PROGRESSIVE SUMTER.

Condensed Statement of Business Statistics, Such as Population, Real Estate and Personal Property Values, Manufacturing and Industrial Enterprises, Educational Institutions, Commerce, Agriculture, Railroads, Public Works, Banks. Taxes and Other Facts About Sumter City and Sumter County S. C., Collected and Classified for The Daily Item by Emmett I. Readon, Secretary and Health Officer.

The city of Sumter and county are situated about the center of the state. The city is situated in a sandy pine belt region, and is noted for the salu-brity of its climate. It has a ways maintained a high reputation as one of the most healthy sections of the south. The city is handsomely laid out with wide streets and well shaded evenuees, handsome public buildings and private residences, the latter having well kept gardens, gave evidence of comfort and elegance. Located on eight railroad lines, provided with good sanitary regulations and thorough system of water works and electric lighting, Sumter enjoys exceptional facilities as a summer and winter residence. The distance from Columbia is 42 miles, from Charleston 96 miles, from Wilmington 149 miles. The city is forging to the front stedily and rapidly, industrially and commercially. This is a prosperous section and the signs of good times are clearly evident. Nearly all of the business buildings are new, have just been or are being remodled and the city is 3.1/2. Number of inhabited houses in noted for its beautiful homes, and city 1,569. many beautiful cottages with all modern sanitry fixtures and convenience, are being built for rent at rea-sonable prices. Sumter's real estate is steadily in-

creasing in value and as this is likely to become a winter resort, the increase in value is very noticeable.

Several years ago a citizen bought 20 acres near the depot, he sold 17 acres to the Southern Railway for \$10,-000.00, got \$2,000.00, for a part of it 100 ft. square, and the value of what

a tax valuation of \$795,000.00 and a with eight separate lines running into bond debt of only \$57,000.00. These Sumter from all points of the compass, are 20 year 4S and 6S. The city tax is controlled by railway companies as

buildings alone erected at a cost of the old C. S. & N. now the M. & A. ings Bank 850,630,382.06. Sumter is \$375, 120.00, still the increase in tax extension. There are 52 trains daily; an unusually large lumber market, returns in 1903, was only \$175,000.00, 31 carrying passengers, 25 carrying U. with a cozen lumber plants located in including real estate values, houshold S. mails and passengers exclusively. or near the city, employing several goods and store fixtures and other personal property.

If all property was returned at 34 of its value, it would be necessary to levy only 7 mills taxes, which would look tion: so after all

cent, more than it is returned for ter, 117. Total taxes paid Sumter wagons and buggies, 3 embalming estaxes, some would refuse a great deal \$110,000,00 one year ago for turned for taxes in the city of Sumter one natatorium, 6 shoemakers, 3 tin its plant, which cost about \$45,000.00. ten years ago, but this company only railroad property in the city of Sumter pays taxes to the county on \$19,000.00 \$145,000.00. Total taxes paid city of Sumter by railroads in 1903, \$909.97. ations are similiarly undervalued, and

private property too. The people are justly proud of their schools. St. Joseph's Academy for young ladies established in 1863, has a great reputation. It is a high grade institution. There are three graded, two common and one high school under the supervision of a superintendent, who conducts them according to modern ideas and methods. The two handsome new brick school buildings cost \$35,000.00 and are heated and ventilated by a system as near perfect as is known to science.

Sumter is noted for the purity of its water supply, capacity being 1,000,000 gallons per day, distributed from a standpipe which holds 400,000 gallons.

The health of the city is carefully looked after, the death rate is exceedingly low, particularly among the white people, and the city is noted for the small number of cases of infectious and contagious diseases. The city is also well drained, mostly with under-ground terra cotta pipes. There are two hospitals for the care of the sick, managed by surgeons of ability and reputation, trained nurses are in attendance. These hospitals draw a large patronage from other counties in this State, where there are no hospitals for the care of the sick. They are Sumter draws a large patronage in the Dr. J. A. Mood's Infirmary and Dr. S. above lines from Flornce, Marion, C. Baker's Infirmary. A training Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Darlington, C. Baker's Infirmary. A training school for nurses is established at both

Sumter county is an exceptionally fine agricultural section. The climate is ideal and crops can be raised the ling these lines and exclusively several year round. The soil is peculiarly merchant tailoring establishments adapted to the production of cotton, corn, hay, oats, wheat, melons, barley, rye, tobacco, potatoes and all varieties of fruits and vegetables. This is a splendid market for fruit raising and truck farming. Sumter is one of the largest cotton producing counties in paints. Lots of manufactured articles, the State. One other county which has over 25 per cent more territory produced 52,000 bales against Sumter's 51,500 bales. This is about the best local cotton market in the state. Sumter also excels in the matter of fine timber. Great quantities cypress, oak, walnut, popular, dogwood, hickory, maple, yellow and Cuban pine and black gum grow here.

