

READY TO STORM FORTS
ATTACKS ON THE NORTH.

Reported Orders to Carry Main
Port Arthur Positions.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The Associated Press learns on excellent authority that the Japanese army has been ordered to renew its attack on Port Arthur to-day, and to take the main fortifications at any cost.

Tokio, Nov. 25.—It is reported that the Japanese saps directed against Rihlung Hill, Sung-shu Hill and East Kikwan Hill have reached the base of the latter. The defensive work outside the parapets of Rihlung and Sung-shu hills have been captured, leaving the Russians in possession of the parapets and the Japanese guns are shelling the parapets and inflicting heavy damage. The occupation of the forts is expected shortly. If the forts are taken the capture of Port Arthur proper seems to be assured within a short time.

General Nogai's Headquarters, Nov. 23.—The possession of the Rihlung and Kikwan forts enables the Japanese to place a sufficient force to execute a sweeping movement against the battery positions on the crest of the western ridge of forts and 265-Meter Hill, which as yet they have not captured.

OKU REPELS ATTACKS.

Two Actions on the West—General
Situation Unchanged.

General Kuroki's Headquarters, Nov. 24.—Reports that General Kuropatkin, in making a general advance, had pushed back the Japanese left a distance of three miles, are wholly unfounded. The situation has remained entirely unchanged for the last month, except that both armies have doubled supplies.

The Russians continue their reconnaissances in front of the Japanese left, but there has been no general engagement or change in the Japanese entrenched positions.

The Japanese continue to ignore the daily shelling which takes place in the front of the central army, and in many places the whole line of trenches is so close that the Japanese can draw fire at any time by displaying caps on sticks. A few casualties result daily from rifle fire.

General Oku's Headquarters, Nov. 23.—The Russians are showing some activity in front of General Oku's army. At dawn to-day detachments attacked in two places the left and center divisions. The center repulsed the attack immediately, and the left drove the Russians back after a hard fight. As a result of the repulse the Japanese occupied Poutien. The Russians left many dead on the field.

Tokio, Nov. 25.—The Manchurian headquarters, telegraphing yesterday, said:

From 1 o'clock at night (November 23) the enemy's infantry made a series of attacks against our outposts at Lanu-Ting, but retreated northward before our fire. Simultaneously the enemy's artillery bombarded the neighborhood of the Shakhe railroad bridge, firing thirty rounds, with no damage to us.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.—A telegram received from General Kuropatkin, under to-day's date, says all was quiet at the front last night.

JAPAN'S TRANSPORT HAMPERED.

The Liao River Low—The Hun and Tai-Tse
Frozen—Bandits Near Tie Pass.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.—A dispatch from Moukden says that the Hun and Tai-Tse rivers have been frozen over. The low stage of water in the Liao River, the dispatch adds, impedes the transport of Japanese stores from Ying-Kow, and the forwarding of ammunition is delayed by the scarcity of wagons. The removal of the wounded from Liao-Yang to Dalny is being carried out with difficulty for the same reason.

Moukden, Nov. 25.—Last night passed quietly, though on Thursday a few scattered shots were heard along the front, particularly in a south-easterly direction.

There are large bands of Chinese bandits in the neighborhood of Tie Pass, though no Japanese officers have been noticed among them.

THE WARSHIPS AT PORT ARTHUR.

Twenty-two Vessels in the Harbor on
October 24.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.—A long list of the decorations and promotions of naval officers at Port Arthur, signed on October 24, shows that the warships at Port Arthur then included the battleships Retvizan, Pobeda, Peresviet, Poltava and Sebastopol, the armored cruiser Bayan, the protected cruiser Pallada, the gunboats Vasilik, Glikk and Bobr, the coast defense vessel Otavshin, the transports Amur and Angara, and the destroyers Stroiin, Sini, Smyel, Serditi, Bezulnii, Storozevov, Bokli, Razyashtchii and Rastropyni.

