

TOLSTOI ON THE WAR

Invights Against the Cruelty and Inhumanity of All Such Conflicts. NATURE CROPS OUT AGAINST REASON Confesses that Patriotism Still Lurks in His Innermost Soul. CAN SEE NO GOOD COME FROM STRUGGLE Not So Certain that Omission Civilization Excels the Oriental. MODERN INVENTIONS NOT ALL PROGRESS Inclined to Opinion Primitive Man with His Simpler Wants May Have Been as Well Off as Those of Today.

(Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Count Leo Tolstoy was visited at his Russian home in Yasnaya Polyana by George Bourdoux, a French writer, who was anxious to get the great reformer's views upon the Russo-Japanese war. The count, in his usual peasant garb, received his caller in his big dining room, where he had pinned on a wall a French map of Korea and Manchuria.

"Have you news of the war?" was Tolstoy's greeting question. Countess Tolstoy remarked that her husband, who denounces war as an abomination, can think of nothing else than the conflict in the far east and that one day he rode twenty miles on horseback through the snow to get a telegram about it. Tolstoy confessed that patriotism still lurks in his innermost soul, adding: "Through heredity and education it persists in me in spite of myself. I am obliged to recall to myself in order to remember my duty. No argument in the world can surpass the argument of humanity. My conscience tells me that murder, under whatever form committed, is execrable; that war is a monstrous scourge; that everything which tends to preparation for war is to be condemned."

As he spoke he grew much excited, his whole person seeming to vibrate with emotion and force. "In the time of Genghis Khan," he went on, "only those people fought who were invited. Those who were not invited were allowed to pursue their career. But now every man is forced to kill or be killed. Men always have the fine word 'liberty' on their lips. British violence and there will be liberty." When Tolstoy was reminded that this is a clash between the white and yellow races he exclaimed: "What does it matter? I do not distinguish between races. I am for man above everything. Whatever may happen, how will man benefit by this war? The mistake is that it shows to what point men forget or ignore duty. Superior to his duties one owes to his family, to his country, to man, his duty to God—if you permit the word—or if that word embarrasses you, the whole, with a big W. "All that I call God is above individual contests. Whatever I think I cannot help belonging to a whole. I am a part in a harmony. The consciousness I have in the relation of my being with this harmony is what one calls the religious spirit."

"The men forget these essential ideas," he said. "I read the New Testament and more that admirable book. They persist in their state of barbarism. We see them deliberately engage in horrible wars without once saying to themselves that the first duty, the essential duty of thinking beings, is to abolish war."

When told that the Japanese are hard, cruel, hostile to foreigners, he inquired: "Are the Japanese truly what you say they are? I would like to have proof. Pascal—he is an author I read often—has said: 'People who imitate the charity of Alexander the Conqueror, but try to imitate his conquests' Japan likewise, very probably has imitated Europe's faults. Japan is State of Evolution."

"But Japan is what it is, with its good qualities and its bad ones. It is in a state of evolution, like all the nations. It is emerging from barbarism, beginning to emancipate itself from serfdom. It appears to be almost in the condition of Russia was in under Catherine II. It pursues its evolution as we pursue ours, and rest assured that its turn will come; it will develop and perfect itself according to the general law."

When asked to point out the progress of the yellow races he replied that he does not know their nature well, and have neither studied nor penetrated into their conditions. He looked at the Chinese and Japanese people, that they scorn war and warfare. "According to the accounts of travelers," he added, "they are said to keep their word, do not lie and can be relied on in business. This is not common in Europe."

