

LOOKS MORE THAN EVER LIKE WAR

ORDERING TROOPS SOUTH

Important and Significant Orders of Yesterday.

ARMING REPORT FROM HAVANA

That the Maine Was and Could Have Been Blown Up as She Was Only By a Submarine Mine.

FRANCO-SPANISH ALLIANCE FORMED

The War Cloud Will Probably Not Roll By, and Actual Hostilities May Now Be Counted On if Matters Proceed Along the Present Line Much Further—Can it Possibly Be Prevented Even Now is a Question.

Washington, March 11.—Midnight.—The War Department today made preparations of such a character as to show that the Government anticipates troops.

Now orders are being prepared, providing for a general movement of the regular cavalry and artillery troops to the southeast, leaving only some troops in remote sections where Indian affairs are likely.

With the addition of the 1,600 recruits for the two new artillery regiments, the regular forces of the United States now number nearly 27,000.

Now at least 2,000 regulars will be returned in the Eastern and Southern States.

The cost of transporting this great body of men will be too great to be borne by the ordinary annual appropriation from the heretofore unimportant revenues of the army organizations, and it will be necessary to resort to the special fund of \$500,000 just appropriated by Congress to meet the expense.

Light units with this general movement are an important order issued by Secretary Alger today, by the direction of the President, providing for the territorial limits of departments to take effect March 12th.

The changes divide the Department of the East, making a new department of the South, the Department of Texas being abolished.

The greatest significance of this order rests in the necessity for a military department of smaller geographical units at a time of greater activity.

The Department of the East, instead of extending only that portion lying north of South Carolina and Tennessee.

The orders issued today create two departments and abolish two departments.

The probable scene of naval operations gives it prominence which it would not otherwise possess. It embraces the whole coast line, from North Carolina to the Rio Grande, and every seaboard city of the Southeast will be under the protection of the Army of the Gulf, operating in conjunction with the naval vessels in Southern waters.

Nearly all the cavalry and infantry to be sent East will probably be assigned to the Department of the Gulf.

A conference was held at the War Department today between Gen. Miles and Senator Hawley, the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, which will result in an attempt to pass the bill lowering the grade of Lieutenant-General.

Gen. Miles is preparing to take the field if hostilities occur, but it will remain in Washington after the concentra-

tration of nearly the entire army on the Southeastern coast, awaiting developments which may make active operations necessary.

**PRESIDENT GRAVELY IMPRESSED**

With Latest Advice of Government From Havana—Hostilities Almost Inevitable.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—Midnight.—President McKinley, the members of his cabinet and the officials of the State and War and Navy departments, who have knowledge of information that has been received from Havana during the past few days, are tonight gravely apprehensive.

At no time since the "Maine" was destroyed has the situation been so critical, and those in authority are no longer able to conceal their anxiety.

This information from Havana has caused the former hopefulness of the President and his advisers, for an amicable settlement, to be changed to fear.

While this is not official, it is reliable, as it comes under the seal of privacy from Consul General Lee and the naval officers now on duty in Havana.

By letter, by telegram, and by word of mouth, the President has been told that the explosion which wrecked the "Maine" came from the outside.

One of these government officers goes further and says that the testimony taken by the Board of Enquiry indicates clearly THAT NOTHING BUT A SUBMARINE MINE COULD HAVE CAUSED THE DISASTER.

Nothing but the conviction that a conflict is imminent could justify the order already decided upon, that will take the Major General in command of the army from the quietude of his office into the field in active command of troops.

When General Miles buckles on his sword, to again become a real soldier, again he will wear the stars of the lieutenant general, as the grade will undoubtedly be revived by Congress, probably the coming week, in order that he may take the rank heretofore enjoyed by Sherman, Scott, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Schofield.

Such official acts as these are not performed for effect. They are born of necessity; and, whereas, until two or three days ago, the President was preparing for war as a means of preserving peace, he is now mobilizing the vessels of the navy and the troops of the army because he believes the conflict seems unavoidable.

Tonight the President is at a State dinner in honor of the heir apparent to the throne of a nation that may, or may not, be friendly to the United States in case of war.

Tomorrow he will formally receive the Minister from the country with which the United States may soon be at war.

