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PAYABLE INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE

TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1904

JAPANESE WON RACE AGAINST RUSSIANS

Are Busy Fortifying Town in Northern Korea --- Report of Bombardment Not Yet Confirmed.

Liao Yang, Manchura, Mires 1.

Japanese have occupied Ichio Yang, are scouting over an extended area, beforea, and are now fortifying the walls close to the Japanese positions, but a general engagement is not expected for

neighborhood of Ichio Yang. The Koreans are averse to giving the are slight. Russians information regarding the vements of the Japanese.

movements of the Japanese.

The Chinese troops around Liao Che forces in Korea.

The being reinforced. Yuan Shi Kai, the Reports Chinese commander-in-chief, has 10,000 troops near Junipin Fu, while 15,000 men are with General Ma. Fresh troops news agency to are arriving in the province of Chi Li. lowing dispatch:

RUSSIAN SCOUTS ACTED.

London, March 1 .- A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Ying Kow, dated February 29th, says: "Fifteen Japanese warships furiously bombarded Port Arthur from 10 o'clock this morning. The Russian cruisers Novik, Askold and Bayan accompanied by four torpedo poats steamed out to meet the attack. The Askold was in a sinking condition lo boat sunk. The Russian battleship

of the now familiar tactics tained. of Japan. It is presumed that this at-

ported a severe gale raging at Port Arthur. As usual the Japanese did not remain long enough off the harbor to enable the gunners at the forts to get their range. Again also the same cruisers, the Bayan, Askold and Novik came out to meet the affack and this suggests that either they were the only warns to effective ships there or that the larger beliefs.

Daily Chronicle says the Russians are official opinion continued to be that expressing his heartfelt gratitude for the transferring the guns from the disabled the Japanese will make no attempt to noble thoughts which inspired the message Daily Chronicle says the Russians are ships at Port Arthur to the forts there. A dispatch from Chefoo to the Standard dated February 29th says a Japanese cruiser and torpedo boat entered the the northern part of the peninsula and serve their ramperor as the northern part of the peninsula and of the 29th, and it is believed they embarked the Japanese who took refuge the chinese made no resistance. Still it took twenty-eight days before Port Arthur was really invested. The object of our dear fatherland."

cables that the steamers sunk by the Japanese on either side of the Russian battleship Retvizan at Port Arthur partly obstruct the entrance to the harbor.

The Land Skirmish.

It is estimated that 60,000 Japan-

mained above water when the ship went | Yang. Quiet at Harbin.

Harbin, Manchuria, Feb. 29.-The own is quiet and the Chinese are working willingly, providing food for the in community, and collecting sums for the hospital trains which are being

Increasing in Strength. Tokio, Feb. 29.—Telegrams reporting he small engagement between Russian scouts and Japanese outposts at Ping Yang fo-day, fail to mention any casual-

It is presumed there were none on of the small number of men enand the distance separating the ng detachments. s reported here that there will

Liao Yang, Manchuria, March 1 .- The in northern Korea, where the Russians

This was the objective point of Gen. some time.

The Russian force south of the Yalu mounted Cossacks, as announced yester-day, had reached Kasanaja, Korea, and strength seeming to be in the vicinity was expected to arrived at Ichio Yang of Wiju. North of the Yalue the Russian army is constantly increasing in numbers and is being mobilized, but the chances of its assuming the offensive

Reports Loss of Vessels.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 29.—An official news agency to-day published the fol-"Port Arthur, Feb. 29 .- According to "Port Arthur, Feb. 29.—According to known it will doubtless go far to allay advices from Pekin, Prince Ching has the irritation caused by the original repointed out to the Japanese minister that the attitude of the Japanese in China, who for more than a week have been spreading mendacious reports, is calculated to cause a rising of the Chinese population against the Europeans. The Prince therefore requested the Japanese minister to take the necessary preventive

"It is confirmd that a Japanese toranother sunk during the recent fighting. The wreck of the latter was subsequent- Far East.

Retvizan was again damaged. The ly washed ashore."

Japanese withdrew in good order."

