

## THE MAINE BLOWN UP

Havana Harbor the Scene of Wildest Confusion.

## THIRTY OF HER CREW KILLED

Shock Felt Throughout the City and Troops Ordered to Quarters.

It Cannot Be Stated How the Explosion Occurred, Whether it Was the Work of Spaniards or Not—At Last Accounts it Was Feared the Maine Was Sinking—Details Not Obtainable.

At 10:10 this morning The Post received the following despatch from New York in the regular course of its telegraphic news service. While the details are not given fully, because they could not be obtained at the hour we were publishing, and while the awful event which blew the American battleship, or even though the act was committed in a private capacity by the radical element in Havana) is not ascertained to have resulted from an accident or from other cause, the news, if correct, is of a most startling nature. As the despatch reads, the same news has been received by New York dailies which this morning publish it, concurrently with its appearance in The Post. Our telegraphic news service is too reliable for us to doubt the reliability of the news.

New York, Feb. 15.—Despatches received in this city tonight from Havana.

The United States cruiser "Maine," blown up in the harbor here, was the scene of a tragedy of a terrific explosion.

It is reported that many were killed, and the details are as yet lacking.

The explosion occurred shortly after 10 o'clock, the effect of which was felt throughout the city.

The harbor is filled with excited citizens, and troops have been ordered to quarters.

Reports sent to the aid of the Maine, a number of ships in the harbor, and the wildest reports are current, declaring that as many as 300 persons are killed. It is probable, however, that this estimate is excessive.

It is known of the explosion. It is reported that the cruiser is seriously damaged, and is apparently crippled. There are reports that she will sink.

## THE LOWE INCIDENT AFTERMATH.

Minister Salts Today—True Position of Spain Stated, Etc.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The Maine left Havana on Feb. 15.—De Lome left Havana on Feb. 15.—The Congressional committee for New York, where he will be held for the continent, instead of returning to Spain.

De Lome asked if he had anything to say on his departure, he only said "nothing." Over 200 boxes of the late minister's belongings have been shipped to New York.

The active Spanish Minister in Havana, Senor Dubose, was very busy in the commercial treaty between the United States and Spain. He received instructions from his Government, and he can now act in the name of the treaty.

De Lome, by Senor Gullom will be replaced by Minister Woodford today. It is reported that Spain throughout the continent with the United States act with perfect good faith. That the United States never entertained an idea of such an agent to the United States, and the fact that De Lome's departure was instantly adopted by the Government recognized as official.

In conclusion, the Government regrets the importance attached to a private document.

## IN NEW YORK GUARDED BY DETECTIVES.

New York, Feb. 15.—Ex-Minister De Lome, his wife and two boys and a valet arrived in New York tonight. They will sail tomorrow.

A curious crowd met them at the depot, and passed uncomplimentary remarks in their hearing.

De Lome grew very angry at this and turned his back on the reporters, and snapped out: "Nothing to say!"

The crowd jostled about the carriage, and when De Lome got to his hotel a number of detectives appeared to guard him, and remained in the corridor outside of his apartments to prevent any harm coming to him. He will be guarded by detectives on the way to the steamer tomorrow morning to prevent any possible attack from cranks or revengeful Cubans.

SPAIN'S POSITION.

Madrid, Feb. 15.—A note addressed to Senor Gullom, Minister of Foreign Affairs, by United States Minister Woodford yesterday, referring to the De Lome letter, simply asked the Government whether the intentions attributed to Spain by the language of De Lome's letter were true, and also complained of the attacks made in the letter of the Spanish Minister on President McKinley.

DISSOLUTION OF THE CORTES.

It is believed that at a meeting held yesterday the Cabinet fixed the date of the dissolution of the Cortes.

Ministers refuse to divulge the day, and will not do so until the cessation of friction with the United States, but the general idea is that a dissolution will take place almost immediately.

AUTONOMY IN CUBA.

Blanco Urged to Preval on Spanish Cabinet to Modify Constitution.

Havana, Feb. 15.—The radical faction of the Autonomist party is making a strenuous effort to convince the Spanish Government of the necessity of making further political concessions, if peace is to be reached within a short period.