When reminded that not only war implements, but machines to lighten labor, were created by the present inventive spirit, he replied: "Yes, they economize work, but work is good and desirable. Work is an excellent, agreeable, diverting thing." "What the hard labor of the miner was cited, he said: "There would be no hard work if there were no violent wants. If people would restrain their wants there would be much less fatigue. It is not work that needs to be abolished; the appetites must be controlled. Modern inventions that develop the appetites only serve to perpetuate slavery. I am no admirer of the railroad, the telegraph and all these

MYSTERY ABOUT THE EMPEROR

Sudden and Unexplained Changes in His Tour of the Mediterranean. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) BERLIN, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A good deal of mystery is connected with Emperor William's recent movements about the Mediterranean. His original plan was to cruise in Italian and French waters till May 1 and then go to Carlsruhe, Wiesbaden and Alsace-Lorraine. A visit to Corfu was projected and an extension of it to Athens was contemplated if time permitted. Suddenly, although the Greek prime minister in Corfu and several Greek warships were awaiting his majesty, the trip thither was abandoned. The emperor telegraphed to his sister's father-in-law, the king of Greece, that he was sorry he could not visit Athens.

The visit to Carlsruhe, which had been arranged for May 10, it is now announced will take place May 1. The emperor, therefore, is hurrying home. Explanations are numerous. First, there are persistent rumors about his health and a story of two embassies through specialists who hurried down the Mediterranean and boarded the imperial yacht Hohenzollern at dead of night with turned-up collars and mysterious-looking black cloaks, their mission being to examine the emperor. Then there is a story that his general health is not good. He is suffering from lassitude, thinks the climate enervating and is anxious to get back to his native north.

TURBINES NOT YET PERFECTED

Admiral Melville Thinks They Cannot at Present Be Utilized in the Navy. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Admiral Melville, formerly chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering in the United States navy, now making an investigation here with respect to the application of the turbine principle to American battleships, has a good deal to say about the turbine as a good deal. "No man can invent or any other of the boogies by which old countries are assailed, that one understands how the results have been obtained which one sees there. American railway men are quick to see a new idea; they are quick still to try it; they make a great pride in the profession and are still striving to get at the science of it. "That their methods are not always perfect is what might have been expected, but they have managed to do what no other country in the world has done, and that is carry their production of goods at extraordinarily low rates, notwithstanding the fact that they pay more for their labor than any other country."

BILSE SERVES OUT HIS TIME

After Fighting a Few Duels He Will Write Another Military Novel. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) BERLIN, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Lieutenant Bilsle is a free man, having served his sentence in a military prison. He is now being cashiered for "insubordination and being cashiered for 'insubordination and commanding officers' at the superior of Horbach, in German Lorraine, by the publication of writings in a peculiarly offensive and damaging form, and also for his general aversion to regulations. His offense was writing the novel, 'Aus Einer Kleiner Garnison,' or 'A Little Garrison,' as the title of the English version reads. It told too many secrets of conditions in garrisons throughout Germany. Bilsle does not think he will be much bothered with duels. There are three he must fight and he believes that when these are fought he will not be molested further with challenges. He has received several remunerative offers from England, France and the United States to write another book on German military life and certainly will accept some of them, for he has much more he wishes to say and is determined to say it at all costs.

CHAMBERLAIN TAKES A REST

Canceling Speaking Engagements to Save Himself for the Campaign. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Joseph Chamberlain's physical fitness to engage in a big election campaign is the topic of eager, even excited discussion in parliamentary circles. As a matter of fact, since his return he has been cancelling several speaking engagements, as far away even as June, but he says he will appear in Birmingham in May. It is suggested that he will allow the protracted agitation to simmer down while Parliament is in session, so as not to embarrass Prime Minister Balfour, with whom he has a perfect understanding.

HISTORY IN PHOTOGRAPHS

Society in Kent Proposes to Take Pictures and Place Them in Museum. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A society for the photographic survey of the County of Kent has been started. The aims are to obtain permanent photographs of objects of literary, archaeological, historical and scientific interest, of costumes, customs, important events and prominent men and women of the county. The pictures will be stored, with explanatory notes, in the Maidstone museum.

