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WARLIKE PREPARATIONS

CONTINUED BY ALL BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Rushing the Loading of Shells-Work on a Buoyant Marine Mine-A Powerful Vessel-Wrecking Machine-Officers of the Maine in Conference with the President and Secretary Long-No News from the Court-Spain's Last Card to Prevent Ictervention

Washington, March 19.-The arrival of several survivors of the Maine and their extended conferences with President McKinley and Secretary Long furnished the most interesting feature in today's developments on the Spanish situation. Three officers of the Maine, Lieutenant G. F. W. Holman, Lieutenant George P. Blow, and Lieutenant A. W. Catlin of the marine corps, accompanied by Boatswain Larkins, came on unexpectedly from Key West. It was said their visit was purely voluntary on their part, as they are now on waiting orders and are free to go where they please. Their long conferences at the navy department and latter at the White house led to much conjecture, it being asserted that Lieutenant Blow brought with him the report of the court of inquiry, or at least the general conclusions reached by that court. It can be stated positively, however, from an authorative source, that the officers did not bring with from Key West. On the contrary the them the report, either as a whole or purpose, as made known in Washingits general conclusions. It is stated | ton, is that the torpedo flotilla will conwith equal positiveness and authoritatively, that they do not know what the action of the court of inquiry is, and, therefore, are not in a position to convey any information to the president or secretary of the navy on that point. Their talks were confined entirely to graphic narratives of their experiences on the night of the explosion. In the course of this narrative, however, individual opinion as to the cause of the explosion found expression These opinions, as already stated, were purely personal and not founded on the proceedings of the court of inquiry. These personal opinions, however, it was learned reliably, were strongly favorable to the theory of an external cause leading to the destruction of the Maine. The officers themselves maintain the strictest reserve. After the conferences with the president and the secretary of the navy, the Maine officers did not return to the many department and considerable care was exercised in having their whereabouts kept from public attention.

Another interesting arrival of the day was Constructor Hoover, the technical naval officials today. He reported that expert sent to Havana to identify the the finishing touches have been put on twisted plates in the Maine wreckage, the monitor Puritan and that she is in with a view to learning whether the explosion was of internal or external origin. Mr. Hoover also maintained silence concerning the wreck. He made no report to the secretary of the navy, as he was sent to Havana to learn facts and then embody them in ! testimony before the naval court of ton Roads or that at Key West, should

WARSHIPS.

Late in the day the prospects became much brighter for the acquisition by SPAIN PLAYING HER LAST CARD the United States of two exceptionally fine foreign warships, namely, the armored cruiser San Martino, belonging to the Argentine republic, and the battleship General O'Higgins, belonging to Chili. The hope of getting these ships had been almost given up, but cablegrams received today from Commander Brownson, now in Europe, made the outlook more encouraging. Up to the close of office hours an actual purchase had not been concluded, but a high official summed up the situation by saying the negotiation's were getting "very hot." The San Martino was originally built for the Italian government and was then known as the Varese, but since her purchase by Argentina she has been renamed. Her dimensions are: Length 328 feet, beam 59, draft 24, displacement 3,840 tons, horse power 13,000, speed 19.98 knots. Her armament is two 8-inch rapid-fire guns, mounted in barbettes and protected by hoods, ten 6-inch quick-fire guns in central redoubt, six 4.7-inch quick-fire guns on the upper deck and twenty-two smaller quick-fire guns on the upper deck. All the guns are protected by steel shields. The General O'Higgins is a battleship of 8,500 tons. built at El Swick. Her diensions are: Length 400 feet, beam 62, draft 22 feet, her contract speed 211/2 knots. Her armament is four 8-inch, ten 6-inch, four 4.7-inch, Armstrongs, eight 12pounders, ten 6-pounders and four submerged torpedo tubes. Her protective deck is a belt of harveyized steel seven inches thick. Her houses for the 8-inch guns, and the casements of the 6-inch guns are protected by 6-inch p ates of nickel steel.

ACTIVE PREPARATIONS CON-

TINUED. Both the navy and war departments continue their active preparation for emergency, and contracts in all branches of armament are being made daily by the various bureaus. The naval bureau of ordnance has contracted for 4,500,000 pounds of brown powder, which is probably the largest single order ever given. This was divided between the California Powder Company and the Dupont Powder Company. The order is sufficient in the aggregate to give 200 rounds for every gun affoat according to the programme drawn up in the American navy, and with this large supply on hand the navy for the first time in years will be more than amply supplied with powder. SENATORS SEEKING INFORMA-

TION.