The Rastropyni reached Che-Foo on November 15, and was blown up by her crew on the following day. There were reports that three destroyers which left the harbor with her were sunk by the Japanese. The battleships, according to Japanese advices, have been badly damaged by shells from the siege guns.

RUSSIAN DESERTERS COMING HERE.

Hundreds Sent from Cracow to Vienna—Al-
most All Without Funds.

Vienna, Nov. 25.—The relief committee of Lemberg, Galicia, according to a telegram from that town, dispatched 430 Russian deserters by train yesterday evening to Cracow, whence they will be sent on here. On their arrival in Vienna each man will receive a steamship ticket to America. Another batch of 400 will soon follow from Lemberg. Nearly all the deserters are reported to be destitute.

AUSTRALIAN SHIP BILL PASSED.

Melbourne, Victoria, Nov. 25.—The Federal Senate to-day passed a sea carriage of goods bill. It provides that the clauses in bills of lading relieving shall be void, and declares illegal any covenant having the effect of superseding the courts of the North German Lloyd company, which required that all claims against the company should be made in Germany.

RUSSIA MAY BUY YACHT.

Thought Likely A. J. Drexel Will
Sell the Margarita.

Yachtsmen here think it entirely probable that Anthony J. Drexel may be negotiating with the Russian government for the sale of his magnificent steam yacht Margarita, as reported by cable from St. Petersburg on Thursday. The yacht, which was built in 1900 from designs by the late George L. Watson, has not been seen much in American waters, but has been a steady cruiser in foreign waters, especially in the Mediterranean and at Kiel. The German Emperor was entertained on board at the latter port. Of late the owner seems to have tired of the yacht.

While none of Mr. Drexel's friends in the city were able to furnish anything definite yesterday concerning the sale of the yacht to Russia, several members of the New-York Yacht Club declared last night that they should not be at all surprised if the report was true. Mrs. Joseph Drexel, of Philadelphia, is quoted as having said that she believed Mr. Drexel would be glad to dispose of the yacht, as he had not used it for some time.

The Margarita's principal dimensions are 223 feet over all, 272 feet water line, 36 feet 6 inches beam and 11 feet 5 inches draught. She is a steel, twin screw, schooner rigged yacht of 1,700 gross tons. The yacht and her engines were built under Lloyd's special survey, and she is classed 100 A1—the highest set at Lloyd's. She already carries several rapid fire guns of small calibre, and she could soon be strengthened and equipped with a modern battery of larger calibre guns, up to 5-inch quick firers, which, with her speed of some fifteen knots, under natural draught, ample coal capacity and a crew of one hundred officers and men, would make her a formidable gunboat for the Russians, and a valuable addition to their fleet as a commerce destroyer or a dispatch boat.

The Margarita is, in size and appearance, almost a sister ship to the United States ship Mayflower, which was also designed by Watson, and which was converted into a war vessel at the time of the Spanish war. She is now attached to the North Atlantic Squadron as a tender, in command of Lieutenant Commander Albert Gleaves, U. S. N.

CONVENTION SIGNED.

Britain and Russia Fix Terms of
Dogger Bank Inquiry.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.—The North Sea convention was signed at the Foreign Office this afternoon by the Foreign Minister, Count Lamsdorff, and the British Ambassador, Sir Charles Hardinge.

The text will not be published before Monday, when it will appear in the "Official Messenger," but it may be said that the convention contains eight articles on the lines already published, embodying an amendment requested by Russia to Article II, providing that the commission shall determine the degree of blame by the addition of the words "subjects of either power or other state."

The convention, as heretofore announced, designates the Emperor of Austria to appoint a fifth commissioner in case the four naval officers disagree.

JAPAN WARNS BRITAIN.

Friendly Protest Against Coal Sent
to Baltic Fleet.

London, Nov. 25.—Japan, in a friendly spirit, has drawn the attention of Great Britain to the supply of coal furnished by British vessels to the Russian fleet.

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS IN CANAL.

Destroyers Precede Transports—Men at
Guns and Tubes on the Trip.

