BUBSCRIPTION P HOE. eription price of the We ly Star is as

MARIETERS (STRON

AN OBJECT LESSON.

The prospect of war with Spain and the consequent hurrying up to provide means of defence for our coast cities, the massing of our available warships at points from which they could act as emergencies might demand, the plans for converting steam merchantmen into war vessels, and the purchasing of ships from other nations have served as an object lesson, showing the necessity of a merchant marine from which in emergencies vessels might be drawn and converted into war vessels for the defence of our coasts and the protection of our coasting We have no such merchant marine now and never will have until the laws that stand in the way are repealed or so modified as to make it practicable for Americans to have ships built in our own ship yards, or to purchase them in foreign countries.

As we have heretofore stated in discussing this subject there are two things in the way, one the protective tariff, the other the navigalevies tribute on ship materials which adds to the costs of building ships and makes it more difficult for our ship builders to compete with foreign ship builders who have the advantage of untaxed materials and the privilege of buying where they can buy the cheapest. This is the only advantage they have over our ship builders but this is a very great one, too great perhaps to be entirely overcome by the more economical methods of our builders, who make machinery do much of the work that the European builder does by the slower and consequently more

costly hand. This protection is ostensibly in the interest of our ship builders and while it may, with the navigation laws in force, give them a monopoly of building vessels to ply in our own waters, it cuts them off from competing with foreign builders for the building of ships for service on the high seas. But if it were not for the navigation laws we might stand the protective tariff and still build up a merchant marine although they would be foreign and not American

ships that would compose it. These laws a century old, the intention in the enacting of which was good, and which worked well for a time, forbid American registry to any foreign built ship, and the consequence is that when an American buys a ship abroad, it is classed as a foreign ship and sails under a foreign flag, for the simple reason that it cannot sail under the American flag. The American who has money to invest in ships for ocean traffic cannot afford to have his ships built in our ship yards and pay from twentyfive to thirty per cent. more for them than he would have to pay abroad, and compete with the ship owners of other countries, and for this reason when he wants to buy a ship he goes where he can buy to the best advantage, and then must raise some foreign flag on a mast that ought to carry the American flag.

If these antiquated navigation laws which have long ceased to accomplish any good, but do much harm, were repealed or so modified as to give Americans the privilege to buy their ships wherever they pleased and bring them into their own ports under their own flag, as the citizens of other countries can, then the shackles would be removed from American enterprise and Americans would have some show to enter the race of competition with the seafaring men of other na- schemes that the higher and noons, and we would before many years have a respectable merchant his make-up. After all his party's marine, which would not be principally composed of foreign built ves-

sels either. charge more for the work they turn | sending cornmeal and meat and out because with the registration laws they have a monopoly of the building of ships for our lake and of Spain" appeal more to us than coast service. If with the registra- the voice of the brave men who for tion laws repealed or so modified as over three years have made a heroic ship-builders were put at a disad- The cowardly utterance, in the con-Yantage by the tariff duties on ship clusion, about "Europe armed to the materials these could be repealed, teeth" is too craven for even as un-

SHIPPING RATIXINALION

State difrary

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1898.

and doubtless they would be, and chivalrous and sor did a soul as tha then our builder would be placed hid away in Mark Hanna, if he ha on the same plane with his foreign any. competitor, when his labor-saving machinery and more tactful methods would come into play.

familiar with the business of building ships that even with the hampering tariff our ship-builders, who are equipped with so much better machinery than the foreign yards are, can build ships for less money than foreign builders can. With the immense resources of this country, its timber and cheap iron and the quicker hand and more efficient machinery which the American builder has to count upon there is no apparent reason why this counties the patents are issued, all of which try should not soon become a builder and seller of ships instead of a

But the way to make the start and to train up men, as we once had them, for marine avocation is to make it practicable for Americans to own ships by removing the restrictions which prevent it, and thus save to this country about \$300,000,000 annually paid out to the owners of foreign ships for ocean service, and give us a merchant marine to train men to the sea and from which the Government could draw in time of need skilled mariners to man the war ships that defend our flag.

