JAPAN FIGHTS RUSSIA

Muscovites Startled by the Sudden and Success ful Movements of the Mikado's War Vessels Against Their Fleet.

BUSSIAN SQUADRON CRIPPLED IN FIRST ENGAGEMENTS

RUSSIAN TRANSPORT BLOWN UP. WANTON DELAYS ARE CLAIMED.

Mine Accidentally Struck by Ship. Captain, Three Officers and Ninety Men Killed.

BRITISH STEAMER FIRED UPON.

A report has been received at St. Petersburg from Viceroy Alexieff, saying that the Russian torpedo transport Yenised has been blown up as the result of accidentally striking a mine in the harbor at Port Arthur. The Yenisei sank and Capt. Stepanoff, three officers and 91 men were lost.

The Yenisei was built at the Baltic works in 1899. She was of 2,500 tons displacement and could make 16 knots. Her armament consisted of five 12-pounder and six 2-pounder quick-firing guns.

The British steamer Fu Ping, when leaving Port Artaur, was fired upon by Russians. Three Chinese members of the crew were wounded. The Russians afterward apologized for firing on the vessel. The Fu Ping, upon its arrival at Wei Hai Wei filed a protest with the British commissioner.

The American consul has reported to United States Minister Conger that the Russian authorities have refused to allow the American steamer Pleiades sailed from Seattle on February 2 with a cargo of flour.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister at London, has received a dispatch from Tokio announcing that on February 11 two Japanese merchant steamers, the Nakanoura Maru. and Zensho Maru while on their way from Sakahata to Ottaru, on't the island of Hokkaido.

The Rritish government has information which leads it to believe that Japan is likely to take possession of Port Arthur a week from now. In the

the Zensho Maru escaped and arrived safely af Fukuyama island of Hokkaido.

The British government has information which leads it to believe that Japan is likely to take possession of Port Arthur a week from now. In the best informed Japanese circles here it is privately thought that the war will be over by July. Those British officials who are cognizant of the extraordinary thoroughness with which Japan prepared for war are inclined to share the Japanese view regarding the duration of the struggle.

The Associated Press understands that the Japanese troops are advancing rapidly toward the Yalu river. There, it is expected, they will meet and engage the Russian forces. The Japanese declare that the numbers of the Russian troops are greatly exaggerated.

NEUTRALITY ASSURED.

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No Aid to Either of Belligerent Nations Can Be Given.

The proclamation declaring the United States neutral in the war between Russia and Japan was issued by the president on the 11th. The document was prepared by Secretary Hay. The Russian request that the United States remain neutral was made on the 10th, while that of Jauan was delivered to Secretary Hay on the 11th, together with a formal notice of Japan's declaration of war.

Count Cassini, the formal notice of Japan's declaration of war.

Count Cassini, the Russia ambassador to the United States, and Minister Takahira, Japan's representative in Washington met face to face for the

pan's declaration of war.
Count Cassind, the Russia ambassador to the United States, and Minister
Takahira, Japan's representative da
Washington, met face to face for the
first time in many weeks, in the waiting room of Secretary Hay's office at
the department shortly after
noon Wednesday.

Mr. Takahira had called to deliver
to Secretary Hay Japan's formal notice
that a state of war existed. As he
came ont of Mr. Hay's office he almost
brushed the garments of the Russian
ambassador, who was standing near
the door awaiting his turn to enter,
the blast furnace reports for January,
the blast furnace for the complete to the Crusters Na
and gumboat Korietz at Chemulpo on
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Country's Pig Iron Output for 1903
In the door awaiting his turn to compare the first of the flushing his turn to compare the first of the flushing his turn to compare the flushing his turn to the flushing his turn to compare the f

The Japanese fleet, which entered Chemulpo, escorting transports, captured one Russian volunteer warship and two steamers in the open sea.

PORT ARTHUR SEALED.

Alexieff Isolated. Railroad Blown Up and Troops Landed.

Arrival of Big Japanese Force
In Korea.

The London Daily Mall's Port Arthur correspondent, under date of February 12, says. "Official advices state that the Japanese anded 609 soldiers near Tailon-wan with disastrous research to their stays and the State of Hapanese and the State of Hapanese and Dove bay, where 30 of them were killed and the remainder retreated.