Suez, Nov. 25.—Two Russian battleships, three cruisers, seven destroyers and nine transports from Port Said have arrived at the Bitter Lakes, in the canal. Under instructions the destroyers left the remainder of the squadron and came on to Suez, where they anchored, preceding the transports, which will come through under electric light, arriving here at 2 a. m. While the destroyers were passing through the canal, men were stationed at their guns and torpedo tubes. The cruisers and battleships will leave the Bitter Lakes at daylight.

While the warships were traversing the canal both banks were strongly patrolled by Egyptian soldiers and coast guards. The Russian admiral will go, it is said, to Diego Suarez, Bay of Madagascar.

INSIST ON KUROKI'S DEATH.

Chinese Say Body of Japanese General Has
Arrived at Ying-Kow.

Berlin, Nov. 25.—The "Lokal Anzeiger" of Moukden correspondent telegraphs as follows: According to a report brought by Chinese to Russian headquarters, the body of General Kuroki has arrived at Ying-Kow. The concentration of strong Japanese forces at Samajia, northwest of Feng-Wang-Cheng, which at first was thought to indicate the formation of a new offensive army, now appears to have been intended only for covering the Feng-Wang-Cheng communication.

RUSSIANS ORDERED FROM DENMARK.

Report That Warships Were Forced by
Authorities to Leave Skaw.

London, Nov. 26.—The cruisers Oleg and Izumrud, of the second division of the Russian Baltic squadron, according to "The Daily Mail's" Copenhagen correspondent, left Skaw the night of November 24 by order of the Danish authorities, while coaling in Danish waters. The Russian commander, the correspondent adds, protested that he was awaiting dispatches from St. Petersburg, but finally agreed to depart.

SAYS RUSSIA ORDERED SUBMARINES.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday reversed an order of the Special Term vacating an order for the examination of the president and a director of the Electric Boat Company, and the Holland Torpedo Boat Company, granted on the application of Francis P. B. Sands, Isaac I. Rice is the president of both companies and Elihu B. Frost was the director specified. The order is modified to confine the direction for the production of the books and papers of the Holland company to their production for use by witnesses on such examination.

TO SEARCH TITLES FOR WATERSHED.

The United States Title Guaranty and Indemnity Company of New-York has received the contract to make searches of titles of the twenty-one miles of property acquired by the city for watershed purposes. These searches will take over two years to complete.

EXONERATES MRS. NOBLE.

SHOOTING AN ACCIDENT.

Coroner's Jury's Verdict—Expect
Woman's Release on Bail To-day.

Mrs. Josephine Leighton Noble, of No. 152 Twelfth-st., Long Island City, whose husband, Paton Noble, brother of Surrogate Noble of Queens County, was killed on the night of Saturday, November 12, by two pistol shot wounds, was last night declared by a coroner's jury at Long Island City to have accidentally killed her husband. The verdict, which was reached at 9:30 o'clock, was as follows:

We find that Paton Noble came to his death by a pistol shot wound, accidentally inflicted by his wife, Josephine L. Noble.

There was an affecting scene in the courtroom when the jury rendered its verdict. Mrs. Noble then, for the first time, raised her veil. She was crying. She said: "It was a good verdict, but oh, I do wish they had given me a chance to explain."

Then, turning to her counsel, Charles E. Le Barbier, she said: "Oh, when can you have me bailed, Mr. Le Barbier?" "I shall apply for bail to-morrow morning," replied her counsel. "I shall appear in the Supreme Court and seek your release in habeas corpus proceedings. The District Attorney cannot oppose the application under the circumstances, and you will be out of jail to-morrow, I hope."

Mrs. Noble wept upon her sister's shoulder as she was being led from the courtroom. Earlier in the day her sister had fainted under the strain of the inquest. Mrs. Noble will be taken before Magistrate Smith next Wednesday morning, and the question whether to submit her case to the grand jury will rest with him.

DR. BUMSTER'S TESTIMONY.