The pause in the war operations in the Far Rost was health of the Japanese measures to conceal their The pause in the war operations in the Far East was broken by an experiment of the Japanese measures to conceal their less attack on Port Arthur, of which only the foregoing brief account is at hand. This report, however, shows at hand. This report, however, shows the pause of the Japanese measures to conceal their less in the pause of the Japanese measures to conceal their less in the pause of the Japanese measures to conceal their less in the pause of the Japanese measures to conceal their less in the pause in the pau

Rumored Bombardment. St. Petersburg, Feb. 29.—The Novoe Previous telegraphic advices have re- Vremya to-day publishes a remarkable came out to meet the attack and this the Tria Svaatitelia, but the editorial warns the Russians to abjure fatalistic

Although written without knowledge No news is published here to-day of operations or movements other than at Port Arthur. As an indication that terday, the Novoe Vremya's editorial tive meeting of the nobility and chief the Japanese possess full command of the sea, the Shanghai correspondent of

invest Port Arthur immediately, although it is admitted that they evidently himself, adding: "I see in these expresare determined to force matters as rapid- sions new testimony of a determination ly as possible. In 1894 they landed on the part of the Russian nobles to the northern part of the peninsula and serve their Emperor as they did in for the Japanese now may be to avoid the A Tokio correspondent of the Times | preliminary delay by disembarking their

"If they do," says a naval expert,
"they will meet with opposition which will render their plan impracticable.'

Advance of Cossacks.

General Mashtchenko with a detachment of mounted Cossacks has reached troops have landed at Chemulpo. Kasanga, Korea, His men and horses The transports now are not escorted by war vessels.

Assaults, Average and he is well supplied with provisions. The Korean offinames on the foremast flag, which re- at Wiju, have been brought to Liao

sians. War material is being brought yavan Ten, proclaims himself invulner up and the militia posts are being able to bullets.

Russian Refugees.

Paris, Feb. 29.—Admiral Bayle, in ommand of the French Far Eastern rine that Russia has chartered a ship go to Saigon, capital of French Indo China, to take on board refugees. It is presumed that these are the Russian sailors rescued by the French cruiser Pascal at Chemulpo, Korea, and that it may involve the question of the propriety of their being turned over to Rus

May Accompany Russians. Washington, Feb. 29.—The Russian army formally has granted the request of the United States that certain officers of the American army be permitted to accompany the Russian troops and witness their operations in the war with Japan. United States Ambassador Mc-Cormich in a cablegram informing Secretary Hay of this fact, states that the officers cannot join the Russian army before April 15th of the Russian calen-

Satisfactory.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 29.-The state ment of the commander of the United States gunboat Vicksburg regarding the Chemulpo affair, was communicated to the foreign office by the Associated Press correspondent, and was received as a complete and satisfactory explanation The Japanese are constantly strength- had created so much feeling here. "We had no official advice on the subject," said one official, "but as the incident was ning their position and increasing their attracting attention here, it is a source of gratification to learn that the statements made were not only untrue but that the Vicksburg was the first to render aid. When the truth is generally

When the government receives an official report of the aid rendered by the Vicksburg to the Russian wounded it. formal thanks as in the case of British, French and Italian warships.

A further consignment of guns and ammunition was dispatched hence to the "It is confirmd that a Japanese tor-pedo boat destroyer was blown up, and filled with soldiers offering up their deprior to their departure for the

> Washington, Feb. 29.-The state department a received a copy, through the Russian embassy, of the Imperial decree fixing contraband of war. Relative to the declaration that the rice and foodstuffs are contraband, it is said at the state department that the destination of such goods must determine their characters. If they are intended for either army they are contraband and

subject to seizure; if they are intended for the use of civilians, except in the case of besieged towns, then they must not be seized, or if seized they must be

TO ASSIST WOUNDED. Methods Discussed at a Meeting Held at Moscow-The Czar's Message.

the sea, the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express says it has been officially announced that the Japanese mail boat service between Shanghai and Japan will be resumed Saturday without naval escort.

A dispatch from Shanghai to the Czar expressing unbounded loyalty to chwang will occur to-morrow.

Comes as a strong reinforcement of its purport, that Port Arthur must in no tenday to discuss the best methods of assisting the Russians wounded during the war in the Far East. At the close of the meeting a telegram was sent to the Czar expressing unbounded loyalty to chwang will occur to-morrow.

LAST ATTACK THURSDAY.

Japs Have Not Bombarded Port Arthur Since February 26th. Mukden, Manchuria, March 1.-The

The Land Skirmish.

Chefoo, Feb. 29.—The twenty-ninth Japanese infantry, occupying Ping Yang, midway between Seoul and Yalu river, on Sunday met a body of Russian cavalry scouts pouls of Ping Yang and state of Cosade Port Arthur by March 1st at all costs.

