

WAR PREPARATIONS

STILL BEING MADE BY ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENTS.

Looking After the Purchase of Warships—Lighthouse Tenders to be Armed—Looking Into Army Equipments—An American Schooner Seized—Spain Buys Warships and Attempts to Make a Loan. Her Complaint Against Captain Crowninshield

Washington, March 8.—In spite of numerous conferences of officials, of the continuation of the preparations now in progress on a large scale to put the country in a state of defense, and of the outburst of patriotic speeches in congress, there was a feeling apparent in the best informed circles that the situation as to our relations with Spain was today much more favorable than it was yesterday. Perhaps the semi-official advices received through the Associated Press from Madrid, indicating a peaceful purpose on the part of the Spanish government, contributed in large measure to the feeling, or it may have been that the growing knowledge of the vast extent of our own resources tended to the belief that they would impress others with the facility of attacking the United States. However that may be, the feeling prevailed, and at the White house, too, after the cabinet meeting wherein all of the facts that were known to the president as to the existing state of affairs were laid unreservedly before the cabinet members and discussed.

NAVY DEPARTMENT AGENT GOES TO EUROPE.

Perhaps one of the best evidences of the confidence in a peaceful outcome was the declaration that while Captain Brownson was going abroad for the government to learn what ships of war are for sale and their condition, he would not necessarily make any purchases, as it was hoped and expected that by the time that he arrived in Europe the present cloud would have rolled by. The officer left Washington tonight and will take the St. Paul to Southampton, sailing from New York. He will report his arrival immediately at the United States embassy in London, but further that the captain declines to indicate the places he will visit in Europe. He has been furnished all the information in the possession of the navy department respecting the shipping in course of construction in Europe and had a talk with Mr. Lane, who is in charge of the sale of ships for sale, though he does not at present have the right in the case of the two small Brazilian battleships now building at La Seine in France. As to these, or indeed any Brazilian or Chilean warships, it has been discovered that Brazil and Chile are parties to a treaty by the terms of which either country can sell any of its warships unless the other also sells a ship. The reason for this peculiar provision is to be found in the alliance that is reported to have been entered into by these two countries for mutual protection against Argentina and other South American nations.

LAW AS TO SALE OF WARSHIPS.

As to the right to buy foreign warships all authorities agree that such purchases have been made, even after hostilities have begun, if the neutral nation exercises strict impartiality between the belligerents, and the ships are not armed and outfitted ready for service. The trade of shipbuilding is recognized as a legitimate one, which may be carried on at all times.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

A good deal is being accomplished in the way of preparation in both the navy and war departments. The conference at the navy department today looked into the procurement of a suitable store of ammunition, coal and supplies, touched upon the question of drydocks and generally considered a number of other matters connected with the operations of a warship. The war department was not behind the navy. General Flagler, chief of ordnance, is very busy reaching out in every direction by means of telegraph and mail to learn just how far the resources of the big private manufacturing concerns can be relied on to come to the aid of the department in arming and equipping a volunteer army, should one be found necessary. Major General Miles is looking after the personnel closely and today was trying to perfect the organization of the two new regiments of artillery which congress has granted. Beyond the statement that the two senior lieutenant colonels of the existing artillery regiments will be made colonels of the two new regiments, the names of officers are withheld.

NO REPORT FROM COURT OF INQUIRY.

Three weeks ago tonight the Maine was blown up. As it was last week at this time, so it is now, nothing is known officially as to the cause of the disaster. The court is at work hard, that is all that is known at the navy department. It is not even known when it may be expected to finish its work. But the importance of its report does not diminish the slightest if it is delayed by the lapse of time and in the midst of diversions, caused by more recent happenings, the more thoughtful officials have not lost sight of the fact that when the report of the court of inquiry comes to the navy department in the hands of some busy naval officer probably the chief of staff, Commander Marx, himself the judge advocate of the court, the government may be face to face with another vital issue.

Senator Du Bose called at the state department late in the day and had a half-hour's conference with Judge Day. He brought no dispatches and the talk did not relate to the present strained condition of affairs, but was rather an informal discussion of the condition of affairs in Cuba. In the course of the visit, it is understood that Mr. Du Bose suggested that some of the newspaper correspondents at Havana were trespassing on the privileges which the Havana authorities had accorded them.

