

LATEST WAR NEWS.

A summary of the losses sustained by Russia in the first twenty-four hours of the war with Japan show that ten Russian war ships were placed out of action in one way or another, and that the Japanese did not lose a ship.

London, Feb. 11.—Dispatches to the Daily Mail from Tokio and Nagasaki, dated Feb. 10, report the arrival at Sasebo, Japan of two large Russian Steamers. One is the new Volunteer Fleet association transport Ekaterinoslav, which recently landed troops and arms at Port Arthur, and the other is the steamer Argun, belonging to the Chinese Eastern Railways' Company. Both were captured by the Japanese cruisers Sai Yan and Hei Yan, in the neighborhood of Fusan, Corea. The Ekaterinoslav is of 10,000 tons displacement, and had been fitted up as an auxiliary cruiser. She had 30 rifles on board, and was on her way from Vladivostock. The Argun was going to Vladivostock from Nagasaki.

The Russian whalers Glorige, Nicelai, Alexander and Michael, captured by the Japanese, have also arrived at Sasebo.

State of War Announced.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, called on Secretary Hay today and left with him the announcement of the czar declaring war on Japan. It was a dispatch from the Russian foreign office to the ambassador and was substantially as follows:

"During the night of Feb. 8-9 a detachment of Japanese torpedo boats unexpectedly attacked the Russian squadron lying at anchor in the outer roadstead of Port Arthur. This attack being the beginning of military operations, obliges the imperial government to take immediate measures to reply by armed force to the challenge issued against Russia. Be good enough to inform the government of the United States."

The United States legation at Tokio made two reports today to the state department upon the battles. They related to engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo and added nothing to the facts already known.

Two Thousand Russian Prisoners.

London, Feb. 10.—A special dispatch from Tokio today says the Japanese have captured three Russian transports having on board about 2,000 troops.

Two Reports.

Vladivostock, Feb. 10.—Private telegrams received here report the complete rout of the Japanese by the Russians on the Yalu river. These advices also claim that Chemulpo, Corea, has been occupied by Russian soldiers and marines.

Another Bombardment.

London, Feb. 10.—A dispatch to The Central News 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, the dispatch says, were small.

During the firing a Japanese cruiser grounded.

This Gunboat Safe.

Shanghai, Feb. 10.—The Russian gunboat Mandjur, reported from various sources to be under repairs at Nagasaki, Japan, where she is said to have been seized by the Japanese, is in the harbor here. She has had her hull and funnel repainted black and is ready for sea at a moment's notice.

Important Strategic Move.

London, Feb. 11.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says an important bridge on the Manchurian railroad has been blown up and 30 men have been killed.

An Alleged Russian Victory.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 10.—Some of the newspapers here printed extras today claiming a Russian victory at Port Arthur. Three Japanese warships and four torpedo boats are reported to have been seriously crippled. One report says the Japanese battleship Shikishima was sunk. The people began demonstrating but there is no official confirmation of the report and the announcement is discredited.

Japan Seizes Masampho.

Tokio, Feb. 10.—Japan seized Masampho Sunday and dispatched a heavy force there. Japan will fortify the port and establish a naval and military base there. Masampho is an exceedingly important point as it controls the Korean channel and is an excellent base for future operations.

The Japanese have captured at least five Russian commercial steamers, including Ekaterinoslav, Moukden, Russia, Argun and Alexander. They were captured by the Japanese in Korean and adjacent waters at various times since Saturday by small cruisers. Some of the steamers are rich prizes. The small steamer Koeik is detained at Yokohama, its status not being clear.

Japan's Declaration.

Tokio, Feb. 10.—A formal declaration of war is expected tonight. The proclamation has been prepared and approved by the cabinet. Foreign Minister Komura has gone to the palace to secure the Emperor's approval.

Another Report.

San Francisco, Feb. 10.—A cablegram to the Associated Press from Nagasaki states that the Russian cruiser Variag, which

was reported to have been sunk yesterday at Chemulpo by the Japanese fleet, was captured, and arrived at Sasebo.

The dispatch also states that in addition to the Russian vessels damaged in torpedo attack at Port Arthur, seven other vessels were captured.

It is also reported at Nagasaki that Gen Kurehakin has arrived at Harbin to take command of the Russian land forces.

Mountain Lumber Interests.

Pickens, Feb. 6.—The largest charter fee ever paid in the history of Pickens county was forwarded to Columbia by the local attorney of the Montville Lumber company, Mr. J. Z. Carey. The fee was a little over \$300, paid by the Montville Lumber company, recently organized in this county with a capitalization of \$500,000.

The company now has 60,000 acres of virgin forests—40,000 in South Carolina and 20,000 in North Carolina, and is continually adding to its extensive purchase.

It bought out the Benedict-Loye Lumber company and is now operating the extensive plant at Calhoun, one of the most complete plants to be found in the State. Its equipment cost about \$40,000. The new company is cutting about 40,000 feet of lumber per day at Calhoun and has 1,500,000 poplar and pine logs at the river's edge ready to float down with the rise of the water courses. This lot of logs is valued at about \$60,000. There is sufficient quantity of this kind of soft wood, as it is called by the lumber people, to run the Calhoun plant for a number of years.

When the soft woods are consumed then the hardwoods, consisting of oak, hickory, chestnut, ash, etc., will be cut.

The soft woods can very easily be floated down to the company's boom on the Klowee at Calhoun and cut and shipped in any direction by rail. Not so with the hardwoods—the specific gravity is too great—it won't float. This means that eventually a railroad will have to be constructed into the heart of the lumber district. The Benedict-Loye Lumber company thought of fastening a log of hardwood between two of soft wood, but it was impracticable on account of the expense.

The company means business and will spend a great deal of money here in the development of its valuable interests. It also has similar interests in North Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia.



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