An unusually large number of senators took advantage of the fact that as the latter's nominal suzerain; no the senate was not in session today to insurgents to be shot or imprisoned on call upon the cabinet officers with the account of the existing insurrection, hope of securing definite in formation and no insurgents to be sent as prisas to the Cuban situation. They succeeded only in learning that the report offences. of the Maine court of inquiry had not The advices received here are in sub-

partment deliberating upon the line of policy to be pursued in case the report of the naval court should have the effect of entirely eliminating the Maine incident from the the situation. The state department officials did not make any positive declaration that such information was in their possession, rather advancing it as a tentative suggestion, and when pressed for information on this point, replied that they only knew that the report was to come next week and that they had no advance information as to its contents.

IMPORTANT CONTRACT AWARD-An important contract was let by the bureau of yards and docks of the navy department today. It was, for dredging about 300,000 feet of the harbor about Fort Jefferson, on Dry Tortugas island, which will enable - large naval and merchant vessels to anchor very near the shore to take on coal. This is the first step taken by the navy department toward making a naval sup ply coaling station at the Tortugas, work on which will now be pushed as rapidly as possible. The Alabama Dredging Company, of Mobile, were awarded the contract.

WATCHING THE SPANISH FLO-

TILLA. There is no doubt that the authorities here are keeping themselves fully advised as to the movement of the Spanish torpedo flotilla now en route from Spain. Persons acquainted with the facts say that the stop at the Canary islands is only temporary, and that there is no purpose on the part of the Spanish government to turn back the torpedo boats because of the removal of the Texas and Massachusetts tinue its trip to Cuba and Porto Rico. It was stated today by one high in naval authority that no steps had been taken toward intercepting this flotilla

or warning it away. The state department posted the following memorandum during the day: "The elections for the Cuban house of representatives will take place on April 24th and that for the council of administration on April 28th. The Cuban parliament will meet May 2nd."

The diplomatic aspect of the Spanish question developed no new phases to-

Messrs. Angulo, Valera and Cadenas, the three commissioners named by the Cuban cabinet to act with Minister Polo in framing a commercial treaty, will be presented to secretary Sherman and Judge Day on Monday next. They expect to take up the negotiations with Commissioner Kasson after the ceremony of presentation is concluded.

THE PORT ROYAL SQUADRON. Commodore Farquhar, formerly chief of the bureau of yards and docks of the navy yard was in conference with the a fine condition for sea service. It is expected that the Puritan will leave soon for Port Royal, S. C., at which place it has been reported the navy department will locate a fleet of torpedo boats, which may be called on for assistance either by the fleet at Hampnecessity arise. The monitors which it LIKELY TO SECURE TWO MORE, has been said will compose the fleet include the Amphitrite, Terror Miantonomah and Puritan.

Havana, via Key West, Fla., March 19.-News has just reached this correspondent from authentic sources that the autonomists government, backed by the military authorities here and the government at Madrid, is now playing its last card to secure peace in Cuba and prevent intervention on the part of the United States. Near Palo Prioto, and Via Jacas Gordasa, in the province of Santa Clara, on the west side of the Jucaro-Moron trocha, are gathered several thousand insurgents under command of General Calixto Garcia and other prominent chiefs, accommpanied by Senator Masso, president of the Cuban republic, with several members of his cabinet. Also on the west side of the trocha in the district of Santi Spiritus, less than thirty miles distant from General Garcia's forces, are stationed 2,000 insurgents under Generals Pancho, Carrilo, Monteaguedo, Lancliez, Legon and Gonzales. The Spanish Commander, General Pando with General Pamirez, Charvez and other generals, is within a few miles of General Calixto Garcia. General Gomez is west of the Jucaro-Morron trocha within easy reach.