NEW SPANISH MINISTER.

The new Spanish minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe, will arrive in New York tomorrow on the German Line steamer. He is expected at the legation the following day, and arrangements then will be made for the presentation of his credentials to President McKinley.

TO PURCHASE JAPANESE CRUISERS.

It is known positively that negotiations are in progress toward having the United States acquire the two crack cruisers now building for Japan, one at the Cramp ship yards at Philadelphia and the other at the Union Iron works of San Francisco. How far they will succeed cannot be said at this time. It is known positively, however, that no overtures have been submitted thus far to the authorities at Tokio, and it would be for them to give the final decision. Pending this, a contract could not be made nor an option given.

THE BROOKLYN ORDERED TO NORFOLK.

The big armored cruiser Brooklyn started away from La Guayra today under orders from the navy department directly for Hampton Roads. She has been making a flying cruise in the West Indies and around the eastern end of Cuba, and it was her original intention to have her go to Colon on the Isthmus and thence to sail northward along the eastern coast of Central America. The sending of the ship to Hampton Roads instead of returning her to Key West, whence she came, is taken as an evidence of a change in policy on the part of the naval strategists, who may have reached the conclusion that the gathering of the most and best of the vessels of the North Atlantic squadron at Key West is putting too many of our eggs in one basket, and unduly exposing the eastern coast. There has also been talk of ORGANIZING A FLYING SQUADRON composed altogether of fleet cruisers, four in number, and having them ready to go to sea at a moment's notice in pursuit of an enemy's ships, relying upon the big battleships for the home guard. This, however, has not been decided upon.

TO ARM LIGHTHOUSE TENDERS.

A proposition that received instant attention, and is expected to be approved in the end, came to the navy department today. This was to turn over to the navy department ten of the best boats in the light house service. These boats are from 200 to 400 tons burden, good sea boats, manned by officers thoroughly familiar with every indentation of the Atlantic coast and capable of being easily transformed into efficient gunboats. The Montgomery is a vessel of this character, new, staunch and speedy. It is proposed to place a 6-inch rifle on a pivot mount on each vessel forward and to place a light armor around the boilers and machinery of being easily transformed into efficient gunboats. The Montgomery is a vessel of this character, new, staunch and speedy. It is proposed to place a 6-inch rifle on a pivot mount on each vessel forward and to place a light armor around the boilers and machinery of being easily transformed into efficient gunboats. The Montgomery is a vessel of this character, new, staunch and speedy. It is proposed to place a 6-inch rifle on a pivot mount on each vessel forward and to place a light armor around the boilers and machinery of being easily transformed into efficient gunboats.

DU BOSE THINKS GREAT HARMONY PREVAILS.

Senor Du Bose, the Spanish representative in Washington, when seen at the Spanish legation today and asked as to the present status of affairs, said: Notwithstanding the apparent agitation, I am gratified to note that so far as nature and circumstances are concerned, the two nations are adjusting themselves naturally and in a manner more satisfactory to both governments.

SPAIN'S THIRD COMPLAINT.

In conjunction with the intimations of the Spanish government regarding Consul General Lee and the class of vessels in which the relief supplies to Cuba, a third inquiry was made. Captain Crowninshield was the object of a request for information as to the nature of his recent trip to the West Indies. The Spanish government had been informed that Crowninshield on this occasion had been in communication with the insurgents and even went so far as to give them indirect aid through filibustering sources. When the matter was brought to the attention of President McKinley an immediate denial in explicit terms was returned. Spain thereupon closed the incident with acceptance of the president's statement, saying they had been misinformed.

NEW YORK, MARCH 8.—A copyrighted cablegram to The Evening World today from George Bronson Lea, at Havana, says: General Lee said last night to me: If Spain wishes to declare any of all of us persons, non grata, it is her privilege to do so, but if we must leave town we will leave with the American flag flying and a brass band at the head of the procession.

CONSUL BARKER RESIGNS.

The resignation of Walter B. Barker, United States consul at Sagua la Grande, was confirmed by today's advices. Mr. Barker has been on the verge of nervous prostration. Alexander C. Brice, the United States consul at Matanzas, says he cannot much longer stand the strain under which he has lived the last two years.

