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WILL BEGIN THIS WEEK.

THE MOVE ON CUBA.

PAPERS SIGNED YESTERDAY.

Plans of The Administration so Far as Shaped—How The War Will Begin.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Spain will not receive official notification of the demands of the United States before to-morrow. She then will be informed that the Cuban resolutions passed by Congress at an early hour this morning are now a part of the laws of the United States, and an ultimatum will be sent commanding compliance with this law and an answer within a very short time, probably 24 hours. Compliance is not expected, and a forward movement on Cuba will commence the latter part of this week, according to the plans of the administration.

The congressional Cuban resolution will not be signed until to-morrow morning. The ultimatum to Spain will be signed at the same time. The President early decided to make the two practically one act by a simultaneous signature to each.

At the morning session the President rather favored allowing the Madrid government two or even three days in which to reply to our demands, but since that time he has changed his views somewhat, and it is now believed to be his purpose to require an answer within a very short time, probably within 24 hours. The reason for limiting the time to one day, or even less, is said to be entirely strategic, otherwise two or even three days would have been followed. The ultimatum itself will be short and to the point. It will recite the main features of the resolutions passed by Congress and demand a compliance therewith. So far as could be learned there will not be a meeting of the cabinet this evening or to-morrow morning before the President signs the two documents, which, it is believed, unquestionably will precipitate war. It is likely that the President and Assistant Secretary Day will again this evening go over the message, which is to be sent to Madrid, and make any changes which may be thought desirable, leaving the final act of signing the congressional resolution and the ultimatum until to-morrow morning. It probably will not be made public here until notice is received that it is in the hands of the Spanish government, diplomatic etiquette requiring this.

The Cuban resolution passed by Congress arrived at the White House at 1:15 o'clock, a little over an hour having been consumed in the formalities of securing the signatures of Speaker Reed and Vice President Hobart.

It was expected that the resolution would be signed immediately after it reached the President, and this was Mr. McKinley's inclination, but for certain State reasons it was deemed advisable that the resolution and the ultimatum to Spain should be signed simultaneously, and time was needed to draft the ultimatum in diplomatic form. The fact that the resolution was not immediately signed, gave rise to a few disquieting reports, but it soon appeared from statements of cabinet officers that the President had not the slightest intention of withholding his signature, and that the delay in attaching it was accounted for solely by his desire to have a full and complete plan of operations for the executive in the immediate future before taking the final and important step of turning the joint resolution into a statute. Just what this plan shall be was the occasion for the two cabinet meetings to-day. The first session, in anticipation of the reception of the resolution, was devoted largely to questions of finance and military policy, as well as to the framing of the ultimatum itself. So far as can be gathered, the important point at issue in regard to the ultimatum

was the question of time to be allowed for a response on the part of Spain.

The steady progress of the navy and war preparations is continued.

As to the course of events in the immediate future, the only prediction that can be made is one based on precedents. According to these, Minister Woodford will notify the Spanish government of the action of the government of the United States, and should the Spanish answer be unsatisfactory, as is expected, the next step in order will be for him to ask for his passports and leave Madrid. That would be followed immediately by the withdrawal from Washington of Senor Polo, the Spanish minister. At this point it can be said that the Spanish government will so shape every phase of the negotiations as to oblige us to take the initiative at every point.

After the withdrawal of the ministers, and assuming that Spain does not back down, will follow actual war, but whether or not the first overt act will be preceded by a formal declaration of war, which would insure the immediate neutralization of the powers, or whether the North Atlantic squadron will make its appearance off Havana as a beginning, cannot yet be predicted.

In this connection, it may be stated that the army and navy experts are beginning to take less hopeful view of an easy and quick campaign than they entertained a short time ago. Months are now mentioned instead of weeks as the probable length of hostilities and one eminent naval officer, who had experience in the late war, professed a belief that unless outside pressure is brought to bear, a war may easily drag along for a year under the existing conditions.

Apparently the powers have abandoned open efforts in Washington. All was quiet at the legations today, and no instructions were received by any of the ambassadors or ministers in the line of mediation.

War Might Shake All Europe.

From the Evening Wisconsin.

Altogether stirring times are upon the nation, and the result of the impending war must be to drive Spain from America, and with other cumulative disasters it may overturn the present government of Spain and produce chaos and confusion there. The overthrow of the Spanish government would react seriously upon France and may produce a financial catastrophe there, which may shake all Europe.

Unqualified Faith.

From the Baltimore Herald.

President McKinley may be "slow and cautious," but the country has an unqualified faith in his integrity, fairness, and firmness. The country already owes a debt to his conservatism, the exercise of which has equipped us for a war into which the hotheads threatened to precipitate us when our preparations were embryotic and preliminary.

Free Pills.