All the insurgent generals, President Masso and the insurgent officials with General Garcia, got through General Pando's lines some times ago and the latter gave up the campaign, which was to be a grand military coup de grace. But in addition to passing through the trocha, the insurgents turned General Pando's flank. It is just possible that this flank movementwas winked at by General Pando for the purpose of attempting to carry out

his ulterior political purposes. Such was the position of all concerned when the last advices were received at the palace in Havana. General Pando's purpose, to further which he has ordered a practical armistice in the eastern part of Cuba, it is stated suc-

cinctly as follows: GENERAL PANDO'S OFFER.

To have a personal conference with General Calixto Garcia, President Masso and other insurgents, and even with General Gomez, if possible, and to make them a formal offer of autonomy, by the left or radical wing of the party. As previously cabled, this offer includes in return for the ending of the insurrection, the disarmament and disbanding of all volunteers; commercial treaties to be concluded without Spanish interference; a maximum sum of \$2,000,000 annually to be paid to Spain by Cuba,

arrived, but that it was expected early stance, that General Pando felt confinext week and that it would be for- dent of securing the conference, while, warded to congress immediately upon on the other hand, Captain General

autonomy government felt sure that the proposition, being the best ever offered, and as securing practical independence, would be accepted, that the rebellion would be declared at an end, and that, consequently all excuse for the intervention by the United States would be ended.

Such views, however, were not held when this dispatch was sent by those best acquainted with General Gomez and his chiefs, nor by the Spanish Cuban merchants, bankers, editors or law yers-the best class in Havana. The latter were sure that nothing but the proposition of Monte Cristo (the granting of an indemnity to Spain, but absolute independence for Cuba,) would ever be considered by General Gomez or any of his principal followers. In support of the latter view, it is officially announced that after all the efforts near Manzanillo, only two privates of Salvator Ruiz's band surrendered. It is known beside, that General Pando, in order to advance his plans for the proposed campaign in Santlago de Cuba, greatly weakened all the trochas, taking from them several thousand men and much artillery.

It is regarded as certain, in well informed circles here, that Generals Gomez and Garcia, after refusing to confer with General Pando, or if they do confer, after refusing the terms offered, will take sufficient catttle and provisions from the comparatively well stocked ranches immediately west and then inaugurate a raid upon the provinces of Matanzas, Havana and probably Pinar del Rio, appearing near here within fifteen or eighteen days,

which is considered possible. Letters received here from prominent autonomists in the provinces of Santa Clara and Puerto Principe have been shown to this correspondent. The writers are not favorable to the United States: they will cling to the theory of autonomy and class as false the assertions that the Spanish soldiers are "unpaid and unfed and living in towns, while their officers are conspiring against the autonomist government and refuse to take the field, either denying the presence of the insurgents or saying 'let the troops who are in favor of autonomy fight its battles.' Other letters from the same sources insist that all the plans laid to secure the surrender of the insurgents have been badly conceived and poorly executed. These letters add that only in isolated instances have any of the insurgents laid down their arms, and the insurgent leader Masso who surrendered, it is still further asserted, was proscribed and its speed, and returns it to land if by General Gomez and was liable to be tried by court martial, while of the 100 RUSHING WORK ON TORPEDOES. insurgents who surrendered with him at Fomento, more than half were back

with the insurgents within a fortnight The general opinion seems to be that the Pando conference will in any event be the end of autonomy and the most sanguine assert that it will make the intervention of the United States imperative. Those who have this view claim that the intervention of the United States will be necessary to pre vent outrages which will disgrace civilization and also protect American

Under the circumstances, news from the scene of the conference is awaited here with the gratest anxiety.

citizens in Cuba.

In spite of official and other denials, it is believed that serious troubles for Spain in Porto Rico are imminent and it is asserted (though the report cannot be verified at present) that the Spanish cruiser Vizcaya, when she leaves Havana, will go to Porto Rico, in order to strengthen the hands of the government officials there

New York March 19.-Special dispatches under date of Key West today report that General Pando, of the Spanish army, has been captured by General Garcia, the insurgent commander. At the headquarters of the Cuban junta in this city nothing had been heard of the reported capture. There was a disposition to discredit the story and to ascribe its origin to some enthusiastic but irresponsible person.