The county has an able county supervisor and board of county commissioners, men of practical ideas, patrio-

tic and energetic.

All laws are rigidly enforced and Sabbath breaking is not tolerated. this and other states. Diversified in-There are no dens where drink and dustries, honest dealing and a husvice rule. The city and county are run tling business spirit, together with on a high moral plane. The people splendid telephone connections with rural districts and surrounding towns the police and county court dockets, and convenient morning and afterare remarkably free from criminal cases. The whites are in the major make Sumter the chief distributing Total net gain in 10 ity. The county of Sumter is peopled | center for a very large section of South by sturdy, honorable, hard working Carolina. farmers of modern ideas, among whom The general headquarters and repair June 30, 1893, are many historic families, the true shops of the Northwestern railroad are Receipts in fiscal year ending types of the old South, noted for hospilicated here. Two commodious freight tality and patriotism. There are ten depots, with numerous warehouses, churches in the city for white people, platforms and sheds for cotton, ferti-Methodist, 2, Baptist, 2, Presbyterian, 1, Lutheran, 1, Roman Catholic 2, Episcopal, 1, Hebrew Synagogue, 1, Church, 1, and five churches for colored people, Baptist, Methodist required night and day to Gain in 10 years.

and Presbyterian.

which manufactures telephones, switch- tive engineers, firemen, conductors boards and other telephone and electric and baggage-masters and other rail-appliances, is the only telephone fac-road men are living here. The distory in the south, whose products find trict surgeon of the three railroad sysmarkets throughout the world. Hundreds of men and women are employed and the factory is one of the largest in the United States. The Sumter Fire department consist-

of two two-horse teams manned by the finest set of young volunteer fire fighters to be found in the country, and the hook and ladder company manned by collected in 1903, \$24,794.89. This hook and ladder company manned by faithful colored firemen. Insurance rate are therefore not high. Sumter mutation taxes, amounting to \$4,500 city and county have an industrious, well behaved and orderly colored pupulation, many of whom own their own homes. Race troubles are unknown.

SOME BUSINESS FACTS. Population of city of Sumter in 1890, U. S. Census, 3,800. Population of city of Sumter in 1900

U. S. Census, 5,675 Increase in ten years 1,875. Population of city of Sumter in 1903,

official city cesnus 7,281. Suburan population, practically part of city, 767. Total city and surhurban population, 8,048.

Actual increase in population since

1900, 1,606., The increase in a little over two years since 1900 was nearly as much as in ten years previous.

Total area of city in square miles

Length of water pipes 11 miles. Capacity of water supply 1,000,000 gals. daily.

Amount invested in manufacturing and industrial enterprise \$775,000.00. Banking capital, three banks, \$200,-000,00.

Population employed in factories, 1,200. Number of miles of streets 42 4 miles of macadam, balance clay and saud roads.

RAILROADS. 100 ft. square, and the value of what he had left, exceeded the original cost of the 20 acres.

The city government of Sumter is in a fine condition financially, having road Co., and The Southern Railway, of railroad proper some would refuse a great deal county 1903, by railroads, \$12,148.12.