Whether we have war with Spain or not the war on these antiquated navigation laws should never cease until they are wiped out or so materially modified as to be harmless, for in these days of territorial expansion, commercial rivalry and conflicting interests there is no telling when we may become involved with other nations much more formidable than Spain.

MINOR MENTION.

Senator Hanna is not a Solomon utterances are not entitled to any more consideration or importance than the opinions or utterances of any other well informed person, but his known intimate relations with the President, before Mr. McKinley became President and since, gives more than ordinary importance to his utterances as to prospective policies that Mr. McKinley in his administration may pursue, or on which it may have a shaping influence. Senator Hanna has never demonstrated any friendship for Cuba. or sympathy with the strugglers for freedom, and so substantially declares in the following from a recent interview in Washington. In answer to an inquiry concerning the report that there was a syndicate formed in this country to buy Cuba, of which

he was one, he said: "While my name has been freely used in connection with some such scheme, and in general indorsement of some such idea, the fact is I am now and always have been opposed to any such solution of the complicatious over Cuba. I am opposed to annexation, for we neither need or want the island with its motley population. I am opposed to this Government indorsing Cuba's bonds or being in any way responsible for the conduct of such government as they might set up there, because such a protectorate—for it would be that—would be a source of constant trouble

"I am not one of those who would go so far as to advocate peace at any price, but I do believe there is a way solve the present difficulties honorably without war. Are we not doing our full duty from the standpoint of numanity if we alleviate the sufferings of the women and children whose con-dition, brought about by the methods of Weyler, has attracted the attention of the entire civilized world? We can do that without interfering with Spain's rights. We are doing it now, and we can continue to do it. Better pend a million dollars in relieving that suffering than bring on a war that would cost hundreds and thousands of millions. I do not believe that the public sentiment of this coun-

Speaking of the Maine incident, he We may never know what was the direct cause of the disaster. If it s at all uncertain, we should give the Spanish Government the benefit of the doubt. Our navy and our country can afford to do that.

"If Spain is technically responsile, because of its being the act of some of her people, she will doubtless make

any reparation that is just. 'As sensible people we must not lose sight of the fact that Europe is armed to the teeth, and that whatever we do in regard to Cuba should have the moral support of Europe. As long as we keep strictly within the bounds of right and justice we will have such

Mark Hanna is a cold-blooded man, whose thoughts have been so much engrossed and life devoted to the accumulation of money and accomplishment of his selfish bler sentiments have no place professions of sympathy with the Cubans struggling for freedom, he declares that we discharge in full It is said that American builders the obligations of humanity by medicine to the starving and disease stricken, and that the "rights to permit the purchase and Ameri- struggle for freedom and suffered anizing, so to speak, of foreign- more for it than any people on the built ships, it were found that our face of the each ever did before.

One of the self-sustaining and It is contended by some who are Federal Government is the Patent office, which cleared last year \$252,-Treasury about \$5,000,000. But whether it be run on economical principles or not it is one of the over-worked departments where the force employed is kept hustling to keep up with the work and then cant't do it. The result is that applicants for patents sometimes have to wait for months to hear from them and then wait months longer before a cause of vexation to inventors. and necessitates an outlay of money that a good many can't afford bethe majority of inventors poor persons who find it difficult to earn the money to employ attorneys to look after their patents and pay the necessary fees in the patent office, which are too large. If any department of the Government should be run as nearly as possible on the cost basis it is the Patent office. It should not be necessary for the applicant for a patent to employ an attorney to file his papers and look after his case unless in the event of litigation, or adverse decisions, where he might think he was entitled to the reverse. The office should employ attorneys whose business it would be to draw up the papers and put them in shape for filing. All this could be done out of the surplus earnings of the office and thus save applicants the needless expense of employing attorneys and the extortion that is very often practiced upon them by grasping patent attorneys. It would also expedite the business of the office and prevent the long delays and annoying vexation to inventors. Government can do it just as well as they can. American inventive genius should be encouraged rather

than discouraged and hampered. The attachment of the dog to master or mistress is proverbial, but sometimes he is too much so. A big Newfoundland dog belonging to an old colored woman in New York took his position in the door and prevented the entrance of people summoned by the screams of the old woman, whose clothes had caught fire, and she burned to death while they were trying to persuade the dog to permit them to enter without chewing them up.

