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SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH atter of Margaret Isabella Gill, ed, Intestate, and in the Matter Official Administrator's Act. omeial Administrator's Act, is hereby given that under an de by the Honorable the Chief ated 25th day of January, 1904, rsigned was appointed administrate estate of the above deceased, shaving claims against the said requested to send particulars of ne, on or before the 25th day of 1904, and all parties indebteder required to pay such indebteder forthwith.

WM. MONTEITH, B. C., January 26th, 1904. SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH

itter of E. Harry Joy, Deceased, ite, and in the Matter of the Administrator's Act.

is hereby given that under an he by the Honorable the Chief ated 25th day of January, 1904, signed was appointed adminis-the estate of the above deceased. shaving claims against the said-requested to send particulars of le, on or before the 25th day of 1904, and all parties indebted e required to pay such indebted-forthwith.

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TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION VICTORIA, B. C., TLESDAY, FEBRUARY, 23, 1904.

VOL. 34.

RUSSIANS RETREATING FROM PORT ARTHUR

Vicerov Alexieff Decides to Fall Back on Harbin Which Will Be Strongly Fortified --- Recognizes Impossibility of Protecting Long Line of Communication.

New York, Feb. 19.-A cable from the World's correspondent in Berlin says Viceroy Alexieff has determined fall back to Harbin, leaving Port

Alexieff takes this step in view of the utter impossibility of maintaining and protecting a line of communication 1,200 miles long, and as vulnerable to attack as the railway

The viceroy is fully confident that Port Arthur can withstand a long siege. He is now fortifying Harbin, and will use it as the base of a great

The announcement that Harbin, and not the "impregnable" Port-Arthur, will be the base of future operations has been received with consternation in Russian military circles. It has caused a sensation more painful than the calamities which have befallen the Russian fleet, as, more clearly than any event that has ocred, it reveals the formidable nature of the enemy to whom Russia is ed. The feeling of alarm and despondency grows deepers at St. Petersburg and Moscow. The police have good reasons to be-

lieve that the revolutionaries are taking part in the so-called patriotic MANY TROOPS ARRIVE.

Over One Hundred Thousand Soldiers Expected at Harbin in Course of Few Days.

Paris, Feb. 19 .- A representative of the Matin, who has reached the centre of the Russian military con centration at Harbin after great hardships, due to the trans-Sib railway trains being crowded with railway trains being crowded with thousands of soldiers, in a dispatch dated from Harbin yesterday, confirms the announcement that that place will be the main base of the Bussian land operations. Thus far the base has succeeded in maintaining its confirmation.

The concentration of troops, the correspondent says, proceeds systematically, and provision has been made for the speedy arrival of 120,-000 men from the divisions of Moscow, Kieff and Varsovie. Before 12 will have disposed of an army of 400,000 men through Manchuria.

Intense demoralization among the populace, and the people of surrounding villages are flocking nto the town, seeking to reach Western Russia. The railway trains, however, are blocked, and over 2,000 voyagers are thus held. The intense cold prevailing increases the suffering, and adds to the difficulties of bringing forward troops.
Significance is attached to the

Figuro discussing the possible re-treat of the Russian forces from Port Arthur towards the north. The Figaro, which is intensely pro-Russian and enjoys the favor of the Russian court, says: "The Russian not explaining the delays in the military operations has had the effect of confirming Viceroy Alexieff's plan to withdraw northward toward Muklen and Harbin"

The military editor of the Figaro clares this would be a wise and tactical movement, as the Russian troops are better able to make a stand further north.

DARING TACTICS. Japanese Torpedo Attack Delivered at a Range of Five Hundred Yards.

New York, Feb. 19.-The Russian cruiser Bayan, according to a cable to the World from Tokio, is reported to have been the vessel most damaged in the last torpedo attack on Port Arthur, Sunday, February 14th. The Japanese attacked with to peddes at a distance of only 500

As the result of the action at Port Arthur 10 Russian warships are crippled. It is believed there that no further naval engagements will take place in the open sea, as the Japane torpedo boats can do destruction most cheaply. .