The Sumter Water Co. asked Total value of railroad property re-Total license taxes paid city of Sumter by railroads in 1903, \$250.00. Number of railroad employes in city of Sumter, 147. Sumter county has more sytems of railroads and more miles of state, not excepting Richland county, in which the capital of the state is greatest number of railroad lines, with the best morning and afternoon schedules for drawing trade of any city in the state and among the best in the south. Sumter is indebted to Coast Line, for much of her prosperity and the Northwestern and the Southern Railway contribute much to

> business in dry goods, particularly fancy dress goods, and making fine dresses, milinery goods, etc. There are seven dress making establishments, some of them conducted by exclusive dry goods stores. There are four first class milinery stores. The leading dry goods, millinery and shoe stores send their representatives and head dress makers, milliners and chiefs of departments north each spring and fall to purchase their stocks and study the latest patterns, styles, etc. Marlboro, Williamsburg and Georgetown counties. In gents and boys clothing and furnishing goods Sumter has a number of establishments handwhich make clothing. There are a number of large shoe stores also. The wholesals grocery business is very large and ships many carloads of groceries to other points. A good business is also done in shipping hardware and such as telephones, telephone receivers, switch boards, furniture, coffins and fine caskets and boxes, doors, sash, blids fly screes, desks cabinets, safes cotton seed oil, meal and hulls, cotton yarn, lumber, turpentine, rosin, turned wood work, ballusters, window and door frames, fancy wood work, golf sticks, building material of all kinds, brick, ice, soda water, coca cola, wagons, log carts, buggies, brass and iron foundry work, machine work, plumbing work, marble and stone work, job printing, and other articles are made here and shipped to various points in

the prosperity of the city also.

The city of Sumter does a very large

noon railroad schedules to all points

nd Presbyterian. handle the freight traffic. Two DETAILS OF THE BATTLE handle the freight traffic. facturing center. Two large furniture hands and other hands are worked and coffin factories employ hundreds night and day on the extensive freight of men, one of which started on a cap- yards. Five car inspectors are conital of \$65.00 seven years ago, the plant stantly employed, three roadmasters could not now be bought for \$50,000.

The Sumter Telephone Company, ters. A considerable force of locomoand baggage-masters and other railtems lives bere.

Total value of real estate and personal property, returned for taxes in the city of Sumter in 1903, \$1,794,090. Actual value of all personal property and real estate of all kinds, taxable and dees not include license tax and comannually. Increase in tax returns in city of Sumter in 1903, \$175,000.00. Number of new residences, stores, tenement houses, office buildings, manufacturing enterprises, schools, warehouses, hotels, lumber plants, churches, and other buildings erected in the past 18 months 163, which cost \$375,120.00.

The Western Union Telegraph Co., Postal Telegraph Co., and the Southern Express Co. have 16 men employed here and they do a very large business. The Western Union pays taxes on personal property returned at \$27,818.80. The real estate and personal property owned by the city of Sumter valued at \$12,500.00. Its muicipal officials are: Mayor, eight aldermen, city clerk and treasurer, recorder, supervisor of registration, superintendent of public works, assistant superintendent of public works, chief of police, 6 regular policeman and several substitute officers, chief and assistant chief of the fire department, secretary to city Board of Education, health officer and sanitary inspector, city physician, superintendent of education, five members, of the city board of education, five members of the health board, president of the health board, city engineer, corpora-tion counsel, 35 teachers employed in the city graded schools. Total school enrollment for 1903, 1,400, an increase of 16 per cent. The county court house and county offices are located in

Sumter. The total amount of business in all branches of trade, manufacturing and industrial lines is estimated by 14 mills for all pourposes, the business license rates are exceedingly low. While 14 mills taxes are levied, yet property is only returned for taxation at about one-half its value.

For illustration note below that 63 mills a cost of the all Total passenger business of all rail- thousands hands, and nearly all lumber roads of Sumter for the twelve months shipmer ts are made from the Sumter of 1903, \$150,018.20. Total freight busi- depot. We have also I telephone facness of all railroads of Sumter for the tory, 2 arge cotton ginneries, 2 coffin twelve months of 1903, 8509,000.80. and furniture factories, 1 large cotton in Smuter, considering the up-to-date county for taxes in 1903 8935,080.00. electric light and power plant, 5 lummunicipal government and the conven- Actual value of railroad property, all ber, door, sash and blind factories, lences enjoyed by its citizens. kinds, in 1903, \$1,400,000.00. Number and general wood working establishtablishments, free city mail delivery, rural mail delivery, one cotton mill, in 1903, \$61,690.00. Actual value of shops, number of contractors, painters, railroad property in the city of Sumter and architects, and skilled laborers and mechanics and artisans, stenographers and typewriters, private schools, music schools, fine drives, good hunting and fishing, one whiskey dispensary, beer dispensary, 3 job printing establishments, 1 daily and 4 weekly papers, one monthly paper, 3 banks, railroad tracks than any county in the 8 railroad companies, colleges and graded schools, 2 new modern hotels, and many excellent boarding houses, situated. The city of Sumter has the one military company, brass band and orchestra; \$40,000 opera house and city hall, long distance and local telephone exchanges, 3 gunsmiths, two brass and iron foundries, 3 machine shops, 5 blacksmiths and wheelwright shops, 5 the railroads, particularly the Atlantic bicycle repair shops, 5 plumbing and Coast Line, for much of her prosper- steam fitting establishments, 3 furniture and cabinet repair shops, 2 marble and stone yards; there are 15 physicians, 9 dentists, 5 drug stores, 15 trained nurses who go out of the city to work when called on, 21 attorneys, 4 railroads attorneys, 3 railroad sur-geons, 35 county officials and their clerks and assistants, who have their offices in Sumter, 13 lodges of secret

