

RUSSIAN FALSEHOOD EXPOSED.

Story that Czar's Guns had Sunk Japanese Battleships at Port Arthur

WAS EVIDENTLY COINED TO AROUSE MUSCOVITE PATRIOTISM.

Japanese Admiral Sought to Block the Harbor

BUT HIS STRATEGY WAS DISCOVERED AND PARTIALLY THWARTED.

Third Attack on Port Arthur Now In Progress.

(Special to the Daily Herald.)

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25, 6 p. m.—Rumors are in circulation here this afternoon that a bombardment of Port Arthur is now going on.

6 32 p. m. Major General Pflug, (the chief of staff of Viceroy Alexieff) telegraphs as follows, under to-day's date:—"The enemy again attacked Port Arthur from one to three a. m., and was everywhere repulsed. Details follow."

London, Feb. 25, 6.05 p. m.—The British foreign office has received an official despatch, saying that not one of the Japanese torpedo boats were injured in their attack on Port Arthur of Wednesday, Feb. 24.

Only Old Hulks.

Paris, Feb. 25.—Additional details of the Japanese attempt to close the entrance of the harbor of Port Arthur have been received from most authoritative quarters.

These say that the Japanese sent five or six old transport hulks conveyed by torpedo boats to Port Arthur, with the evident purpose of sinking the hulks at the entrance of the harbor. The battleship Retvizan discovered their approach and her fire on them was strongly seconded by that of the fort battery north of Port Arthur.

The report adds that two Japanese ships were wrecked and lie in Tiger bay, that along the shore another Japanese ship was burned, and that the fourth lies wrecked on the shore outside of Tiger Bay. It is believed that the wrecks are not warships, but hulks designed to be sunk at the entrance of the harbor. The wrecks are said to be at considerable distance from the harbor entrance, which remains open. This report gives no information concerning the Japanese fleet which is said to have supported the operations against Port Arthur.

From the Russian View.

Port Arthur, Feb. 25.—At about one o'clock yesterday morning, the Japanese made a desperate attack to block the entrance of the inner harbor and dock. With this object, four merchant steamers, accompanied by torpedo vessels, were sent from two sides towards the entrance of the channel. The movement was perceived by the Retvizan which was lying in the channel and which opened fire immediately. At the same time the guns of the fort on the Tiger peninsula, Golden Hill and Electric Cliff were turned on the enemy and a furious cannonade ensued, lasting until five in the morning. Then the firing slackened and became desultory.

The Japanese had failed to effect their purpose. All four steamers were sunk. They are lying in the following positions: One behind Golden Hill, one near the Retvizan, two between the entrance of the channel and the Lao Chie Shan peninsula. Two of the vessels are still burning.

The cruisers Bayan and Novik pursued the Japanese torpedo fleet. It is said that one of the torpedo boats was sunk. At about 9 a. m. Feb. 24, a Japanese squadron of considerable size approached Port Arthur and the Bayan and Novik were ordered to face the Japanese ships, which, however, did not open fire and afterwards steamed away in the direction of Port Dalny.

The cruiser Pallada has entered the dock here?

The Attack on Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25, 1.45 p. m.—No further details were available this morning of the unsuccessful attack of the Japanese to bottle up the Russian fleet at Port Arthur by sinking the big merchantmen at the mouth of the harbour.

The brief details contained in the official despatch indicate that the coup was planned according to the usual Japanese tactics to take place during the night, and that it was desperately pushed and backed by eight torpedo boats which continued fighting until daylight, but that it failed completely.

Great praise is given to the Russian battleship Retvizan, which lay outside the harbor entrance for her gallant work in beating off the enemy. Her part in the action shows that the reports of the injury which she is said to have suffered in the attack of Feb. 8, were grossly exaggerated.

The official despatches do not make clear the exact nature of the ships sent in for the purpose of blocking the throat of the harbor, or whether the four vessels destroyed, were beached by the fire from the shore batteries or by the fire of the Retvizan, consequently all the unknown additional details are expected from Viceroy Alexieff in the course of the day. As he is at Mukden, the report of the commander at Port Arthur has first to go to him and then it is forwarded to the Czar.

The report that after daylight floating torpedoes were seen in the readed causes anxiety. According to the latest advices the Japanese fleet was still visible on the horizon.

Gone With the Japs.

Seoul, Feb. 25.—Yi Yong Ik, who was formerly minister of war, and practically the dictator of Korea was considered a friend of Russia, was taken by the Japanese when they entered Chemulpo and on the same night put on board of a warship which took him to Japan. He went on board in court dress.

Cut the Wires.

Seoul, Feb. 25.—Russian videttes, who advanced south of Inju, have cut the telegraph wires between Anju and Ping Yang.

Nagasaki, Feb. 25.—The Japanese government have seized 670 tons of mess beef, which was shipped from San Francisco on the steamer Korea, Feb. 20, and which was consigned to the Russian government at Vladivostok. It is thought the Japanese government will purchase the beef.

Rather Previous.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—The Czar has telegraphed warm congratulations to Viceroy Alexieff and the entire Russian

squadron at Port Arthur on the able manner in which they repulsed the latest attack of the Japanese.

Used as Guardships.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—The battleships Retvizan and Czarskovich will be temporarily employed at Port Arthur as guardships in which capacity it has been decided their formidable guns can be utilized to good advantage. It has been found that the necessary repairs to these ships can only be fully made in dock at Vladivostok, so the vessels will be temporarily patched up and remain at Port Arthur until circumstances permit of their being sent to Vladivostok.

The rumor that the savings banks will not meet the demands for the repairment of deposits in consequence of the war are emphatically denied by the Official Messenger.

Manchurians Against Russia.

New York, Feb. 25.—According to a cable from Che Foo to the World, Manchuria is rising against the Russians. Five thousand Russian troops have been moved from Mukden to Sunning Tung because in the villages along the west side of Lia Tung peninsula the natives are making active preparations to cut off small bodies of Russian troops there.

Ten thousand Manchurians have already been enrolled in the movement which is spreading. Volunteers are plenty, there is no lack of ammunition or money for the patriotic rich are subscribing.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Waycott, of Montreal are staying at the Queen.

Hon. A. G. Blair is in St. John, the guest of his friend, Mr. Robert Thompson.

Prof. Clawson, of the U. N. B., leaves tomorrow morning for St. John, and will return on Monday.

Miss Marian Tompkins of Florenceville, Carleton County, is seriously ill at the Victoria Hospital from typhoid fever.

Lieutenant Governor Snowball, Mrs. Snowball and Miss Snowball expect to come to Ottawa this year for the opening of the session.—Ottawa Free Press.

Mr. W. H. Merritt, of St. John, who has a high reputation as a speed skater, is in the city, and will take part in the sports at the Arctic rink this evening.

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ESTATE NOTICE

All persons having any claims against the estate of Joanna Estabrooks, late of the City of Fredericton, in the County of York, widow, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested, to Havlock Coy of the said City of Fredericton, Barrister at-Law, within three months from this date, and all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the said Havlock Coy.

Dated this 7th day of January, A. D., 1904.
GEORGE FREDERICK GILMORE,
Administrator of the estate of Joanna Estabrooks, deceased.

Jan. 3—dead—3mos