We have heard of "salting" mines and sanding cotton, but salting cotton is a new thing. The Charlotte Observer tells of a mill in South Carolina which last week bought six bales of cotton with so much salt in it that the salter made \$6 a bale by the operation. If he were known a brine ought to be made with that salt and pickle him

As a proof that the inventive genius of this country is still active there were last year more than forty-five thousand six hundred applications for patents filed in the patent office at Washington, and nearly twenty-eight thousand patents issued. Connecticut led, with Massachusetts second.

It is said that Spain will demand an international court of inquiry to review the findings of our court. Very likely, if the findings of our court are what Spain probably expects. The Spanish report will doubtless be to the effect that the Maine blew herself up.

Gen. Miles is some on uniform and may be a good fighter, but he is not a born talker. He never shoots off his mouth without the gun kicking. Some one should either write his impromptu speeches or revise them before he gets a chance to orate and put his foot in it.

A Massachusetts man has con trived an aluminum house, which can be folded up and weighs with stove and cooking utensils only 130 pounds. It is large enough when put up for four persons. It is fire-

Georgia is proud of another feminine phenomenon, a 6-year-old girl who has never taken a lesson but plays on the piano and organ and manufactures her own music as she man-or rather girl-ipplates the vories.

It is an ill wind that blows no good. In the event of war a philosophical contemporary sees a compensatory blessing in the reflection that the military drill might prove a corrective of the bicycle hump.

Mrs. Charlotte Smith wants the Government to enlist 30,000 unmarried women to fight Spain. Why unmarried? Does she think they would fly to arms quicker than the GRAND JURY REPORT. U. S.

The Condition and Management of Court House and County Jail Condemned.

CITY HOSPITAL WELL KEPT.

Pavorable Report as to County Home Court Adjourned for the Term After Disposing of the Pew Cases. on the Docket.

The March term of New Hanover Circuit Criminal Court was formally adjourned yesterday at 1 P. M. after s forenoon session of unusual interest The cases on the day's docket were not of interest; but the especial feature the session was the report of the grand jury, in which complaint was made as to the condition and management of several county institutions.

The report first set for in the fact that

the jury had found forty-six true bills, six not true bills, and three returned for lack of witnesses. The jury reported the Court House in an unsatisfactory condition as to

cleanliness. They recommended that the fences be painted and that a carpet be placed in the sheriff's office; that the sidewalk along the county's pro perty on Third street to Market be

The report stated that the jury in body had visited the County Jail and found it in a very bad condition. They urged that the interior be white washed. The prisoners were reported in a filthy condition. The food-one and a half pounds of bread and three slices of salt meat for each prisoner per day-was declared insufficent and poorly prepared. They recommended that the drain pipe from the interior of the jail be put in better order, and also that a patrol wagon be purchased jointly by the city and county authorities.

With reference to the City Hospital the grand jury reported that it was well kept, and recommended that wards B and C be ceiled; that hot that the dead house and stables be moved further from the main building, and that the colored wards be painted and the hospital whitewashed throughout.

The report closed with a favorable eport as to the condition and management of the County Home and a recommendation that the full penalty of the law be meted out to persons convicted of carrying concealed weapons. The report was signed by Mr. D. H. Lippitt as foreman and Mr. Geo. P. Cotchett as secretary.

