

The Daily

ILLUSTRATED

1/2d.

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Mirror.

A Paper for Men and Women.

No. 84.

Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1904.

One Halfpenny.

THE WAR.

Formal Declaration Not Expected, but Hostile Movements are Rumoured.

RUSSIAN MINISTER'S FAREWELL.

Europe is discussing the rupture between Russia and Japan with something resembling panic. It is recognised everywhere that the spark of war lighted in the East may easily lead to a conflagration in Europe, and may even be the signal for an explosion in the Balkans. More than usually threatening has been the situation in Southern Europe lately, and the preoccupations of France in the East may be the means of encouraging the Porte to attack Bulgaria.

Apart from any such aggravation, however, the actual situation is sufficiently appalling, and it is not surprising that the Continent still clings to a remote chance of mediation. It is a fallacious hope for Japan has positively declared that she will accept no intervention, not even that of England.

France, however, is said still to have determined on one supreme effort to save her ally from war. It is satisfactory to notice that all indications are that France will do her best to localise the war when it becomes an accomplished fact. It is stated that the Russian reply, declared to have been forwarded on Saturday, has not been received in Tokio.

WILL WAR BE FORMALLY DECLARED?

Roset was informed by Viscount Hayashi yesterday afternoon that no fresh developments had taken place, and that probably there would be none for some days. He had received no news of military movements, nor did he expect any, although it was quite possible that such had already commenced. The Japanese mobilisation took place some days ago. Mr. Evelyn's added that no declaration of war was necessary, and that very likely none would be made.—Reuter.

THE RECALLED MINISTERS.

Tokio, Monday.

Baron von Rosen, the Russian Minister, together with his family and the attachés and priests belonging to the Legation, numbering altogether about five persons, will leave Yokohama on Friday on the French steamer Yarra, of the Messageries Maritimes, via Suez. Baron von Rosen is reported to be disappointed at the result of the negotiations.

The Austria-Hungarian Minister will assume charge of Russian interests during his absence. The foreign ministers have bidden farewell to Baron von Rosen.

The Russian merchants here are preparing to transfer their affairs from Japan. It is estimated that the war bonds will bring in about 100,000,000.—Reuter.

ST. PETERSBURG, Monday.

The Japanese Legation was so taken by surprise by the decision of the Japanese Government to break off relations with Russia that, having made the preparations for departure, M. Kurino and his wife had to hasten their feverish yesterday in order to be able to leave on Wednesday for Berlin. The case of the property of the Legation has been assigned to the Chinese Minister, M. Hu Wei-teh.—Reuter.

BUSINESS BETWEEN DIPLOMATS.

WASHINGTON, Monday.

Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, has advised Mr. Lozano, the Acting Secretary of State, of the cessation of diplomatic relations. The Ambassador said he deplored the news, and his attitude regarded the action of Japan as pre-eminently remarkable.

It was recalled in diplomatic circles that Count Cassini and Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, had an understanding at a diplomatic dinner on the 11th ult., when the former accused Mr. Takahira of desiring to speak to him, which the Japanese Minister denied.—Reuter.

REMOVAL OF JAPANESE LANDING.

A British steamer, not credited, has reached the Japanese Legation that two Russian vessels had been captured by the Japanese. The steamer "Enishi," published the following telegram from Tokio, dated yesterday, 8.35 p.m.:—A rumor is current that the first act of hostility

THE WAITING SQUADRON.



Japanese ships are cruising off Wei-hai-wei ready to give battle to Russian men-of-war coming from Europe. Their grim business is to prevent reinforcements reaching the Russian fleet which is known to be stationed off Port Arthur

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