

# The Morning Post.

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RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1898.

NO. 75

LOOKS MORE LIKE WAR

The Merchant Marine Now Being Armed.

DISCUSSED BY THE CABINET

Evidence Secured by Naval Board of Enquiry Yesterday Was "Highly Satisfactory."

COURT GOES TO KEY WEST TODAY

But Will Return to Havana Before Finally Making Its Report—Important Discoveries Made by the Divers Yesterday and Valuable Testimony Given by Eye Witnesses of the Explosion Before Court of Enquiry—The Spanish Cruiser "Vizcaya" Leaves New York Ostensibly for Havana, but the Government Believes She Will Drop Anchor in Hampton Roads—The "Terror" is There to Meet Her if She Does, and the Naval Authorities Have Orders to Closely Watch the Torpedo Boat "Holland" Lest She Take a Notion to Dive Under the "Vizcaya" and Make a Skyrocket of Her—The Montgomery Leaves Tampa for Havana Via Key West, Etc.

By Cable to The Morning Post.  
Havana, Feb. 25.—This morning a heavy fog prevented the divers from going down into the "Maine" wreck. The fog stopped at 1 p. m., however, and work was resumed.  
The diving tug "Light Arm" has secured all the necessary wood for the construction of special apparatus to reach the bodies. The divers will devote themselves exclusively now to the work of recovering the bodies inside of the "Maine" and will continue it until the bodies are removed.  
**IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES.**  
The divers themselves as well as the divers placed with the work of recovering the bodies, especially that of yesterday and today, and particularly for the examination of the outer hull of the "Maine," and the important discoveries about the "Maine" disaster.  
The divers secured evidence which is of great value to the Court of Enquiry. The bodies of the "Maine" were recovered today continued the testimony of eye-witnesses of the disaster. Many of the residents of Key West who examined the hull of the "Maine" presented further revelations.  
The divers were to great excitement and the declarations made by them in the Court of Enquiry by eye-witnesses of the explosion.  
**SHIPS SAFE RECOVERED.**  
The bodies of the divers were recovered from the "Maine" the safe money was kept on board the "Maine" and the water poured out of it. The safe will be opened by the divers and their officers.  
The divers were discovered with great excitement because it had been moved to a position in the ship by the divers of the explosion.  
The divers discovered the drawer in the ship's chest (Childwick) containing the sacred vestments of the chapel of the ship, which being valuable, the divers could not leave the evening, because day-break would have been when the drawer was discovered.  
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## "VIZCAYA" GOES DIRECT TO HAVANA.

New York, Feb. 25.—The "Vizcaya" sailed today, going direct to Havana. It was saluted with whistles as it left the harbor.  
Capt. Eulate sent a note to the United States naval commander, thanking him for the careful patrol maintained about his vessel, but expressing regret that such a guard had been considered necessary.

## WATCHING THE "HOLLAND" AND "VIZCAYA."

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.  
New York, Feb. 25.—The submarine torpedo boat "Holland," anchored off Perth Amboy today, with a Government tug with armed men on board close by.  
Admiral Bunce yesterday telegraphed Secretary of the Navy Long, that the "Holland" had appeared, and stated that he thought she would bear watching, in view of the presence of the "Vizcaya."  
Admiral Bunce has been instructed to keep a close watch on the "Holland," and to not let her get out of sight of one of the Government tugs while the "Vizcaya" remained here. He was also instructed to seize the "Holland" and arrest all on board, if she made any suspicious movement in proximity to the "Vizcaya."  
The Navy department is not satisfied that the "Vizcaya," sailed for Havana direct.

It is believed that she will drop into Hampton Roads.  
The monitor "Terror" is there, waiting to give her a friendly greeting, and incidentally to be on hand in case Spain and the United States should go to war.

## CABINET CONSIDERS QUESTION—POSITION OF MEMBERS.

Washington, Feb. 25.—At the Cabinet meeting today the "Maine" disaster was taken up and discussed in all its aspects.  
Two members of the Cabinet are in favor of forcing an indemnity and disavowal from Spain if the Board of Enquiry reports that the "Maine" was blown up by design, and ending the incident thus. But they are hopelessly in the minority.