Senors Amblard, Giberga and other prominent Autonomists make frequent calls on Gen. Blanco and urge him to prevail upon the Madrid Cabinet that the recently decreed autonomic constitution should be modified before the next general election.

Kentucky Legislature Would Free Cubans.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 15.—In the House of Representatives this morning a resolution was introduced by Representative Williams, of Menifee county, urging Kentucky Congressmen and Senators to use all possible efforts to secure the recognition of Cuban patriots and Cuba as an independent and free republic. The resolution urged that the Congressional delegation from Kentucky do all in their power to have President McKinley intercede in behalf of the patriots. Tomorrow it will be sent to the Senate.

Death of Bishop Quintard.

Chatanooga, Tenn., Feb. 15.—Bishop C. T. Quintard, one of the most prominent Episcopal divines in the South, died today at Meridianville, Ga., where he had gone with the hope of regaining his shattered health. He was an Englishman by birth, but moved to America more than fifty years ago. He was in the Confederate army, serving as chaplain under Gen. Kirby Smith. Soon after he was elected Bishop of Tennessee, which position he held until his death. In 1869 he founded the University of the South, at Seawane.

Peace Again in Nicaragua—Invaders Driven Out.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Senor Corea, the Charges d'Affaires of the Greater Republic of Central America, today informed the State Department that he had received a cable message from the President of Nicaragua, informing him that the invaders who entered that State a few days ago have been utterly routed, and consequently the Republic is now still at peace.

Smallpox Spreading in Tennessee.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 15.—Six cases of small-pox are reported at Johnson City, two developing last night. Nearly one hundred cases are reported in the neighborhood of Middlesboro, and from this source of infection the disease has spread into several Tennessee towns. Vigorous steps are being taken to prevent the further spreading of the plague.

Mr. Broughton's Successor.

Roanoke, Va., Feb. 15.—The congregation of Calvary Baptist church have extended a unanimous call to Rev. C. G. Jones, of Covington, Ky., to assume charge of that pastorate here, recently made vacant by the resignation of Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Trusts and Trusts—Crackers Cornered.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—It is asserted today that Moore Brothers have received between \$2,000,000 and \$5,000,000 of common stock for the organizing of the National Biscuit Company.

## THREE LOUD BUGLE BLASTS IN THE CONGRESS YESTERDAY

Issued to the People of the United States

BY CHAIRMEN OF SILVER PARTIES

The Chairmen of the National Committees of the Democratic, Populist and Silver Republican Parties Concurrently Issue Addresses Denouncing the Republican Party and Its Attempt to Fasten Gold Standard on the Country.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Addresses "to the people," which are veritable campaign bugle blasts, were concurrently issued today by the chairmen of the Democratic, Silver Republican, and Populist parties.

The three addresses are on similar lines in denouncing the attempts of the Republican party to more thoroughly fasten the gold standard on the country, to retire greenbacks, and to increase the power of national banks, and in appealing for concerted action by three parties in the approaching Congressional elections.

The address of Chairman Jones, of the Democratic National committee, says:

"The surrender of the Republican party to the gold standard and monopoly is at last complete. The depression of life and happiness, which was inseparable from a long course of declining prices, has now checked development, and if continued would ultimately stifle civilization."

The plan of the bill prepared by the Monetary Commission declare to contemplate the formation of a great bank trust, pool or syndicate, with powers such as no man ever before had the audacity to suggest.

Chairman Jones urges the people everywhere to "gird up their loins" and at once "take steps to save themselves and their children from the fetters now being openly forged to bind them."

The address of the Silver Republican party says, that while the issue remains unsettled, Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans "must stand shoulder to shoulder, in one united front, the last refuge of self-government, the one remaining hope of liberty to succeeding centuries."

The address concludes with an appeal for harmony and co-operation in every State and Congressional district among the opponents of gold and monopoly, in order that an undivided front may be presented to the common enemy.

The Populist address says: "The gold syndicate, and its allied monopolies of the country, have subsidized the press, and that attempts to seat their well-paid attorneys in the halls of legislation and of justice, and even in college faculties, are maneuvered for either service or silence, by pretended generosity or perverted philanthropy. That the divine right of kings is to be succeeded by the divine right of the millionaire, who proposes to run everything."

They appeal to all citizens who oppose a government "of trusts, by trusts and for trusts."