LIKES AMERICAN WAY

British Official Report on Conditions in the West. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Neville Priety, undersecretary to the government of Indian railways department, who was sent to the United States last summer to study American railways, has submitted his report. "The railways of America," says the report, "are commercial undertakings on a gigantic scale and are operated under conditions which are to be found nowhere else in the world, since they receive no protection from the state and have had to fight their way to their present position of management. If I have appeared enthusiastic at times it is because I was greatly impressed by the courage with which the railroad officers have faced their difficulties and the pluck with which they have overcome them. No man can travel over their railways without becoming possessed of a great deal more knowledge than he previously had or without getting many valuable hints. "Many of their methods are different from those of ours have been brought up to be the only correct method, and it is not until one realizes that the one idea in the mind of American railwaymen is to 'get there' and that they do 'get there' by the shortest and quickest way, and do not allow themselves to be turned aside either by red tape, old-time prejudices, tradition or any other of the boogies by which old countries are assailed, that one understands how the results have been obtained which one sees there. American railway men are quick to see a new idea; they are quick still to try it; they make a great pride in the profession and are still striving to get at the science of it. "That their methods are not always perfect is what might have been expected, but they have managed to do what no other country in the world has done, and that is carry their production of goods at extraordinarily low rates, notwithstanding the fact that they pay more for their labor than any other country."

INCREASED DEMAND FOR FOOD

Present War in Orient Having Good Effect on Trade in America. (Copyrighted by New York Herald Co.) WASHINGTON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—It is the rule that a great and prolonged modern war creates a great increased demand for foodstuffs, especially breadstuffs. The present war in the Orient is no exception. This demand is beneficial, temporarily at least, to the producers of such food products in the countries that are not involved in the hostilities. It is probable that after a long and exhaustive war the countries involved are not as large purchasers of foreign food as while the war lasted, but in this case the war will probably be largely instrumental in opening up a new and increasing market for foodstuffs, especially breadstuffs. The war will continue to expand after peace has been re-established. The war may lead to increased importations of food supplies of other kinds into Russia; yet it is not probable that it will afford a large market for flour into that country. The war will probably not profit by any material increase in the exports of wheat from Russia unless the Russian should be compelled to put so much of the grain as to disarrange their agricultural industry, which does not present seem likely. With Japan, however, the situation is different. A large proportion of the men of that country must be drawn into the war, with a consequent tendency to reduce the number engaged in agriculture, and thus decrease the production of rice and other staple articles of Japanese diet. This naturally would create a demand for imported foods, and sellers of flour will embrace the opportunity to offer their wares to supplement the deficient supply of rice. Men who become accustomed to eating wheat flour while in the army will carry their appetite for it home with them after their terms of service are completed, and this tendency to increase the demand throughout the whole of the empire.

MORGAN TAKES PRECAUTIONS

Detectives and Electrical Alarms Guard His London Residence. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) LONDON, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—J. P. Morgan's town house in London, 23 Place Vendôme, is watched day and night now by a policeman regularly stationed on the outside, while at night two former detectives stand guard within. An elaborate system of electric alarms and tell-tale clocks has been put in to stimulate their vigilance. Mr. Morgan is now in Paris. He had an unusually quiet time here, making no art purchases.

FRENCH ACTORS FIGHT TRUST

Insist Their Profession is an Art and Not Mere Commercial Enterprises. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—All the actors of Paris are emphatically opposed to the theatrical trust proposed for France. They contend that acting is an art and can never be put on the plane of a mere commercial enterprise. Their opposition has gone to the point of forming an association to bring about some reforms. They insist that they must receive salaries commensurate with the dignity of their profession.

NEW SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER

Editor Proclaims His is Only Doctrine Which Can Save Humanity. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Humanita, a newspaper just founded by Jean Jaures, leader of the French socialists, made its first appearance here on Monday. Jaures is in many ways a remarkable man. In an editorial announcing the policy of his paper he says: "Humanity exists no more, or at least hardly. At least the nation is compromised and torn by the struggle between a capitalist oligarchy and the proletariat. Between nations there is a feeling of distrust and even hatred. In time of peace they bear all outward semblance of war. True socialism alone can save humanity. Moreover, the socialism of today can free men from the slavery of oligarchy without bloodshed."

