



THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1904.

sequences. The Japanese have prov

Associated Press from Nagasaki states

hat the Russian cruiser Voriag, which was ported to have been sunk yesterday at

This desputch also states that in addition

o the Russian vessels damaged in the tor-oedo attack at Port Arthur, that seven

It is also reported at Nagasaki that Gen-eral Kuropatkin has arrived at Harbin to

we command of the Russian land forced Washington, Feb. 10-Mr. Takahira, th

apancise minister here, has received ad

arding the naval engagement of Chemulp imilar to those made public today by Ma

Hayashi, the Japanese minister in London Mr. Takahira thinks it is ospecially im

advices the first overt act of hostilities was committed by the Russian gunboat Korietz, which fired on the Japanese tor-

hedo boats Monday evening. The cruiser Variag, which was built at Cramps' shipyards, Philadelphia, in 1903 of steel and unsheathed, is of 0,500 tons

isplacement and her indicated horse pow

er was 20,000. On her speed trials she

nade twenty-four knots per hour for eigh

ers and six torpedo tubes, two of which

The Kore tz wes built in Stockholm. She was of steel and was 206 feet in length,

thirty-five inch heam, 1,413 tons displace ment, and 1,500 indicated horse power

were submerged

rtant to note that according to

hemulpo by the Japanese fleet, was ured and arrived at Sacebo.

ther vessels were captured.

JAPS' FIRST BLOW WAS A HARD ONE.

Followed By Report of, a Bernard and the roads at Port Second Fight, With More Casualties for Russia.

Japs Steal Into Port Arthur and Torpedo Two of the Czar's Best Battleships -- British Passenger Ship Gets Mixed Up Between the Combatants.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 10-1 a. m .- The following official bulletin has just bee seured in the form of a telegram from Viceroy Alexieff, chief of staff, dated Feb 9:---

"By order of the Viceroy, I beg to report that this day at about il o'clock in the morning, a Japanese squadron consisting of about 15 battleships and cruisers approached Port Arthur and opened fire. The enemy was received with a cannonade from the shore batteries and the guns of our squadron which also participated in the engagement

"At about midday the Japanese squadron ceased its fire and left, proceeding south.

"Our losses in the fleet were two officers wounded, nine men killed and 41 men wounded. On the shore batteries on man was killed and three wounded. The battleship Poleava and the cruiser Novik each had a hole knocked in her side below the waterline. The forts were slightly damaged.

brigade are at Kin Chou. The greatest activity prevails here, and mmunition is being served lavishly. Japs Caught the Russians Napping. Ohe Foo, Feb. 9-The British steame

Columbia, which arrived here today from Port Anthur, bringing news of the attack by the Japanese fleet upon the Russian fleet, reports that the Columbia had a metallic nets, as is prescribed in war fare; if they had employed searchlights, and especially if their torpedo boat de rrow escape from injury. Her passe stroyers had been active, this surpris

the Russian cruiser Novik got the Columbia and the Japanese could not have brought such disastro Shells which passed over the Novik around the Columbia. Her flag their water-scout service to be excellent as in the darkness of night they knew exs out into shreds and one shell fell on deck. The faces of those who were deck were blackened with powder ctly where to strike. As the Russi A naval officer who was recent ly at Port Arthur says the Russians wer not prepared for the attack on their ship and had an insufficient amount of steam A boat patrolled the Straits of Pech usly, but apparently the San Francisco, Feb. 10-A cablegram f

until after the first torpedo was fired. The Russians fired, but the Japanese did return the fire and backed off. An later the discharge of torpedoes was eated, after which the tory ndrew some distance. At 10 o'clock sday morning the Japanese fast crui circled within view of the whole Rus sian fleet, but they were not engaged The Russians returned towards the har bor after an hour. The Japanese con tinuing, came within three miles. A battle then began between the Russian forts and fourteen ships and sixteen Japanese ressels. A few of the Japanese shells were effective, but as far as seen the Russian shots fell short. The Japanese fleet was steaming toward Dalny when seen last. The steamer Columbia left just as Tues-day morning's contest began, and was unable to learn the result. It is probable that the Japanese fleet was conveying traverties traven abling from Screece to

renty-six troop ships from Sasebo to me port of Korea. Japanese are re ported to be in possession of the rn portion of the peninsula. Russian war vessels at Vladivostock The reason will version at rianvoires at rianvoires the resonance of the second state be taken out to the battleships in lighters hours. The Variag's armament consister of twelve six-inch quick fire guns, twelve twelve-pounder quick-firing, cight six pounder quick-firing guns, two one-pound until the battleships Japanese are floated. disabled by the