When the report had been read Jailor W. W. King addressed the court, saying that he had held the position of deputy sheriff and jailor for seven or eight years and had always striven to do all in his power for the comfort of his prisoners. Food was furnished, he said, by the sheriff and prisoners were given all they could eat. And that if at any time sufficient food had not been furnished. ne would resign his position.

He brought up a number of the inmates of the jail and questioned them before the Court as to how they were peing fed and all of them said that the fare and treatment was satisfactory. Jailor King has secured a statement signed by C.E. Jevins, in which he says he recently opened a sewer pipe leading from the cells in the jail to the sewer in the jail yard and that he found the pipe filled with bread and meat, put in there by the prisoners. This is evidence, he thinks, that they are

well fed. Business disposed of in the Court esterday was as follows: New trial ordered for Alex. Roan

colored, the jury which heard the case Friday having "agreed to disagree. Roan gave a \$50 bond for his appear ance at the next term of Court. New trial was allowed for Ed. Wil

son, recently convicted of assault and Mahaney and Minnie Holmes were

found not guilty of perjury. As foreshadowed in Thursday's STAR, Judge Sutton will spend this week with his family in Fayetteville and Solicitor Richardson will attend Court in Carteret county.

Damaged on Lookout Shoals.

The Austrian steamship Kimon which arrived in port a couple of weeks ago with Spanish pyrites for Powers, Gibbs & Co., has been found to be so badly damaged by getting on the shoals at Cape Lookout that it will be impracticable for her to take on a cargo. After getting her cargo out and pumping out the water ballast in the tanks it was found that the latter were so badly wrecked that the bolts could be rattled about in their sockets. Captain Saha is awaiting orders from the owners of the vessel as to what to do with her. It is probable that she will be turned over to the insurance companies.

A serious charge is made against Col. Frederick Bonaparte Rice. It is said that he has been and still is, trying to break into the Custom Housenot vi et armis, but through some rotten part of the civil service net. He has been to Washington "for his health," but it is too soon yet to determine what will be the result. He feels sure, however, that a good position on the river front, where the south-western breeze could fan his classic brow, would add greatly to his health and happiness.

- Shipments of Spring vegetables are growing larger daily. Something over 400 packages left by freight over the Atlantic Coast Line yesterday.

Battery I, of the Second Regiment Arrived Here Yester-. day via the S. A. L.

FINE LOOKING SET OF MEN. Left on the Steamer Wilmington for Fort Caswell—Heartily Cheered by Crowds

of People Along the River

Battery I, of the Second Regimen U. S. Artillery, arrived at about 12.30 o'clock over the Seaboard Air Line yesterday. In spite of the fact that the depot is a good way off, by the time the train pulled in there were several hundred people on the ground to see what heavy artillery is like. As the train approached and the campaign hats shading the sun-burned faces of the representatives of Uncle Sam's regular army were seen thrust out of the car windows, there was a thrill of enthusiasm that ran through the whole crowd.

Besides the artillerymen who were on the train, there were several gentlemen who went out to Navassa and returned with the soldiers. Among the number was Capt. Don MacRae, of the Wilmington Light Infantry, who repeated the invitation previously exended through Capt. W. E. Craighill, Corps of Enginers, U.S. A., offering the full liberty of the W. L. I. armory. The previous arrangement, however, was adhered to and the W. L. I. courtesies could not be accepted. At the depot awaiting the arrival of the train was Commander Geo. L. Morton, of the North Carolina Naval Battalion, accompanied by Lieutenant W. M. Atkinson, adjutant of the battalion. These paid their respects to Capt. Louis V. Caziarc, the officer in charge of Battery I, and expressed their willingness to render any assistance possi-

The crowd who had gathered to see the soldiers were not disappointed in fine, sturdy fellows, well drilled in artillery tactics, under strict discipline, and in every way men who would impress almost any one as being able to fight bravely and hold out at it for a long time.