THE FERN WILL BE REPLACED BY THE UNITED STATES CRUISER MONTGOMERY.

which is to arrive here tomorrow morning. The crew of the Fern have been unable to wash her decks recently, owing to the filthiness of the harbor water, and must clean up at sea in order to avoid sickness among the crew. When cleaned the Fern will go to Key West and from there to Matanzas with relief supplies. The United States cruiser Nashville will, it is understood here, take relief supplies to Sagua la Grande. Ensign Powelson is to be detached

FROM THE FERN AND REMAIN HERE, DOING WORK FOR THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

There is nothing known officially about the disposition of the Madrid correspondent of The Times says: "Owing to war rumors, bread riots and other disquieting circumstances, the Spanish provinces are in such a hysterical state as to distract attention from the coming elections and to make prediction of the results a difficult matter. The government ought to secure a fair majority. The carlists will only capture the seats they are confident of gaining. The republicans are undecided and the conservatives are so broken in doctrine, spirit and numbers that they are powerless greatly to turn the scale either way."

THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

Havana, March 8.—The court of inquiry did little today. Consul General Lee was very briefly examined and also one diver. Considerable time was spent on the wreck. Captain Sampson listened patiently to various theories propounded by newspaper men and others as to the causes of the explosion and also to statements as to hawsers found in the harbor and boiler iron on the wreck. Captain Pennington attached little importance to any of these stories, but he intimated that he would investigate any that he deemed worthy.

AMERICAN SCHOONER CAPTURED BY SPAIN.

Havana, March 8.—The Spanish gunboat Arilla, chief of an inlet near Casilda, on the south coast of Cuba, the American schooner Esther, of Edenton, N. C., bound from Pensacola to Jamaica. The captain of the schooner was asked to give the reason for the presence of his vessel in the inlet and claimed that his rudder was broken. No further details of the affair have been received, but if the statement of the captain of the Esther turns out to be correct, the schooner will be liberated. The captain has protested against the seizure of his vessel. The Esther is of 11.1 ton gross register.

TO INSPECT FORTIFICATIONS.

Key West, Fla., March 8.—Brigadier General John Wilson, chief of engineers, U. S. A., arrived here today from Tampa on board the Olivette.

General Wilson, it is understood will return to Tampa on tomorrow's boat and will not visit the Tortugas. According to official authority, he is here merely to gain some slight relaxation from his labors in engineering undertakings on St. Johns river, Fla. On the other hand, it is reported that his coming had been anticipated for several days and that he will inspect two land batteries, recently finished, and get a general insight into the condition of the fortifications here. He had long conversations this evening with Rear Admiral Seward and the officers in charge of the local land batteries now nearing completion. Preparations have been made at the barracks to receive General Wilson tomorrow. In the event of his visiting the Tortugas, it is certain that he will fully discuss the possibilities for offense and defense of that station with Admiral Seward.

THE TUG RIGHT ARM SAILED FOR NORFOLK TONIGHT.

The lighthouse supply steamer Armenia, after touching at the Tortugas this morning, arrived here this afternoon. The American yacht Buccaneer, with Senator Gallinger on board, reached here this afternoon.

The receipt of news that Representative Cannon's bill appropriating \$50,000,000 for the purposes of national defense had passed the house unanimously created great enthusiasm among the naval officers here. It is believed that Key West and the Tortugas will receive a good share of the amount.

The yacht Anita, from Norfolk, bound for Havana, with Senator and Mrs. Parker on board, arrived here this afternoon. Money and Congressman Cummings and Smith on board has arrived here.

SPAIN DID NOT MEAN ANYTHING.

Madrid, March 8.—A semi-official news agency of this city issued today the following announcement: "After brief uneasiness there is a general belief now that peace will not be broken and that the relations between Spain and the United States will continue amicable. Political persons engaged in the press and in the dispatches are completely wrong in attributing an aggressive tone to the diplomatic relations between the two governments, which have not for a single moment lost their friendly character."

A semi-official note just issued declares that the Spanish government has not received any complaint regarding the attitude of General Fitzhugh Lee, the United States consul-general at Havana, adding:

"On the contrary, Captain General Blanco affirms that General Lee's behavior has been most commendable. Nevertheless, the incident serves to explain the origin of the ill will between the two countries. This is proved by statements attributed to Secretary Sherman, by which the jingoism created the belief in the United States that Spain is trying to provoke war while at the same time engendering the feeling in Spain that it is the United States which demands the opening of hostilities. It is essential that this double game should be ended in order to prevent two countries from going to war without motives and without either of them desiring it."