Dr. Patrick H. Bumster was the first witness. His testimony, in effect, was that he arrived at the Noble apartments, at No. 152 Twelfth-st., a few minutes before 12 o'clock on the night of Saturday, November 12. He was accompanied by Edward Doyle and Patriman John Deboe. He examined the body and found two gunshot wounds, one just below the right nipple and the other on a line with the first shot and on the left breast, and seven inches distant. Noble was dead. The doctor met Mrs. Noble on the stairs, but held no conversation with her.

Dr. Benjamin G. Strong, the coroner's physician, who, with Dr. T. J. Flynn, performed the autopsy, was the second witness. He testified that one bullet passed between the fourth and fifth ribs, through the right lung, the stomach and liver, and lodged about three inches from the spine. The shot that killed Noble entered the left side, passed through the fourth cartilage at the left of the sternum, and downward and backward through the right side of the heart, finally lodging near the other bullet. Either wound would have surely proved fatal, he said. The wounds did not aid in determining the position of the body.

SAYS THEY HAD NOT QUARRELED.

Miss Lottie Burnell, an actress, who lives with her parents on the floor below the apartments occupied by the Nobles, said Noble returned to his apartment at 11:45 o'clock Saturday night, and that the two shots followed ten minutes later. She heard no quarrelling prior to the shooting. She and her mother heard Mrs. Noble on the stairs crying, "Mrs. Burnell! Mrs. Burnell!" The mother opened the door and found Mrs. Noble on the third stair from the bottom, crying, "Oh! Mrs. Burnell! Paton, Paton!" She fell forward and half fainted in Mrs. Burnell's arms, and was thus borne into the Burnell parlor, where she became hysterical. While Mrs. Noble was waving her arms distractedly about Mrs. Burnell said a revolver in her hand. She took it from her.

Mrs. Helen Burnell, the mother of the preceding witness, gave valuable testimony for Mrs. Noble. She testified that Mrs. Noble had told her, disconnectedly, that she had been unpacking a trunk of summer things, and that in a satchel she found the revolver, and held it up. Then, she said, the following was repeated to her by Mrs. Noble:

"I had it (the pistol) in my hand," said Mrs. Noble. "My husband said, 'Josie, put that down, or you'll hurt yourself.' I put it down. A struggle for possession of the revolver followed, and Mrs. Noble said, playfully: 'Oh, I can shoot as well as you can.'"

Then followed a report, and a second. "My God!" said Mrs. Noble in describing the scene to Mrs. Burnell, "Paton was dead."

GERMAN ARMY AND NAVY BUDGETS.

Increase in Both Branches of the Service—
Reserve Artillery.

Berlin, Nov. 25.—The naval budget, besides two battleships, provides for one armored cruiser, two small cruisers, two gunboats, one of them for river service in the Far East, and one mine laying steamer, and 475,000 is asked for submarine experiments. The appropriation totals \$39,000,000, of which \$17,517,500 is for shipbuilding. Of the \$17,517,500, which at first was thought to indicate the formation of a new offensive army, now appears to have been intended only for covering the Feng-Wang-Cheng communication.

PALMA URGING CONGRESS TO ACT.

President Unwilling to Begin Sanitary
Work Without Authorization.

Havana, Nov. 25.—President Palma has announced that he is not willing to undertake the street cleaning of the eastern cities of Cuba without the authority of Congress, and without funds for that purpose, but he is urging the matter on the leaders of Congress, and early action is expected. The newspapers here unanimously urge that Congress take action in the matter, and not furnish a reason for intervention on the part of the United States. The Health Department does not believe the neglected condition of the streets in some towns, but points out that the death rate is decreasing through the island.

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A series of articles from the most valuable part of Mr. Bancroft's correspondence and diaries—papers dealing with his student life in Europe, when he met all the great personalities of the time; with the later days of his life in Germany, when he was ambassador, and especially with the period of the Franco-German War, when Emperor William, Bismarck, Moltke, and all the famous generals and statesmen of that day were among those with whom he constantly came in contact. The articles will be accompanied by numerous portraits and other illustrations.