No member of the cabinet knows what course the President will pursue when he receives the report of the Board of Enquiry. It is said by some that President McKinley does not yet know himself.

Nothing definite in this regard is known, beyond the fact that he will demand of Spain a prompt reparation, in the form of an indemnity to the amount of the full value of the "Maine," and heavy punitive damages in addition.

The President is confident that Spain will accede to the demand, but he is equally confident that the people of the United States will not be satisfied with reparation based on cash.

This is why American warships are now being headed toward Cuba, and this is why the troops of the United States army are being ordered from all points to the Southeast.

**THREE NEW BATTLESHIPS.**

To Buy or to Build Them the Naval Appropriation Bill Will Provide.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—"Three new battleships, probably four new dry docks, Secretary of the Navy authorized to buy armor plate at \$100 per ton."

These are the principal items which will appear in Naval Appropriation bill, for the year ending June 30th, 1899, to be reported to the House early next week, probably on Monday.

The action of the committee regarding the battleships has a significant bearing upon the "Maine" disaster.

When that unfortunate ship went down, there was much discussion among the advisability of constructing more of that class of vessels. If the loss was due to accident or other cause from within, it was felt that the expenditure for ships likely to blow up could hardly be justified.

That the committee have now decided to build three of the same kind, is conclusive evidence of the belief of the members that the "Maine" was destroyed from the outside.

**FRANCO-SPANISH ALLIANCE**

Report That Protocol of Treaty of Alliance Was Signed in Paris Yesterday.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

Havana, March 12.—It is semi-officially announced here tonight that Senator Leon y Castillo, Spanish Ambassador to France in Paris, today signed a protocol of treaty of alliance between Spain and France.

Prof. C. H. Mebane, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, will address the County Teachers' Association at Graham today.

**VERY LATEST FROM HAVANA.**

Great Uneasiness Over News From United States—Slump in Stocks Results.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

Havana, March 11.—A big slump on the stock exchange was the most important manifestation today of the great uneasiness prevailing here on account of the news from the United States. The Government is trying to calm the public by declaring that there is no cause to justify a commercial panic.

Insurgents made a fierce attack last night upon a Spanish fort on the outskirts of Havana. The official Spanish statement given out is that the insurgents were thoroughly defeated.

The city of Santa Clara was also attacked last night by insurgents, and, according to the official report, the insurgents numbered about 2,000 men.

About 9:30 o'clock an explosion of dynamite near the railroad station notified the inhabitants of the proximity of the insurgents. Between Santa Clara City and Jicotea, at Ceciba, the insurgents had blown up the bridge and inflicted other damage.

The official report (only one published here) says that the insurgents were finally repulsed, with a heavy loss, although they used dynamite and orsnite bombs.

Senor Pavon, manager of the railroad from Havana to Caibarien, has refused to accept for transportation any relief supplies for the reconcentrados unless full freight charges are prepaid. All other companies are carrying the supplies free.

**EWART HEARING POSTPONED**

Until Next Week—The Judge Leaves Washington But Will Return.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—The Senate Judiciary Committee has extended the time for hearing witnesses in the Ewart case until next week.

Mr. Ewart went home tonight, but will return for the hearing next week.

Senator Pritchard expresses his confidence in being able to secure a favorable report from the committee, but this confidence is not shared by Senator Butler and some of the North Carolina Congressmen. Whatever the result in the committee may be, Ewart's case will be fought out in an executive session of the Senate.

**THE NEW SPANISH MINISTER.**

He Was Not Formally Presented to President Yesterday, But Will Be Today.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—Senor Luis Polo y Bernabe, the new Spanish Minister, visited the State Department this morning and was presented to Secretary Sherman and Assistant Secretaries Day and Adee by Senor DuBosc, the Spanish Charge d'Affaires.

The meeting was an informal one, on account of the fact that Senor Polo has been acquainted with the State Department officers in previous diplomatic experience here.

The new Minister's formal presentation to President McKinley has been postponed until tomorrow at noon, on account of the regular meeting of the cabinet at the hour previously set, viz: eleven o'clock this morning.

**CABINET MEETING YESTERDAY.**

Nothing Official Yet Received From the Naval Board of Enquiry.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—Members of the cabinet, after the meeting of that body today, were more reticent than usual in regard to the business transacted.