SPAIN BUYS THE WARSHIPS.

London, March 8.—The English newspapers today confirm the news of Spain's purchase of warships. The St. James Gazette, which yesterday published the denials of the Spanish embassy and Spanish naval commission, which has an office in London, says today: "It is ascertained by very high authority in spite of denials, that the Spanish government has almost certainly succeeded in buying three nearly completed cruisers here, and two coast defense vessels which are about to be launched in France. Experts are almost as much surprised at the success of Madrid in raising money by the clever diplomacy which secured the Chilean and Brazilian cruisers of the Armstrongs at a cost believed to be £1,000,000 almost before the move was suspected."

Inquiry made here among financiers and diplomats who have no natural general scepticism in connection with reports that a Spanish loan has been floated in London, Spain, it is true, has made repeated attempts to raise money, as previously called, the most recent effort being made only by foreign agents when the Rothschilds and other financiers were approached emphatically and finally informed the Spanish agents that there was no money to be had from them for Spain. Diplomats here say Spain has endeavored to raise a loan among her wealthy citizens abroad, offering a lien on pub-

lic buildings as security and it is thought possible this may be the source of the present disbursements.

tion, as the armor makers report that they cannot undertake by any means to turn out such armor as would be required for a modern battleship in less than seven months, for the reason that tempering and face-hardening cannot be hastened without destroying the value of the armor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE EXPECTED NEXT WEEK.

The statement was made at the navy department today that the report of the Maine court of inquiry probably would come to the department some time next week. It did not appear, however, that this statement was based upon any direct report from the court, but was rather an estimate based upon the progress so far made as revealed by the change of methods on the part of the court.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

Many congratulations are coming to the White house and the state department from all parts of the country upon the patriotic spirit exhibited in dealing with the latest phases of the Cuban question. Most of them are official in character, but many are personally directed to the president.

TO ENLIST SEAMEN AT KEY WEST.

Admiral Seward has been authorized to enlist suitable men for the navy at Key West if he can find the material. He reported that he had received some applications from machinists and seamen and was immediately given the power to take the men. The department is still striving vigorously to secure machinists, especially men who know how to run stationary engines. These men can be quickly taught how to run marine engines and require little other training to make them valuable aboard ship.

AUTONOMY AT PORTO RICO.

Official reports indicate that the autonomy scheme projected for Porto Rico has been put into successful operation. This is interesting mainly because of resemblance between the project and the plan which is now sought to put in Cuba.

WAR PREPARATIONS.

The war department is arranging to secure a large supply of the most modern rifles, sufficient in time of emergency to arm a force of 500,000 men.

Senor Mendonca, the Brazilian minister, said today that he has received no information as to the reported negotiations toward the purchase of Brazilian warships now in course of construction in foreign yards, in other official quarters the impression is growing that there is better prospect of securing ships now building for Argentina and Chile. Brazil has been active of late in building up her navy and there is doubt as to her willingness to part with any of the ships now building for her. These include two torpedo boats at La Seine, France, and three torpedo boat catchers at Stettin, Germany. Considerable payments have been made on these and they have become largely the property of Brazil. It is claimed, however, that the report of a treaty between Brazil and Chile, which would prevent either from selling a ship unless the other sold at the same time, is erroneous.

THE ESTHER RELEASED.

The American schooner Esther, captured by the Spanish gunboat Arilla in an inlet near Casilda, on the south coast of Cuba, was towed to sea by the gunboat, after repairing her rudder, and released, and has sailed for Jamaica.

Senator Proctor, Miss Clara Barton, Mr. Parker and Dr. Egan returned to Key West today on a special train to Sagua la Grande and Chienfuegos. Senator Proctor says he feels confident that he has induced Walter B. Barker to withdraw his resignation as United States consul at Sagua la Grande and he will be very much pleased if Mr. Barker continues in that capacity, as he considers him a valuable man. Senator Proctor, with his friend, Colonel Parker, expects to leave for Washington tomorrow on the Olivette. His trip, he says, has been productive of much useful information.