TELEGRAPHERS BECOME BITTER

Struggle is On in Effort to Control Telegraphers' Aid Society. (Copyright by New York Herald Co., 1904.) NEW YORK, April 23.—(New York Herald Service—Special Telegram.)—Almost every telegrapher in the city is interested in what promises to be a lively fight over the financial control of the Telegraphers' Aid Society. This is one of the largest insurance companies of its kind in the city and a powerful minority interest is making every effort to have the accounts of the society made public. The situation is complicated by the fact that there is a second dividing line in the society. A majority of the members taking one side are employees of the Postal Telegraph company, while a majority of the opponents are employed in the Western Union. The fact that prominent officials of the Western Union have held the chief offices of the society undisturbed for twenty years has added much to the bitterness of the contest. There has been considerable dissatisfaction for many years among members of the association because of the small influence they have had in shaping the policy of the organization. The members have elected members, to realize the hold the officials of the Western Union had fastened upon the society. It is further alleged that members could not learn anything as to the actual condition of the society because the officers have submitted only such reports as they were compelled to. At the annual election on March 29 the old ticket was presented to be voted upon by the members. The indignation was so great that 200 members met in protest and put in an independent ticket headed by E. F. Norton, a well known official of the Postal company, in the field. Mr. Norton was chosen president by a large majority. The legality of the election was disputed by the losing side. Constitutional objections and claims of illegal practices were made. It was suggested by some of the parties in dispute that the matter be settled by arbitration and that former Judge John P. Dillon, or some other lawyer conversant with the general situation and the telegraph world should be given the power to straighten out the dispute. The independent party, however, refused to assent to this and insisted upon referring the whole matter back to the members of the society for action. "Meanwhile it has been declared that the independent ticket which was elected to it has no standing. New nominations are to be made for officers by any member of the society that wishes to. In the latter part of the month a second election will be held, and this it is expected, will effectively settle the matter. The independent party is composed of the most part of the employees of the Postal company."

TRANSFER OF CANAL

Stockholders Ratify the Conveyance. Large and Demonstrative Throng Present at the Impressive Function. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—The meeting of stockholders of the Panama Canal company for the purpose of finally ratifying the transfer of the canal to the United States was held in the Salle des Agriculteurs today. A large and demonstrative throng was present. Prior to the meeting it became known that the conveyance of the property to the United States had already been made. Great interest was manifested as it was realized that the vote on approving the conveyance would be the final struggle. The report of the council of administration was distributed to the stockholders. This formally announced that President Bo and Director Ruchmann had signed the conveyance and presented a resolution ratifying their action. The report also gave the text of the conveyance to the United States. The most important paragraph reads as follows: "Text of Conveyance. Now, therefore, we, the Panama Canal Company represented by Marius Bo and Albert Ruchmann, in consideration of the payment of the sum of \$40,000,000 in gold coin of the United States to the said company on its order or demand contemporaneously with the signing of this conveyance to the representatives of the United States first above mentioned and the ratification of the voting herein contained and the certificates of said Panama railroad and the property of the company now being understood to include the treasury assets of the company, including deposits on the books and set over to the United States, absolutely in full ownership the totality without exception of the Panama Canal Company, its maps and archives at Paris. The report also gave the opinion of the transfer and the resolution for the liquidation of the company after all the property is turned over to the United States. No Speaking at the Vote. Secretary Maper read a protest from Bonaparte Wyse, the original concessionaire, and a report of Colombia against the ratification. The voting began immediately without speaking. President Bo announced the final resolution for a ratification, which was carried with only five dissenting votes. This brought out loud applause. The vote was not taken in detail, but the affirmative represented about 30,000 persons present, holding approximately 60,000 shares. Arrangements for Payment. WASHINGTON, April 23.—The State department has been notified of the conclusion in Paris of the contract for the sale of the Panama Canal company of all its franchises and property on the isthmus. The money for the canal company will be paid over by the secretary of the treasury. It is understood that Secretary Hay himself will say to the state of Panama the \$100,000,000 which it has become entitled to. This payment will be made in Washington to Senor Arosemena.