Havana, March 19.-Miss Clara Barton, after calling upon Captain General Blanco, at his suggestion visited the heads of the colonial government. The autonomists treated her with such dis-Unguished courtesy that she broached to them the subject of the allotmen't of lands to poor Cubans, engaging to furnish their houses from America and also to superintend any colonies thus formed. Miss Barton was told that the matter would be carefully considered. After she had left the officials said: "We are Spanish, does she think she

can make yankees of us? Her desire must be to Americanize the Creoles.' SPAIN SEEKING FUNDS FROM HER OFFICERS.

At a meeting held at the palace yesterday of the committee appointed to secure funds for the Spanish navy, tain General Blanco, from Havana, Captain General Blanco was elected has given proof that he is as anxious his influence to induce the officials, cabled from Havard advising the govmilitary, civil and municipal, to make monthly contributions to augment the the Spanish flying squadron of torpedo naval fund. The function in aid of boats. He advised that it should not the navy which takes place tonight at on any account proceed further toward the Tacon theare will, it is believed, the United States than the Canary isrealize more than \$100,000 in gold. For lands. The order to hold the fleet a single admission to the gallery a cigar manufacturer of Havana paid \$1,200. The smallest price for general admission is \$10 in gold.

News of the result of the interview between General Pando and other delegates and General Calixto Garcia, Senor Masso, president of the Cuban republic, and other insurgent leaders is anxiously awaiting here. There is no change in the belief held by the best posted men that all the propositions looking to the laying down of their arms by the insurgents were rejected. There is no doubt that a conference

was held. The report circulated here that General Pando had been captured by the insurgent general Marcia is untrue. According to the latest advices General Pando had left Ciego de Avila and was proceeding to the eastward, probably with Puerto Principe as his destina-

THE DIVERS AT WORK.

One 6-inch gun and a valuable cable were recovered today from the wreck of the Maine. The bodies of two of the Maine victims were sent to Key West this afternoon on the steamer Olivette. Chaplain Chidwick is revising the list of the bodies thus far taken from the ble, sure.

its arrival, unless of an unexpectedly Blanco, Secretary General Congosto wreck. He inclines to the belief that startling character. Some of them and the Spanish staff officers of high a larger number has been recovered found the high officials of the state de- rank and many radical members of the than has been stated, but will know positively as to this in a few days. La Lucha says of Miss Barton's of-fer to build houses for the sufferers that "in time these might grow into yankee colonies with 'the stars and stripes floating from each house." The editorial is written in a good humored

THE COURT IN SESSION.

Key West, Fla., March 19.-The United States court of inquiry into the loss of the battleship Maine continued its session today on board the battleship Iowa.

The cruiser Montgomery sailed this morning from the Tortugas with 12inch shells for the fleet. The battleships Massachusetts and Texas will leave the Tortugas islands today for under examination. Hampton Roads. Judge Advocate Marix came ashore later in the day. The court apparently held a short session. Fourteen enlisted men from two batteries of artillery stationed here left tonight for Tampa. They are going to Fort Henry to become part of a new regiment.

THE NAVAL APPROPRIATION

BILL.

Washington, March 19.-The naval appropriation bill was practically completed today by the sub-committee and will be reported to the full committee on Monday. The bill will appropriate \$200,000 to be expended during the next fiscal year on each of the five dry docks authorized by the bill. Half a million is appropriated for each of the three battleships.

A WONDERFUL TORPEDO BOAT. New York, March 19 .- A Willets Point special to the Brooklyn Eagle says: Officials expect great things from a new torpedo, or more properly, a small torpedo boat, that has reached 'this place. It is the invention of Lleutenant Nicholas J. Halpine and is an electric boat with sufficient power to carry it thirty five miles. It is expected to prove of great value in coast defense service. The vessel was built at Dorchester, Mass., and after a trial by naval officers was sent to this place. It is twenty six feet long and twenty four inch in diameter. Including torpedoes 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, it is the chief power of destruction. Submerged, it passes below all torpedo nettings. A cable from the land regulates its movements not successful.

Newport, R. I., 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 readiness for shipment of shells of the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius and to fill at once the war heads of all torpedoes on the island 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 curisers may be purchased by the navy.

A DEATH DEALING MACHINE. In addition to the torpedo outfits the men at the torpedo station are working on a death-dealing engine in the shape of a buoyant mine. This is an organ-shaped hollow affair. The mine opens in the center and into one half is fitted a square frame. In this frame, secured in place, 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 the water. The upper half of the mine is then clamped and through the water-tight, rubberpacked hole in its top, run four wires connected 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 a

mushroom anchor. 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 Narrangansett bay, both east and west, have been plotted for mines by the United States engineer office.