The troops number 48. This is no o many as it was first thought would come, but the smallness of the number is explained by the fact that nearly a dozen of the men were kept at the hospital sick with measles. There were enough, however, to warrant the assertion that Fort Caswell will be well defended

Capt. Louis V. Caziare is in command. The roll of the other officers and men follows: First Sergeant-P. Harrigan. Sergeants-M. Kenney, C. Flynn.

7. Taylor. Corporals-W. J. Heiseman, Herber ohnson, Ellis Edwards, F. Krauss, Musicians-Felse and McKuhns.

Artificers-Allen and Eldridge. Privates-Askew, Bagby, Barnes Bowen, Bridgman, Cobb, Cornwall Garrett, Gossett, Harris, Hodge, Hodges, Holmes, Hopewell, Ivey, Jelks, Jolley, Johnson, Kennedy, Lewis, Moore, Mosten, Parker, Payne, Pearce, Phelps, Price, Robertson, Siebert, Smith (1), Smith (2), Smith (3). Watson, Weeden.

The battery was in the city for about four hours, but no one except Capt. Caziarc, who lunched with Capt. Craighill, came down town. Ten gallons of hot coffee, ordered by tele: graph before the arrival of the train, were served the boys and after their long dusty ride they found it extremely refreshing. Sandwiches and other food were partaken of with a relish which showed that artillery service is

likely to give one a good appetite. About 3 o'clock, First Sergeant Harrigan had his men to don their overcoats, strap their knapsacks, canteens and other accoutrements on and march down to the Carolina Central wharf to wait for the Wilmington. The men carry Krug-Jorgensen rifles and sword bayonets in sheaths at their sides. They have no other arms. They are well acquainted with

the use of disappearing guns. The troops left on the steamer Wilmington at about 4.30 o'clock. The plan was to spend the night at Southport on board the boat and go over to the fort early this morning.

The train which brought the troops was in charge of Mr. H. S. Leard, of Raleigh, soliciting freight and passenger agent. It left two companies of artillery at Hamlet en route to Mobile and Savannah. One of them is Battery F. of the First Regiment, for Tybee, and the other is Battery I, of the First, for Fort Morgan. Battery I, of the Second Regiment, were in two passenger cars. There were in addition a coach for the so of the captain, and a car for bag gage and provisions. A good part of

the soldiers' effects came by freight. Most of the soldiers are Tar Heels. One of them, Private Hopewell, living in Wilmington about a year ago. Another, Private Bagby, is a son of the late Dr. Geo. K. Bagby, of Newbern. There were quite a number from Bertie and Hertford counties.

Almost a member of the company is "Jack," a fine little dog which the soldiers to a man are very fond of. They call him their "Mascot," and the man who harms him would fare but ill.

The Guns at Caswell.

In commenting on the arrrival of the battery of artillery to man Fort Caswell, it is interesting to inquire something as to the workings of the big guns which would be trained on a hostile ship if it should venture anywhere near the mouth of the Core where near the mouth of the Cape destination being Norfolk.

Fear. Admission to the fort and an examination of the defences are not allowed, but it is presumed that the arrangements are similar to all other disappearing batteries, a description of which in a general way follows: 124

To an observer on a ship within range of a fort carrying disappearing guns the fort is not visible. Anywhere in the long line of white sand which usually marks the shore may be concealed a nest of the death dealing machines which make modern warfare a thing to be dreaded. A more careful examination of some section of the long line of sand would reveal the stone emplacement which from a thickness of twenty or thirty feet at the top increases until at its foundation from one side to the other is a distance of over one hundred and

twenty-five feet of solid masonry. If a ball should be directed at the fort, it would, after penetrating the thick envelope of sand, strike the inclined plane of the emplacement and glance upward, in most probability without inflicting the slightest harm o anybody or anything.