MRS. WHARTON'S NEW NOVEL

The publication of a new novel by Mrs. Wharton is naturally an event of very unusual importance in the field of magazine literature. "The House of Mirth" is a novel of contemporary American social life, having for its motive a study which will be instantly recognized as typical—the life and social career of a girl reared, educated, and exploited in society with but one thought and end in view—the achievement of a successful marriage. The novel as a whole affords an extraordinarily vivid picture of the life of modern society and its conditions.

EUROPEAN POLITICAL QUESTIONS OF
INTEREST TO AMERICA

By Frank A. Vanderlip
Mr. Vanderlip, as former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and author of the papers on "The American Commercial Invasion of Europe," in Scribner's Magazine, stands almost alone in his knowledge of the current public problems and political tendencies of European countries. He writes of the questions of labor, socialism, suffrage, elections, education, religious troubles, etc., etc., the men who are shaping events, and of motives which are moving parties and forming foreign policies. The papers will contain some remarkable illustrations from photographic material collected under the author's direction.

NEW SERIES OF LETTERS FROM MADAME WADDINGTON

Some of Madame Waddington's letters, published in Scribner's Magazine two years ago, attracted wide attention by their descriptions of life and society in England, where her husband was French Ambassador in the 80s—letters written with the most attractive tone and brightness. The new series to be published in 1905 deal with her life in Italy, and have all the interest and brilliancy of her former correspondence.

THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST

By John Fox, Jr., and T. F. Millard
Mr. John Fox, Jr., who has been the representative of the Magazine on the Japanese side during the whole first period of the war, will publish the result of his experience in several important articles. Mr. T. F. Millard will follow his articles on the Russian side by a particularly interesting article on certain methods and tactics developed during the conflict.

THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Mr. E. S. Curtis has been for several years securing with great care a pictorial record of the pure Indian types. The importance of this work is clear, and Mr. Curtis's results show a most extraordinary collection of photographs, of great scientific value, and of special artistic interest. Selections from Mr. Curtis's pictures will appear in Scribner's next year, accompanied by text written by Mr. George Bird Grinnell, the well-known authority on Indian life.

THE PARIS WORKINGMAN

By Walter A. Wyckoff
Professor Wyckoff's papers on the Paris Workingman will appear during the year 1905. He has lived for some months of the life of the Paris workingman, and has studied him as he studied the American laborer in his well-known papers, "The Workers." Professor Wyckoff's articles will be fully illustrated.

SHORT FICTION AND SPECIAL ARTICLES

There will be published in Scribner's during the coming year not only many notable stories by Edith Wharton, Kate Douglas Wiggin, Thomas Nelson Page, F. Hopkinson Smith, J. B. Connolly, Mrs. Mary R. S. Andrews, Dr. Henry van Dyke, John Fox, Jr., E. W. Townsend, Nelson Lloyd, Maarten Maartens, and others, but more than the usual number by new writers of promise. The illustrated and general papers will be of the same high and interesting character as in the past.

ART FEATURES FOR NEXT YEAR

The coming year of the Magazine will be a notable one in its illustrations. The publishers feel confident that for beauty and richness, combined with artistic quality, it will remain unsurpassed. Among the artists who will contribute are Maxfield Parrish, F. Walter Taylor, Sarah S. Stilwell, F. C. Yohn, Walter Appleton Clark, Edward Penfield, Howard Chandler Christy, Daniel Vierge, J. C. Leyendecker, E. C. Peixotto, Henry Reuterdahl, W. J. Aylward, Frank Brangwyn, Sydney Adamson, Harrison Fisher, A. B. Frost, W. Giaccks, A. I. Keller, Jules Grunig, Mrs. May Wilson Preston, F. E. Schoonover, George Wright, Raymond M. Crosby, Henry McCarter, S. M. Arthurs, Claude A. Shepperson, B. West Clinedinst, Wm. Hurd Lawrence, Beatrice Stevens, C. Allan Gilbert, Edwin B. Child, and Karl Anderson.

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