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and sick headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to the stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c. per box. Sold by Shuford's Drug Co.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

ABOUT READY TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF OURSELVES.

The House Considering the Intervention Resolution Adopted by the Senate. (Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18, 1898. —President McKinley did no fretting because Congress took a whole week to act upon his message on armed intervention in Cuba, while the general expectation was that the business would be done in two days at the outside; he knows what responsibility is. That the delay has been beneficial to this government may be seen from the following language, used by a member of the Cabinet to an impatient friend who was repeating the argument used on all sides against the apparent tardiness both of Congress and the President: "Nobody has the remotest idea how unprepared we were when Congress made the appropriation of \$50,000,000. As a matter of fact, there were not five rounds of ammunition in a fortified place in the country, and the ships did not have ammunition enough to fight anything. We were simply ready in an amateurish manner. The President was shocked when he learned the full facts. A knowledge of these facts had as much to do with making him cautious as a desire to avoid war. Had this country been forced into war three weeks ago, we might have gotten the worst of things for awhile. I think we are now about ready and can give an account of ourselves." These words should be considered by the hair-trigger individuals who blame the President for not rushing into war weeks ago.

Just when hostilities will begin is still a matter of some doubt, although it must necessarily be soon. The House is to-day considering the intervention resolution adopted by the Senate, which recognizes the independence of the present government of Cuba and otherwise differs from that adopted by the House. It is expected that an agreement will be reached sometime to-day, or to-morrow at the outside and the resolution be sent to the President, although there is some talk of the possibility of a deadlock between the House and Senate. Nothing official has been said about the programme that will be followed after the resolution reaches the President, but the statement is made upon good authority that the President will make a demand upon Cuba to evacuate Cuba and will grant one or two days for the answer. This will be largely for form sake, as it is already practically certain that Spain will refuse, and will probably accompany the refusal with a message of defiance. Then the naval forces of the country will be put in motion and the first steps taken towards driving the Spaniards out of Cuba, while the troops now being hurried as fast as steam can carry them towards convenient points of embarkation will be got in shape to be rushed over to Cuba just as soon as the fleet has captured a desirable location on the island for them to be landed. Once landed the war will be pushed to a speedy and victorious end both on land and on water.

Naval officials smile at sensational predictions of damage that will be done to our commerce by Spanish privateers. Instead of having any fears on that score, they think that we shall have so many fast and formidable auxiliary cruisers on the seas that any Spanish privateer that gets far from home will be extremely fortunate if it escapes destruction or capture by some of them. The Spanish are not ignorant of our preparation in this line, and they are not likely to go as extensively into the privateering business in reality as our sensationalists have made them go in imagination.

The massing of practically three-fourths of the regular army—about 18,000 men—at Chickamauga Park, New Orleans, Mobile, and Tampa, is the first open move towards the military occupation of Cuba. The plan of campaign is all made out, but so well has the secret been kept that no person, not an official, can positively say whether these regulars will have militia assistance in their invasion of Cuba or not. The general impression is, however, that they will, and that a call for volunteers from the militia will

be issued by President McKinley within 48 hours of the moment his signature is attached to the joint resolution authorizing forcible intervention in Cuba. It is understood, but not officially, that the President has decided to adopt the plan of calling for volunteer militiamen rather than one calling upon each other state to furnish its quota of the number of men desired, and that the organizations which volunteer first are to be accepted regardless of the states from which they come. According to estimates made by War Department officials, more than 2,000,000 volunteers have been offered to the government, which is about twenty times more men than anyone expects to be needed.

Just after a meeting of the Cabinet, at which the probability of the materialization of the forcible European intervention upon which Spain relies to save it from a terrible thrashing was referred to in a discussion, a member was asked what would be the probable result of an attempt on the part of the six great European powers to force the U. S. to withdraw its demand to evacuate Cuba. "Fighting, and plenty of it," was his prompt reply. That represents the position of the administration to a dot. It proposes to drive Spain out of Cuba, regardless of whether it has to fight Spain alone, or the allied powers. This is very well known to the European Ambassador and Ministers at Washington, unofficially, and they have only to give the President an opportunity, by presenting a note either threatening or announcing European intervention, to be made officially acquainted with it.

ON BOARD A WARSHIP.

The Navy Ready to Do its Duty, But Not Expecting a Walk-Over.

Newton Enterprise.

The following letter was recently received by Mr. Frank J. Long, of Catawba, from his brother, Lieutenant A. T. Long, and by courtesy we are permitted to print it.