But what happens in the fert when the enemy's ship comes into view? As a matter of fact, neither the chief gunner nor any of the battery ever see the ship, and yet they aim the gun at her and with mathematical accuracy. The mystery is explained by the fact that on either side of the fort, at a suitable distance, is a station for an observer, who is on a sharp lookout for approaching vessels. As soon as the observer sees the vessel, the exact location is communicated from both stations by telegraph or telephone to the gunner. He is enabled by the use of a chart to train his gun so that when it flies up above the stone wall it will be accurately aimed at the ship The chart, of course, has previously to be studied with minute care by both the gunner and range finder. I is divided up with squares, each one epresenting a certain portion of the ea surface and bearing a definite desonation.

Supposing that the range finders have located the vessel and communicate its position to the fort, in ten four hundred pounds will be cleaving the air on its way to the unfortunate craft. All that the crew will see if any of its number chances to be looking to that portion of the land line where the guns are located, will be a little cloud of smoke which the wind will soon clear away. Ordinarily, the gun rests on one end of a big spindle held completely out of sight of any person on board ship when not in use. heavy weight on the other end but or an arrangement of compressed air would habitually hold the gun suspended to view above the top of the stone emplacement. When the gun is ready for firing the compressors are loosened, the weight on the end of the spindle flies down, the gun on the other end goes up, stopping in a position and at an angle previously determined, and an electrical circuit is established which causes the discharge. The recoil then throws the gun back, the automatic compressing arrangement holding it in its place out of view until it is ready for firing again.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

Continues fo Session at Key West-Movements of Battleships-Bodies from the Maine Wreck.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star, KEY WEST, FLA., March 19 .- The Inited States Court of Inquiry into the loss of the battleship Maine continued its session to-day on board the United States battleship Iowa.

The United States cruiser Montomery sailed this morning for the fortugas with twelve-inch shells for The battleship Massachusetts and Texas will leave the Tortugas islands

to-day for Hampton Roads. Judge Advocate Maris came ashore later in the day. The court apparent ly held a short session. Two unidentified bodies from the wreck of the Maine were brought here to-night on the steamer Olivette. They will be buried to-morrow. Fourteen enlisted men from two batteries of artillery stationed here left to-night for Tampa. They are going to Fort Henry to become part of

ELECTRIC TORPEDO BOAT.

new regiment.

New Invention Expected to Prov of Great Value for Coast Defence Purposes.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, March 19 .- A Willets Point special to the Brooklyn Eagle

Officials expect great things from new torpedo, or more properly, a small torpedo boat, that has reached this place. It is the invention of Lieutenant Nicholas J. Alpine, and is an electric boat with sufficient power to carry it thirty-five miles. It is expected to prove of great value in coast defence service. The vessel was built at Dorchester,

Mass., and after a trial by naval offi-cers was sent to this place. It is twenty-six feet long and twenty-four inches in diameter. Including torpedo and other equipments, it weighs

do and other equipments, it weighs about 2,600 pounds.

A speed of twenty knots an hour is claimed for it. A 250-pound torpedo contained in the interior, loaded with gun-cotton and exploded by clock work is the chief power of destruction. Submerged, it passes below all torpedo nettings. A cable from the land regulates its movements and its speed, and returns it to land if not such speed, and returns it to land if not suc-

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the well known novelist, has instituted suit for divorce from her husband, Dr. Swan M. Burnett. The papers in the case are withheld from publication.

THE CALL TO

NO. 22

Official Summons of the Executive Committee for the State Democratic Convention.

THE COLOR LINE IS DRAWN

The Gauge of Battle Thrown Down to the Money Power and Trusts-County Conventions Should Be Held Early to Appoint Delegates.

To the Democratic Voters of North Carolina:

Pursuant to a resolution of the State Executive Committee adopted at its meeting held February 22nd, I hereby give notice that the Democratic State Convention will be held in the City of Raleigh, at 12 o'clock noon, on Thurs-

day, May 26th, 1898.

The plan of organization, recently reprinted, is now in the hands of the Chairmen of the County Executive Committees, showing the regulations governing primaries and County Con-

The Convention will consider the nomination of the Judges for the several Districts wherein the terms of the present incumbents expire January 1st, 1899; will announce the principles and policy of the party, and ake such action as it may see proper. Judicial Conventions should be held prior to the date fixed for the State Convention in the following Districts: First, Second, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eleventh.