## MUST HANG THE GUILTY ONES.

The rest of the Cabinet are inclined to the idea that the action by the United States, in case it was not an accident, should take the form of a demand for heavy indemnity and the hanging of all concerned in the crime, no matter how high in station they may be; and in the event of refusal of disavowal by Spain or responsibility for the affair, the immediate bombardment of Havana by the North Atlantic squadron.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The statement made by the President to Senators yesterday, viz., that the discovery that the explosion of a submarine mine had caused the destruction of the "Maine" would make war inevitable, which was published today, was today confirmed to their colleagues by those with whom McKinley talked, and the President's position met with general approbation.  
A hearty support to administration measures is already assured from the most ardent political party opponents of the President. As to the others in Congress, there has never been any question of their course in regard to any measure that may be taken by the administration.

They acknowledge that the preparations in progress for putting the naval and military forces in condition for active service are now general, and the fact that every step is being taken to concentrate warships and troops where they can do the most good, is admitted by men of high standing in the executive branch of the Government.  
There will be no difficulty in securing all the money necessary to put the country on a war footing if the administration asks it.

## ACTIVITY OF WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENT.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.  
Washington, Feb. 25.—At no time since the Chilean war have such active steps as those at present being taken by the War and Navy Department.

No time is being lost in putting the country on a war footing, by utilizing every available means within the present authority of the administration.  
Orders were telegraphed this afternoon by the Navy Department to commanders-in-charge of the South Atlantic, Asiatic and European Naval Stations with regard to the concentrating of their ships.

These orders went in naval cipher. The details were, of course, withheld. The department directed the commandant of the Washington Navy Yard to ship to the Brooklyn Navy Yard immediately, all the guns to be used on auxiliary cruisers. These number about a hundred.

## MERCHANT MARINE STEAMERS ARMING.

The plans for the American line steamers—the New York, Paris, St. Paul and St. Louis—provide for placing thirteen six-inch rifles on each of these ocean greyhounds.  
The shipments of guns will begin tomorrow.

## COMMERCE DESTROYERS TO BE PUT IN COMMISSION.

The commerce destroyers "Minneapolis" and "Columbia" are to be placed

in commission just as soon as enough men for that purpose can be secured.

Tomorrow the Navy Department will send a letter to the Committees on Naval Affairs of both Houses, asking that provision be made by Congress for authority to enlist 1,500 men immediately.

The monitor "Mianomah" and the "Ram Katahdin," at League Island, are to be prepared for going into commission without delay.

Preparations for war at army headquarters are equally as formidable as in the Navy Department.

## THE MONTGOMERY BOUND FOR HAVANA.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.  
Tampa, Fla., Feb. 25.—The cruiser "Montgomery" left Port Tampa tonight, with orders, to proceed, it is stated, to Havana, with a brief stop at Key West, where it will receive further orders.

It is said that Commander Converse stated to friends just before the departure of the vessel that he feared his mission was a very serious one.

## BILL TO INCREASE ARTILLERY WILL PASS.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The House Committee on Military Affairs today voted to report favorably the Senate bill to increase the force of the army by two regiments of artillery. It will undoubtedly pass at an early day.

## SEAMEN ENLISTING.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Twenty-seven telegraphers were sent to Key West for the purpose of handling the increased matter from Havana. Naval preparations continue. An official announcement has been made that the navy will enlist able bodied seamen applying.

## CHAIRMAN BOUTELLE'S ADVICE.

Representative Boutelle, chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, conferred with Secretary Long again. Mr. Boutelle said that his visit was confined wholly to the question of relief for the sufferers of the "Maine." The bill, which he has prepared, will carry about \$167,000, if passed in its present form. Mr. Boutelle stated positively that his call had nothing to do with the question of new ships and naval equipment to be provided by the Naval Appropriation bill now in course of preparation under his chairmanship. Referring to the rumors of treachery in connection with the "Maine" disaster, Mr. Boutelle said:

"I feel that any man who, by spoken or written utterance, adds a spark to inflame public sentiment at this juncture is as guilty as the man who would touch a match to the powder magazine of a vessel. This is a time for the calmest judgment instead of unguarded talk, wholly without basis of established fact, of a war which would entail the loss of hundreds and thousands of our people."  
[Concluded on Page 5.]