Advance of Cosade Peb. 29.—The twenty-ninth to meet the Japanese soon.

The Japanese fleet has not attacked Port Arthur since February 26th. The Japanese are greatly discouraged by their failure to block the harbor. NOT CONFIRMED.

No News at St. Petersburg of Bombard ment-Japs Try to Destroy Vladi-

yesterday, but news of another attack at of actual combatants. any moment would not be surprising. Mail advices from Vladivostock says westward of Mukden, in the district of that 500 Chinese brigands are terroriz-Gubantsa, is not relished by the Rus-

Japanese general's staff and was not used to taking insults.

THURSDAY'S FIGHT. Russian Cruiser Askold Had Gun Dis mounted-Japanese Ship Found on Shore.

> Chefoo, March 1.—A Russian official dispatch says that the Japanese renewed the attack on Port Arthur on the morning of February 26th. The fleet kept beyond the range of all but the most powerful land batteries. The engagement lested one hour the Japanese the ment lasted one hour, the Japanese then retiring. Their loss is unknown. The Russian Russian cruiser Askold had one gun dis nounted and two men injured. At low water on February 28th the Russians discovered a Japanese torpedo boat destroyer which had been sunk on the shore of the outer harbor. They also

Arthur was quiet yesterday. UNPREPARED FOR SIEGE.

If Communication Was Cut Off Port Arthur Would Soon Run Short of

New York March 1-If the Russian ut off there would not be sufficient procut off there would not be sufficient provisions there for a fortnight, says a Paris cable to the Times. Ammunition for the forts at Port: Arthur was to arrive by sea, but cannot reach its destination. The informant says the quantity of provisions for the troops in Manchuria are inadequate. The reinforcements arriving daily have to take their own supplies for the long journey while the provisions for the forts at Port: Arthur was to arrive the forts at Port: Arthur was to arrive the forts at Port: Arthur was to arrive the forts at left Japan to-day for Chemulo, Korea. This is accepted as show-ing that all the troops necessary for the forward movement have been landed in Korea, and it is expected that the movement of troops forward will begin the last part of this week.

With respect to the Russian force which will contest the way, it is said that plies for the long journey, while the pro-visions for the army already in the Far there will be some surprise manifested East have to be forwarded by the same at the strength the Russians are able to

A cable to the World from Vienna says the Zeit published a St. Petersburg dispatch stating that the Czar himself desires to go to the Far East, much against newspaper says this statement is confirmed by an exalted military authority who declares the Russian Emperor is maintain the fighting traditions of his ancestors, and is convinced of his own military ability. Besides, he desires by his presence to encourage his troops and check dissention among his chief officers.

RETURNED TO HARBOR.

Russian Torpedo Boat Reported to Have Got Away From Pigeon Bay.

Port Arthur, Feb. 29.-The Russian torpedo boat which sought refuge in Pigeon bay on February 26th was subjected to a terrific fire from the Japanese cruisers. One shot pierced her hull, The boat was beached, the leak was stopped, she was refloated at high water and returned to Port Arthur.

ADVOCATES WITHDRAWAL. Dalny Paper Favors Abandonment of

South Manchuria by Russians. St. Petersburg, March 1.-A copy of the Dalny Vostock, which has just arrived here, contains a significant argument in favor of Russia abandoning south Manchuria and retaining the northpaper contends, naturally belongs to the

TWO THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS. Ready Response to Call For Men to Man Steamers at Port Arthur.

New York, March 1.—Admiral Togo, ean government that the building of a according to a cable from Tokio to the railroad from Seoul to Wiju for military o go into old steamers in an attempt to blockade the entrance of the port was instantly responded to by 2,000 officers and men, some of whom following the time ing operation was partly successful. REMAINING NON-COMBATANTS.

Trying to Reduce Work of Soldiers and Drain on Supplies.