Baltimore, Md., March 19.-The new United States torpedo boat Rodgers sailed at noon today from the Columbian iron works dock, where she was built, her destination being Norfolk.

BLANCO ANXIOUS FOR PEACE. New York, March 19.-A dispatch to The World from Madrid, says: "Capresident. He said he would use all of for peace as the Madrid ministry. He ernment to postpone the departure of there was not, however, sent wholly at General Blanco's request.

Army Headquarters in Atlanta

Atlanta, March 19.-The headquarters of the department of the gulf has been established in the Asuteil building, the entire sixth floor of the structure having been rented by the army officials. Colonel Hall, adjutant general of the depart-ment, will arrive from San Antonio Monday. After he has opened his office in Atlanta, General Graham will begin his contemplated tour of the new departments.

The company from Fort McPherson. which has been ordered to St. Augustine, Fla., will leave Tuesday afternoon.

Impure Blood in Spring. This is the almost universal experience. Diminished perspiration during winter, rich foods and close confinement indoors are some of the causes. A good Spring Medicine, like Hood's Sarsaparilla, is absolutely necessary

Hood's Pills are the best farally cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, relia-

to purify the blood and put the system

in a healthy condition at this season.

THE LEASE FAVORED

BY THE PRIVATE DIRECTORS OF THE A. & N. C. RAILROAD.

Mewboorne and Person not Authorized to Represent Them - Developments Ex pected-A Horse Dealer Jailed for Swindling-Railway Commissioner Pearson's "Judgment"-State Guard Ready to Moye at Short Notice

Messenger Bureau

Raleigh, N. C., March 19. Today a civil service examination was held here for places in the revenue service. There are only eleven persons

The directors of the Atlantic and North Carolina on the part of the private stockholders deny that at any meeting resolutions protesting against the lease of that road to the Southern were adopted or introduced. J. F. Mewboorne and Dr. Fox Person, two of the state directors, came here this week to see Governor Russell and informed him they were sent as a committee by the directors and that the road is now making money; something like 4 or 5 per cent. during the last six months of 1897, They may have been accredited as from the entire directorate, but certainly represent no more than the state directors as the private ones favor the lease and say the figures of profit given are entirely inaccurate. The governor, is, however, bent on leasing the road. Something about this matter may de-

velop quite speedily. The guards at the penitentiary are to be uniformed. This is done at the

Quit a number of the populists who were here early in the week argued in a quiet way how Chairman Caldwell, of the railway commission, was going to vote on the passenger rate reduction matter. It was thought up to Wednesday night that he would vote to allow the exceptions of the railways, But it turns out that Tuesday night he told another populist he intended to vote to overrule.

Frank Welsh, a horse trader from Roanoke, Va., was jailed here last night, having failed to give bond in \$500 in a civil suit brought by Dr. P. L. McCullers, who charges that Welsh swindled him out of \$200 in regard to a pair of horses. The young burglar, whose real name

jail here, is so reticent that he has nothing to say to the other prisoners. He is carefully watched, as he is known to be desperate. Tomorrow afternoon union memorial services will be held here under the auspices of the Women's Christian

is supposed to be Young and who is in

Temperance Union, in honor of the late Miss Frances Williard. The Benson library building and contents, the gift of a New England lady to St. Augustine's normal school (colored) here was formerly presented yes-

terday afternoon. It is ascertained that the two wings of the populist party are not nearly as harmonious as they desire it to appear

that they are. Active work began today on the im-

provement, mainly terracing, of the capitol square. The street improvement force is now

the largest ever employed here. It is operating under the \$50,000 bond issue. Railway Commissioner Pearson says he well knows that by Chairman Caldwell's vote against the proposed "judgment" in the passenger rate case last Thursday that the judgment would not be considered a part of the record for the courts, but that he had to content himself with getting the judgments on the commission's journal of record. Four more Mormon elders have arrived here. Two have been making a long tour on foot in this county.

The penitentiary directors decline to accede to the request of Superintendent Mewboorne that they so change the rules as not to make the approval of bills by the executive committee a necessity before payment.