RETREAT TO HARBIN.

London, Feb. 19.-Little Far Eastern

wich and elsewhere in refitting the navy vizan. Capt. Sensovich, and the cruiser viant in preparation for any emergency. It is substituted that the manufacturers of fixed ammunition have been working light shifts since Christmas, and that the manufactures of light shifts since Christmas, and the cruiser variation for any emergency. It is almost impossible for Jewish merchants and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, and the cruiser variation for Jewish merchants and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, and the cruiser variation for Jewish merchants and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, and the cruiser variation for Jewish merchants and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at an exequation for any emergency. It is sufficiently and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at the difference on paper and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at the carry on their business without Jewish and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at the contract of the manufacturers of infantry at St. Sebastien and two regiments and the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at the torpedo boat Kossovitch, which lay at the torpedo boat Kossovitch without Jewish to carry on their business without Jewish the cruiser variation for any emergency. It is an exequation for any execution for any execution for any emergency. It is an exequation for any execution for any execution for any execution for any

sels at home and abroad is being reful guns in existence in any navy, and ni, Lieut. Poluskini; Hunoslivi, Lieut. they are capable of throwing an aimed Reichter; Grozvoi, Lieut. Scheltinga, shot accurately a distance of 16,000 Razyaschtchi, Capt. Siminoff; Ryo-

Similar reports of military activity are received from other countries. For instance, Spain is preparing for possibilities. The Spanish minister of war bilities. The Spanish minister of war a newspaperman yesterday "Throughout the fight the torpeda division lay to the right of the squadron for the squadron of the squ

of the Daily Mail, the Emperor of Ja- of artillery. pan has declared his intention of giving of Japan for the purposes of war funds. ports made to our ships it may be asother dispatches from Tokio confirm the sumed that several vessels of the enemy's great success of the internal war loan. coasting trade, and confirm previous reports that the Russian cruiser Boyarin Official confirmation is given that thur on February 14th. Some correspon- was repulsed after heavy fighting

"According to the reports of the com manders, the men fought exceedingly well, on which account, in virtue of the Arthur says the Japanese have captured Imperial authorities have conferred six the Okhotsk-Kamchatka crosses of the Order of St. George on steamers Kolik and Bovrik each ship for first and second class warsses on each company of all other ships of the second class; one cross on station at Golden Hill, which operated under the heavy fire of the enemy, four crosses on battery No. 15, three on battery No. 13 and one cross on the gunner, who,

"Our losses were, of the squadron, five officers wounded, 14 men killed and 16 wounded; of the fortress and cable. wounded and five men slightly wounded.
"In announcing the above to Your
Majesty, I am pleased to be able to
add that the naval and land forces in the Far East are inspired by the heart-felt wish to meet their insolent foes breast to breast in order to fulfil their duty in the sight of their adored ruler, and, firm and unshakable, to fight

the honor and glory of their beloved fatherland. "After the night topedo attack, the

lively cannonade. The most exposed to tions and Japanese losses are untrue. the enemy's fire were the ships of the squadron, Battery No. 15 on Cliffs, and Battery No. 13 on Golden Hill.

news appears in the press this morning, with the exception of official dispatches, and the comment is made that the official relationships represented by the assistant of M. DeWitte, the former reports of View of V rts of Viceroy Alexieff and others flag of Vice-Admiral Stark and com- finance minister.

