

A ROUTED ARMY.

Japs and Russians Pictured On The March And in Battle.

MUKDEN CAMPAIGN.

The Capture of Two Whole Regiments of Russians, at One Time. Some Russians Badly Frightened when

Cornered. One Hundred Thousand Prisoners.

Headquarters of Gen Kuroki's Army, near Tieling, March 25.—The first realization of the intensity of the Japanese forces was brought home to the observer when the two central armies rolled across the Shabo on the morning of the 8th of March in the morning during the retreat. Russian divisions of the 8th of March in the morning during the retreat. Russian divisions of the 8th of March in the morning during the retreat.

For 10 days from that morning the whole country within the area of the fighting was covered with a mist of fine dust stirred up by the feet of more than a million men and animals.

A DRAMATIC ENCOUNTER.

No more dramatic encounter occurred during this eventful week than the capture of the Fifth and Nineteenth regiments of Russian rifles by Kuroki's left division on the morning of the 11th. In the panic which prevailed at Mukden these two regiments left at 3 in the morning with no general commanding them, and a mixed crowd of soldiers attaching themselves to the retreat.

THE RUSSIAN RETREAT.

The beginning of the Russian retreat from the Shabo was orderly and they left a clean field. None of their portable effects worth taking had been abandoned, except hundreds of stacks of tin cases in the trenches and huts, containing cartridges.

Toward evening of that day Gen. Kuroki's troops overtook their rear

guards eight or nine miles north of the Shabo and from that time the retreat became a scramble for safety. At the various supply stations huge piles of grain were fired and smoldered for days. The pursuit continued all through the night of the eighth and the right division of Kuroki's army came to the branch line of railroad running from Mukden to the mines at Fusun. On the morning of the 9th the sand storm began, which threw both sides into confusion and made orderly retreat or pursuit on a large scale impossible.

A CATERPILLAR PLAGUE.

A Train Stopped by Multitudes of the Creeping Insects.

Sometime ago some sections of Georgia were visited by a plague of caterpillars, which became almost unbearable. For several days reports had been going into Savannah of the ravages of the insects within a few miles of the city.

ALLEGED VOTE FRAUDS.

Four Men Arrested for Making False Election Returns.

Three managers of election, M. L. Fox, George Busbee and J. A. Armstrong, and a paragon, named T. D. Mitchell, were arrested Wednesday morning in the town of Brimland, charged with fraud against the State election laws and with conspiracy on the ground that they made false returns in the recent election held there for the choice of an incumbent.

Busbee has turned State's evidence, but is too sick to be locked up. The others are behind the bars. Candidate Gunnels, who was counted out by three votes, alleges that he holds affidavits from 117 out of the 151 voters who participated in the election, declaring that they voted for him.

Intendant G. B. McCombs, in whose interest the alleged frauds were committed, escaped after an exciting chase at 2 o'clock Wednesday morning, near Cayce. Learning that warrants were out on him and Fox skipped together. They were overtaken by a party of three special deputies. When Fox and McCombs were headed off suddenly, they showed fight. McCombs reached his lawyer. Fox then grabbed Deputy Meyers and the latter was turning him over to the grand jury.

THE WEATHER IN JUNE.

What the Records Show for the Last Eighteen Years.

The following data, covering a period of 18 years, have been compiled from the weather bureau records at Columbia. They are issued to show the conditions that have prevailed, during the month of June, for the above period of years, but must not be construed as a forecast of the weather or conditions for the coming month.

Temperature—Mean or normal temperature 79 degrees. The warmest month was that of 1890, with an average of 81 degrees. The coldest month was that of 1903, with an average temperature was 103 degrees on June 10th, 1889. The lowest temperature was 47 degrees on June 1st, 1889. The latest date on which last "killing" frost occurred in spring, April 17th, 1905.

Made Him Confess.

At Knoxville, Tenn., influenced by a sermon which he heard from the lips of Rev. Sam Jones, the evangelist, Wm. Kuller Wednesday denied to confess his part in election rotteness. The Knox county judgeship is now being contested in a local court on a charge of election bribery, etc. Kuller has twice been on the stand and has twice refused to answer certain pointed questions.

COTTON LETTER.

Of Theodore H. Price, With Figures Pointing to a Small Crop.