Rigid Censorship on Port Arthur Telegrams. St. Petersburg, Feb. 9-10 p. m.-A rigid ensorship is exercised on all telegrams rom Port Arthur, and the public is still

completely in the dark as to the result of the fighting there. The report given out by the admiralty this afternoon of the sinking of eleven Japanese warships Her speed was thirteen knots. The arma-ment of the Koreitz consisted of two eightthe far east has traveled over Russia d Europe, and St. Petersburg was beinch breech-loaders, one six-inch breec

Vre-Admiral Togo, on the flagship Asahi (battleship.) The Japanese ressels en-"The result of this first attack is excep gaged were apparently, in addition to the ionally grave and shows that the Russian mmander was not prepared. It points Idzumo and Asahi, the battleship Fuji, the also to a possibility of future catastro phies. The Japanese showed notable per cruiser Oshima, the battleship Shikishm the battleship Hatsuse, the armored eru Yakumo, the armored cruiser Asima, the pecuity and foresight, and the fact that armored cruiser Iwate, the cruiser Chitose he Russians were surprised at night cruiser Kaisigi, the cruiser Takasa roves that they were not vigillan the Russian ships had been surrounded by and the torpedo gunboat Yoshino.

Japan to Issue Formal Declaration of War.

Tox'o, Feb. 10-A formal declaration of war is expected tonight. The proclama-tion has been prepared and approved by the cabinet. Foreign Minister Komura has gone to the palace to recure the emperor approval

have no dockyard facilities in the east to Japs Seize Masamphy.

repair the damages inflicted on their ships, it follows that the three vessels struck by Tokio, Feb. 10-Japan seiz d Masampin Sunday and dispatched a heavy force there. Japan will fortify the port and establish a naval and military base there orpedoes are useless for service in the Official advices received here from Tokio Masampho is an exceedingly importan say that four battalions of Japanese in fantry have landed in Korea near Seoul. joint, as it controls the Korean channe and is an excellent base for future oper

London, Feb. 11-Special de patches fro

this the depatches published in the new

papers here this morning add pra

The Tien Tein correspondent

at Shan-Hai-Kwan are

Tokio this morning announce the arriva

nothing to the knowledge of the actua

Standard sends in a report that the Rus-sians had massacred 100 Chinese at Liao-

Yang in consequence of which the officia

and are appealing to Pekin for protection

Other dupatches from Tien Tsin sai

m there to Scoul for the protection the French legation at the Korean cap

emperor having taken refuge

These reports lack confirmation. The correspondent of the Daily Mail

Tien Tsin eave that Li, the favorite co

flicial of the Dowager Empress of Ch

has been decoved away and beheaded

chief of the Chinese army and navy.

was pro-Russian in his feelings. The Che Foo correspondent of the Dail

Express asserts that the Russian cruise Diana was injured by a shot from th

Russian shore battery at Port Arthur, an

hat the cruiser Novik and the battlesh

rder of Yuan Shi Kai,

tava have also been bea

Arthur

that 400 French troops have been order

ancse troops at Seoul, but bevo

Russian Barbarities Reported.



bing Gough, uinsey Asthma and Lup ubles 1 110 and is soothing and healing ing that tickling sensation you awake at night. o the lungs. There is othing to equal a 230. at all De AND MOST EF

MRL WK.J. hristian decided tonight to issue a neu Britain's consent. There is no author trality proclamation, which will immedi tative confirmation of the report. tely be communicated to Japan and Rus-

Daring Visit to Port Arthur by Japanese Admiral

American Attaches for Russian Forces

St. Petersburg, Feb. 10-By direction p Special despatches from Tokio repor-that fugitives from Vladivostok accuse the Rus ians of openly looting Japanese houses ritics at Washington, Ambass for McCormick has asked the Russian offi ia's to permit the following officers to acthere without interference by the poli ompany the Russian army in the field :-Col. John B. Kerr, of the general staff:

