. 17.—Robberies of wealthy visitors to the Riviera are rife, and apparently are the work of a daring band of well-organized thieves, says a dispatch to the American from Mentone, France. A wealthy American widow reports having been robbed at her hotel of jewels valued at \$20,000. An English woman on her way back from Monte Carlo lost \$2,000, which she had won from the bank.

Cruiser Askold Sinks at Port Arthur.

Chefoo, Feb. 16.—Passengers who have arrived from Port Arthur say the Russian cruiser *Askold* was damaged in Tuesday's battle in the roads outside of Port Arthur, but was kept afloat all day Saturday, when it sank in 30 fathoms.

AMERICANS IN JAPANESE FLEET.

Consternation Among Russians—Czar Prohibits Unfriendly Articles.

New York, Feb. 16.—International matters are assuming a very serious aspect, according to a Herald dispatch from St. Petersburg.

One of the most serious bits of news at this moment is the alleged confirmation of the statement that aboard the Japanese vessels of war attacking Port Arthur were a number of American naval officers.

This report has caused something akin to a feeling of consternation among the Russian officers.

The Emperor has issued the strongest orders, continues the dispatch, that no news whatsoever be communicated through the headquarters staff. Further, he is deeply annoyed that the attitude recently adopted by the Russian press of writing upon the political situation in a way calculated to raise enmity between Russia and England and also, very specially, America.

For instance, the *St. Petersburg Gazette* has been prohibited, not as is generally supposed for publishing false news about the war, but because of an accompanying article declared to have been highly insulting to England.

The Emperor is said to have decided that no details of news are to be given out except upon matters of major importance—that is to say, of big engagements. He does not wish that all kinds of small affairs shall be given undue importance.

ENGLAND MAY SEIZE TENEDOS.

Would Block Outlet for Russian Black Sea Fleet.

Constantinople, Feb. 16.—According to reports here, the Balkan echoes of the Far Eastern disturbance are growing louder and more numerous, the latest being to the effect that England has threatened to occupy Lemnos Tenedos and other islands in the Aegean Sea at the outlet of the Hellespont in order to preserve the neutrality of the Dardanelles.

This would indicate that Great Britain expects Russia to ignore the treaty of Berlin and send her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles on the way to the Far East, without Great Britain's permission. Thus in case of a conflict of arms, Great Britain would be in the attitude of helping Japan to fight her battles for Manchurian supremacy.

Besides this formidable opposition, Russia seems to be threatened secretly with that of Germany.

JAPANESE LOSE AT PIGEON BAY.

Land Troops West of Port Arthur and Are Driven Off.

London, Feb. 16.—The *Daily Mail's* New Chwang correspondent, under date of February 14, cables: According to official Port Arthur telegrams the Japanese landed a force yesterday at Pigeon Bay west of Port Arthur. They were then attacked by troops and by the land batteries and were defeated with heavy losses.

MARINES IN RUSH.

Board Prairie With Their Entire Equipment—Under Sealed Orders.

Colon, Feb. 16.—Hurried orders from Washington were received to embark a battalion of marines on the *Prairie*. A special train left Colon this morning and returned at noon with the 450 marines, who were embarked at Bas Obispo station on the Panama Railway.

The *Prairie* boats were kept busy all day unloading the camp fittings, baggage, stores, etc., and this task is not yet finished.

Major Lucas will command the battalion, and the *Prairie* will sail tomorrow under sealed orders.

It has leaked out here that the marines are destined for Santo Domingo. Only about 100 marines now remain at Bas Obispo.

Deny Going to Santo Domingo.

Washington, Feb. 16.—Naval officials say that while the *Prairie* with the 450 marines from Colon aboard will touch at Santo Domingo, that the real destination of the vessel is the naval station at Guantanamo. The purpose of taking the men there, they say, is to give them a change of climate and surroundings.

After they have been at Guantanamo for awhile, probably they will be sent back to the Isthmus, if the United States continues to keep up its present marines there, and others will be given an opportunity to go to Guantanamo.

Officials say it is not the intention of the United States to increase its marine landing force in Santo Domingo waters, that there is already an adequate number of men on board the ships now in those waters if any are needed for landing purposes.

Fear Seizure of Steamer Corea.

Washington, Feb. 17.—There is great interest in the probable course of Japan toward the steamer *Corea*, which is bound via Nagasaki for Vladivostok, with a cargo of beef for the Russian garrison. Beef is contraband for war, and it is not thought that the Japanese will permit it to reach that port. The American interests involved will doubtless object vigorously if the cargo is detained.

"Let Japan purchase the beef herself, then there will be no trouble," said Government official today, when asked his view as to probable complications on this point.

THE TRAP IS CLOSED

THE RUSSIANS ARE SHUT UP IN PORT ARTHUR.

Railroad Behind the City Is Blown Up—Question of Time When Besieged Force Will Have to Surrender to the Active Enemy Without the Necessity of an Assault.

Chefoo, Feb. 16.—A reliable authority says that three Russian torpedo-boats have been sunk by guns from the forts. They were mistaken for Japanese vessels.

Tokio, Feb. 16.—There is considerable ground for believing that the report of three Russian cruisers having been sunk in the straits of Tsugaru is at least true in part. There is no confirmation of the report, but it is believed that one or more Russian warships were destroyed by the mines at the entrance to the straits.

London, Feb. 16.—The correspondent of the *Daily Express* at Pekin, in a cablegram dated February 12, reports that viceroy Alexieff is practically isolated, direct communication being cut off from Port Arthur and Vladivostok being suspended. He adds that the railroad behind Port Arthur has been blown up and that 10,000 Japanese troops have landed near Daini.

The *Daily Mail's* Tokio correspondent, under date of February 12, says that the Japanese warship *Amami* has captured the German steamer *Iokama*, which had a cargo, including dynamite, for Port Arthur.

The *Nagasaki* correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* expresses the conviction that Russia is quite unable to hold the Liao-tung Peninsula, and that Port Arthur is bound to fall by the exhaustion of time, even without an assault.

WINS ANOTHER TRIUMPH.

Russia and Japan to Accede to Terms of His Note.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Secretary Hay has added another to his long list of diplomatic triumphs, and the United States is once more enabled by his diplomacy to head the nations in a concurrent effort to preserve the integrity of China.

Mr. Hay's note of February 10 to Russia and Japan, urging them to continue hostilities within as small an area as possible and to respect the neutrality and administrative entity of China, will be accepted by Russia, as well as by Japan, and all the nations will join the Washington government in inviting the combatants to agree to the proposition.

France Accepts.

Washington, Feb. 17.—M. Jusserand, the French Ambassador, called upon Secretary Hay today at his residence to inform him officially of France's acceptance, and officially it is known that Russia's acquiescence will be communicated very soon. At the Russian Embassy tonight no intimation had been received of the government's probable answer to Secretary Hay's note, but Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, will inform Secretary Hay as soon as St. Petersburg advises him.

Acceptance by the powers of the Washington government's suggestion will be followed by a further exchange of views as to the practicability of the suggestion to the principle which all have given their adherence. As the note is of the most general character, it will be necessary to discuss at some length the possibilities it contains.

It is generally understood that hostilities will be confined, so far as China is concerned, to Manchuria, Shanhaikwan probably marking the western boundary of the theater of action.