

PEACE REIGNS IN PACIFIC

Churchill Proclaims Commerce Freed by British Naval Victory.

GERMANY ADMITS DEFEAT

Announces Loss of Ships, but Praises Their Work During Four Months of War.

BRITISH GREETINGS TO JAPAN

Buenos Aires Reports Rumor That English Lost Three Ships and the Dresden Was Sunk.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The Secretary of the British Admiralty has received a cable dispatch from Vice Admiral Sturdee of the British squadron, saying that in the battle off the Falkland Islands, in which the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig, and Nürnberg were sunk, the British casualties totaled seven men killed and four wounded.

No officers, the dispatch says, were either killed or wounded.

Replying to his congratulations on the victory of the British squadron Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, today cabled to the Japanese Minister of Marine as follows:

"With the sinking of the Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig, and Nürnberg, the whole German squadron which had its base at Tsing-tau at the outbreak of the war has been destroyed, and the base itself reduced and captured.

"This event marks the conclusion of the active operations in which the allied fleets have been engaged in the Pacific for four months. Though it has fallen to a British squadron in the South Atlantic to strike the final blow, it was largely owing to the powerful and untiring assistance rendered by the Japanese fleet that this result has been achieved. Had the enemy turned west again, the honors would have rested with the Japanese and Australian squadrons moving forward in the general combination.

"The peace of the Pacific is now, for the time being, assured and the commerce of all nations can proceed with safety throughout the vast expanse from the coasts of Mozambique to those of South America. The expulsion of the Germans from the East is complete and with good and vigilant arrangements by all a return by them should be rendered extremely difficult and hazardous.

"I take the opportunity of Your Excellency's cordial message to express on behalf of the British and Australian navies earnest recognition of the invaluable naval assistance of Japan."