Key West, March 8.—The Iowa will leave during the night or early tomorrow for the Tortugas. It is said officially that she is going there to coal and is expected to return here.

Washington, March 9.—The feature of the day's events was the promulgation with which the senate passed the house bill carrying the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the national defense, and the haste with which it was put through the formal proceedings, engrossed and signed by the president. While the matter has been discussed, it can be stated that the fund has not yet been allotted among the various branches of the government service. Each of these had prepared roughly and tentatively an estimate of the funds it could dispose of to advantage, but upon looking over the ground the president decided that it would be well perhaps to avoid making the allotment until the necessity became apparent. The reason back of this is that the sum that can be profitably spent for warships cannot even be guessed at with approximation to accuracy at this time. As ships are to be first choice in the steps for defense, until their cost is ascertained it is not possible to divide the remainder of the appropriation among the other branches of the military and naval services.

The secretary of the navy is making every effort to secure from our naval attaches and diplomatic officers abroad all information obtainable respecting the number of ships building, their price and other data. This does not necessarily interfere with the execution of the plans confided to Captain Brownson, but rather promises to assist him materially in making speed with his inquiries. Up to this moment not only has the United States government bought no warships, but it has not even secured an option on one. There are many applications coming to the department from persons and firms who desire to sell ships to the government, but in most of these cases one or two fatal obstacles are encountered in the consummation of the sale. Either the craft offered is not suitable for naval needs or the date of possible completion is so distant, from three months upward, that it cannot be regarded as worthy of purchase to meet an emergency.

There is less difficulty experienced in securing tenders of war material, such as shot and shell and powder, and the navy department has almost assuredly an abundant supply of certain kinds of smokeless powder abroad at short notice. The officials of the department are daily in correspondence by mail and telegraph with agents of ammunition houses, and, besides, are now fully acquainted with the plans of domestic powder makers for enlarging their plants to meet an emergency. The representatives of the armor making firms are in consultation with the department steadily, generally relative to the supply of gun forgings and such material for use in the gunshops here and at Watership, but the question of armor is receiving little at-

ention, as the armor makers report that they cannot undertake by any means to turn out such armor as would be required for a modern battleship in less than seven months, for the reason that tempering and face-hardening cannot be hastened without destroying the value of the armor.

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The administration has definite information from a source which is regarded as beyond question to the effect that Spain has not purchased the two Brazilian cruisers Barroso and Amazonas.

COLUMBIA AND MINNEAPOLIS ABOUT READY.

The cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis, it is now expected, will be fitted out and manned by the 15th instant. It is likely the two vessels will go immediately to Hampton Roads, where they will meet the Brooklyn.

Inasmuch as the return to Washington of Mr. Hulise, who acted as one of the stenographers of the court of inquiry at Key West, has been made the basis for the assumption that he brought to the secretary of the navy a report from the court and also that he gave the secretary what purported to be the conclusions of the court as to the cause of the Maine disaster, it may be stated by authority of the secretary that he has not seen or communicated with Mr. Hulise since the latter's return, nor does he expect to do so. So far as can be gathered Mr. Hulise left the court of inquiry because it had no longer need for his services.

THE CANNON BILL SIGNED.

The president at 3:40 o'clock this afternoon signed the measure appropriating \$50,183,000 for the national defense and it is now a law.

NEW SPANISH WARSHIPS.

Glasgow, March 9.—The Spanish torpedo boat destroyers Osado and Audiz left the Clyde bank this afternoon, fully manned and with all their guns and other armaments on board. They have embarked their ammunition tomorrow at Greenock and will sail on Saturday. At their trials they developed a speed of thirty knots.

ARRIVAL OF THE MONTGOMERY.

Havana, March 9.—The United States cruiser Montgomery arrived here at 9:25 o'clock this morning. The arrival here of the Montgomery was very quiet, it being generally understood that she comes to replace the coast survey steamer Fern as quarters for Captain Sigbee and others.

Commander Converse, of the Montgomery, is a high authority on the subject of the court of inquiry into the loss of the Maine.