The following resolution amending the plan of organization was adopted at the meeting of the Committee held in December 1897:

Resolved, That all white electors who intend to vote with us in the next election, and who desire the re-estab ishment of Anglo Saxon Supremacy and honest government in North Caro lina, are cordially invited to participate in all our primaries and con-

In the adoption of such a resolution the Democratic party expresses no unkind feeling for the colored people of North Carolina. The record of charity and kindnesses, public and private, of the white people of this State to the colored race while the Democratic party was in full power, refutes such a suggestion. But the negro uer, with rare exceptions canno be considered one whom the great principles of government, the wisdom of economic policy, or the qualifications of public servants in their responsible offices, guides or controls in his choice of a ballot. His allegiance to the Republican party or its allies cannot be disturbed by the corrupt and disgraceful conduct of those for whom he votes. Thus, in this day when the State is fast sinking into dishonor and shame under the hands of a fusion administration, which regards neither the rights of person or property, nor the good name and honor of the State, the call to duty is addressed to the white men of North

Carolina. In national matters no more principles can affect the people and their welfare than those which mark the present line of conflict, where the plain people of the country have thrown down the gauge of battle to the money power and the trusts. The increasing control of the necessaries o life in the few, by open violations of the law, and the enhancement of the purcasing power of money, with the ever decreasing value of property, mark the exigency of the hour.

Of the affairs in our beloved State no words should be needed to awaken the patriotism of her sons. A political campaign is just ahead of us in which the wager of the contest i the good name and prosperity of North Carolina. We should begin work at once; prescribing no test oath to our fellow citizens, but extending a warm welcome and full fellowship to all who want to join us in securing just laws and good government. An early convention is fixed, where differences. f any exist, will be adjusted, the plan of fight mapped out and then a united

Democracy will triumph. I respectfully suggest that the county conventions should be held as soon as convenier election of of county officers and men the Genera oned until later Assembly may be post as each county convention may think Respectfully,

CLEMENT MANLY, Chairman Dem. State Ex. Com. WINSTON, March 18th, 1898.

ACTIVITY AT NEWPORT

Rush Orders at the Torpedo Statloy for Shells for the Cruiser Vesuvius and Other Ships.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star. NEWPORT, March 19.—Great activity is displayed at the torpedo station here. Since the Maine disaster up to yesterday, the station has gone on as usual and there was no evidence of warlike preparations. This, however, was changed by the receipt of an order from the Navy Department with "rush" instructions to get in readi-ness for shipment of shells of the cruiser Vesuvius and to fill at once the war-heads of all torpedoes on the sland and of those that would be shipped to the station daily until the outfits for all cruisers and battleships would be completed and a number of spare ones for whatever auxiliary cruisers may be purchased by the

navy. A Death Dealing Machine.

In addition to the torpedo outfits the men at the torpedo station are work-ing on a death-dealing engine in the shape of a buoyant mine. This is an organ shaped hollow affair. The opens in the center and into one-half is fitted a square frame. In this frame, secured in places, are four cans filled with gun-cotton, the whole discharge being equal to four service torpedoes, of sufficient power to blow the largest battleship out of water. The upper half of the mine is then clamped and through the water-tight, rubber-packed hole in its top, run four wires connected with the grantest to the service of the serv nected with the gun-cotton. Two of the wires connect with the shore and two contact wires project above the mine a distance of two feet. The mine is to be moored a few feet below the surface of the water by means of mushroom anchor.

As soon as the rush torpedo orders As soon as the rush torpedo orders are completed, which will require ten days at least, the whole force at the station will be put upon the buoyant mines. The entrances to Narraganset bay, both east and west, have been plotted for mines by the United States engineer office. engineer office.



THE FEELING IN ENGLAND.