St. Petersburg, March 1.—The military The Japanese who manned the merchant vessels which were sunk at Port Arthur, on landing here shaved their heads as a mark of disgrace they felt at the failure of the project. The trow of the Jinsen Maru wrote their reads on the Jinsen Maru wrote their sire, and five men, captured by Cossacks and the Jinsen Maru wrote their leads as a mark of disgrace they felt at the failure of the Jinsen Maru wrote their sire, and five men, captured by Cossacks land to the Jinsen Maru wrote their sire, and five men, captured by Cossacks land to the Jinsen Maru wrote their sire, and five men, captured by Cossacks land to the Jinsen Maru wrote their leads as a mark of disgrace they felt at the failure of the Jinsen Maru wrote their sire, and five men, captured by Cossacks land to the Jinsen Maru wrote their leads as a mark of disgrace they felt at the failure of the project. The Korea. A Japanese major, Togo Tanustine in North the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese again bombarded Port Arthur vessels, which were sunk at women and children so that the necessity of proconfirmation of the Yin Kow report of the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese again bombarded Port Arthur vessels which were sunk at vessels which were sunk at land are informing the Japanese of the confirmation of the Yin Kow report of the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese again bombarded Port Arthur vessels which were sunk at land are informing the Japanese of the confirmation of the Yin Kow report of the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese again bombarded Port Arthur vessels which were sunk at land are informing the Japanese of the confirmation of the Yin Kow report of the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese again bombarded Port Arthur vessels which were sunk at land are informing the Japanese of the confirmation of the Yin Kow report of the London Daily Telegraph that the Japanese was a land are informing the Japanese was a

THE CHEMULPO INCIDENT. Statement Published in Russia Will Clear Up Misapprehension.

Russian Ships in Canal.

Suez, Feb. 29.—The Russian cruiser Aurora, and some of the Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russia. By the Japanese. These statements will doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russia. By the Japanese of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension be found in the action of Russian torGreaorbi and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and Rurik and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension and the transport do

ese barber at Vladivostock, deeming him-self insulted by a Russian officer, shot him dead and then dramatically an-nounced that he was a captain on the

CROSSING LAKE BAIKAL. First Train Travelled Over Ice on Newly

ing. It consisted of 25 cars. Prince Khilkoff, the minister of public works

Cruiser Aurora, Westward Bound, Is Delayed.

canal since midnight, probably by other vessels. Five Russian torpedo boat deand five unexploded torpedoes. Port stroyers have arrived here.

from the Suez, has been blocked in the

READY FOR ADVANCE. Japanese General Staff Has Left For Chemulpo, Korea.

Paris, March 1 .- The correspondent of nication at Port Arthur should be positive advices have been received in Paris to the effect that the Japanese gen-

display.

TROOPS LANDING IN KOREA.

of the Daily Mail at Chefoo, who has just returned there from Chemulpo, Korea, cables that Japanese transports, Chemulpo at the rate of one a day, while provisions are being landed near Hwangh, 4 miles northwest of Chemulpo, at the head of the Tai Dong river, where a large force of Japanese infantry has concentrated,

"A serious defect has been disclosed," he correspondent continues, "it is feared that most of the Japanese horses are unbeen stationed permanently in Prince make immediate preparations to with-Jerome Gulf, between Chedido island and draw to Habnrousk.

The Russians in Korea. Seoul, March 1.—Advices from the north report that 1,500 Russians are at war rests not with Japan, but solely Chong Ju, 500 at Kuzeng, and 50 at with Russia.

Anju. These forces probably are only "On the 6 the Japanese.

Military Railways. Tokio, March 1 .- According to the stipulations of the protocol the Japanese minister at Seoul has notified the Kor-

Sun, commanding the fleet which is at purposes will be commenced forthwith Port Arthur, reports that his call for men Engineers and surveyors have already left for Seoul. At Vladivostock. Vladivostock, March 1.—Several newshonored samural custom wrote their applications in their own blood. It is stated that it formerly took half an hour to enter the harbor at Port Arthur, and that ed that it formerly took half an hour to enter the harbor at Port Arthur, and that the passage now occupies two hours, for which reason it is believed the blockadwhich reason is believed the blockadwhich reason is believed the blockadwh

"The Russian government has charged Japan with having treacherously obtained a victory by a sudden attack upon Russia, who was bent upon obtaining peace. It is further asserted in communiques that since the rupture of diplostrengthened. The people at several points refuse to sell produce to the Russians. Snow storms are raging here and the frost is intense. The railroad is working perfectly and troops are arriving uninterrupted.

Russian Ships in Canal.

able to bullets.

Advices received by mail from Irkutsk, Siberia, say that local firms, whose employees have been called to service in the army, are continuing to pay the married men full wages and the unmarried men half pay.

Letters from Vladivostock, dated February 17th, says that the warshing in aval commanders against the action of of war and merchant vessels. matic relations can never be looked upon

Aurora, and some of the Russian torpedo boat destroyers, have entered the canal.

Near Colombo.