FRENCHMEN VISITING ROME

President of Republic and Other Officials Start on Trip to Quirinal. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—Foreign Minister Delcasse, President Loubet and a distinguished company of officials today started for Rome to repay the visit of King Victor Emmanuel to Paris in October of last year. The trip is attracting widespread attention in connection with the recent exchange of visits of European rulers, rapprochements and the remarkable series of friendly treaties. The party was accompanied by the railroad inspector by a brilliant military escort and was received there by Premier Combes, the other members of the cabinet and the Italian chargé d'affaires. The train was handsomely decorated. A considerable force of detectives accompanied the party, stationed along the route to insure the personal security of the president and his party. Representatives of King Victor Emmanuel will meet M. Loubet at the Italian frontier tonight.

VATICAN FAVORS GERMANY

Takes Action-Lorraine Out of Jurisdiction of the French Church. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) ROME, April 23.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—One of the most important favors granted to Germany by the Vatican authorities is the erection of a metropolitan see for Alsace-Lorraine, with Strasbourg as an archbishopric and Metz and Colmar as suffragan sees. This has been strenuously opposed for years by the French government, which insisted that the prelates in the lost provinces continue to be dependents of the French hierarchy. The victory obtained by the German representative at the Vatican makes of the lost French territory an independent ecclesiastical province whose bishops are now subjected to Germany. Readmits Chinese Exclusion Act. WASHINGTON, April 23.—The senate has adopted the Cullom amendment striking out all of the house Chinese exclusion provisions of the general deficiency bill, except the first section, reaffirming the act of 1882, and the other Chinese exclusion laws in effect when the law was enacted. More to Form Government. MANILA, April 23.—The Moro chiefs of the Lanao district, division of Mindanao, will meet Major B. L. Bullard of the Twenty-eighth United States infantry, at Taraca, on the east shore of the lake, on May 4, for the purpose of organizing a local government.

THE BEE BULLETIN

Forecast for Nebraska: Fair and Colder Sunday, Except Showers in Southeast Portion; Monday, Fair. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) Toistol Talks of the War in East. Likes American Railway Methods. Formal Transfer of the Canal. Germany Excited Over Rumors President States Reached Hill. News from All Parts of Nebraska. Eryon on the New York Platform. Omaha Painters Go Out on Strike. Criminal Docket a Large One. President Kerr Called to Missouri. Bryan Talks of New York Platform Proceedings of House and Senate. Past Week in Omaha Society. 7 Major Deaths in Found Dead. Crowd Comes Out to Hear Morgan. 8 Council Bluffs and Iowa News. 9 Condition of Omaha's Weather. 10 Statement is in the Sporting World. 11 Financial and Commercial. 12 Amusements. 13 Weekly Review of Sporting News. 14 Fighting Near Fort Arthur. 15 Editorial. 16 German Emigration to America. 17 Curious Fasting Up of Castle. 18 Attack of Leader of Japan's Army. 24 Old Man Refuses to Claim Fortune. 25 to 40 The Illustrated Bee.

LORD BARRINGTON TO HANG

Convicted of Murder in St. Louis County, Missouri, and Sentenced to Death. ST. LOUIS, April 23.—Sentence of death was today passed upon Lord Frederick Seymour Barrington in the circuit court of St. Louis. Barrington was recently convicted of having killed James P. McCan, his benefactor. Judge McKelhinney set the date for the execution on June 14, but later granted a stay of execution until after July 21. Barrington entered the circuit room smiling and bearing himself with that self-possession that characterized him throughout his trial. When the court asked him if he had anything to say before sentence was pronounced, Barrington replied: "No, I have nothing to say except that I have been given a fair trial. I had intended reviewing my defense, but in deference to my attorney I will say nothing more." When sentence of death had been pronounced, Barrington's attorney immediately asked a stay of execution until he could file a bill of exceptions to the verdict with the supreme court. Judge McKelhinney granted the stay and set June 23 as the last day for the filing of the bill. When the sentence was pronounced, Barrington almost collapsed. His face became white and he sank down in a chair, his hands clasped in mute despair as he intently listened to his attorney asking for a stay of execution.