"There were also engaged the torpedo placed as rapidly as possible. Especial boats of the first and second divisions, interest attaches to the equipment of battleships with the new 12-inch wire steel guns, 450 of which were Vnamietti, Capt. Simon; Vladistimia, rdered by the admiralty four years ago | Lieut. Karzeff; Boivoi, Capt. Yelisseiat an expense of \$22,500,000. These teff; Beztransni, Capt. Seimmerman; are the most modern and most power- Poshtchadnni, Lieut. Lukin; Unushitel-

"It is still difficult to ascertain the rethe treasures of the palace to the Bank sult of the battle, but according to resuccess of the internal war loan. e correspondents of the Times and why they avoided further fighting, al-Daily Telegraph at Tokio unite in an- though they were much superior to us in nouncing the resumption of the Japanese strength, according to reports of the Official confirmation is given that an was sunk during the attack on Port Ar- attack on Port Arthur, February 16th, dents say the warship in question was both sides. According to the story this the cruiser Bayin, and not Boyarin. Full accounts of the firing by Russian a landing at Talienwan bay, but it failrived, and, finding three vessels in the thing during the Chino-Japanese war, are foreseen." roadsteads without lights, they began landing simultaneously at Talienwan firing at them. The forts began to fire and Kin Chou, thus cutting off Port Aralso, and the utmost confusion prevailed. thur from each side of the Liao Tung

The Port Arthur Fight.

The governite frank statement in its bulletin of this morning on Russia's unpreparedness, owing to Japan's sudden precipitation of hostilities, and warndetails of the fight on February 9th at Port Arthur. It does not enumerate the Russian casualties, and says it is known that a number of Japanese ships suffered severely which accounts for their not following up the attack.

To their not following up the attack.

The Manchurian, and especially the After giving a full list of the ships en- order. There are already over 300,000 are required to guard the railroad. A telegram received here from Port

steamers Kolik and Bovrik. To-day was announced the landing of ships having crews of over 200 men, four 6,000 Japanese troops at Wanson, which value of paper money, which in some place, as was known some days ago, was

made the point of the landing of the The steamship Edward Barry, be-longing to the North Russian Steamship Company, ran the gauntlet of Japanes ships and arrived safely with a full though severely wounded, returned to the cargo at Port Arthur the day after the bombardment. All non-combatants have been ordered to leave Vladivostock. The Russians disconnected the Vladivostock

Repairing Warships.

Port Arthur, Feb. 18 .- The repairs to the Russian warships damaged during repidly proceeding. The Czarevitch, Retvizan and Pallada will soon rejoin the fleet. The work is being carried on was not so great as it might have been.

Jap Fleet Intact. London, Feb. 18.-The Japanese lega- repulsed. Japanese fleet, consisting of 16 warships, appeared at 10 o'clock in the morning off not true that any Japanese vessels had in the St. Louis exposition is published SHIP GOING FOR MISSIONARIES. Port Arthur. Its appearance was noted been destroyed so far in the various in the following terms: "The minister by the coast signal stations as well as naval engagements, and that all neces- of finance hereby brings to the notice of

This message also denies the report manufacturers, owing to existing cir-that the Japanese were driven from the cumstances, to send exhibits to America, five battleships, five first and second class neighborhood of Kin Chau after a skir- the Russian government has recognized ruisers and 15 torpedo boats, under the mish, in which 150 Japanese were taken the necessity to decline to participate in ommand of Vice-Admiral Stark and prisoners, and declares that the Japan-the aforementioned exposition."

Ever-Admiral Ukhtonski. The coast ese made no attempt to land at Pigeon The Novoe Kremya, in a less than the lecessity of the land of the lecessity of the lecessity of the land of the lecessity of the lecess batteries immediately prepared to receive Bay. It says the Japanese forces up e enemy. Our squadron weighed anchor to the present time made no attempt n order of battle, and upon the first shot to land at any point where they could sing fired by the enemy, the fleet and come in contact with the Russians, and to it, if it means only Chinese neutrality. foreign office, and a cable was received that consequently all reports of land acbatteries replied simultaneously with a that consequently all reports of land ac-

Russia and Hay's Note. London, Feb. 18.-A dispatch to the Other coast batteries, principally Nos. 17 Central News from St. Petersburg says and 18, were also under fire.

Central News from St. Petersburg says W. M. Kokovzoff, Imperial secretary of

reports of Viceroy Alexieff and others are remarkable mostly for what they leave unsaid.