Press and People Still Talking of an Anglo-American Alliance.

SYMPATHY FOR THE CUBANS.

Spain Vainly Seeking Assistance from Austria and Germany-Madrid's Newspapers Ridicule the United States.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

LONDON. March 19. - The remarkable unanimity of the approval of both classes and masses of the mere suggestion of an Anglo-American alliance, compels belief in the sincere desire of the British public for an entente with the United States. The fact that most of the cable dispatches from America have proclaimed that the suggestion has been seriously discussed is heartily welcome here and is regarded as extremely important and gratifying, as

evidencing a friendly spirit.
"There are," as a diplomatist put it, 'inspiring hopes that the differences of the past will be buried and that Anglo-Saxons in the near future will be found issuing identical notes to all op-

posed to their common interests. 'It is not any stretch of imagination to say that such a union has been longed for by the best men in Great Britain for many years, not only because of the genuine wish for closer bonds of friendship, but because it is a known fact that all the statesmen of Europe realize that a close alliance between America and Great Britain would constitute not only the surest guarantee of the peace of the world. out would afford proof that the reign of law and individual liberty is to be extended for the benefit of mankind n spite of the efforts to extinguish it

made by reactionary rulers and governments. Discussing the subject, the Spectator remarks: "The Americans are quite ight in assuming that they will have he support of the Britishers should a continental alliance attempt to oppress them. If our people once realized the condition of Cuba, half of Engand would be calling the Americans hard names because they have not intervened earlier to stop the horrors

perpetrated at their very doors."

The curious mixture of pacific assurances and announcements of active preparations for war which are coming rom the United States keeps the prophets guessing; but the opinion is gaining ground that the outlook is mproving and that war will be finally averted by a Spanish retreat under some more or less specious excuse and an agreement to recognize the claims of the United States; for, in spite of stories to the contrary, Spain is well aware that it is useless to build hopes of sympathy from the European

Spain's Appeals For Aid. BERLIN, March 19.-In spite of

lenials, the Queen Regent of Spain has repeatedly and strongly appealed to Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria to exert his influence with the monarchs of Europe, particularly Emperor William, to secure their etween the United States and Spain. The Queen laid special stress on the necessity of maintaining the peace of Europe and securring an entente of the European monarchs against republican, aggressive America and on he affinity of her dynasty with the Hapsburgs. It is understood that Emperor Francis Joseph while replyiny to the Queen cautionsly and conservatively, has actually written to Emperor William, endeavoring to elicit a reply pledging the latter to promise to tender his good service in the to tender his good service in trying to maintain peace. More recently approached Germany and Austria with the view of obtaining assurance that they, in the event of war, would assist Spain is some way or the other. The Spanish ambassador here, Senor Mendoz de Vigo, father-in-law of Senor Polo y Bernabe, the Spanish minister

maintenance of peace, she certainly would not pledge herself to anything but the strictest neutrality. Spain is believed to have received the same an swer from Vienna and Paris. Senor Sandoval, the Spanish agent, has thus far failed in his efforts as a

to Washington, had a conference on Wednesday last with the minister for

foreign affairs, Baron von Buelow.

when the latter assured him that

while Germany earnestly desired the

purchaser of torpedo boats and other Madrid advices of Wednesday say the Government organ, El Globo, assumes a much bolder and loftier tone than lately. It compares the United States to "An immense Maine floating between the Atlantic and the Pacrfic, some of whose crew having lost their heads, are seeking to force open the magazine in order to blow it up." President McKinley, as the commander, is represented as "doing his best to restrain his unruly crew. El Globo attributes the loss of the Maine to "bad storage of her enormous quantity of explosives, arising either from too hasty preparations for war, or from want of proper discipline on

The Heraldo, independent, confesses "it can only smile at seeing the Yankees devoting themselves to the difficult task of trying to frighten us by clamor and warlike display."

British steamer Eastry sailed Marcq 16th from Fowey for Wilmington.

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