## THE "CLARA NEVADA" LOST.

Description of the Fine Steamer Recently Wrecked.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 15.—The Clara Nevada, a fine steel steamer, of Seattle, has been lost about fifty miles north of Juneau, Alaska, with her crew and forty passengers. Details of the disaster were received here this afternoon from Commodore John Irving, of the C. P. N. Co.'s fleet, who is in charge of the steamer Islander, which will reach this city from Alaskan ports tomorrow.

The Nevada left Dyea and Skaguay February 5th for Juneau, homeward bound. When off Seward City she encountered a heavy gale, and was in great distress when she entered Berner Bay, evidently for the purpose of seeking shelter. Citizens of Seward, from the dock, saw the distressed vessel battling with the wind and waves, but could lend no assistance. In the words of George Beck and wife, two of the spectators on the dock, the scene is described as follows:

"The vessel was bucking a strong head of wind and made little, if any, progress, something apparently being wrong with her engines. The waves at times were running mountains high, and in occasional glances of the vessel to be had by us, we saw that she was on fire. A high wind fanned the flames until they completely enveloped the steamer, lighting up the night, but shutting out from view any signs of human life on board. Then there was a tremendous report, as of boilers exploding, was heard, accompanied by a brilliant flash, and when next we looked for her the hull of the steamer was sinking slowly out of sight."

Cold Water Kentucky Legislators.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 15.—Representative Petty, of Grant county, has introduced a resolution in the House congratulating Miss Bradley on her choice of using water instead of wine to christen the battleship "Kentucky."

## IN THE CONGRESS YESTERDAY

Daily Proceedings of the National Legislature.

## KANSAS PACIFIC BILL IN SENATE

The House Disposes of a Number of Important Measures, Among Them One to More Perfectly Secure Alaskan Trade, and Protect American Vessels Engaged in Klondike Carrying Trade.

Washington, Feb. 15.—A resolution offered this morning by Harris, of Kansas, in relation to the proposed sale of the Kansas Pacific Railroad, was taken up in the Senate today. Harris charged that the Department of Justice had, under the pressure of the reorganization committee, retreated from the position it had formerly taken and was now willing to sell the Government's claim for about \$5,000,000.

The Department had explained this by saying it was simply foregoing interest on the debt.

This is untrue, Harris said. Interest was money actually paid out by the United States as interest when the road had defaulted, and should, of course, be included in the debt. He attributed the Government's change of front to the representation of friends of the reorganization committee, whose every statement and claim had, by subsequent developments, been proven false, he said, and reminded him of what the Senator from Missouri (Vest) had once said: "When they speak they lie, and when they are silent they steal."

Senator Foraker said the change of programme of the administration was due to a course of events. That the President had used his best judgment in the matter. There had been no jugglery, no mystery, nothing that was not capable of the most satisfactory explanation.

The motion to refer the matter to the Pacific Railroad Committee was defeated.

The resolution was then agreed to. It directs the Attorney General to inform the Senate if he has authorized the abandonment of his agreed intention to redeem the first mortgage bonds, and to ask for a postponement of the sale and the appointment of a receiver and whether he has authorized an agreement by which the property is to be sold for the face value of the subsidy bonds, and whether the Government has agreed not to be a bidder at the sale.

The Senate then went into secret executive session on the Hawaiian matter after which it adjourned.

## IN THE HOUSE.

The House today disposed of quite a number of important bills. Among those passed were those to amend the navigation laws, so as to more perfectly secure Alaskan trade for the American merchant marine; to prohibit officers or directors of national banks from overdrawing their accounts or of making loans to any officer without the consent and sanction of directors; authorizing the use of private postal cards.

The first bill noted above is intended to protect American vessels engaged in the Klondike carrying trade, and is severe in its penalties. At present, cargoes destined from one American port to another can be carried partly or all the way by a vessel touching at Victoria or Vancouver. This bill amends that law so as to require all such goods to be transported by American vessels only.

A violation of the provision is made punishable by a fine of \$200. The present fine is only \$25.

Mr. Torrey, of Arkansas, made a fierce attack on the bill, declaring it was in the interest of the "ship trust." He wanted the shipping laws repealed, so as to permit Americans to buy ships in the cheapest market. Then they could hope to compete with foreigners for trade, he said.