BELL APPLIES FOR WRIT

Action to Stay Proceedings for Contempt of Court—\$500 Fine Over Guardsmen. DENVER, April 23.—Adjutant General Sherman M. Bell and Captain Bulkeley Wells today appealed to the supreme court for a writ of superadea to stay the ruling of Judge Stevens of San Miguel county finding them guilty of contempt of court for failing to produce President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners in response to the writ of habeas corpus issued by him. Each of the two guardsmen was fined \$500 for this offense. The supreme court received the application and decided to unite the case with that of the application of Mr. Moyer for a writ of habeas corpus to the higher court last week. SALIDA, Colo., April 23.—General Sherman M. Bell, Captain Bulkeley Wells and the detachment of troops escorting President Charles H. Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners from Denver to Telluride, spent the night here and departed for Telluride today. President Moyer was kept under close guard while here, no one being allowed to converse with him.

SHIP DRIFTS WITH WIND

Machine of San Francisco Man Falls to Answer Helm in Light Wind. SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—Dr. August Geah, inventor of an airship which several months ago was steered with success, though it finally landed in the bay, made a second ascension today in his aerial vessel. It was his intention to sail over the business portion of the city, but in this he was not successful. The cigar-shaped balloon, with its mechanical attachments, rose quickly from its moorings at Eleventh and Market streets, but apparently made no progress against the light breeze that was blowing it, swung about in various directions, but drifted slowly with the wind until it disappeared in the smoke hanging over South San Francisco. After traveling about four miles from his starting point Dr. Geah made a successful landing. He said that his inability to control the airship was due entirely to the failure of his engine to work. He will make some necessary alterations and will attempt another flight in the near future.

UTAH WORKMEN ARE NOW QUIET

"Mother" Jones Will Obey Quarantine Laws and Troops Are Not Necessary. SALT LAKE CITY, April 23.—Brigadier General John G. Cannon, who was sent by Governor Wells to investigate the alleged anarchistic conditions in the Carbon county coal fields, said to be due to the existing strike of coal miners, returned to this city today from Helper. He was accompanied by State Health Officer Beatty. Dr. Beatty stated that "Mother" Jones had submitted to quarantine and the strikers had agreed to surrender the two Italians wanted for assisting her in evading the quarantine laws several days ago. Dr. Beatty said he did not think it would be necessary to call out the state troops, although conditions were rather strained. He said the miners had promised to observe the state health laws and to offer no resistance to the civil officers. General Cannon refused to make any statement until after he had seen the governor.