Donations to public schools, under the new law, which requires the state to give an equal amount out of the general fund, must be made by townships and not for individual schools. Notices come in of donations of the latter character.

Special int est is felt here in the fight for the Raleign postoffice. John Nichols let it be known that he was no opponent of A. W. Shaffer. C. T. Bailey advised people to bet that he

would get the place. the state guard into service as soon as the president makes a call for troops, No notices of any kind have been sent to troops to prepare, as it is known that the force is in good shape, though of course in skeleton formation. In case of a call it is expected that the guards would rendezvous here ranks be filled, the additional battalion added to each regiment, and then when the strength was complete and the required physical examination passed the force would be mustered into the service of the United States, in the usual way. There would not be the least trouble in ob-

the president might call for. Appeals from the 7th District will be called in supreme court Tuesday, as follows: Sorrell vs. Stinson, Horne vs. commissioners of Cumberland, Johnson vs. Townsend, Sewing Machine Company vs. Thomas, Carter vs. Slocumb, Cooper vs. Security Company, Lucas vs. Railroad, McLeod vs. Nimocks, McLeod vs. Williams Cooper vs. Mc-Kinnon.

The University Defeats Oak Ridge (Special to The Messenger.)

Chapel Hill, N. C., March 19 .- The university nine defeated Oak Ridge institute oday by a score of 8 to 2. Carolina's features were good batting lack of errors and Lawson's pitching. The batteries of Carolina were Lawson and Graves, of Oak Ridge, Barker and Brake. It was a good game.



ANGLO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE

All Classes of Britishers Arxlous for its Consumeration-Spanish Press More Deflant Than Ever

(Copyrighted by Associated Press.) 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 sincerity in the desire of the British public for an netente with the United States. The fact that most of the cable dispatches from America have proclaimed that the suggestion has been seriously disrequest of the government. For over cussed is heartily welcome here and is twenty years they have not been in regarded as extremely important and gratifying, as evidencing a friendly spirit. "They are," as a diplomatic 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 opposed to their common interest. It is not any stretch of imagination to say that such a union has been longed for by the best men in Great Britian 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 closer alliance between America and Great Britian would constitute, mon only the surest guarantee of the peace of the world, but would afford proof that the reign of law and individual liberty is to be extended for the benefit of mankind, in spite of the efforts to extinguish it made by reactionary rulers and governments.'

Discussing the subject, the Spectator remarks: "The Americans are quite right in assuming that they will have the support of the Britishers should a continental alliance attempt to oppress them. If our people once realize the condition of Cuba, half of England would be calling the Americans hard names because they have not intervened earlier to stop the horrors perpetrat-

ed at their very door." The curious mixture of the pacific assurances and announcements of active preparations for war which are coming from the United States keeps the propinets guessing; but, the opinion is gaining ground that the outlook is improving and that war will finally be 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 powers. 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 Pacific some of whose crews have 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"had storage of her enormous quantity of explosives, arising either from too hasty preparations for war, or from want of proper discipline on board."

The Heraldo, independent, confesser "it can only smile at seeing the Yankees devoting themselves to the difficult task of trying to frighten us by clamer and warlike display." The Heraldo compares the attitude of the United States to that of a boulevard swaggerer who flaunts his dollars to attract the attention of a fine lady passing by," adding that Spain, "like a woman of good breeding, confident in herself, with continue her course, brave and alone All plans are well in hand for calling and will pay no attention to foreign

INCREASED VALUATION

Of Property for Taxatien-Appeal Froms Reduction of Passenger Rates

Raleigh, N. C., March 19 .- The state auditor says that, while returns of all real and personal property in North Carolina showed \$229,854,498, returns on which this year's taxes will be coilected show \$235,502,371, or an increase ef taining at once twice as many men as \$5,747,873, of which \$1,359, 777 was made by the state board of equalization.

The Seaboard Air Line today notified the railway commission of an appeal to the superior court from its erder reducing passenger fares to 2 amd 21/2 cents.

Heavy Holder of North Carolina Securi

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., March 19.- Jacob Tome, who died in Maryland this week, was the largest individual holder of North Carolina securities, Misholdings aggregating nearly \$1,000 and He owned \$175,000 of Atlantic and

Why do fashion's leaders always sallow it?

North Carolina rellway bonds.