

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1898.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

WAR now seems inevitable. Indeed it has already been declared, so far as Congress can declare it. The resolutions passed by the House and Senate not only authorize but also direct the President to use the entire land and naval forces of this country in driving the Spaniards out of Cuba.

The scenes in Congress on the passage of these war resolutions were disgraceful. The House of Representatives, on an occasion of such great responsibility and solemnity, was the scene of a riot and free fight. Instead of discussing and considering seriously and solemnly so important a question as a declaration of war deserved, our Representatives in Congress got to fighting one another and showed themselves utterly unfit to be intervening to give a stable government to another country!

Each branch of Congress wished to pass a different set of resolutions, and at one time it looked as if neither would yield to the other. A committee of conference was appointed by the Senate and House, and for some time they could not agree, but finally after midnight on last Monday an agreement was reached and both branches of Congress adopted the resolutions published in the next column. The vote on the final passage of these resolutions in the House was 310 to 6, but in the Senate it was not so unanimous, being 42 to 35. The chief point of difference between the Senate and House was the recognition of the so-called "Republic of Cuba" which is alleged to exist somewhere in the cunbrakes of that unhappy island.

The President is expected to notify Spain today of the action of Congress, and only twenty-four hours will be given for her to decide to remove her troops from Cuba. A prompt refusal is anticipated, as there is intense excitement throughout Spain, and our fleet will probably sail for Cuba before this week expires. Our army is being rapidly concentrated at Tampa, Mobile, New Orleans, and other exposed points in the South.

An official statement, issued last week by the United States Treasury Department, contains facts and figures that will surprise most people.

While everybody (at least in this section) is complaining of the scarcity of money, this Treasury statement shows that more money is in circulation in the United States now than ever before!

The amount now in circulation is \$3,776,058,645, which is five times as much as was in circulation in the "good old times," just before the war. And, in contradiction of the idea generally entertained, that money is yearly becoming scarcer, this Treasury statement shows that during the past 21 months the amount of money in circulation has increased \$246,333,445. The increase last month was \$20,681,086.

The latest report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that larger sums are on deposit in the national banks than ever before in the history of this country. And official reports show that the deposits in savings banks are greater than ever before. But while there may be so much money it seems mighty hard for most people to get any of it!

DURING the debate on the war resolutions by Congress, the galleries of the Senate and House were thronged every day by an excited and enthusiastic crowd, that wildly applauded every utterance in favor of war. Long before Congress would meet every morning the Capitol would be crowded with people hastening to get seats, or even standing room, to hear and see all that might be said and done. And the excited applause of these idle loafers was mistaken as an evidence of the feeling pervading the great body of the conservative working people of this country!

While these idlers at Washington (many of whom expect to make money by the war) are thus clamoring for a war for other people to fight, the working people of the country (who will have to bear the burdens of the war) are quietly doing their daily work and trying to earn an honest living by the sweat of their brow.

The heavy expense of war must be met by an increase in taxation, and accordingly Congress is preparing to levy additional taxes. Already the ways and means committee of the House of Representatives have nearly completed a bill for that purpose, which will soon be passed. This bill levies many of the old internal revenue taxes that were paid for several years after the war. It is proposed to increase the tax on manufactured tobacco and snuff from six to twelve cents a pound. Tea is to be taxed ten cents a pound and coffee three cents. The old revenue tax is to be placed on every mortgage and other business instruments.

The additional tax to be raised by this bill will be over one hundred million dollars a year, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to borrow \$500,000,000 to begin the war with. So that while our government may extend relief to the struggling Cubans, it will be at a heavy expense to our own people, and our relief will be indefinitely postponed.

WHEN the United States army invades Cuba we hope that it will give the people of that island a better government than it gave to the people of the South during the "Reconstruction" days. And we also hope that Cuba may not be infested and afflicted with the same gang of "carpet-baggers," who so badly plundered our Southern people!

But may not history repeat itself?

Congress Declares for War.

Both branches of Congress have passed the following resolutions, which amount to a declaration of war against Spain:

"Whereas, The abhorrent conditions which have existed for more than three years in the island of Cuba, so near our own borders, have shocked the moral sense of the people of the United States, have been a disgrace to Christian civilization, culminating, as they have, in the destruction of a United States battleship, with 260 of its officers and crew, while on a friendly visit in the harbor of Havana, and cannot longer be endured, as has been set forth by the President of the United States in his message to Congress of April 11, 1898, upon which the action of Congress was invited; therefore,

Resolved, First, That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right, ought to be free and independent.