Russians at Port Arthur Demoralized. London, Feb. 11 .- In a despatch from

Captain Carl Reichman, of the Seventeenth | Port Arthur and Dalny to take off refu-

New York, Feb. 11.-In a special cable from Che Foo to the Herald the correspondent says he interviewed the Japanese consul at Che Foo, who told him that when he was informed by his government that the Japanese minister at St. Petersburg was withdrawn on February 6, he chartered a British vessel and went to

(Signed) JA 51 27

JAPS REPORTED TO HAVE DESTROYED

TWO MORE RUSSIANS. Tokio, Feb. 9-It is reported here that the Japanese fleet engaged and defeated two Russian warships, whose names have not yet been learned, at Chemulpo today. It is said the engagement began at 11 a m. and continued until 3 p. m. The smaller Russian vessel is reported to have been sunk, and the larger one fired and sly disabled.

hopelessly disabled. A part of the crew is reported to have escaped to the shore and to have been captured.

captured. The Japanese ships are reported to be slightly damaged. Official confirmation of the report is unobtainable. It was re-ported yesterday that the Russian cruisers Korietz and Variag were lying at Chemul-po yesterday, and it is possible they were the vessels reported to have been engaged.

An Eyewitness Story of the Battle.

Che Foo, Feb. 9-A member of the crew of the Columbia tells this story of the

of the Columbia tells this story of the naval battle at Port Arthur:--"The Columbia was lying in the road-stead, surrounded by fourteen Russian battleships and cruisers. At 11.30 o'clock Monday night a severe shock was felt on board the Columbia. The Russians im-mediately commenced to operate their searchlights and opened fire toward the searchlights and opened fire toward the sea. The fire lasted only a short time. At see. The fire lasted only a short time. At 1 o'clock more shocks were felt and the **Russians again commenced** firing. The Japanese did not return the fire. At 2 o'clock two Russian battleships went in and were beached across the entrance of the harbor. They were soon followed by a Russian cruiser, which also was beach and where the resease were dumaged None of the vessels were damaged

ed. None of the vessels were damaged above the water line. More shocks from torpedoes were felt during the early morn-ing, and then all was quiet. "At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning three Japanese cruisers passed Port Arthur in sight of the Russian fleet. The wholk Russian fleet immediately weighed anchor, and went after them, but returned in hulf an heur "

The Russians left one cruiser outside to watch for the Japanese ships. The cruiser was fired upon by the Japanese and the other Russian vessels took up their an other Russian vessels took up then an chors and cruised around the roadstead. The Japanese fleet came up within three miles and a battle commenced. The Jap-anese fired upon the ships and forts, which replied. Two Russian ships were struck by shells, but were only slightly damaged.

The Russian fire fell short. The Columbia steamed away while the (battle was in progress, but later saw the Japanese fleet leave. One Japanese cruiser with torpedo boats is reported north of Ohe Foo.

Che Foo. The two battleships disabled are the Poleava and Czarevitch. The disabled ar-mored cruiser Boyarin and the grounded battleships block the entrance to the har-bor, preventing gunboats from getting out and battleships and cruisers from going in and getting coal. Besides this Japan has the Russian gunboats Variag and Koratz caught at Chemulpo. They were bound for Vladivostock. Vladivostock. The Japanese fleet was under the con

The Japanese fleet was under the com-mand of Vice-Admiral Togo, and consist-ed of four fast cruisers, the Chitose, Kas-agi, Tagasago and Yoshino, which circled outside, drawing the fire of the Russians. They then joined the main fleet, and all went in to attack the armored cruisers. In the Japanese fleet, which consisted of two divisions, were the Mikasa, the flag-ship; the first-class battleships Sahi, Fui, Yashima, Shikashima, Hatsuz and the de-spatch boat Tatusma. The second divis-ion of the fleet, under the command of Admiral Kamimura, on the flagship Idspatch boat latusma. The second divis-ion of the fleet, under the command of Admiral Kaminura, on the flagship Id-sumo, consisted of the armored cruisers Yakuma, Asama and Iwate when seen by the Foo Chow on Thursday. When seen by the steamer Foo Chow Tuesday morning, the fast cruisers were pircling in a radius of six miles. No tor-