After firing the usual salute and being saluted in return, the Montgomery was moored in the principal harbor near the wreck of the Maine and in the center of a circle of Spanish ships. Later in the day Commander Converse received the correspondent on board the cruiser and treated him graciously, though he had nothing to tell him beyond the facts already sent. He seemed satisfied to have a rest in Havana harbor for a while, as the cruiser has been very busy touching at West Indian ports lately. Captain Sigbee, Lieutenant Commander Wainwright and Ensign Powelson will occupy quarters on the Montgomery, the Fern leaving Havana this afternoon. The Montgomery is as trim and neat as possible. Nobody is allowed on board without



Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

permission, but no one is excluded at business or courtesy demands the admission of the visitor. There is no indication of the length of the cruiser's stay in this harbor, any more than there is any news of the duration of the sessions of the court of inquiry here.

The court held its usual sessions today examining the divers. Only the Spanish divers were at work and they were occupied but part of the day. The wreckers are steadily removing the upper debris of the wreck, some of which will be dumped into the sea. Other portions of the wreck are worth saving.

Senator Proctor left here today for Key West and will go to Miami by tomorrow's steamer.

Consul General Lee says there was nothing of importance in the mail matter which he has just received from the United States.

The Olivette's passenger list of incomers was small and her outfitting list of passengers is not as large as usual. (Norfolk, Va., March 9.—The United States gunboat Machias arrived this morning and proceeded to the navy-yard, where she will be inspected and receive necessary repairs. She reported a pleasant trip and all were well on board.)

SLOW PROGRESS OF THE COURT.

Havana, March 9.—A further examination of the divers occupied the court of inquiry today. The sessions were held in the morning and in the afternoon one not possessed of inside information to tell what keeps the members here, unless it be that they are waiting until the divers are able to examine and report upon portions of the hull already engulfed in the harbor mud.

The court in its inquiry pursues its method and even secretive way. The belief here is that the court is principally engaged now in killing time and is not likely to go north until next week.

It is certain that the members are strengthening the testimony daily by personal observation of the wreck and the carefully prepared plans made by Ensign Powelson from the almost hourly reports of the divers. The court now has photographs, drawings and diagrams showing us near as possible the condition of things submerged.

What effect the presence of the Montgomery will have no one will be able to tell until she has been here several days. She is so much smaller than the Vizcaya or the Almirante Oquendo that it is apparent to every one that she was not sent in a warlike mood, but only to replace the Fern, and to all apprehension among naval officers that the Montgomery will share the fate of the Maine.

With reference to the secrecy one observes as to the work and proportions of the testimony before the court of inquiry, a high naval officer, who is not a special reason for maintaining secrecy, except the fact that some statements of comparatively unimportant incidents are exaggerated by some and worked up into dangerous sensational stories. In view of this, said the officer, it would be deemed best to command absolute reserve on the part of all connected with the court examination of the work of salvage.

Senator Proctor before leaving today by the Olivette said: "You may say that my visit, call it an omission of pleasure or business or what you will, inquisitorial or otherwise, I cannot speak on political subjects pertaining to Cuba here and now."

The Fern left for Key West tonight. Americans here are greatly pleased at the prompt action of congress in passing the defense bill, even more so at the appropriation as a wise measure in time of peace.

Henry Laime, the American correspondent has been expelled from the island. He left on the Plant Line steamer Olivette at noon today. There have been further arrests on charge of conspiracy.

An entertainment and social function for the benefit of the Spanish war is being arranged to take place at the theatre Tacon. Several boxes have been sold at \$50 each and the boxes have been disposed of at \$75 each.

Louis Klopsch, proprietor of The Christian Herald, of New York city, arrived on the Ward Line steamer Segurana today. He is one of three commissioners appointed by President McKinley to supervise the collection of a relief fund and is here to see Consul-General Lee and Miss Clara Barton and to observe the distribution of relief.

LEE NOT UNEASY.

Havana escaped the excitement of Sunday last which seems to have reached a high pitch at Key West and elsewhere. Consul General Lee was not advised from the state department of the request from Madrid for the return of the withdrawal of the request. Information as to both points was furnished to him by the correspondent of the Associated Press. In the absence of particulars of action of congress, of Olivette at this time, he was not at all surprised by the request, who probably believed that he was not a believer in autonomy as it exists here, and, therefore, asked this removal, in order to get a stumbling block out of the way. General Lee is on the best of terms with General

(Continued on Fifth Page.)