His Report, Covering the Cotton Belt, Shows a Decrease of 29.5 Per Cent. Over Last Year.

The following is Mr. Theodore H. Price's cotton crop report for the month of May, issued from New York: Herewith I submit my monthly report on the cotton crop, made up from 7,346 replies to a postal card inquiry which comprised the following questions:

What is the percentage of increase or decrease in cotton acreage in your section as compared with last year? What percentage of the total contemplated area has been planted upon the date of your reply?

Is the crop with you earlier or later than the normal, and how many days? Expressed in percentage, what is the present condition of the crop in your section, assuming 100 per cent. to be the standard of normal or reasonably perfect development at this season?

This is one of the most extensive inquiries ever made by me. Replies have been received from 3,886 towns in 806 cotton producing counties. The total number of cotton produced in the cotton belt, according to the last Census returns, is 822 so that the entire belt may be regarded as having been effectively covered.

The average date of my replies is May 19th, and the statement of condition does not, therefore, reflect the heavy damage caused by the excessive rains in Texas on May 21st.

For this reason the Government report, which is made up from replies as of the date of May 25th, may perhaps show a lower condition than that given by my correspondents.

Last year the condition as reported by my correspondents on the 20th of May averaged within a point of that reported by the Government, and the average of my correspondents' crop estimates published by me on the 31 of November was 12,177,603, or within 14,903 bales of the estimate of the Agricultural Department published a month later.

The details of my report, State by State, will be found below. The indicated decrease in acreage, as compared with last year throughout the entire belt, is 17.3 per cent.

The condition of the crop assuming 100 per cent. to be the standard of normal or reasonably perfect development at this season, 70.8 per cent.

Of the total contemplated area, my correspondents report that there had been planted up to May 19th 79 per cent.

On the average the crop is reported later than the normal by 17 days.

SUMMARY.

Table with columns: State, Replies, Decrease Acreage, Condition per cent. Lists states like Alabama, Georgia, Florida, etc.

Total 7,346 17.3 avg 70.8 av

THE OUTLOOK.

The outlook, as suggested by these figures, is of the gravest import to the trade. The aggregate reduction and acreage as compared with the Government's figures of last year of the same date, indicating an initial contraction in the producing capacity of the cotton plant, or to be planted of 29.5 per cent. Admitting that the crop of 1904-5 was 14,000,000 bales, the present indications point to a crop of 29.5 per cent. less, or 9,870,000 bales, assuming that the conditions hereafter are as phenomenally and unusually favorable as the growing and picking season of last year proved to be. This is hardly probable.

The deterioration in the crop condition, as reported by the Government between the first of June and the first of October last year was only 7.2 per cent., the least on record for the past ten years. The average decrease during the summer and autumn for the previous nine years having been 20 per cent.

The indicated acreage for the coming season is 2,674,000 acres less than that planted two years ago, and which produced a commercial crop of only 10,055,000 bales.

The condition as reported by my correspondents is 2.3 per cent. lower than the condition reported by the Government in 1903. Only 79 per cent of the area has been planted and the crop is 17 days later than the normal, whereas last year's crop was generally advanced to two weeks earlier than the normal.

Spinner's takings for the current season will probably reach, if they do not exceed, 12,500,000 bales, and the present rate of consumption and indebted calls for another crop of 12,000,000 bales or over to adequately supply the world's demand. There seems to be no prospect of any such production, but a possibility on the other hand of a crop not over 10,000,000 bales.

THE DEFEAT EXPLAINED.

The cardinal cause of Rojstvensky's defeat have been the subject of general discussion here. One Japanese expert gives the following analysis: "First, and imperfect reconnaissance and incomplete faculty and misleading intelligence.

Voelkersam Was Killed.

Rear Admiral Voelkersam, commander of the battleship squadron of the Russian fleet, was killed the first day of the battle, May 27, in the sinking of his flagship, the battleship Oslabya, one of the vessels sunk by the Japanese. It was Voelkersam's squadron, according to a report, which had on the British trawlers in the North sea, mistaking them for Japanese torpedo boats.

PROTECT YOUR COTTON.

Good Advice to Those Who Are Holding the Staple.

The Wilmington Morning Star says it has refrained from the occasional course of its contemporaries of giving gratuitous advice to its friends behind the hoe who are the bone and sinew of the country, and who are, in these enlightened days of progressive farming, generally better judges of practical questions than many who take a superficial or sentimental view of the situation.