Mar and and a state of a state in the

tack of Monday night. The Russian flee outside of the harbor consisted of th attleships Petropaulovsk, flagship; Peres riet, substitute flagship; Pobieda, Poltava Jzarewitch, Retvizan and Sebastopol, and he cruisers Novik, Boyarin, Bayan, Di ana, Pallada, Askold and Amora. The disabled ships are inside forts Huan Ching, Shan and Chi Kwan Shan The cruiser outside, but within range of the forts.

"MAJOR GENERAL FLUG"

Czar and Royal Family Attend Regular Service.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9-There was unprecedented scene at the religious ser vice held in the Winter Palace this after noon. At the command of the czar, great concourse of ministers, court off cials, high state functionaries, ladies rank, and military men assembled in S George's hall, a'l the men arrayed in fu uniform. After some delay the czar enter ed, wearing the uniform of the Firs Guard Regiment of Russia, with the

lowager czarina on his arm. The you zarina, wearing her favorite white an silver, followed, escorted by the Grand Duke Michael, the heir presumptive. The entire imperial family followed in order of recedence.

Approaching a group of naval and mil tary officers, his majesty turned gravely and greeted them with the customary lussian phrase:-

"I wish you good health, gentlemen." The officers responded with a loud at

The scene became one of wild enthus iasm, amidst which the imperial processio

moved forward, entered the chapel, ad vanced to the altar and stood with bowed eads while the choir and clergy into an impressive intercessory service of the Greek clurch. An intensely religious spirit pervaded the assemblage, which ercwded the little palace of apel. The court chaptain approached the can and sprinkled him with holy water from

the chalice, and presented a crucifix which the czar kissed fervently. At the conclusion of the service, the im perial party slowly retired. As they re-

entered the palace another scene of en-thusiasm greeted them. The czar made no address. Darkness had fallen before the service was finished.

Those who attended the religious aer-vice at the palace today asserted that the Japanese had attacked Port Arthur, and that the fight was still progressing. From the same sources it is asserted that th damage done to the Russian warships by the Japanese torpedoes was not serious

Two Russian Cruisers Surrender Without

Fir.ng a Shot London, Feb. 10-In a despatch from then Tsin, dated Feb. 9, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says it is reported there that the Russian cruisers Variag and Kor-ietz hauled down their flags without fir-ing a shot, and that 8,000 Japanese im-

nediately landed at Chemulpo and the It was reported from Pekin today that the Japanese had disembarked at Chem-upo, notwithstanding the presence of two Russian warships, and another despatch from Cuefea the Japanese had the Japanese

from Chefoo that Japan had the Var-a and the Kottez caught at Chemulpo Japanese troops also landed at all the chief points of southern and western Korea. One division of the Japanese guards holds Fusan and Chemulpo, and altogether three divisions of the Japanese guards, each of 12,000 men, have been mobilized.

It appears, the correspondent continue -that the Russian warships at Vladivostocl are icc-bound.

Another correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs from Port Arthur unde date of Feb. 9, that the Russian advance has commenced. General Krastalinsky will leave Liao Yang tomorrow for the Yalu river at the head of the third bri gade of artillery, consisting of twenty-four guns and three regiments of infan-try. The third, fourth and fifth infantry

pedo boats were seen, and it is probable brigades are entrenched along the railwa that they left the vicinity after the at- at a distance of forty miles from Hai

sieged by telegrams asking for confirma-tion. Later in the day, when doubt was cast on the accuracy of this report, public Whalers anxiety became more acute.