It is believed new, both in London and on the continent, that Viceroy Alexieff has decided to fall back upon Harbin, practically abandoning Port Arthur, Vladivostock and the whole of southern Manchuria to Japan, and that he is hoping that the reduction of Port Arthur.

Had of Vice-Admiral Stark and commanded by Capt. Jakovloff; the battle-ship Sevastopol, Capt. Chernychoffs; the battle-ship Politava, Capt. Spifki; the battle-ship Politava, Capt. Spifki; the battleship Peresviet, flying the flag of with the revision of the laws in force against the Jews, proposes to recommend that in ten provinces of Poland, where hitherto the Jews have enjoyed unrestricted rights, these rights shall now grams going abroad.

"There were also the first class cruisers are remarkable mostly for what they ship Sevastopol, Capt. Capt. Spifki; the battleship Politava, Capt. S The St. Petersburg correspondent of says it believes the present is a favorable Manchuria to Japan, and that he is hoping that the reduction of Port Arthur and Vladivostock will occupy the Japan-touski, and Askold, Capt. Gramchikoff. while he is concentrating his forces The second class cruisers Boyarin, Capt. "Pale of Settlement." Under this ruling Sarrycheff, and Novik, Capt. Jassen.

Sarycheff, and Novik, Capt. Jassen.

Besides these were the battleships will be deprived of the right to employ cactivity which is seen at Wood
Czarevitch, Capt. Gregorevitch, and Ret
Jewish clerks and assistants. As it is

t is believed that an unexampled emigration of Jews will result if the recomnendations of the committee are put

into effect.

The belief is general in British diplomatic circles that Russia is about to defy the United States in almost a simimanner to that in which it involved tself with Japan. The note of Secretary Hay, by which it was designed to guarantee the integrity of China, has caused a profound sensation in St. Peersburg, and the charge is openly made there that for commercial purposes the United States is planning to become dominant in China. That Russia realizes this, and that she will follow out her old-time diplomatic methods, is shown by the intimation that she will soon send a reply to the United States note to the limitations, she accepts the position taken the present war, claiming to have made concessions, while at the same time she

strued as assenting to the propostiion sovereignty over Manchuria. She will balk at the Hay plan, and, if necessary, will break with the United States before she will permit that nation to outline

her policy in the Far East.
Russia expects to defeat Japan in the present war. She knows it will take thought in many quarters to be significant. In fact Mr. Morgan having been for several years one informed a newspaperman yesterday that he was mobilizing the military forces at his disposal, and said: "Alathough the Russo-Japanese result does not concern us, we must be prepared for all eventualities.

According to the Tokio correspondent of actions of artillery of the Russian sea measure), awaiting orders. The land batterles were under the general direction of Major-General Baloff, commander of the Kwan Tung garrison for her trouble. That will be her reason for her trouble. for refusing to give in to the Uinted States, and her reply to the United states is awaited patiently by European

> INTERNAL TROUBLES. Revolutionary Party at Work in Russia and Further Disorders Are Feared.

New York, Feb. 18.-A cable from London to the Times says: "Pande-monium has reigned for several days at The revolutionary party is vigorously at work. The state of affairs ships on the British steamer Hsi Ping ed because the Russian's guns were at Port Arthur show that the Russians placed with great foresight so as to comordered the Hsi Ping, together with the mand the shore. Russian experts say extension of the disorders. The gov-British steamer Ching Ping and German the Japanese evidently hoped that the ernors of the provinces have received steamer Pronto, to extinguish their lights adjacent group of Eliot isles would cover special instructions as to how to deal and fires. Russian warships then are this movement, as they did the same with the dangerous contingencies which

IN THE YALU VALLEY.

Russians Massing Troops and Reinforce-ments Are Daily Hypected. Harbin, Manchuria, Feb. 19 .- The

Russian troops are concentrated in the lower Yalu valley. Everybody is in high spirits and daily expecting fein-

The Manchurian, and especially the largely augmented. About 50,000 men the demands for transportation. The women and children are unable to get trains, and many are waiting at the stations, suffering from the cold and hunger.