Formain Declaration of Hostilities at Tokyo Gives Japan's Reason for the Clash.

The following is the text of the imperial rescript declaring war against Russia, which was issued in Japan yousterday:

We, by the grace of heaven, emperor of Japan, seated on the throne occupied by the same dynasty since time immemorial, hereby make proclams tion to all our loyal and brave subjects as follows:

We hereby declare war against Russia, and we command our army and the strength, and we also command our reverse the first of the Russian of the Russian stream to the relation of the Russian stream to the relation of the Russian stream to the Russian described by thousand the strength and we also command our remainder to their duty with all their strength, and we also command our reported their duty with all their strength, and we also command our rounder of their duty with all their strength, and we also command our command and up commend all our commend at lour command and we also command our authorities of the Russian stream to the hardon of the Russian stream to the first the process of the Russian stream to the relation of the Russian stream to the result of the Russian stream to the relation of the Russian strea

who engaged them in a hand-to-hand in the engaged them in a hand-to-hand in the fall that Japanese troops have been landed 40 miles troops have been landed 40 miles arther west.

Big Japanese Army Landed,
A communication from Viceroy and the engaged in St. Petersburg, confirms the report of the landing of Joon Japanese troops at Chemulpo.
The viceroy adds that reports have been received of attempts to cut the telegraph wires along the Chimeses. Eastern railway and also to destroy one of the abutments of the Sungariability of the abutments of the Sungariability of the abutments of the Sungariability.

SQUADRON BLOWN UP.

Report That 1,800 Japanese Soldiers were lolown up by torpedoes while parcing through the Tsurgaru straits of Hokkaido. It is reported the forts fired effectually upon the straits of Hokkaido. It is reported the forts fired effectually upon the straits of Hokkaido. It is reported the forts fired effectually upon the straits of Hokkaido. It is reported the forts fired effectually upon the company in the Tsurgaru straits. Six Norwegian steamers, chartered shy a Russian naval contractor, have been captured. The vessels are the Lena, Active, Sentis, Seirstadt, Argo and Hermis. They carried coal cargos. The Hermis arrived here at Nagaski, under convoy of a cruiser. It is rumored that 1,800 Japanese soldiers have been killed, presumably by the sinking of a transport. Disturbinate are reported proceeding in Saoul.

The Official Messenger of St. Petersburg suburg contains the following "Burg contains the following "Burg

tation of and reliance upon the unanimous willingness of all our loyal subjects to stand with us in defense of the fatherland, ask God's blessing upon our staiwart land and naval forces. "Given at St. Petersburg, January 27, 1904, A. D., (new calendar, February 9, 1904), and in the tenth year of our reign. Written in full by the hand of

nd of "His Imperial Majesty," "NICHOLAS."

UNCLE SAM SPEAKS A WORD.

It is said the Japanese squadron has sealed Port Arthur.

The correspondent of the London Daily Express at Peking in a cable-gram dated February 12, reports that Viceroy Alexieff is practically isolated. direct communication between Port Arthur and Vladivostock being suspended. He adds that the railroad behind Port Arthur has been blown up and that 6,000 Japanese troops have landed near Dalny.

The Daily Mail's Tokyo correspondent, under date of February 12, says that the Japanese warship Amaki has captured the German steamer Yokohama, 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 effuxion of time, even without an assault.

the Liac-Tung peninsula, and that Port Arthur is bound to fall by the effuxion of time, even without an assault.

Japanese Didn't Lose a Man.

The vessels that comprised the Japanese fleet which attacked and destroyed the Russian cruiser Variag and gunboat Korietz at Chemulpo on the Sth inst., were the cruisers Naniva, Takachiho, Akashi, Suma and the Asama. The Japanese did not lose a man.

Fatal Hotel Fire.

The Cliff Springs hotel, located at the west end of the bridge over the Allegheny river at Kittanning, Pa., was destroyed by fire and two men lost their lives in the flames. The dead men are Aaron Davis, of Pittsburg married and leaves a family, Richard Dady, of Pittsburg, married and leaves a family.

Reyes was elected president of Colombia on February 2. Georgales Valencia was elected vice president.