Nearly the whole time of the meeting was occupied with a discussion of the Spanish situation and the preparations the government is making to meet the expected emergency.

It was declared, however, that neither the cabinet officials nor the President had at hand any report of the Naval Court of Enquiry or any part of that report.

According to one member, no important conclusion in any matter connected with the present crisis was reached. The meeting was shortened by the absence of the President to meet the Belgian Prince, and he did not return to the meeting afterwards, but went driving with Prince Albert, and the meeting soon thereafter adjourned.

**SHARKEY-CHOYNSKI FIGHT**

Declared a Draw in the Sixth Round After Heavy Fighting

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

San Francisco, Cal., March 11.—The Sharkey and Choynski fight here tonight was declared a draw in the eighth round. The fighting was heavy all through, both men being tired out at the end of the sixth round. In the eighth Choynski was weak and Sharkey rushed him all over the ring, hitting in clinches and any way, regardless of the rules. Joe was floored after a disgraceful foul, but staggered to his feet. Sharkey was very weak.

A "duel," and in Ohio!

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Higginsport, Ohio, March 11.—Late last night Mayor Charles Halfhill and John H. Donald, and the latter's son, William, had a triangular duel on the street.

Sixteen shots were fired. Mayor Halfhill was fatally wounded by Donald, Sr., who was also shot, it is believed fatally, by Halfhill, as was Donald, Jr.

**SPAIN MUST SUBMIT TO ALL THE DEMANDS MADE UPON HER BY THIS GOVERNMENT.**

**PEACE PRESERVED IN NO OTHER WAY**

The President Thinks Spain Will Have the Good Sense to Do So and Thus Avoid a War Which Is Bound to Be Disastrous to That Country—As to the British-American Alliance—England's Sympathy and Good Will We Have, and We Are Not Likely to Need More of That Country—But If We Should It Would Probably Be Forthcoming—Some Timely Expressions on This Subject by Senators.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—It may be said today, in all soberness and truth, that there now remains but one hope of avoiding actual hostilities with Spain, and that hope, which is said to be shared by the Washington government, is based upon the possibility that the Madrid government will be forced to accept, with the best grace possible, any of the several probable demands which this country may see fit to make upon it in regard to the cessation of the "war" in Cuba—if the wholesale inhuman murders committed by Spain, with the sword and by starvation, can be dignified by the term war.

Diplomacy will be stretched to the last limit, for although President McKinley has decided upon a very decided and definite course which he means to follow in putting a stop to the horrible condition of affairs on the island of Cuba, he is really at heart very much opposed to precipitating a war between this country and Spain, for he was a soldier himself for several years during the troublous times of 1861-'65, and as a major in the Federal army experienced some of the horrors of war; and war now is not courted by him, and as the head of the United States army and navy he will see that it comes, if at all, only as a dernier resort, that the honor and dignity of this country may be upheld and the policy he has adopted successfully carried out.

The statement is made today that the President believes Spain will consent to accept such demands as he will make upon her. As before intimated these demands will be made as mild as possible under the circumstances, but they will be very definite and very conclusive, and they will unquestionably cover the ultimate freedom of Cuba and the cessation of the present murderous modus operandi employed by Spain in dealing with the Cuban insurgents.

The Post today states that if the President's diplomatic efforts fail to bring about the desired change in the present deplorable condition of things in Cuba, then he will be prepared for intervention, and in this step Congress will certainly rally to his support. It is realized, of course, that Spain is unable to raise money or obtain ships, and in no position to enter upon a struggle with a country of unlimited resources.

For this reason there seems to be foundation for the belief that if she is asked to pay an indemnity for the destruction of the "Maine" from causes which originated in the harbor of Havana, her bondholders will come to her relief and aid in settling the claim. Beyond this, however, there is much doubt and uncertainty.

It is not expected that the President will suggest to Spain the recognition by that power of the independence of Cuba because such action would be naturally regarded by Spain as an affront. Nor could the suggestion be accompanied by an offer to guarantee even one-half of the Cuban war debt because the temper of Congress is such that no legislation supporting this guarantee could be passed. The sentiment of both houses is undoubtedly in favor of freeing the island without any financial stipulation with Spain.