Colombo, Ceylon, Feb. 29—One of the Russian volunteer cruiser fleet is re
the harpor on that date were the Rossa, and the transport doubtless clear up the misapprehension doubtless clear up the misapprehension.

Moskova. The port was frozen hard and the ice-breaker was scarcely ably to clear the channel. Two Japanese attempted to blow up a dock at Vladition of the Russian volunteer cruiser fleet is re
the harpor on that date were the Rossa, the Japanese. These statements will doubtless clear up the misapprehension doubtless clear up the misapprehension.

Moskova. The port was frozen hard and the ice-breaker was scarcely ably to clear the channel. Two Japanese attempted to blow up a dock at Vladition of the state department has determined the same time that the state department has determined to blow up a dock at Vladition of the statements of these charges may doubtless clear up the misapprehension doubtless clear up the found in the action of the state of

in full confirmation of these statements. vice by frostbites.

"During that time the increase made Intense cold, more than usual, is ex-

battleship, three cruisers, seven destroyers and four torpedo boats of a total tonnage of about 30,740, which would Port Said, March 1.—The Russian Far East had not circumstances subsequently compelled Russia to recall them.

"Since the 28th of last June when,

Other Russian Bocks Port Arthur Against under the pretext of trial transporta

tion on the Siberian railway, the Rusfantry brigades, two artillery battalions and a large force of cavalry troops have been constantly sent by military train from Russia to the Far East until at the beginning of February a total strength of Russian forces was over

40.000. At the same time plans were being made for sending 200,000 more men. "During the same period work has been carried on day and night in strengthening the fortifications of Port Arthur and Vladivostock, while forts have been built at Hunchun, Liou Yan and other strategic points, and large quantities of arms and ammunition have been sent to the Far East by the Siberian railway. In the middle of October last a train of fourteen cars was hurriedly sent from Russia laden with equipment of a field hospital.

"From these military and naval pre-parations made during the progress of the negotiations, it is quite evident that Russia was not inclined to a friendly settlement of the question under discussion, but sought solely, by her military nderance, to force Japan into sub-

"On January 21st about two battaions of infantry and a detachment of artillery were sent to Port Arthur and Port Dalny and the northern frontier of

Korea and Japan,
"On January 28th a formal order to prepare for war was given by Admiral tary officer comamnding at Vladivo-stock, under orders of his government, requested the Japanese serviceable. The Japanese squadron at agent at that port to notify his nation-Chemulpo has been strengthened. A als that, as a state of siege might be fleet of 12 battleships and cruisers has proclaimed at any moment, they must

the anchorage Yesterday I saw a cruiser of the Nitiaka type beached at the entrance of Nam Yang creek. She was deserted except for a Japanese guard.

The Koreans are hostile to the Japanese the work of the Ware advanced in large numbers from Lie Yeng toward the Yelp.

and they are assisting the Russians in Lio Yang toward the Yalu. orthern Korea."

"In view of the facts, who can say that Russia had no warlike intentions pondent of the Daily Telegraph reports that the Japanese military authorities object to the installation of wireless ocritical that it admitted of no further sault easier. telegraph apparatus on newspaper dis- delay, the Japanese government was compelled to break off negotiations that had proved abortive, and take the nenecessary steps for self-protection. But

"On the 6th of February Japan anders sent out to locate the position of Japanese. nounced to Russia her determination to end negociations and take up independent action as she might deem best to defend her position, menaced by Russia, and to protect her established rights and legiti-

"At the same time the government of Japan informed the Russian government that, as its moderate and unselfish proposals in the interests of a firm and lasting peace in the Far East had not re ceived the consideration which was their due, Japan resolved to sever her diple matic relations with Russia, which for the reason named, had ceased to possess paper correspondents and residents of this place who left here a short while term 'independent action' naturally inrise in the price of provisions is slight and trade continues. The blizzard has ceased and there are now snowdrifts opinion of international jurists that a ceased and there are now snowdrifts stretching for sixty or seventy miles from the fortress. Schools have been started here for the instruction of hospital nurses. The conviction in the ultimate success of Russian arms is much as the success of Russian arms in the success of Russian arms is much as the success of Russian arms in the success of Russian arms is much as the success of Russian arms in the success o imate success of Russian arms is grow-

tilities have begun. "Japan's action, therefore, is not open to the least criticism in this regard from strict neutrality. ized statement received to-day from his government was given out by the Japinese minister. In substance if save there are not only many historical in-stances of Russia herself resorting to hostilities without declaring war, but one occasion, that of her invasion of Finland in 1808, when she began war before there had even been a rupture of diplo- military intelligence, and Lieut.-Col. A.