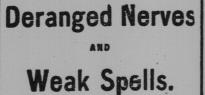
Inquiries for official statement were Inquiries for official statement were met with the response that, in ac-cordance with the circular issued last Sunday, all official reports would first ap-pear in the Official Messenger. The state-ment pultished in London that M. Kurino, the retiring Japanese minister, pre-sented the note from his government on Teb. 5, is not true. This note was re eved here on the evening of Feb. 5, but was not presented until Feb. 6. Serious differences have arisen in high

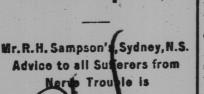
quarters over the command of the Rus-sian land forces in the Far East. One facion favors placing, both land and sea forces under Viceroy Alexieff, and the generals and other high officers of the rmy believe the prestige of General Kuro patkin, the war minister, is essential to achieving success with the land forces and they therefore urge a division of au thority. In any event it is understood that Viceroy Alexieff, as the Czar's representative in the Far East, will have gen eral direction of the operations. As the passage of Lake Baikll by train across the ice appears to be too dangerous the Russian reinforcements will cross the

ce on foot and the war material will be transported over a temporary line. A despatch to the Nove Vremya from Port Arthur says:

"In consequence of Korea's neutrality it is assured here that Japan will be oblig-ed to withdraw her infantry and artillery rom Seoul. Much uneasiness is reporte at Seoul wing to the arrival there of Japanese soldiers, who intend to build barracks. The Korean noblemen who have been residing in Japan have received ermission to return home

Russia's Damaged Vessels Can't Be Repaired Rome, Feb. 9-The Patria today publish es comment on the first engagement in the Far East, supposedly from the pen of Admiral Bettelq, who has twice filled the





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PILLS."

He says "I are been all of for about a year from demaged nerves, and very often weak spells would come over me and be so bac that I sometimes thought i would be unable osure we them. I have been treated by doct is and have take numerous preparations but none of them helped me in the least. I finally got a boy of Milburn's Hear and Nerve Pills. Befor-orables them Leid on the el able to do any work, but now can work as well as ever hanks to one box of your pills. The nave made new man of me, and m idvice to any person troubled as I was, i o get a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills." aking them I did not feel able to do any

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Japs Capture Two Transports and Four

London, Feb. 11 .- Despatches to +} ships. Daily Mail from Tokio and Nagasaki dated Feb. 10, report the arrival at Sasebo, Japan, of two large Russian steamers. On is the volunteer fleet transport Ekater-inoslav which recently landed troops and arms at Port Arthur, and the other the steamer Argun, belonging to the Chin-ese Eastern Railways Company. Both were guards when they hear of the Russian discaptured by the Japanese cruisers Sai Yen and Hei Yen in the neighborhood of

Fusan, Korea. The Ekaterinoslav is of 10,000 tons displacement, and had been fitted up as an uxiliary cruiser. She had thirty rifle on board and was on her way from Vladivostock. The Argun was going to Vladivostock from Nagasaki.

The Russian whalers Glorige, Nicolai, Alexander and Michael, captured by the Japanese, have also arrived at Sasebo Cabling from Shanghai, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says an importan on the Manchurian railroad has been blown up and thirty men have been

Official Confirmation of Russian Losses

Washington, Feb. 10 .- The followin cablegram was received by the general staff today from Major Oliver E. Wood the U. S. military attache at Tokio, dated Feb. 10:-

"War existing. Request instruction Japanese navy destroyed two Russian ships at Chemulpo and three at Port Arthur

Feb. 8. Details follow." In answer to his inquiry, Major Wood, who was desirous of going to the front, was instructed to remain in Tokio, the general staff believing that he would be

able to gather more information there. lussians Lose Eleven War Vessels in First

Twenty four Hours

London, Feb. 10, 2 p. m .- Official de spatches from Tokio received by Baror Hayashi say the Japanese admiral, on ar ving at Chemulpo, sent word to the two Russian cruisers giving them a time limit in which to leave. Shortly afterwards the ssians came out and attacked a Japan ese torpedo boat, which replied with a torpedo ineffectively. A general exchange of shots then followed. After a hot fire

the Russians returned to Chemulpo and ank at the entrance of the harbor. It i ot yet known whether their sinking wa lue to the Japanese fire or to the Rus ians' own action, but it is believed to 1 lue to the former. The crews of both the Russian vessels sought refuge on a French warship at Chemulpo. There was no cas-ualties among the Japanese and their ves-

els sustained no damage. A summary of the losses sustained in the first twenty-four hours of the war with Japan show that eleven Russian warships were placed out of action in one way or inother and that the Japanese did not lose

The losses were as follows:-1-Battleship Retvizan, torpedoed and eached at Port Arthur.