Sumter is a large wholesale as well as retail market, having 4 exclusive wholesele and jobbing houses. with representatives on the road, 7 or 8 wholesale and retail establishments, and about 65 retail stores of all kinds, besides other places of busi-Eight bandsome brick stores and 1 brick warehouse 40x175 ft. are in course of erection or have been built within the last 18 months, besides a number of small wooden stores, not previously mentioned. Sumter is also a very large live stock market, there being 6 stables handling thousands of horses and mules annully, besides many thousands dollars of farming machinery, other agricultural implements, harness, hay, grains, buggies, wagons, &c. Sumter is a large wholesale distributing point for a large portion of South Carolina.

Many rural and star routes for mail

	RECEIPT		
C	REASE IN	10 YEAR	S.
Fiscal Y'r	Receipts	Gain oyer	Per Cent
June 20.	for Fiscal Year.	Year.	Gain.
1893.	\$6,979.79	8	
1894.	7,178.64	198.85	2.85
1895.	7,171.24		
1896.	7.310.02	138.78	1,93
1897.	7,446.63	136.61	1.87
1898.	7,620.03	173.40	2,33
1899.	7,698.34	87.31	1.03
1900.	8,779.57	1,081.23	14.05
1901.	10, 203, 21	1,423.64	16.22
1902.	10,778.76	475,55	5.64
1903.	12,077.06	1,298.30	12.05

Total gain in 10 y'rs \$5, 104.67

84,097.27 years, Receipts in fiscal year ending

75 per cent gain in 10 years. Receipts for first half fiscal year to December 31, 1903, Receipts same period 10 years

OF SIMOUCHENG.

Russian Loss Double the Estimate Made by Japanese, Who Lose Less Than 1,000.

Japanese Won Victory By Desperate and Tireless Fighting Superior Generalship.

Tokio, Aug. 5, noon.—It is now estimated that the Russians lost 2,000 men in the fighting at Simoucheng. The Japanese sanitary corps recovered and buried 700 bodies in the valleys through which the Russians fought and retreated. Prisoners and Chinese report that many of the Russian dead and wounded were removed by the Russians themselves. The Japanese captured six guns, 570 shells, a quantity of stores and 33 prisoners. A detachment of the Russian medical corps which was captured by the Japanese was returned to the Russian lines. The Japanese casualties at Simoucheng amounted to 860 men, including eight officers killed and 24 officers wounded.

Gen. Kuroki's attack upon the late Lieut. Gen. Count Keller was timed to forestall the assumption, of the defensive on the part of the Russians. Frontal and flank attacks were delivered simultaneously against the Russians at Yushulikzu at dawn of Sunday, Ithe Japanese artillery first clearing the way for the infantry. The position was captured at 9 o'clock in the morning. A frontial attack against the Russian centre was continued but the general advance was delayed to await the success of the Japanese left column. The Russians attempted repeatedly to retake their former positions at Yushulikzu, but the Japanese repulsed them every

The fighting at Yangtsuling began at dawn of Sunday, July 31, when the Japanese drove back the Russian outpost companies and took possession of the positions. The Japanese artillery was ineffective there on account of topographical conditions. Horses were useless and men had to drag the guns over the broken country. It was 11 o'clock before the main battery of artillery opened fire. The main force of the left column began the attack from Makumenza and separate detachments advanced along separate routes with the object of sriking the Russian flank and rear.