The House agreed to take a vote on the bankruptcy bill next Saturday, and also to discuss and vote on the Loud bill, regulating second class mail matter, on March 3rd.

## EVENING SESSION.

After the executive session of the Senate, the doors were re-opened, at 5 o'clock, and the reply of the Attorney-General to resolution adopted earlier in the day with relation to the Kansas Pacific Railroad was read. The status of the case, and events leading up to it, were cited at some length.

As there was no law for the operation of the road by the government or its agents, doubt existed whether the court, after the sale, would appoint receivers for that purpose. In order to put the government in a position to secure better prices for its property the Attorney-General proposed (under power given him) to redeem the first-mortgage bonds, and appeared in court to ask a further postponement of sale. This proceeding were abandoned, to guarantee a minimum bid equal to the principal of the government debt of \$5,300,000, instead of \$2,500,000, the price fixed by the court.

This proposition the Attorney-General accepted, but he did not agree to refrain from bidding at the sale. The property, he added, will be sold at public sale, in open competition, to the highest bidder, subject only to the above stipulation. Adjourned.

## A WARNING TO GOV. RUSSELL.

A Little Memorandum of Some Lawyers' Fees in a Georgia Railway Case.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 15.—In the settling up of the Southwestern Railroad litigation, there is an illustration of how money goes when a railroad gets into court.

The fees of United States Senator Bacon, as attorney, amounted to \$5,000. Services of Col. Moller, of Augusta, and of the New York law firm, were valued at \$25,000 each. R. T. Wilson, of New York, expert of the Southwestern Railroad, received \$150,000 for arranging the bond of the Southwestern, and for other services; and President W. G. Raoul, of the Mexican National Railway, came in for \$50,000 for the part he took in protecting the interests of the Southwestern.

## WILKES RAILROAD BOND CASE.

Will be Argued at Winston This Morning Before Judge Starbuck.

Winston, N. C., Feb. 15.—The Wilkes county bond case, which was set for argument before Judge Starbuck tonight, has been postponed until 9:30 tomorrow (Wednesday) morning.

Judge Avery, H. L. Green, T. B. Finley and Sheriff Call, of Wilkes county, are all here. The losing side will appeal to the Supreme Court, it is asserted here tonight.

Winston, N. C., Feb. 15.—The Board of Directors of the Winston-Salem Y. M. C. A. today elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, R. A. Spaug; Vice-Presidents, D. H. Blair and W. M. Hendren. Mr. A. W. Hicks was re-elected General Secretary.

## "HOLD!" SHOUTED THE SPEAKER.

The South Carolina Legislature in a Com motion Again.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 15.—The Senate could not stand the pressure, and today reconsidered its action of last night in killing the House resolution for an investigation of the members of the General Assembly in connection with the sample-room dispensary incident noted yesterday.

It passed that resolution, and then another resolution was passed, looking to ascertaining to what extent the members and teachers of the General Assembly have been practicing salaried and drinking with variety show actresses.

Still another resolution was presented, but it was not read through, and yet it caused a commotion. The clerk began to read:

"Whereas, There have been rumors that certain members of the House have been seen monkeying —

"Hold!" shouted Speaker Gary. No more was heard of the resolution, and members breathed freely again.

## FISHERMEN FROZEN UP.

Perilous Position of a Number Lost on Lake Erie Last Night.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Fifteen to eighteen fishermen who were caught in a blinding snow storm this afternoon are lost on the ice in Lake Erie, and it is feared that they will freeze before the air clears enough to permit searching parties to go after them. Bonfires are blazing all along the beach, and bells are ringing and whistles blowing to guide those who may come within sight or sound.

## A \$1,000 PACKAGE DISAPPEARED.

Slick Trick of a St. Louis Thief Impersonating Telephone Inspector.

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 15.—An unknown man succeeded in robbing the Franklin Bank here to-day, of \$1,000, representing himself to be a telephone inspector. Only one clerk was present, the others being at lunch, of whom the thief asked permission to inspect the telephone. The clerk invited him inside the railing where the telephone box was situated. The clerk was called to the front of the bank at that juncture, and when he looked a moment later, the "inspector" had disappeared with a package containing \$1,000.