The probability is that when the official record of the situation in Cuba is laid before Congress, intervention will be authorized. For this emergency the President will be fully prepared.

If a war is thus provoked, its outcome could only be in favor of the United States. At the same time the very existence of the struggle might afford a basis upon which terms of peace could be negotiated, and the very Congress which is now unwilling to guarantee bonds would then, it is argued, be satisfied to agree to a financial proposition which would result in the relinquishment of the island and its ultimate annexation to the United States.

**ANENT AMERICAN-BRITISH ALLIANCE.**

Be the outcome what it may, this country will undoubtedly have the sympathy, and friendly offices if needs be, of Great Britain. But the United States will hardly ask any material assistance from the English government.

This fact was brought out very plainly yesterday in the discussion of the message of the Queen and of the possibility of an alliance. The importance of the overtures from Great Britain is fully realized, and were yesterday the overshadowing topic. It can be stated, however, that they will not be accepted

to the extent of an alliance. The feeling in Congress is all one way. Leading Senators gave their opinions very frankly yesterday.

"An offensive and defensive alliance with Great Britain," said Senator Davis, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, "would be at variance with our policy from the days of Washington. It would be unwise."

Senator Frye said that unless England could persuade Canada to stop nagging us and would also guarantee a satisfactory home rule for Ireland, he would not be inclined to regard with favor a proposition for an alliance. "I can understand," he said, "that the union of the two greatest English-speaking nations in the world would be formidable and powerful, but I do not believe that it will be made."

**GEN. WILSON ON THE SOUTH.**

Surprised at Absence of Bluster and Noise While Preparations for War Are Being Made.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Tampa, Fla., March 11.—While passing through Tampa, on his way to Washington, tonight, Gen. Wilson, the chief of the engineering corps, said that he was surprised to find that there is not so much excitement in the South over the prospects of war as in the North.

"I don't mean," he said, "that the people in the South don't appear as anxious for war as in the North, but they appear to look at the situation differently.

"In the South I find people confident that war will soon be declared, and all are ready for it, and yet there is no bluster or noise made about it. They are quietly preparing for what they believe will come."

**HURRYING THE COMPLETION OF DEADLIEST OF WAR VESSELS.**

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Baltimore, Md., March 11.—The Columbian Iron Works here presented a scene of great activity today, where, in obedience to the hurry orders from the Navy Department, a large force of men are working day and night to complete the torpedo-boats "McKee" and "Rodgers," and the submarine torpedo plunger.

**TORPEDO FLOTILLA AT KEY WEST.**

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Key West, Fla., March 11.—The torpedo-boat "Dupont" was hauled in at the Government wharf this afternoon. The torpedo flotilla now here includes the "Porter," "Ericsson" and "Cushing," while the "Winslow" is to arrive soon.

The steamer "Bache" sailed this afternoon for Cuban waters with supplies for the reconcentrados.

One of the crew of the "Massachusetts" was drowned yesterday at Dry Tortugas.

**SOUTHERN-REPUBLICANS SCARED**

Over Failure of Their Party to Pass Currency Reform Legislation—A Meeting in Senator Pritchard's Room.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—Southern Republicans are much exercised over the failure of Congress, so far, to pass some currency reform legislation, and a meeting was held last night in Senator Pritchard's room to consider the subject.

The opinion was there expressed that but few Southern Republican members could be returned if nothing in this line was done at this session of Congress.

Chairman Walker, of the Banking and Currency Committee, addressed the meeting in advocacy of his bill. No action was taken, but a further conference will be held next Thursday.

**MONEY FOR N. C. CLAIMANTS.**

Bowman Act Claims Up in Congress Yesterday and Will Be Passed Next Week.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—A bill to pay the Bowman act claims was considered in the House today. It will pass when the bill comes up again, next week, for final disposition.

Among the North Carolina claims carried are those of the Speight heirs, Gates county, \$175; the Deloatch heirs, Northampton county, \$315; N. K. Thornton, Sampson county, \$675; Furneyfold Mercer, Jones county, \$747; Flora J. Campbell, Harnett county, \$535; the Andrews heirs, Jones county, \$316; the Bass heirs, Wayne county, \$1,110.