The heights of Yangtzuling were held by the Russians with four battalions. The Japanese partially silenced the Russian artillery, but four of the enemy's guns continued to sweep the Japanese position. Only 20 nese and prisoners the Japanese lost Japanese guns got into action. The as many as 10,000. better to outsiders not familiar with Local pay rolls at Sumter of the railmethods of returning property for taxamethods o nese in the morning had not become enemy has not had time to remove the proper explosives. The necessity of effective by noon. In the meantime a flanking column had scaled some kinds, in 1903, \$1,400,000.00. Number and general wood working establish heights and gotten the Russians range ments. 2 laundries, 5 shops making and at 11 o'clock the Japanese artillery was strengthened.

During the afternoon the infantry pressed forward and the entire line became engaged. The Russians resisted stubbornly. The battlefield was a most difficult one upon which to manoeuvre and the Japanese were not able to dislodge the enemy. The troops of the mikado slept in battle formation when the coming of night suspended hostilities. Fighting was resumed at dawn next day and the Russians were speedily repulsed. Gen. Kuroki estimates the Russians casualties at 2,-

At Yangtzuling the Japanese captured two guns, with 60 rifles, 400 tents and much ammunition and equipment. Eight Russian officers and 149 men were taken prisoners. In the fighting at Yushulikzu and Yangzuling the Japanese casualties amounted to 970 including four officers killed and 40 wounded.

TOTAL RUSSIAN LOSSES 4,000

St. Petersburg, Aug. 5 1.11 p. m.-Detailed reports reaching the war office from Gen. Kuropatkin's generals show that the Russian losses July 30, July 31 and Aug. 1 did not exceed 4,000. The Japanese are believed to have lost an equal number.

It appears most of the Russian losses were sustained on the Siametsze road and between Simoucheng and Hai Cheng. The two divisions of the late Gen Keller's corps did not make a serious resistance at the Yansee pass, falling back on Lianudiansian with scarcely any casualties Similarly Gen. Stalkenberg's and Gen. Zaroubaieff's troops retired upon Anshanshan, half way between Hai Cheng and Laio Yang without heavy fighting or loss. The greatest number of casnalties was sustained by Gen. Herschelman, who with the Ninth European division held Kuchiatzu and Yushu pass on the Siamatsze road. The fighting here was of the most desperate and bloody character., A single regiment lost 25 per cent. of 800 men before they withdrew towards Anping. Another point where most stubborn resistence was made was at Nanga pass. position between Simoucheng and Hai Cheng, which was held by Gen. Zassalitch, who had been placed in command of a newly formed corps, including the Thirty first division belonging to the tenth European corps, and two Siberian battalions, altogether 40,000 men. Gen. Zassalitch's misfortune at the Yalu river was duplicated, owing to the superiority of the Japanese artillery. He was making a splendid fight until he suddenly discovered that the Japanese gunners were enfilading his batteries. It appears that Zassalitch in this case was not to

The information that Gen. Zaroubaieff had received orders to retire had not yet reached him with his own orders for wihdrawal of the Russian suppo.. of the right, and consequently he allowed the Japanese to take up a new position, suddenly unmask batteries and overwhelm the Russian gunners who made desperate efforts to remove their pieces, but were compelled to leave six of them behind.

12,077.06 There has been no further fighting of

WILL NOT BE REPEATED.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 6, 1.59 a.m.

-The Associated Press is able to announce that there will be no repetition of the Knight Commander and the Thea incidents. Russia has issued instructions to naval commanders not to sink neutral merchantmen with contraband on board in the future except in cases of direct necessity but in cases of emergency to send prizes into neutral ports. "Direct necessity" may be regarded as a reservation of a right which Russia does not formally relinquish but which, it is safe to say, will not again be exercised during the present war.

Russia's concessions in this matter may be looked upon as proof of her sincere desire to avoid international complications or the unnecessary irritation of neutrals. The authorities here feel that this course will be satisfactory to Great Britain and the powers. With such assurances it will make the Knight Commander and Thea cases much easier of adjust-

Constantianople, Aug. 6.-Russia's announced intention to send several volunteer fleet steamers loaded with coal through the Dardanells has been prohibited by the Porte, but Russia has given written assurance that the commercial character of the steamers should not be changed after they pass the Dardanells.