JAP LOSS REPORTED

Information Lacks Positiveness and Details Are Given Under Reserve. RUSSIAN GUNS PROTECT MANCHURIA Japanese May Enter, but Must Pay Dearly for the Privilege. KOUROPATKIN FORBIDS SKIRMISHING General Waiting to Deliver Decisive Battle Himself. ATTEMPT MADE ON KOUROPATKIN'S LIFE Story Confirmed of Fraternized Assault by Japanese Disguised as Chinese Beggars at New Chwang. (Copyright, 1904, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, April 23.—The correspondent of the Associated Press here is informed that China has taken quite a definite pro-Japanese stand within the last few days. It is said this may involve serious consequences to relations between Russia and China. China's action, it is noted, follows the report that Viceroy Alexieff had requested the retirement of the Chinese troops. It is also reported that the Chinese minister at St. Petersburg will be recalled. Although the latter report is denied, there is reason to believe that it has some foundation. Information reaching the highest quarters here tends to confirm the report that a rather serious engagement has occurred on the Yalu river, but the information lacks positiveness and the details therefore are given under reserve, although credited in influential quarters. It is said that this is not the "minor" operation mentioned in Viceroy Alexieff's report of April 22. Russian Guns Await Japs. ST. PETERSBURG, April 23.—The Russians have placed guns in positions covering the crossings of the Yalu river. While General Kouropatkin desires that the Japanese shall pay as dearly as possible for the privilege, but investigating the rumor of a general engagement. Major General Kashtalinsky is anxious to engage the enemy, and begged General Kouropatkin for permission to do so, but the commander-in-chief strictly forbids even small skirmishes where it was possible to find them. It is understood that General Kouropatkin intends to deliver the decisive battle himself. In the meantime the cavalry and artillery at the front are engaged in constant drill and reconnoissances. Attempt on General's Life. The story that an attempt was made on General Kouropatkin's life by two disguised Japanese, while the commander-in-chief was in New Chwang a few days ago, is confirmed. To would-be assassins impersonated Chinese beggars. They wore false queues. One of them reached for a dagger, but was felled by one of two Cossacks who always accompany the general.

SENATION OVER CHINESE MINISTER

Somewhat of a sensation was caused here this afternoon by a report spread far and wide that the Chinese minister, Hoo Wei-Teh, was packing up, preparatory to departing from St. Petersburg, and visions of immediate war were conjured up. The Associated Press investigated the rumor and ascertained that the only foundation for it was the fact that the minister has taken a summer cottage at Gatchina, thirty miles from St. Petersburg, for which place he will shortly leave the capital. JAPANESE SPIES ARE IN FRANCE Watch Russians to Learn When Baltic Fleet Will Sail. ST. PETERSBURG, April 23.—The Russian press prints a letter from an official in the French secret service which reports the presence of numerous Japanese spies in France, well provided with money. They shadow the Russian and watch ship yards. Especially do they endeavor to ascertain the exact date of departure of the Baltic fleet and the points en route at which it will sail. The Novost states that the Russians should feel gratified at the strategic work of the naval squadron, which imposed a check on the Japanese operations and gave Russia time to throw a preponderant military force into Manchuria. The most favorable time, the Novost continues, for Japanese military operations has passed. A letter written by Colonel Agap Evaf, an officer of marines on the Petropavlovsk, who was drowned, describes the routine upon the battleships. He says: "We rise at 6 o'clock, learn the news of the night and get the papers. At 8 o'clock we obtain information of the intentions of the Russian fleet and get ready to go to meeting at headquarters and discuss questions of defense. Lunch comes at 1 o'clock. Afterward we attend to our own affairs. Dinner is at 6 o'clock, when the music of the band is heard. It reports of the presence of the enemy. If persistent, torpedo boats are sent out, and upon these craft falls the hardest service of the war. When Grand Duke Cyril arrived at Port Arthur he was given command of a torpedo boat. The ships in the harbor, it is stated, were connected with the others and with the harbor by telephone. Everything is reported quiet from the theater of war."

ENGLISHMAN SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN MURDERED ACCOUNTED FOR

VANCOUVER, B. C., April 23.—What may be a solution of the mystery surrounding the disappearance of a Canadian named Davidson from Mukden, and subsequent supposition that he had met with foul play at the hands of the Russians, has been furnished by C. H. Gibbons of Victoria. Mr. Gibbons says that one of the passengers on the Empress of Japan, which arrived this week from the Orient, was named Davidson, and that he arrived from Port Arthur shortly before sailing from Hong Kong on the Empress. The stranger went east on his arrival here, but his destination could not be learned. WANTS THE RIVER BEHIND ENEMY Kouropatkin Plans No Serious Obstacles to Japanese at Yalu. ST. PETERSBURG, April 23.—In spite of the reports from Seoul and Tokio, that the Russians are massing 20,000 men to resist the Japanese crossing the Yalu river, it can be ascertained with great positiveness that an obstinate obstruction of the ene-