The Chinese are quiet and are bringing in provisions. The rise in prices is due to some extent to the fall in the places is altogether refused.

____ NOT CONFIRMED.

Private Advices Reach St. Petersburg That Japanese Landing Party Was Repulsed by Russians.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.-To-day and to-morrow, the closing days of carnival week, will be observed practically only by a cessation of work. There will be little rejoicing. Such a carnival time is not remembered. There has been no festivities and no gay sleigh parties to the islands. Instead, people gather about the bands playing in the streets or follow the troops departing for the front. None of the reports from abroad of renewed Japanese attacks on Port Arthur have yet been officially confirm ed, although private advices continue to report an attempted landing, which was

An official communication announcing had fallen. by the ships of our squadron, which lay in the outer roads fully prepared for the The Japanese fleets remains intact.

The Novoe Kremya, in a leading editorial on Secretary Hay's proposal in regard to the neutrality of China, says bring them down to Wanson. Lord it does not see why Russia cannot agree Strathcona took the matter up with the

from a flank attack." The Novoe Kremya adds: "And recognizes her exceptional position north be taken by the Admiralty without de-of the Great Wall, but the note stands or lay. It is thought that this is the only falls with the reality of Chinese neutrality. So long as China honestly and successfully maintains neutrality, Russia ingly dangerous, will be unwilling to violate it."

As a means of meeting the extraor dinary war expenses, the Bourse Gazette time for an income tax, which will not eral readiness of the nation to share the The Russian government has abolished

COMPLICATIONS FEARED. Action of France Regarded as Significant Contingencies.

COSSACKS ATTACKED JAPANESE IN KOREA

Number of Troops Reported to Have Fallen into Hands of Russians---Mikado's Warships Sighted off Port Arthur on Thursday---France Trying to Stir Up Trouble.

had made none. So she will do to the United States and hopes to hoodwink that government.

Russia will accept no line of procedure that can in any way be construed as asserting to the state of neutrality towards the Far unexpected, but it is nevertheless the subject of grave consideration by the state department officials. Secretary wept, believing the Russians were going to certain destruction. As the Variag Russia to use Jibutil, which is in the importance to warrant a personal visit French colony at the head of the Red to the White House this morning, where This is contrary to the usage of other dent.

neutral powers.
"Again, French ships and soldiers have "Again, French ships and soldiers have been reached as to the answer to be hattledgeen ordered to the East from the Medimade the Russian government. It is As

naval equilibrium in the Yellow Sea. "The British foreign office is uneasy reis getting ready for rapid mobilization in ase of any eventualities developing."

SPAIN'S ACTION.

Informs Russian Commander That He May Remain in Port Only

Madrid, Feb. 19 .- A Russian warship has arrived at a Canary island port. The authorities have notified her commander that his ship may remain in port for a limited time, but that he cannot be provided with coal in quantity more than sufficient to enable him to each the nearest Russian port. The Premier denies the report that the British government hinted to Spain the necessity for adopting measures to safeguard her neutrality in the Russian-Japnese dispute, asserting that no diploeceived on the subject, and that the nilitary measures taken were a step required by the most elementary prudence.

FRENCH NEUTRALITY. Officials Anxious to Observe Regulations

Without Embarrassing Russia.

war.

But it is pointed out that the French navigation laws contain no positive requirement that belligerent ships shall leave a neutral port within 24 hours, saying that many English boys have two one-time of the saying that many English boys have two one-time of the men severely wounded. There were no lesses on board the Koreitz. The officers and crews of both ships behaved nobly. leave a neutral port within 24 hours, and that, therefore, this matter is one of and that, therefore, this matter is one of regulation by custom, instead of being a legal requirement as under the British navigation laws. No change has yet them expressed as proposed a legal requirement as under the British navigation laws. No change has yet them expressed to foreign sources the proposed a legal requirement as under the British residents would be the censorship upon all news and other telegrams going abroad. News too of the British residents would be the Russian squadrou to remain at Jibutil, French Somaliland. The authorities issue.