It is a position to which many of its friends are suffering serious loss by the unwise exposure of the plantations of thousands of bales of cotton to the continuous Spring rains this season, which has been estimated, in many instances, as high as 30 per cent. of the market value.

It must be manifest by experience, however, that these specious claims are not sustained by results. Exposure to the sun and winter rain warps and defaces the bagging, rusts the hoops, and makes an unsightly package, while the later warmer rains of the spring heats the cotton, fermentation follows and in many instances thirty to sixty pounds of rotting and worthless cotton must be removed and the bale replaced in a crude and unsatisfactory way before it is fit for shipment.

Moreover, the practice of exposing cotton at the plantations seems to be largely confined to our own section—that is to say, the Carolinas. Farther South a better method prevails and the warehouse system is used by many farmers who have no storage facilities.

We are informed that some of the principal buyers are now refusing to bid on exposed and damaged cotton because of recent heavy reclamations from mills at home and abroad.

It behooves the cotton planter with these facts before him to protect his cotton crop from damage by simple and reasonable precautions after it has passed the inevitable vicissitudes of frost, drought, excessive moisture, rust, insects and other natural and unnatural foes between the planting and the picking of this royal gift of God.

BOYS AND GIRLS.

In the Graded Schools of the State Who Graduate.

Three years ago the Observer made a comparison of the number of boys and girls "graduating" in town and city graded schools, the number of girls then being far in excess of the boys. Noticing the newspaper reports of school "commencements" this spring, we find that the proportion is about the same as it was three years ago. The following instances are representative of the condition that prevails throughout the state:

Table with columns: Boys, Girls. Lists schools like Anderson, Barnwell, Darlington, etc.

It appears that about three times as many girls as boys are completing the work in graded schools. One reason for this difference is that boys are eager to get into business and to begin the work of money-making.

Another reason is that nearly all the teachers in the graded schools are women and boys do not like to be "bossed" by women. The proportion of boys and girls who complete the graded school work is about the proportion that goes to colleges. The women of the rising generation are being much better educated than the men.

The Stupid Russians.

Russian torpedo boats from Vladivostok captured the Japanese steamer Daisien off Hokkaido and placed a prize crew on board with orders to take the vessel to port. By mistake the Russian commander of the Daisien headed for Gensan, Korea, and met a Japanese transport. The latter seeing the Russian flag flying from the Daisien intended to recapture the vessel when the Japanese captives aboard the steamer on seeing their compatriots attacked the prize crew, recaptured the vessel and eventually took her to Gensan.

Sentenced to Death.

A special from Cullman, Ala., says that the jury in the case of John Williams, charged with the murder of State Senator Robert L. Hipp, returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree Wednesday and fixed punishment at death. Williams was sentenced to be hanged June 14. Williams' son, aged 20, begged the court to permit him to be hanged in his father's stead. Williams is a farmer and Hipp was a lawyer and a deputy sheriff was attending to levy upon some of Williams' property. An appeal will be taken to the supreme court.

In Open Revolt.

The Russian army in Manchuria is said to be in a bad state. According to a dispatch from St. Petersburg the troops are in open revolt and cannot be depended upon to much fighting. The news of B. Rostvensky's defeat is given as the reason.

EXPLODED A BOMB.

Under the Carriage of the President and the King.

Wednesday night at Paris an anarchist threw a bomb at a carriage containing Alfonso, King of Spain, and Lambert, President of France, as they were leaving the opera at midnight after a gala performance. The bomb exploded without injuring either the President or the King, but several soldiers belonging to the escort were wounded.

A large number of arrests have been made, including the person who is believed to have thrown the bomb and three persons suspected of complicity in the plot as the latter were seen under the archway of the Louvre with a destructive engine a few minutes before the explosion took place.

Great excitement followed the explosion, rumors spreading immediately that the threats made by the anarchists to assassinate King Alfonso when he came to Paris had been successfully carried out.

It has been known very generally in Paris that King Alfonso was added to the anarchist's list of victims marked for slaughter recently, and when the announcement was made that the young King would visit Paris, anarchists declared that they would make use of the visit to carry out their plot.