Fortress Monroe, Va., April 1, 1898. Dear Frank: We have just arrived here to-night when I received your letter. We left Philadelphia Friday morning and came directly here to join Commodore Schley's fleet. The squadron at Key West under Captain Sampson contains the majority of the battleships and will probably be called upon to do the heavy fighting on that coast. This squadron is called the flying squadron because it contains the fastest ships in the navy. The Minneapolis is the fastest one and both she and the Columbia have three propellers and are built for commerce destroyers—that is they have great speed, light battery and no armor at all. The Brooklyn is an armored cruiser, that is she has speed, heavy battery and light armor protection. The Massachusetts and Texas are battleships and are the best fighting ships. They have very heavy batteries and thick armor. The cruisers are expected to run away from any thing they cannot fight to advantage, while the battleships are expected to fight anything. If this squadron should be kept for the defence of this part of the coast in the event of war it would be because it can move quickly from one threatened port to another and we unfortunately haven't sufficient ships to protect our coast. Should the fleet of our enemy approach any part of this coast it would be our duty to try to prevent it reaching any port. Don't think for a moment that we (the navy) are crying for war. We know too well the condition of affairs and how unprepared we are, owing largely to the fact, that a great many people who now wish war have heretofore been opposed to a navy and would not appropriate for it. Now we need it badly and would give a great deal to have it. If war comes I think the sentiment of the navy is to obey orders and do the best we can with what we have and above all do our duty; and don't think it is going to be a "walk-over," for Spain has some good ships and they are a brave people and we would certainly receive some hard knocks. The ship is over 7,000 tons displacement and is 412 feet long and the full complement of officers and crew is about 475 men. Battery is one 8-inch, two 6-inch, and eight 4-inch rifles, twelve 6-pound and two 1-pound quick-firing guns. Your brother, ANDREW T. LONG.

Claremont College items.

Final examinations will soon be here.

The new flower beds will improve the campus.

New students are still coming in.

Dumb Bells and physical culture are having the desired effect.

Mrs. Ledbetter and daughter have arrived from Texas. The daughter will enter school.

The Mandolin Club has been organized and is doing good work.

Misses Crawford and Muller are seen in the halls again, after a short visit to their homes.

Penelope Dots.

News is scarce unless we rehash old matter that would not be palatable to the reading public.

The students are so busy preparing for examination and commencement that they can't look up news. The teachers are equally as busy, and the neighbors are busy planting crops, so please excuse us for being so brief just now.

Mr. A. H. Wacaster, of Morganton, one of our former students, rode down on his wheel last Sunday to pay us a visit. He said some nice things about Penelope that made some of us real glad.

Miss Childers spent Saturday and Sunday at the hospitable home of Mr. J. P. Rockett. She must have smiled upon the lads of the congregation where she worshiped Sunday, for the effects of its broadness are visible yet, or perhaps it might have been the good table viands.

We expect a good crowd at commencement. Come one, come all! We add a new feature this time—a debate by six of the students.

There will be baptisms at Hart's Mill Sunday at 9:30 a. m. Miss Hettie Hosley, from the Morganton D. & D. Institute is expected to be baptized.

QUIETUS.

Smallpox in Asheville.

Asheville Citizen, 14th.

Last night a negro tramp came to town and secured quarters at the restaurant at 48 North Main street. This morning it was suspected that the negro had the smallpox. The authorities were notified and at once made an investigation. Health Officer Dr. M. H. Fletcher and Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, of the board of health, and City Physician A. Crawford made an examination. Dr. Crawford pronounced the case smallpox. The negro told several stories as to the place whence he came, saying at one time Jacksonville, at another Tampa, and at another Spartanburg. The case was immediately quarantined, and patrolmen were stationed at the front and rear entrances of the building.

THE LOSS ON THE MAINE.

President McKinley Sends the Senate Statistics as to the Killed and Saved.

In responding to a resolution President McKinley to-day transmitted to the Senate a report from the Bureau of Navigation with regard to the loss of life by the Maine disaster:

Number on board the Maine at the time of the disaster—Officers 26; sailors, 290; marines, 39; total, 355.

Number saved—Officers, 24; sailors, 60; marines, 11; total, 95.

Number lost—Officers, 2; sailors, 230; marines, 28; total, 260.

Bodies recovered—Officers, 1; sailors and marines, 177; died from injuries, 8; total, 186.

Those buried in the cemetery at Havana numbered 166; buried at Key West, 19; buried at Pittsburg, 1.

Numbers of bodies not recovered—Officers, 1; enlisted men and marines, 73; total, 74.

The work of recovery, says the report, was continued until April 6th, when the wrecking tugs were withdrawn, and nothing now is being done in that direction so far as is known, and the last bodies reported as recovered were sent to Key West on March 30th. No estimate has been made of the parts of bodies which were recovered and buried.—Washington Dispatch, 12th.

If you Wish to be Well.

You must fortify your system against the attacks of disease. Your blood must be kept pure, your stomach and digestive organs in order, your appetite good. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine to build you up, purify and enrich your blood and give you strength. It creates an appetite and gives digestive power.