is closely allied. RUMOR AFFECTED MARKET. Report Reached Berlin From Paris of

Fall of Port Arthur. Berlin, Feb. 19.—Prices on the bourse o-day were somewhat strong during the first four hours, but later were affected

Will Be Taken to Wanson by Sea, Travel by Land Being Consid-

ered Dangerous. Ottawa, Feb. 19 .- The Dominion govnment are somewhat afraid of the position of missionaries at Ham Chung and Song Chin in Korea, and a cable was sent to the British government asking that the Admiralty send a vessel to stating that whatever steps were possible to relieve the missionaries would lay. It is thought that this is the only them to travel by land would be exceed-

RUSSIA'S REPLY To Secretary Hay's Note Regarding the Neutrality of China.

the governments of Japan and China. boats arrived off Chemulpo harbor. Ad-Secretary Hay has been informed that British V. Morgan will not be granted squadron, requested the cruiser Variage

an outbreak of an Anglo-French war touch at Yokohama, at which point the bot and the Italian cruiser Elba. The she did to Japan in the Manchurian and Korean negotiations, that terminated in rate is based on the fact that France has him, a month hence, the course to purnot given a formal declaration of an attitude of neutrality towards the Far Russian government was not altogether T

PER YEAR, TO OTHER COUNTRIES, POSTAGE PREPAID

Sea, as a base of rendezvous for her fleet. he represented the facts to the Presi-

terranean, and this action, in connection said that the reasons assigned for the declination to receive Mr. Morgan are "It is known that Russia is using her utmost endeavors to get France to stretch every point in her favor, and is anxious to have a strong fleet in Asiatic waters as a menace against Japanese vessels, and to be of use in restoring the vessels, and to be of use in restoring the resto fo Russia's action is purely military, the army officers desiring that there shall be extinguished as coolly as if the men had garding the outlook, while the admiralty no foreign officials on the Liao Tung pen- been at drill. insula during the progress of hostilities.

afford such officials a proper measure of protection in times of violence. anese, there would be many chances for

RUSSIANS CROSS THE YALU.

1.500 Cossacks are crossing the border new the attacks. The injuries of the near Wiju, and that Cossack scouts Variag made it impossible for her to have already advanced into Korea as

far as Anju. Cablegrams received here from Shang-hai declare that General Ma, who is was burned.

protecting the borders of Chi Li prov
"All the Russian survivors of the enince, wires that it is becoming daily sagement were taken on board the formore difficult to prevent the Chinese troops at Sin Ming Ting from crossing the Lin Ho and bracking the words and the grander of these monday to these monday of these monday are these monday as the same and the grander of these monday are these monday as the same and the grander of these monday are the same are t

stories published in Paris and elsewhere | nef of the Variag, who after inflicting all on the continent of alleged intrigues the damage he possibly could on the looking to the coalition of Russia, France | enemy sank his own sh Paris, Feb. 19.—It is announced offici-lly that the French government has isally that the French government has issued instructions relative to the observof all powers to take steps that the strugof all powers to take steps that the strugance of neutrality and that practically gle be localized. As Germany and France trality, as Korea, being occupied by Japthey are the same as those issued by the late Admiral Besnard, the former marine minister, concerning the observance of montestly during the Snarks have the same as those issued by the joined with Russia in 1895 against Japan, it would be natural for Russia to seek similar assistance in her present different properties. The official report of the Chemulpo fight gives the losses on the Variag at the control of the control o neutrality during the Spanish-American ficulties. Argument is, therefore, made one officer and thirty-three men killed,

that it behooves Great Britain to be prepared for any and all eventualities. two officers slightly wounded and seven-teen men severely wounded. There were been announced relative to permitting the Russian squadron to remain at Jibucome involved in the Russo-Japanese Empire, Vladivostock for example or

are evidently desirous to fully observe the requirement of neutrality without unnecessarily causing offence or embarrassment to a power with which France | Shanghai, the captain of the Russian | Inasmuch as a state of war exists, telegunboat, M. Vanjur, consented to disarm grams from the theatre of hostilities will his vessel and keep her in the harbor be subject to the same kind of military