## Big Blaze in a Missouri Town.

Chillicothe, Mo., Feb. 15.—Robbers set fire to the town of Wheeling, ten miles east of here, before dawn this morning. The townsfolk hastened from their beds to fight the flames, but before the fire was subdued the post-office, prison, bank, and a dozen other buildings were destroyed. The first blaze was discovered in a grocery store, the safe of which was looted, the robbers getting only \$40, however. They were traced three miles east, where the empty money drawer of the store was found. Loss \$25,000.

## New Postmaster for Wadesboro.

Washington, Feb. 15.—John L. Matheson was today appointed postmaster of Wadesboro, N. C., and Andrew W. Willis, at Nashville, Tenn.

## THE ZOLA TRIAL STILL ON

Testimony and Scenes at Yesterday's Session.

## ESTERHAZY MAKES A PREDICTION

That is Well Calculated to Frighten "Scary" People—Says the Streets of Paris May be Strawn With Thousands of Dead Men Before the Miserable Business is Over—Wants to Lead His Regiment Against the Jews.

By Cable to The Morning Post. Paris, Feb. 15.—At the Zola trial today four experts testified that they were convinced that the bordereau was written by Esterhazy.

Comparisons were made between specimens of Esterhazy's writing, the photographic fac-simile of the bordereau and the actual writings of Dreyfus.

One witness declared that any expert who did not believe the bordereau was the work of Esterhazy deserved to be disqualified as an expert thereafter.

Depositions by Mlle. Cormingew and Mme. Boulangy were read. Mme. Boulangy acknowledged receiving several letters from Esterhazy, which were perhaps more compromising than his traitorous Uhlan letter. She declared that she was unwilling to submit these letters to the court.

Esterhazy has called several times lately, she said, to demand the return of these letters. Once he gained her door, which was partly open, but which was held from opening further by a safety chain.

The defense applied to the court for an order compelling the production of the letters. The decision was reserved. More expert testimony was introduced, showing the handwriting of the bordereau and Esterhazy.

Several members of the French Institute testified, declaring that Dreyfus was not guilty of writing the bordereau. M. Grimaud, especially, made a sensation by declaring that because he had signed a protest against the conclusions of other experts regarding the origin of the bordereau he was dismissed.

## INTERVIEW WITH ESTERHAZY.

Paris, Feb. 15.—In an interview with Esterhazy tonight he said: "It is almost impossible for me to reach a class without scenes of violence. It is likely enough that the streets of Paris will be strewn with hundreds and thousands of dead men before the miserable business is concluded.

"I should ask nothing better than to lead my regiment against the Jews. I would shoot them without hatred or anger, but as a work of public safety—as if they were so many rabbits!"

## FREE SILVER ABANDONED

By Wyoming Republicans Whose Committee Adopts St. Louis Platform.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Feb. 15.—The Republican Central committee of Wyoming met here today and discussed the plan of campaign for this year. It was decided that Wyoming Republicans will abandon the free silver platform adopted at the last three State conventions and endorse without qualification the platform adopted at St. Louis.

## SHUFORD AND KITCHIN PROTEST

Against the Annual Subsidy Paid Southern for Faster Mail Service.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Representatives Shuford and Kitchin, of North Carolina; Lamb, of Virginia, and Kleberg, of Texas, appeared before the House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads this morning and strongly objected to a continuance of the special subsidy of \$196,000 paid the Southern Railway for carrying the mails.

Although the Postoffice Department has repeatedly urged that the payment of the subsidy to the Southern cease, and Committees on Postoffices and Postroads have heretofore omitted the item from the appropriation bills, the House has always voted it back into the bill. The advocates of the item declare it secures a faster mail service for the South Atlantic States, its opponents believing otherwise.

## A FALSE ALARM.

Mr. Grubbs of Forsyth County Died a Natural Death.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post. Winston, N. C., Feb. 15.—James Grubb, an aged citizen of Walkertown, this county, died Sunday, supposedly of apoplexy. At the request of relatives, however, Coroner Linville had the body exhumed and examined today, to see if the old man's death was caused by cruel treatment which he was alleged to have received from two young men who went to Grubb's house ten days ago, and it is said, gave him a severe beating. The jury decided that the young men were not responsible for his death.