The secret police notified Madrid of the existence of the plot and advised the police of Madrid to be on the look-out. At the same time they arrested thirty-seven anarchists in Paris and placed them incommunicado.

Wrought up by these events and the fear that her son's life was in danger the Queen Mother of Spain personally appealed to President Loubet to have every protection afforded to the young King while he was in French territory.

When Alfonso reached the French border, he was taken in charge by the French secret police and since then he has been constantly guarded by secret police agents as well as by the uniformed police and soldiers.

Masters were aggravated by the Socialists, who at a meeting held just before the arrival of the King, resolved to make his visit as uncomfortable as possible by hissing him every time he appeared in public and otherwise expressing their disapproval of him.

Despite the police precautions, King Alfonso had not been in Paris two days before an open display of force was made against him. While he and President Loubet were driving in the Bois de Boulogne a man broke through the police line and dodging the mounted escort, brandished a dagger before the King's eyes, crying:

"Down with the inquisitors! Long live the workers!"

The man was placed under arrest, and at the police station was found to be a jeweler's worker named Garnery, who had previously had trouble with the police because of his revolutionary opinions.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

Grassy Fields the Complaint. Great Scarcity of Labor Reported.

The following report as to the condition of the crops has been issued by Section Director Bauer:

The first half of the week ending Monday, May 29th, was much cooler than usual; the latter half had nearly normal temperatures. There was a harmful deficiency in sunshine. High easterly winds prevailed generally, though the winds were light at the close of the week. Light frost was reported from Cherokee county on the 22nd and 23rd.

There were from four to six days with rain, and in places the precipitation was excessive, notably in Darlington and Chesterfield counties where lands were badly washed and bottom lands flooded. The weekly amount of rain was largely in excess of the normal and at Cherokee over five inches were noted. The rainfall was about normal in the central counties, but the ground was kept wet so that only from one to three days plowing and cultivation were practicable. Hoeling made better progress.

Farm work was further delayed and is backward, with many fields very foul with grass and weeds, and there is a continued scarcity of farm laborers in all parts of the state, so that the grassy fields are becoming a serious menace to crops.

While a few reports indicate that cotton is doing well on uplands more especially the red and clay lands that are best cultivated, the majority of the reports indicate the crop to be in an unpromising condition with the plants small, and red or yellow, and their growth checked by the cool nights. Many fields are grassy and the probability is that some will be abandoned in all parts of the state, owing to their foul condition and the impracticability of cleaning them. Plants continue to die on sandy lands. Lice have appeared in a number of counties. Chopping made fair progress, but has not been finished in the western counties. Sea-island cotton is in a poor condition.

Early corn that has been properly cultivated is promising, but the larger portion of the crop is yellow and sickly. Planting of bottom lands made slow progress during the week, and there is still much to be planted. Wheat is ripe and some has been cut. Oats are generally fine, especially spring oats. Fall oats are ripening and harvest is under way. It has been too wet for tobacco and some is being. Some peas have been sown, and sweet potatoes transplanted. Truck shipments have about ended. The wet weather has caused peaches to rot badly. Pastures are fine, and gardens are doing well.

Drowned Self and Children.

Mrs. Tip Sanders drowned herself and children in a creek near her home, two miles South of Sulphur Springs, Texas, Wednesday. The oldest child was a boy of six years of age. The other children were two girls, aged three years and ten months respectively. The tragedy, it is said, was the result of domestic troubles. Sanders, the husband, left home in the morning to work on the public road. Returning home for dinner he found a note on the table from Mrs. Sanders, telling him that he would find the bodies of his wife and children in the creek.

Deserted His Wife.

Robert C. Davidson, a former Mayor of Baltimore, has deserted his wife and run off to Europe with Miss Laura B. Noyes, a trained nurse of Port Deposit, Md. Before going he converted his property, worth \$200,000, into cash and securities, which he carried with him, leaving his wife nothing.

GREATLY REDUCED.

Figures on Cotton Acreage.

He Gives Much Interesting Data About the Growing Crops as Well as Labor Conditions.

The Cotton Growers' association has won its fight, if all reports be true. The State says Mr. Smith, who was in Columbia Saturday thinks that Mr. Jordan should have made a spirited challenge of the report made to the government by its agents recently. The cotton association reports the reduction in acreage to be 18.43 per cent. and the government report fixes the estimated reduction at 11 per cent. There is quite a difference in these estimates, amounting to \$40,000 bales in the aggregate. While the cotton association has no crop condition figures of its own from last year to go by, still it appears that the report of the government agents is subject to criticism from a comparison with its own figures of last year.