Vladivostok, Aug. 6.-The prize court has arrived at a decision in the case of the British steamer Knight Commander, which was sunk by the Vladivostok squadron. The court declares that the ship and cargo was a lawful prize for the reason that it carried contraband railway material for the Seoul-Yalu railway, which is being built by the Japanese for military

London, Aug. 8.—The Times correspondent at Tokio under date of Aug. 7 ays that there are unofficial reports there that the Japanese have captured commanding positions north and northeast of Port Arthur at a distance of 2,750 yards from the main line of Russian defenses.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 7.—Lieut, Gen. military forces at Port Arthur, in an undated dispatch to the emperor, says: "I am happy to report that the troops repulsed all the Japanese attacks of July 26, 27 and 28 with enormous losses. "The garrison's enthusiasm was ex-

traordinary. "The fleet assisted in the defense by

bombarding the Japanese flank. "Our lossees during the three days were about 1,500 men and 40 officers

killed or wounded. "According to statements of Chi-

dead and wounded."

JAPANESE CLOSE TO FOTRESS. Cheefoo, Aug. 8, 9 a. m.—The Japanese force which captured Wolfs hill is now entrenched in the valley about two-thirds of a mile from the fortress at Port Arthur.

A Japanese cruiser is alleged to have struck a new mine and to have sank immediately in the vicinity of Cristova battery.

The Russian cruiser Bayan has a small hole above her water line which was inflicted by the explosion of a mine, which had floated to the harbor

The Japanese have occupied Louisia bay, landing troops with the probable intention of attacking west of the city. There has been no important fighting in the vicinity of Port Arthur since July 28. The Russian artillery harasses the Japanese who are attempting to advance their trenches.

The above information was brought here today by Russian refugees who left Port Arthur the 4th instant.

SACRIFICED PRESTIGE BUT SAV-ED ARMY.

Tokio, Aug. 7, 6 p. m.-Gen. Kuropatkin's success in extricating his army from the Liao Tung peninsula without disaster has elicited much praise from the Japanese. The concentrating of the army at Kai Chou at one time seemed certain to involve it in disaster. It was popularly be-lieved that a generally decisive battle would be fought either at Ta Tche Kiao or at Hai Cheng. It is considered here that Kuropatkin sacrificed his prestige by abandoning an immense territory without a battle. He was forced to abandon or destroy valuable stores and munitions of war when their transportation was almost the most serious problem to the Russians. He also impaired the morale of his army, but he preserved his men and guns. It is evident that he had hoped and planned to check the Japanese at Ta Tche Kiac. Then, after holding the enemy in check, it is believed to have been his purpose to concentrate his remaining force at Liao Yang and to strike Kuroki.

The unexpected loss of the Russian left at Ta Tche Kiao and the appearance of the Japanese Ta Takushan army on the flank forced the abandonment and surrender, without a fight, of Yin Kow, Hai Cheng and New Chwang. It is generally believed that the crisis will come shortly at Liao Yang and that Kuropatkin will be forced to give battle, whatever his present purpose may be.

Gen. Oku's and the Ta Takushan armies are pressing northward and Gen. Kuroki is close at hand, ready to take any part necessary in the general Japanese play.

The possession of Yin Kow (the port plified the transportation problem for ed. the Japanese. It gives their two armies a freedom of movement which they have not heretofore possessed. The Japanese are speedily repairing the railroad which the Russians failed to seriously damage in their hasty re-

St. Petersburg, Aug. 8, 2.25 a. m.-

ing to the latest reports received by the Stoessel, commanding the military war office. In the opinion of the gen forces at Port Arthur, says that the eral staff both sides need a rest after fighting three days in the terrible heat and the officials here are inclined to believe that the Japanese will not be reports from Liao Yang some small after a long illness.

able to resume their advance for sev- Russian successes in outpost fighting up to Aug. 5th, without the expected great battle having been opened.

The simultaneous receipt of favorable news from these commanders in the far east raised the spirits of those in the Russian capital immensely. The dispatches were printed in special newspaper bulletins and were eagerly bought upon the streets. The newsboys around the depots met the returning crowds of Sunday pleasure seekers and shouted their wares without being reproved by the police and thousands of St. Petersburgers went to their homes tonight apparently satisfied that a favorable turn of affairs had commenced at the front.