SUFFERING AMONG TROOPS. onia and Bronchitis Claim Many
—The Commissriat Has Broken Down.

among the soldiers.

First Train Travelled Over Ice on Newly Laid Railway.

Irkutsk, Siberia, March 1.—The first complete train traversed Lake Baikal on rail to Port Arthur, where the work of putting them together has been are located made in her naval strength in the far East was nineteen vessels with a total tonnage of \$2,845. In addition to these vessels the Russian government have sent torpedo destroyers in sections by rail to Port Arthur, where the work complete train traversed Lake Baikal on rail to Port Arthur, where the work of putting them together has been are located in East Siberia, and blinding solve as low as 25 degrees below zero are registered. The progress of troop trains is constantly impeded by snow drifts. At of putting them together has been are left behind in most cases without hastened, and seven of them already other medical attention than that afford-

ing. It consisted of 25 cars. Prince Khilkoff, the minister of public works and railroads, was present when the train started.

CANAL BLOCKED.

Instened, and seven of them already lave been completed. Furthermore, lave been completed by the rough and ready service that lave been completed by the rough and ready The worst portion of the journey is across Lake Baikal.

IN DESPERATE STRAITS.

Other Russian Battleships

New York, March 2.—The position of the Russians at Port Arthur, says a cable to the World from Berlin, is described by the St. Petersburg corresp dent of the Scheischge Zeitung as des-

blocks the narrow entrance to the harbor against other battleships. She can neither be repaired nor moved. All the other battleships are land-locked.

Scarcely anything is heard of the tor-pedo boats. It is assumed that they are without ammunition. There are conse quently only the three cruisers. According to accounts now published, the Novik and Askold have been put out

MASSING AT PING YANG. Large Forces of Japanese Debarking at Nearby Ports. Paris, March 2.-Information reaching ere from official sources shows the Japanese concentration of troops is going

transports at nearby ports, from which it is assumed that an extensive land er gagement is imminent in northern Korea.

Korea. Large forces are debarking from

n in the neighborhood of Ping Yang,

CHANGE OF PLANS. Land Investment of Port Arthur Will Not Begin For Two Weeks.

Washington, March 2 .- The landing in force of the Japanese on the Laio Tung peninsula, and the beginning of the land investment of Port Arthur will not begin for a fortnight, according to advices received here, from what are believed to reliable sources. It was expected that the attack upon the fortress would take ace yesterday or to-day, but the later dvices, without explaining the reason

or delay, show that there has been a change in the original plans. Army officers here think that the Japanese have decided that with the railway connecting Port Arthur with the outside world cut, thus preventing supplies from the outside reaching that place,

weeks' privation will render the final as-Moreover, as Port Arthur can be safely

UNCONFIRMED RUMOR

Of the Fall of Port Arthur-Was Current in Lobby of Commons To-day.

culated in the lobby of the House of Commons this afternoon that Port Arthur had fallen. The origin of the rumor could not be traced, and no confirma-CAUSING ANXIETY. Movement of Chinese Towards Man-

London, March 2 .- A rumor was cir-

churian Frontier Alarms the French. New York, March 2.-The French oreign office, according to a Paris dispatch to the World, is worried over the movement of Chinese troops towards the Manchurian frontier. The officials fear that Japan may follow her dominion of Korea by coaxing or forcing China to be a third party in the combination of Yellow peoples."
The French minister to Pekin has been

structed to join the other foreign ministers in strongly urging on the Chinese

GOING TO EAST.

Sir W. Nicholson, British Military Observer, Leaves Ottawa for Coast To-day.

Ottawa, March 2.-Sir Wm. Nicholon, director-general of mobilization and Haldane, arrived here to-day. They were met by Lord Dundonald, who ac-companied them to Government House, where they are the guests of Lord Minto.
Sir William has had a long distinguished military career. He is 58 years of age and has been in the army since

1865. He got his promotion after the South African war. He goes as British New York, March 2.—Reports received here, says a cable to the World from St. Petersburg, from the troops along the route to Harbin, show a disheartening condition of affairs. Disease is rife

1865. He got his promotion after the South African war. He goes as British representative to watch the military operations in the war between Japan and Russia.

Lt. Col. Haldane has also had a disheartening condition of affairs. among the soldiers.

A smallpox epidemic is raging in East
Siberia, and has spread among the regipiper, after having his legs shot from