Second.—That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuban and Cuban waters.

Third.—That the President of the United States be, and is, hereby directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States, to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

Fourth, That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and the control of the island to the people."

Spain Preparing for War.

Tenerife, Canary Islands, April 18.—The Spanish authorities here have acquired all the principal warehouses at this place and at the Grand Canary for the accommodation of the large re-enforcements of troops expected here, and to hold the stores, which are also about due to arrive. Even the

representative Lahey, of Leon, got a little more than he went after when he fought Representative Hartman of Montana, with having about three years ago said derisively of populists, that one of them wanted to cross continents with Berkshire hogs in order that each hog should have a hundred hams; another to cross the honey bee on the lightning bug, so that they could work at night; and still another was trying to cross the milkweed with the strawberry, so as to have strawberries and cream on the same plant. Mr. Lahey said that the words were used in him in describing Gen. J. S. Custer, whose wild ideas were afterwards turned down by the populist National Convention, and when he added: "By reading the record of the republican convention of '96, he discovered that that party was endeavoring to make metallic posey and gold standard dowers bloom on the same plant, and he might very easily conclude that strawberries could be budded on the milkweed, and thereby raise strawberries and cream on the same plant." But it was also found that a great deal of the work of the republicans was done in the night time, and he naturally concluded that they would need the services of the lightning bug, and finds out also that the republican party would want, in order to make good their promises and increase the amount of food, to breed the centipede with the Berkshire hog in order to raise a hundred lambs to each animal. I want to call attention to the fact that he went direct to the master of the republican party and negotiated with him, and one of the results was that Gen. J. S. Custer rode through the State of Ohio, in the interest of the republican party, in a private car, paid for at the expense of Mark Hanna; therefore Mark Hanna succeeded not only to his use of the idea of breeding the honey bee with the lightning bug, so that they could be used at night, but also to

the use of the strawberry plant

which he milkweed, so that the tops of plants could now be harvested and eaten at night by their

children.

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Excitement in Puerto Rico.

Island of St. Thomas, West Indies, April 18.—Today's advices from San Juan, Puerto Rico, report that the excitement in the island is increasing, and the inhabitants are deserting the coast for the interior. Military drills and activity continue.

The citizens of Durham have filed with the railroad commission a petition for an order for a union passenger depot there.

Washington Letter.

From our Berlin correspondent.

WASHINGTON, April 15, 1898.

Major General Fitzhugh Lee, Commanding U. S. Army of occupation, in Cuba. How does that sound? If Mr. McKinley carries out his promise to set promptly upon the joint resolution of Congress denouncing that Spain out of Cuba, and authorizing the President to employ the entire land and naval forces of the U. S., and as much of the militia of the several States as may be needed to enforce the demand and political jealousy does not prevent, it is likely that Fitz Lee's official title will read something like that before he is many days older. He has told Mr. McKinley that he wishes to go back to Cuba, not as a Consul General, but as a part of the army sent there to drive the Spaniards out, and his knowledge of the island and its people would make him an ideal commander-in-chief of an army of occupation which it will be necessary for the U. S. to send, but jealousy has already been aroused in some quarters by the unprecedented enthusiasm with which Gen. Lee, and it may grow sufficiently powerful to prevent his getting a military command that he could accept. He is positive that the Maine was followed by Spanish officials and he has not hesitated to say so. His time has been taken up almost entirely since he arrived in Washington in giving information either to Congress or some other branch of the government, and his popularity is growing all the time, but his health isn't swelled.

Most of the democrats and populists in Congress sought to incorporate a recognition of the independence of the republic of Cuba in that terrible intervention joint resolution, but the most they could do was to put themselves on record by supporting a resolution providing for the recall of the majority of the Foreign Committee, which was beaten by a vote of 191 to 150. The majority member, Mr. McKinley's views were given to the resolution that was adopted with only 19 opposing votes in the House declares the people of Cuba to be free and independent, and ignores the government of the Republic of Cuba, which has ruled for three years in a successful war against Spain. However, in the resolution is as certain to bring war with Spain as was the actual declaration of war of Congress will not be in helping to fight the war as it is in getting revenge upon Spain for her tremendous destruction of the Maine when Spain is the aggressor. It will be two months before we have an administration bill, and the House declares the people of Cuba to be free and independent.

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Our bandage thirty yards, fastened band, book and guide to the Observatory, all in white, at a price that will astonish you. WE WANT YOU TO SEE OUR MILLINERY.

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STOCKS OF COMBINE DECEMBER 15, 1897

Stocks Paid Up

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