**DEATH OF "OLD ROSY."**

Another of the Principal Characters of the Late War Passes Away.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 11.—General W. S. Rosecrans died here this morning. He had been in a precarious condition for several days, and had been unconscious since yesterday.

General Rosecrans had a fine record in the civil war, served as Minister to Mexico, as Register of the Treasury under President Cleveland, and was also in Congress several years.

**Years Ago.**

From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

He—to hear you women talk one would be led to believe that an ingenious woman could make a whole suit of clothes from a hairpin.

She—Not nowadays. It might have been done before the fall.

**THE SPANISH EXPLANATION**

Which Doesn't Explain Cause of Explosion of "Maine."

**BLANCO'S SAUCY CABLE TO SAGASTA**

New Developments Indicate That Spain May Yet Be Able to Purchase Warships. But Not of Great Britain—A Battery of Artillery Ordered to Fort Caswell to Protect Wilmington Harbor—The Spaniards Anxious to Know the President's Plans After May 1st—New Military Department of the South Created—Spain Worried Over Troubles in the Philippines, Etc.

By Cable to The Morning Post.

Havana, March 11.—General Blanco has cabled to Prime Minister Sagasta at Madrid that the Board of Enquiry has collected considerable testimony, and that the experts report to the effect that the "Maine" was blown up by some external agency.

He has advised his government that the American officers conducting the investigation have made every effort to distort the facts and make them corroborate the non-accident theory.

One of the causes of complaint of the Spanish authorities is presence in Havana of Captain Sigbee, who, according to their views, ought to be locked up in a fortress, paying the penalty for the loss of his battleship.

As soon as the American board has completed its work, the Spanish board will publish a report saying that the "Maine" was blown up by an internal explosion.

This board will argue that the "Maine" was split from the inside to outside, as, they claim, the position of the hull proves.

It will assert that, instead of there being any signs of external pressure, the keel was thrown down to the bottom of the harbor and the upper part of the vessel lifted by an internal explosion.

The Spanish divers, however, have at no time been down in the "Maine" over fifteen minutes at a time.

**SPAIN MAY YET GET WARSHIPS.**

By Cable to The Morning Post.

London, March 11.—Information which has been received at the American Embassy today induces the belief that Spain has finally secured several million dollars with which to buy warships.

It is understood now that Spain may secure the Chilean warship "O'Higgins" and that the United States will succeed in buying the Brazilian warship "Amazonas" within a week. Two more nearly completed ships are under offer to the United States.

Britain's request to all British shipbuilders not to accept fresh foreign contracts without notifying the Naval Department, as heretofore noted in these despatches, was directed to effect the news that Russia is about to spend an enormous amount for new naval construction. Furthermore, there is reason to believe that the British government is ready to place contracts itself which will utilize every facility, for shipbuilding in the Kingdom.

The competition in naval construction within the next few months is certain to reach a scope never dreamed of before.

**SPAIN ANXIOUS TO KNOW OUR PLANS FOR MAY 1ST.**

By Cable to The Morning Post.

Madrid, March 11.—Your correspondent is in position to state authoritatively that the United States intimated to Spain last fall that this country expected peace established in Cuba by March 1st.

It is understood that another intimation has now been conveyed to Spain extending the time to May 1st.

It is freely admitted by Spain that it is impossible to establish autonomy and pacify the island within that time, hence the Spanish authorities are anxious to learn what action the United States proposes to take May 1st.

**NEW MILITARY DEPARTMENT.**

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—The Secretary of War today issued an order establishing a new military department, to consist of the Southern part of the present Department of the East.

General Graham will have command of the new department, while General Merritt will retain command of the Department of the East.

**GETTING CLOSER TO HOME.**

Special Despatch to The Morning Post.

Washington, March 11.—Battery I, of the Second Artillery, has been ordered to Fort Caswell, near Wilmington, N. C., to protect that harbor.

**Death of Gen. Mackey Davis.**

By Telegraph to The Morning Post.

Alexandria, Va., March 11.—Gen. William G. Mackey Davis died here today, aged 55 years. He was born in Portsmouth, Va., and was a member of the Secession Convention, he voting against secession.