2-Battleship Ceasarovitch, torpedoed and beached at Port Arthur. 3-Battleship Poltava, hole below water-

ine, at Port Arthur. 4-Armored cruiser Boyarin, disa'oled by apanese fire at Port Arthur.

5-Cruiser Pollada, torpedoed at Port Arthur and beached. 6-Cruiser Novik, hole below water-line

t Port Arthur. 7-Cruiser Askeld, hole below water-line t Port Arthur.

8-Cruiser Diana, hole below water-line t Port Arthur.

and the second

9-First-class armored cruiser Variag, lestroyed at Chemulpo, Korea. 10-Torpedo gun vessel Korietz, destroy-

ed at Chemulpo, Korea. 11-Gunboat Mandjo, said to have been eized by the Japanese at Nagasaki, Japan.

Another report, however, says that the Mandjo is at Shanghai. The Japanese deet seems to have consisted of two di-visions under Admiral Kamaimura, on the

() -- (g); (,- ,- (-);

Che Foo dated Feb. 10 a

bodes no good to the crippled Russian "Complete demoralization reigns at Port

Arthur "Advices received here from Kwang Jops Didn't Get Her. Ting, Manchuria, says that 10,000 arms Chinese, unofficially recognized as govern ment troops, are operating in the distri and are expected to attack the railroad

Five Russian St-amers Captured

Tokio, Feb. 10-The Japanese have cap Russia Mobilizing Army Reserves. tured at least five Russian commer steamens, including the Ekaterintos St. Petersburg, Feb. 10, 11 p. m.-Vice-Moukden, Russia, Argun and Alexander They were captured by the Japanese in oy Alexieff began today the mobilizatio of the army reserves in eastern Asia. The publication of extra editions of the Korean and adjacent waters at variou imes since Saturday by small cruicer

ome of the steamers are rich prizes. The small steamer Koeik is detained at ported injuries to Jananese shins during the Port Arthur engagements and the sink hama, its status not being clear. ing of the Japanese battleship Shikishima led to a demand upon the editors for the Japanese Minister Ouits St. Petersburg. source of their information. They replied "It came from the British embassy."

London, Feb. 10 .- A despatch to Reuters Telegram Company from St. Peters-burg says that M. Kurino, the retiring These reports were received everywhere with manifestations of joy, but nothing confirming them has come from Viceron Japanese minister to Russia and his staff have left there for Berlin. There was a Alexieff. The only additional intelligence the vicearge crowd of people at the station platform when the party boarded the train. roy has sent up to this hour is the name of the wounded officers. Police and gendarmes kept a space clear for the travelers and there was no hostile Russia Distrusts Ur cle Sam,

nonstration. Continuing, the correspondent says an mperial ukase has been issued which

authorizes Vicerov Alexieff to mobilize the serves within his vice royalty. St. Petersburg, Feb. 10-The governm s sending out 300 extra locomotives for

use on the Manchurian railway. London, Feb. 10:-General Sir William Nicholson, director general of military inelligence of the war office, and Col. J. Λ L. Haldane, of the Gordon Highlanders.

have been appointed to accompany the Japanese army

Tokio Impassive.

Tokio, Tuesday, Feb. 9.-All is perfectly

Neutrality Proclamations.

Wa hington, Feb. 10-The president has decided to issue a proclamation of neu-trality. It probably will make its appearance tomorrow. The proclamation is in elterotyped form and eimply recites and d p'ores the existence of hostilities between Japan and Russia, and enjoins upon citiens of the United States a strict regard nd ob ervance of the neutrality laws. The Hague, Feb. 10-The government of Netherlands today issued a proclamaon of neutrality during the war in the

Copenhagen, Denmark, Feb. 10-King



Infantry: Captain Geo. E. Gateley, of the gees. He was afforded every facility by he Russian government official at Port antillery corps; Captain William J. Jud-Arthur. Quarantine was removed and the consul entered the town in official dress. son, of the engineer corps; Lieut. Newton A. Cully, U. S. N., will be attache to the He was saluted by soldiers and invited to Russian fleet if the necessary permission is obtained from the naval authorities dinner by a high official where a toast was drank that peace might be restored. After leaving Dalny he encountered the

Japanese fleet about eighteen miles from Port Arthur.