## BRYAN ON THE MAINE INCIDENT.

How the Late Candidate for the Presidency Views the Situation.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.  
Topeka, Kan., Feb. 25.—Mr. Wm. J. Bryan today expressed himself freely on the Spanish question.

"In my opinion," he said, "we should be slow to act in the 'Maine' affair, especially under the trying circumstances which confront us."

"Another fact which, in my mind, impels us to exercise discretion is that the official investigation of the explosion is now being made, and therefore the United States cannot afford to be too hasty in the matter."

"It would be a sad commentary on our Government were we to openly and maliciously bring about more strained relations with Spain by our anxiety to locate the responsibility of the 'Maine' disaster."

"If evidence, tending to attach the responsibility where many people assert it properly belongs, is found, then it will be time enough for action."

"Politically or otherwise, the patriotism of the American people has never been appealed to in vain, but undue haste at this time might involve us in a disastrous conflict, for which there would be no sufficient cause."

## THE BRITISH FLAG

Hoisted on the American Side of Summit Lake—Gold Seekers Freezing to Death.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 25.—The steamer "Noye" arrived here this morning from Skaguay, bringing news of the hoisting of the British flag on Summit Lake, 14 miles on the American side of the international line. The reason is not given.

The bodies of eight men who were frozen to death along the trail were brought to Skaguay. Some of them were found sitting upright on sleds, frozen stiff.

## MRS. WHITNEY'S CONDITION.

She Continues in a State of Complete Paralysis.

Aiken, S. C., Feb. 25.—The condition of Mrs. Whitney continues critical. The blow received on the head paralyzed her body, and spinal trouble in the cervical region caused loss of use of all her limbs.

Dr. Charles L. Dana, an eminent nerve specialist, of New York, has arrived from New York. He made the trip in the record-breaking time of fourteen hours. In consultation with Dr. Dana are Drs. Bull and Mott, of New York, and McGahan, of Aiken, but it is impossible to obtain exact results of their consultation.

## IT IS HOPED TO AVOID WAR

Administration Will Not Rush Into a Conflict.

## AWAITING NAVAL COURT'S REPORT

Policy of the President as Outlined to Friends at the White House—Spanish Government Not Believed to Have Been Involved in Any Plot to Blow Up the Warship—Any Demand for Indemnity, It is Said, is Likely to Be Met Promptly.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Post this morning prints the following:

It is the firm intention of the administration not to provoke war with Spain. It is hoped by the President and his advisers that a conflict can and will be avoided.

The process of reasoning by which this conclusion has been reached has been outlined by the President to more than one visitor at the White House. It is emphasized, in the first place, that there is not a line of information in the possession of the government, official or otherwise, that proves the origin of the disaster to the "Maine." It is true that a communication has been received from Consul General Lee, which was laid before the President yesterday, in which Gen. Lee states it to be his belief that the battleship was deliberately blown up, but this is merely opinion and not evidence.

The belief of the administration is that the court of inquiry will either demonstrate the accident character of the occurrence or else that the mystery will not be solved. Even should the court conclude that the explosion was caused by external agencies, it is not considered possible that the Spanish government would do anything to do with it. In the event that the court finds that the explosion was not accidental, but was due to agencies over which the Spanish authorities had no control, the administration will ask an indemnity for the loss of the ship and reparation to the families of the victims. It is held that under all the recognized principles of international law, there is no way in which the Spanish government could be made a party to the tragic event if it disavowed all knowledge and all participation, unless that participation was established beyond the shadow of a doubt.