"An American squadron is expected here," telegraphs the Chefoo correspondent of the Morning Post under date of February 19th, "and it is reported that the Americans intend to land a force of marines. There are rumors of possible trouble with Germany, who claims exlusive rights in Shan Tung. Only three Russian warships at Port Arthur re-

Official Dispatch. St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.-Major-General Pflug, chief of the staff to Viceroy

Alexieff, has sent the following tele gram from Port Arthur: been seen either at the Senchu or Ping Ying, Korea. The population is indif-ferent towards be. The icon of sindif-ferent towards be. The icon of sindifriver is beginning to go out. The nafive days the ice will begin to drift. The Nissihin and Kauga, the two cruisers covered with ice for a distance of a mile from Italy; were formally received to-and a quarter to sea. None of the day in Tokio. The men were brought enemy's ships have been seen lately. from Yokohama on a special train. There have been no fresh attempts to de- There was an enormous crowd of specta-

stroy the railroad." Paul Lessar, Russian minister at Pekin, has telegraphed that Yuan Shai-kai, commander-in-chief of the Chinese ficers of the cruisers were given a dinner army, intends to send ten thousand this evening. men from Pao Ting Fu to Shan Hai Kwan. The Chemulpo Fight.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.—A Russian correspondent of the Associated Press, Washington, Feb. 19.—Secretary Hay who witnessed the naval engagement at Washington, Feb. 19.—Secretary Hay to-day received by cable from Ambas-sador McCormick the reply of the Russian government to the proposition relating to Chinese neutrality. It is considered by the department to be responsive to Secretary Hay's note, and its substance has been communicated to the graphed the following account of the Russian ships on board the French cruiser Pascal.

A Japanese squadron, consisting of six armored cruisers and eight torpedo boats arrived off Chemulpo harbor. Additionally the graphing of the nobility, in preparing Red Cross material.

SPANISH PREPARATIONS.

the Russian national anthem accompan-Up to this time a decision has not | ied the Russian sailors as they went into As soon as the Russian ships ap-Japanese poured their fire upon them. nonade, which lasted for one hour.

The holes made in the Variag were They fear that they may not be able to stopped up. Both starboard and port bulwarks on the Variag were destroyed. Her guns were crippled and her hull It is also suggested that as the United States consul would be charged with responsibility for the protection of the Jap Midshipman Count Nirod. The captain Midshipman Count Nirod. The captain of the Variag was bruised. The Koreitz ron lost many men. Two Japanese

torpedo boat was sunk. London, Feb. 20.—The correspondent continues, "we remained in the harbor, t Seoul of the Daily Mail reports that expecting the Japanese to enter and renew the attacks. The injuries of the the Japanese from getting the

the Liau Ho and engaging the Rus- manded the surrender of these men as sians employed in guarding the rail- prisoners of war, but the foreign cap-

"There is no question of Russia making

Odessa, were formerly telegraphed to St. of Shanghai until the conclusion of hos- censorship enforced in all countries un-

New Commander-in-Chief. St. Petersburg, Feb. 19.-War Minister Kouropatkin, who is going to the Far East, will be appointed commanderin-chief of the army operations there, and Vice-Admiral Makaroff, who is now on his way to reach Port Arthur in ten days, breaking all previous records, is to be commander-in-chief of the navy. Rear-Admiral Jessen has been appointed to succeed Rear-Admiral Ewald Van Stackelberg, commanding the Vladi-

vestock squadron. There is no advice that Vice-Admiral

Japan's New :Cruisers. Tokio, Feb. 19.-The crews of the tors extending from the Shinbashi station along the streets to Sibiyet Park,

Repairing Russian Ships.

Paris, Feb. 20.-A private dispatch received here from Port Arthur says the repairs to the Russian battleships Czarevitch and Retvizan are almost completed The statement is published here from St.

Four Regiments Held in Rendiness to Start for Islands in the