DAPANESE REPULSED.

MASAMPHO SEIZED.

Reports to St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used as a United St. Petersburg Announce Port Will Be Fortified and Used Announce Port Will Be Fortified Announce Port Will Be

leads from the Yellow sea into the sea of Japan. Thus commanding the strait, it, in conjunction with the naval station at Hiroshima, almost exactly opposite on the Japanese coast, enables Japan to close the southern entrance to the inland and western side of the empire.

6 CARR DEGLARES WAR.

Supreme Manifest Commanding an Armed Response to Japanese Challenge at Port Arthur.

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The Official Messenger of St. Petersburg contains the following "supreme manifest:"

The Official Messenger of St. Petersburg contains the following "supreme manifest:"

"By the grace of God, we, Nicholas III., emperor and autocrat of all the Russias, etc., make known to all our lehearts, we made every exertion to maintain tranquility in the Far East. In threse peaceful aims we signified assessent to the proposals of the Japanese government to revise agreements arrived at Sasebo.

Three transports of the Russian voltanteer fleet, conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Corean coast.

A dispatch from Port Arthur says the Japanese fleet returned there Tuesday afternoon and again bombarded the Russian fleet and forts, but that it soon withdrew. The losses to the Russians, say the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese fleet returned there Tuesday afternoon and again bombarded the Russian store Japanese

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THREE TRANSPORTS CAPTURED.

Russian Cruiser Variag and Gunboat
Korietz Go Down After Fight
Near Chemulpo.

JAPS SCORE A CLEAN VICTORY.

Three transports of the Russian volunteer fleet, conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured by the Japanese off the Corean coast.
A dispatch from Port Arthur says the Japanese feet returned theer Tuesday afternoon and again bombarded the Russian fleet and forts, but that it soon withdrew. The losses to the Russians, the dispatch says, were small. During the firing a Japanese cruiser grounded.
A message from London says: Official dispatches from Tokto received by Baron Hayashi, say the Japanese admiral, on arriving at Chemulpo, Corea, Monday, sent word to the two Russian warships, the Variag and Korietz, giving them a time limit in which to leave. Shortly afterward the Russians came out and attacked a Japanese torpedo boat, which replied with a torpedo inferectively. A general exchange of shots then followed.

After a hot fire the Russians returned to Chemulpo and at the entrance of the harbor. The Russian rounded to Chemulpo and at the entrance of the harbor. The Russian rounded to Chemulpo and at the entrance of the harbor. The Russian rounded to Chemulpo and the componition of his rights as a stockholder; that he owned his stock before this by-law was adopted, and that he never consented to its adoption. He alleges that even under this by-law no money was set asade for working capital until February, 1904, was passed.

KRUGER PAYS THE PENALTY.

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stansing of the torpedo attack at Port Arthur, seven other vessels were captured.

The damage done to the Russians at Port Arthur by the Japanese fleet under of Vice Affirm as at first reported. Sevens when his pelonging to the Russians were put out of action. The Pallada was not sunk but lies on her beam ends on the beacht, so badly damaged by the well-directed blow of a torpedo that it is doubtful if it will be possible to make her seaworthy forward and provided at torpedo that it is doubtful if it will be possible to make her seaworthy forward and provided and plana were seriously damaged. The second fight the battleship policia and plana were seriously damaged.

The Japanese have dealt the Russians acrushing blow at Port Arthur. A nadvance squadron of the Japanese feet, under command of Vice Admiral Togo, and comprising 16 battleships and cruisers with a numerous torpedo fiotilla, left the main fleet off Shan Tung peninsula on Sunday immediately that the news of the diplomatic rupture became known.

It cruised slowly outside without showing lights. The Russians were lying in the roadstead upparently feeting seeure from attack. Nearly all the Japanese torpedo boats were dispatched on their dangerous and daring task. They rushed full steam on the enomy, who were completely surposed.

A great rattle of small arms greeted the invaders, who, however, tescaped thinking the standard witch and the Pallada were almost immediately torpedoed.

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Line of hattle was then formed and the Japanese feet moved in within a range of two and one-half miles and opened fire on the Russians. The bomming of guns was heard far out to sea.

Rep

Killed at a Crossing.