## EXPECTS SPAIN TO PAY.

It can be stated that the members of the administration, with one exception, believe that the indemnity asked for by the United States will be paid by Spain, in case developments necessitate the request—a contingency which is yet by no means certain. Spain has manifested ever since the present administration came into power an exceeding willingness to comply with every demand made upon it, even to the extent of recalling Weyler, liberating Americans who were in prison, and apologizing for the utterances of her Minister to this country. It is believed that if the naval court of inquiry, acting in conjunction with Spanish authorities in Havana, should determine that the accident theory is an impossible one, Spain will pay any reasonable indemnity asked for her. It would not be unlikely that financial aid would be given her by holders of her bonds. A war with the United States would still further cripple Spain's already depleted treasury, and it would be easier for her to pay the indemnity which the administration would ask than to enter upon a conflict which could have only one ending.

## WOULD CONGRESS AGREE TO IT?

Even granting, therefore, that the destruction of the "Maine" was not an accident, but admitting that Spain's participation cannot be shown, the only question remaining is whether Spain would agree to pay the indemnity. If she would, all trouble would be avoided. If not, the United States would have to follow up its demand by seizing Havana and other Cuban ports. The action of the President in accepting an indemnity would, of course, create some popular feeling, but it is expected that by the time the court of inquiry has completed its labors, some weeks hence, the present excitement will have considerably abated. If the present belief of the administration should be realized, the President would send a message to Congress, impartially giving the facts, and announcing his opinion that, although the explosion was not accidental, Spain was not responsible for and had disavowed the act. Under these circumstances the question is whether Congress would go to the extent of disagreeing with the President. The Senate might, for in that body the majority is adverse to the administration, but in the House the combined influence of the administration and of Speaker Reed would be sufficient, it is thought in administration circles, to prevent any action antagonistic to the President's position.

## PUBLIC IS FULLY INFORMED.

It can be stated on the highest authority that absolutely nothing of a disquieting nature has been received at the White House, nor is important news of any character expected until the court of inquiry has completed its investigation and submitted its report. It can also be stated, upon authority not to be questioned, that the public has been fully informed as to all matters connected with the disaster to the "Maine" which have come to the knowledge of the Government. Nothing has been withheld of the least public interest, and this policy will be continued until the problem has been solved and the whole truth brought to light.

It is known that the Government has not received any information from official sources tending to show, with any degree of certainty, that the explosion was the work of enemies.

## BRADSTREET'S-DUN'S REPORTS.

Of the Condition of the Business the Past Week and Future Outlook.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

New York, Feb. 25.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: "While business of a speculative nature has been quick to reflect the increasing strain in political affairs, in reduced values and withdrawals or curtailment of activity in some lines, there is little to indicate that the volume of distributive trade has been reduced; and reports this week, so far as the latter branch of business is concerned, are among the best received this year."

"With a few important exceptions the price situation is strong. The cotton situation is one of firmness, reflecting alike curtailment of production, growing out of labor troubles, and firmness of raw cotton induced by good export demand."

New York, Feb. 25.—Dun's tomorrow will say: "Foreign possibilities have much affected speculation and caused hesitation in some large business operations, possibly in part for the check in the rapid advance of wheat; but industrial production continues larger than ever. Payments through the clearing houses for the week were 57.5 per cent. greater than last year, and 12.6 per cent. greater than in 1892."

"Railroad earnings show an increase over last year of 12 per cent., and over 1892 of 6.6 per cent., all classes of roads sharing the increase, while the tonnage movement is also beyond all records, and over 20 per cent. larger than in 1896."

"Prudent preparations for an emergency, though paraded as proof that war is certain, were in fact calculated to render any difficulty less likely, and evidently gave that impression to foreign buyers."

"The course of foreign exchange, and strength of foreign buying toward the close, gave reason to expect that a different term would soon be produced, and \$2,800,000 of gold was ordered on Friday."

"Wheat continued to progress upward, until \$1.08 3/4 was reached on Monday, but declined 3 1/2 cents later, as if there were fear that Spain would somewhat stop British vessels from taking wheat across the water."

"The spot prices of cotton have not been affected. This branch has been by the closing of the strike in one Fall River mill, and by the addition of some works at the South."

"Silk manufacture shows a remarkable increase during the last six months, having imported raw material far in excess of consumption in any previous year, and at a rate of 120 per cent. above the imports in the last census year."

"Iron manufacture has more demand for products and slightly better prices for Bessemer pig."