The government report indicates that the condition now is 77 and 4-10 of a perfect crop, whereas with almost ideal weather last year the condition was reported to be 77 and 8-10, just a little better than this year. Mr. Smith thinks these figures must be wrong. Texas is two weeks late, whereas last year the crop work was kept right up to date. While he was in Texas a short time ago he saw for himself how the crop in that State is in bad condition because of the rains, and a Baptist minister just from the Southern Baptist convention at Fort Worth states that the crop is at a standstill—just the same as it was four weeks ago. If this be true, and Mr. Smith has every reason to believe that it is, the crop will be very short in Texas, for what will be planted late will be for the soil weedy.

Another thing which puzzles Mr. Smith is how Mr. Theodore Price can see such a wonderful change in the crop within ten days. A fortnight ago Mr. Price published widely a statement declaring that the crop would be short 17 per cent. Within the last few days he has published a subsequent statement in which he thinks the crop will not be so much short after all. Mr. Smith discredits Mr. Price and calls upon all cotton people to turn a deaf ear to this cotton speculator.

The Southern Cotton association is sending out reports compiled from the statement from the various States in the cotton belt. These reports show that in Alabama every county has submitted a report; Arkansas, 70 out of 71 counties; Florida, 29 out of 33; Georgia, 110 out of 127; Louisiana, 60 out of 52; Mississippi, 61 out of 74; North Carolina 51 out of 68; South Carolina, all but one; Tennessee, 25 out of 42; Texas, 145 out of 184; Oklahoma, 17 out of 22; Indian Territory, 24 out of 26. In all 17,754 replies have been received and were tabulated at the meeting at New Orleans last Thursday, 634 being from this State. A great number of replies came in after Mr. Weston had forwarded his report to New Orleans, but these merely verified what had been sent on.

Following is the acreage report as tabulated from the statements sent to the New Orleans meeting:

Table with columns: State, Acreage, Cotton Acreage. Lists states like Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, etc.

This report shows Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Indian Territory to be three weeks late with planting. Alabama is two weeks late in starting and the Carolinas are each one week late.

The only fertilizer reports are as follows: Alabama, reduction of 12 per cent.; Georgia, 20 per cent.; North Carolina, 24.07 per cent.; South Carolina, 11.00 per cent.

Labor conditions—Alabama and Arkansas report "very scarce," no report from Florida and North Carolina; all other States report "scarce."

Progress of farm work—Alabama, Arkansas and Louisiana report "very grassy"; Florida and Mississippi, no report; Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Oklahoma and Indian Territory report "fair"; South Carolina, "grassy"; Texas, "bad."

The following remarks are published: Alabama—Much now planted will be abandoned. Arkansas, bad. Louisiana, too much rain, 10 per cent. not planted. South Carolina, too much rain.

Eight Sailors Hung.

Details from a trustworth source leave no room for doubt, says a dispatch from St. Petersburg, that Admiral Nebogatoff's sailors mutinied in the battle of the Sea of Japan and either threw the admiral and many officers overboard, or, according to another report, were then in their cabins and hoisted the white flag. Eight men in Nebogatoff's squadron were, it is again asserted, hanged for mutiny while they were still in the Red sea.

Child Drowning Poision.

A most distressing accident occurred at Chester on Wednesday. A little two year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Woods, got access to a phial of medicine which was used by the child's father, and the little one took an overdose. In spite of prompt attention by a physician the child died in about two hours. The parents lost last year their first born, a bright little girl. Their many friends sympathize with them in their fresh grief.

The Birmingham Ledger says the

United States government is actually sending some blockaded to the Philippines to run down the colored men who do not like our way of controlling them. History repeats itself. It is not a Democratic administration that is doing this. Nor did the suggestion come from a Southerner.

A REPUBLICAN ROW.

Center of Attraction.

The tariff row in the Republican party on the canal is perhaps the most interesting of recent day developments. The Panama canal executive committee decided, with the approval of Secretary Taft, to buy in Europe not only ships but machinery and material for the Panama canal. Walter Wellman, Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, says that this announcement "came like a Shimose bomb shell into the camp of the 'stand-patters' and high tariffs" of the Republican party.