Gen. Stoessel's report, though ten days old, is taken as a satisfactory refutation of the recently repeated rumors of the fall of Port Arthur. He states that the determined Japanese assaults were repulsed with tremendous loss and figures 10,000 as the number of Japanese killed or wounded. This is admittedly on Chinese information, which hitherto has proved to be of exeedingly doubtful value, but the Russian losses of 1,500 as a basis, the authorities here consider that 10,-000 is a fairly conservative estimate since the Japanese were beaten off in what must have been a desperate assault on tremendously strong fortifica-

The authorities do not divulge the source of Gen. Stoessel's report, though it is understood that it came by way of Chefoo. The fact that the Japanese are in possession of the country as far north as Hai Cheng renders it unlikely that it came by land route.

Gen. Kuropatkin's report states that the Japanese are stationary on his eastern front, the greatest activity being on the south and southeast positions, where the Russians are able to take the offensive. While the movements in themselves are apparently of no great importance they are interesting as showing that the Japanese are still halting before undertaking the serious task of attacking Liao Yang with its strong circle of defenses.

THE FIGHT FOR PORT ARTHUR. Che-Foo, Aug. 6.-(5 p. m.)-"Port Arthur will certainly fall inside of one or two months, depending how fast the Japanese move."

This opinion was expressed today by an educated Russian who has just arrived here from Port Arthur by a Stoessel, commanding the Russian junk. He had fifteen companions, but the party left the Russian stronghold six days ago. They suffered much hardship on the trip over from lack of food and water.

The Russian who voiced the foregoing opinion occupied an important semiofficial position at Port Arthur and his views are regarded as valuable. He says that while the Japanese constantly receive reinforcements every Russian casualty decreased the defensive efficiency of the garrison, as the Russians cannot be reinforced. Gen. Stoessel commander in chief at Port Arthur, is compelled to husband his ammunition. He can manufacture protecting the men for the final stand explains the retreat of the Russians from the stronghold outpost position, where their losses were far less serious than those sustained by the assailants. According to this Russian, Gen. Stoessle is in daily communication with Gen. Kuropatkin.

The three days' fighting of last week was done chiefly with artillery.

Chefoo, Aug. 8.—The Japanese army besieging Port Arthur is now only twothirds of a mile from the forts defending the land approach to the city, and the final attack cannot be postponed

Constantinople, Aug. 9.-The Porte backed up by Great Britain will demand a written assurance from Russia concerning the volunteer fleet stamers that are seeking permission to pass the Dardanells. It is not possible to forecast how Russia will regard the attitude of Turkey

SPOKE ON COTTON MARKETING.

Addresses Made by Mr. E. D. Smith to Anderson County Farmers.

Anderson, Aug. 6.-The picnic given by the County Farmers' insti-tute at Sandy Springs yesterday was attended by an immense crowd. The gathering was not political in any sense, but the candidates for county offices mingled with the people and did a strenuous day's work for them-selves. Hon. M. F. Ansel of Greenville, one of the speakers expected, was unable to attend.

Hon. E. D. Smith of Lee county delivered two addresses, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. His talks were of practical nature, dealing with methods of marketing cotton and cotton seed and buying fertilizers. The institute has been working for some time to devise a successful plan for marketing cotton so that the farmers of the county could realize the best prices. Mr. Smith has accomplished a great deal in this particular in his section, and for this, reason he was invited to come to Anderson and give the farmers the henefit of his experiments.

Burglars in Mayesville.

Mayesville, Aug. 5.-Robbers broke one of the large glassses out of J. E. Barnetts' show window last night and took out a double barrel gun. Theydid not get inside the store. Theythen broke into the Atlantic Coast Line depot office and took about \$2.00 'in cash besides a pair of pants and some other stuff belonging to the agent. The officers started to get bloodhounds, but later concluded not to do so. There is no clue at all, of New Chwang) has enormously sim- though some of the stuff was recover-

Flood at Pisgah.

Pisgah, Aug. 6. - Not since the flood Saturday of last year has this place recived such a downfall of rain as fell here yesterday and last night. It was literally a series of cloud bursts. The low lands are under water and the ST. PETERSBURG ENCOURAGED. hills badly washed. What effect on the cotton it will have remains to be seen, but the general opinion is that any importance since Aug. I, accord- An official report from Lieut. Gen. it is knocked up. Roads badly torn up and washed.