"The money market has been stronger, with a net outgo of \$2,500,000 currency from New York, interior banks preparing for spring settlements."

"The failures for the week were 235, against 296 last year."

## HORRIBLE DUEL WITH KNIVES

Between the Kilgore Brothers and Two Others.

## FOUR YOUNG MEN KNIFED TO DEATH

The Young Girl Who Was the Innocent Cause of the Terrible Affair Present but Is Saved from Witnessing the Affair by Fainting—Two of the Participants Cousins of the Late Congressman Buck Kilgore, One Bearing His Full Name.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 25.—Buck and John Kilgore, brothers, who are cousins of the late "Buck" Kilgore, of Texas, engaged in a duel today with Louis Hay, bowie knives being the weapons used.

They were visiting Ernest Haynie, at the latter's home, near Fordyce, Ark. The quarrel arose over a girl named Bessie Whitesides, with whom Buck was in love. He charged Hay with trying to win her affections.

The duel was fought in the front yard, the girl witnessing it. She fainted as soon as the fight began. All of the boys fought like demons, and were almost literally cut to pieces Haynie and Buck Kilgore's brother John finally taking part in the fight.

All four are said to be dying tonight.

## EWART CONFIRMATION QUESTION.

Senator Pritchard Sends the Post a Dispatch Denying Language Imputed to Him, and Expressing Confidence That Ewart Will Be Confirmed.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.  
Marshall, N. C., Feb. 25.—I notice that the correspondent of The Morning Post at Winston, among other things in yesterday's despatches, says:

"Senator Pritchard passed through Greensboro this week, and it is learned that he admitted to a friend that there is no hope for Ewart."

I desire to say that in so far as the said statement refers to Judge Ewart's confirmation, it is absolutely without foundation. I am confident that the charges against Judge Ewart cannot be sustained, and I am sure that he will be confirmed.

J. C. PRITCHARD.

## A CHINESE RAILWAY SCHEME

Is Blocked by Intervention of Anti-American German Minister at Peking.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

Peking, Feb. 25.—An Imperial decree having authorized a Chinese syndicate to construct, with foreign (presumably American) assistance, a railroad from Tien-Tsin to Chin-Kiang, through Shantung, the Baron von Heyking, German Minister, has intervened, on the ground that Germany has been accorded the refusal of constructing railways in the province of Shantung. The project, therefore, is blocked.

Great Britain objects to this virtual assumption of railway monopoly in Shantung.

Russia is insisting that extensive powers be granted to the Russian military officers attached to the Chinese army, one claim being that they have unreserved power over the army. China hesitates to grant the Russian demand.

## BURIED TREASURE IN VIRGINIA.

Men Coming from California to Hunt It on the Old Gov. Wise Place.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 25.—Isaac Pajnter and Rancher Watkins have started for Virginia to seek treasure on old Governor Henry A. Wise's plantation, five miles southeast of Richmond, on the Chesapeake Bay.

They were given plans by an old negro who claims to have been a servant of Governor Wise. During the war he helped Governor Wise bury the treasure, he claims, and says he can now find it. It consists of three kegs of gold and silver coins.

## RYAN-GREEN PRIZE FIGHT.

Ryan Whips His Man Without Receiving a Scratch in Return.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 25.—George Green, of San Francisco, and Tommy Ryan, of Syracuse, welter weight champion of the world, fought eighteen rounds in the arena here tonight for the championship.

Ryan won. Green made a good showing and fought pluckily, but Ryan's superiority was very apparent. Ryan did not receive a scratch.

## AN A. T. CO. FACTORY BURNED—LOSS \$350,000

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 25.—The re-handling factory of the American Tobacco Company here was burned today. Loss \$350,000. A million pounds of tobacco was destroyed. Fourteen hundred employees had a narrow escape. Four were injured. A new fireproof building will be erected at once in its place.

## DATE FIXED FOR LAUNCHING BATTLESHIPS.

Newport News, Va., Feb. 25.—The Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company has decided upon Thursday, March 24th, as the time for the launching of the battleships "Kentucky" and "Kearsarge." The "Illinois" will be launched in the latter part of May or early in June.