Shanghai, Feb. 10-The Russian gunboat Mandjur (reported from various sources to be under repairs at Nagasaki (Japan), A high naval Japanese commander traveled as a menial in the consul's train to Port Arthur and noted the exact position where she is said to have been seized the Japanese), is in the harbor here. She has had her hull and funnel repainted black and is ready for sea at a moment's of the Russian ships and also that they had not got steam up and also that they ing a sharp lookout. As soon as the Jap-anese were sighted signals were inter-changed and the Japanese naval officer was taken aboard the flagship. There he

ade a detailed report to ad niral T go. I saw this commander, who wishes his name withheld, and he explained to me with marvelous accuracy the course of the fight, though he had not seen it. He said ewspapers containing accounts of the rethe Russians were in four lines. In front of all was the Angara, the only ship which sed searchlights. It will thus be seen that the Japanese torpedo boats carried out an excessively dangerous adventure. Japan's Declaration of War.

Tokio, Feb. 11 .- The following is the text of the imperial rescript declaring war against Russia, which was issued in Japan esterday:-

"We, by the grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the throne occupied by the same dynasty since time imme norial, hereby make proclamation to all

St. Petersburg, Feb. 10, 11 p. m .-- The our loyal and brave subjects as follows: statement that Secretary Hay had issued "We hereby declare war against Russia a note to the powers asking them to join and we command our army and navy to carry on hostilities against her, in obein insisting upon the recognition of th integrity of China and Korea during and dience to their duty, with all their strength, and we also command all our after hostilities, created much comment in diplomatic circles here, where any action competent authorities to make every ef-fort, in pursuance of their duties, to ataken with the view of localizing th theatre of war is welcomed. There seem ain the national aim with all the means ed to be great doubt, however, of the prowithin the limits of the law of nations. priety of adhering to the latter clauses of Mr. Hay's note pending more definite ad "We have always deemed it essential in international relations, and have made it vices. At the foreign office, where there our constant aim, to promote the pacific is some disposition to distrust the pur-poses of the United States, an authorita-tive expression was not obtainable. progress of our empire in civilization, to strengthen our friendly ties with other

states and to establish a state of things which would maintain enduring peace in the Far East, and assure the future seeurity of our dominion without injury to the rights or interests of the powers. Our

tranquil here tonight, though reports are beginning to reach this city of the nava competent authorities have also performed their duties in obedience to our will, so engagement off Chemulpo, Korea. Few facts are obtainable. The native newsthat our relations with all the powers have papers' extras are announcing the destruc been steadily growing in cordiality. It was ion of two Russian ships, the Variag and thus entirely against our expectation that the Korietz; but there are no crowds on we have unhappily come to open hostili-ties against Russia. The integrity of Korea is a matter of the gravest concern the streets, no cheering and no demon strations. Everybody maintains a placid ity which astonishes the foreigners to this empire, not only because of our

traditional relations with that country, but because the separate existence of Korea is essential to the safety of our realm. Nevertheless, Russia, in disregard to her solemn treaty pledges to China and RUSSIAN NAVY, her repeated assurances to other powers, is still in occupation of Manchuria, has consolidated and strengthened her hold on those provinces and is bent upon their

those provinces and is bent upon their final annexation. And, since the absorp-tion of Manchuria by Russia would render it impossible to maintain the integrity of China and would, in addition, compet the abandonment of all hope of peace in the Far East, we were determined in those aircumstances to extit the section by

ircumstances to settle the question by negotiations and secure thereby permanent peace. With that object in view our competent authorities by our order made proposals to Russia and frequent conferences were held during the last six months. Russia, however, never met such propesals in a spirit of conciliation but by wanton delays put off a settlement of the serious questions and by ostensibly advocating peace on the one hand while on the other extending her naval and military prepara-

tions, sought to accomplish her own selfish designs. We cannot in the least admit Russia had from the first any serious or genuine desire for peace. She rejected the proposals of our government. The safety of Korea was in danger and the interests of our empire were menaced. The (Continued on page 6, fifth column.)