Mr. Wellman goes on to say that "the decision has been the sensation of the day in political circles. There is much talk among the high protection apostles of the Republican party of appealing to President Roosevelt for a reversal of the decision, but there is little prospect that this will do them any good. The determination of the executive committee is understood to have the approval of the president, as well as of the secretary of war, and if the tariff wall builders do not like this blow at their favorite policy they will have to lump it. No one should understand that the determination of the executive committee is to buy all its ships, machinery and materials in foreign countries. Probably the great bulk of all purchases will be made in the United States. But the decision of the committee is that it will buy where it can buy cheapest. If it can get the lowest prices in the United States, it will purchase here; if foreign manufacturers and dealers underbid American sellers the contracts will go abroad."

It is not surprising that Secretary Taft's order has created consternation in the ranks of the champions of protection. Mr. Wellman says "on the face of it this looks like nothing more than good business policy. But it does not please the high tariffists at all. They look upon it as rank heresy. They perceive, as everyone perceives, that it raises the whole tariff question, and raises it in a manner calculated to give far more comfort to Democrats and independents and tariff reformers than to those who have helped push up the walls and who have made exclusion of foreign trade in any form an article of party faith. It will be a long time before the Panama commission and the country will hear the last of the storm brewed by this important decision."

Many of the comments on the Taft order are decidedly interesting. A member of congress, interviewed by Mr. Wellman, says: "For generations we have been teaching that it is better to buy at home, even if we have to pay a little higher price, because that is for the general good. That is the very essence of the protection doctrine. Yet here comes the government and says it is not willing to abide by the practice of the country. It will break down the rule to which it is at least morally a party and which it has always insisted it can buy there cheaper than at home. In other words, you and I can't go to the world's markets and buy where we can buy cheapest. The tariff prevents us. But the government, having no duty to pay on what is imported into the isthmus, announces its intention to go into the world's markets and save all the money it can. A fine example indeed for a government to set in a protection country! What are we coming to anyway?"

Representative Grosvenor, of Ohio, is reported to be "much disgrusted." While declaring that he does not care to pose as a critic of the administration Mr. Grosvenor says: "We have built up the policy of the protective tariff in this country on the basis of the fact we paid our labor better wages. People have become more cognizant every year of the benefits of this policy, and understand the reason for higher prices. The country would rather pay a little more for something that was made at home, furnished employment for some folk and gave them better pay than their more unfortunate neighbors abroad enjoyed. If the government is to be the champion against the prices that are the result of this employment of American labor at American wages, it will certainly furnish a theme for very interesting deliberations over the tariff."

A United States Senator evidently devoted to the Republican party, pro-tection the cry, said that he could hardly credit the statement that a commission, acting under the Republican party proposed to purchase a considerable amount of supplies abroad. Another senator, who, according to Mr. Wellman, "stands high in the Republican party," said that Mr. Taft's action was "highly unfortunate and certain to bring the Republicans face to face with the tariff issue in its keenest form." This senator added that Taft's order would give the Democratic party "just the weapon it most badly needed in its fight against the protective tariff system."

We agree with the Washington Post that the stand-patters are going to have some difficulty in convincing the country that it is a crime for the Panama commissioners to buy goods on terms that will save the people money.

"I have no occupation, I am a gentleman." This was said in a New York police court by a European baron who had made a disturbance in a theatre lobby. According to this test, says the Atlanta Journal about the only "gentlemen" to be found in New York or any other American city are the tramps who sit in the parks by day and sleep in them at night.

The Columbus correspondent to the News and Courier mentions a curious and most interesting fact, if it is one, in connection with the negro. It is said that a simon pure negro has never been known to commit suicide and where such cases have been reported it has invariably been found that the suicide had a strain of white blood in his veins.

The Columbus Record says some "tim" since a press dispatch stated that Rojstvensky in a letter to a relative expressed the hopelessness of his mission and predicted its complete failure. Whether he wrote that letter or not the doubt fully rests on the fact that he was doomed to defeat as no one better knew the capabilities of men and ships, which outside observers had a very poor opinion of. Notwithstanding his defeat the Russian admiral has displayed great skill and bravery.