

The Morning Post.

VOL. 1. LAST EDITION, 4:00 A. M. RALEIGH, N. C., SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1898. No. 88

'BE WAR WITHIN TEN DAYS'

So Predicts Chm'n Sub-Committee on Fortifications.

WHITE SQUADRON FLEET IS READY

Ordered to Begin Carrying Loaded Torpedoes Today—Some of the Death Dealers Received Yesterday Capable of Blowing Up the Entire Navy of Spain.

PURCHASE BRAZILIAN SHIPS

Immediately and for Spot Cash Ordered by Navy Department Yesterday—Instructions Sent Embassy at London—Germany Says Spain Will Get No Help From That Government—Indications That France Will Also Desert Her—Latest News Bearing on What Today Appears to be an Inevitable War With Spain.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. London, Feb. 12.—Forty-four Brazilian ships were received this afternoon. Four of them are nearly four feet in length and the others smaller.

They are capable of blowing up every Spanish ship in possession.

The fleet has steam up and is ready to engage Spain on Havana at any moment.

Some of the most important was done yesterday, for the very good reason that Admiral Sicard has everything in perfect fighting order, and nothing remains to be done but wait for the word.

The magazines and coal bunkers are full, and the "stars" in the pink of condition and eager for the fight.

CARRYING TORPEDOES LOADED TODAY. It is said that orders have been issued to the commanders of all torpedo boats of the squadron to carry loaded torpedoes on and after tomorrow.

The ships of the fleet have had torpedoes loaded, and in the tubes ready for instant use, since February 16th.

SPAIN WILL GET NO HELP FROM GERMANY. By Cable to The Morning Post.

Berlin, March 12.—The foreign office steadily and emphatically denies that Germany will aid Spain in case of war with the United States. Has instructed newspapers to point out that the United States is an excellent customer of Germany and that Spain, since the outbreak of the war, has repeatedly shown ungratefulness to Germany.

NAVY FOLLOWS SUIT

By the Army Orders and Gets Down to Business—Orders Issued to Purchase Immediately and for Spot Cash the Two Brazilian Warships.

Washington, March 12.—Following the Navy Department yesterday by the War Department, the Navy administration today issued orders and made arrangements of such a character as is to be expected.

Orders were issued to purchase immediately for spot cash, the two Brazilian warships, for which Spain is to be paid.

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MORE WARSHIPS FOR KEY WEST.

Formidable Fleet Now There Still Further Augmented by Yesterday's Orders—To Blockade Spanish Army.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Washington, March 12.—Though the fleet now at Key West is formidable enough to care for the entire Spanish navy, orders were given by Secretary Long today sending more vessels to Key West.

These are the gunboat "Helena" and the cruiser "Bancroft," now in European waters.

The "San Francisco" is also there, and she will be ordered next week to report to Commander Sicard.

The object of concentrating this great fleet, it is announced, is to blockade the Cuban ports, thus shutting up the Spanish army in Cuba from food and other outside supplies.

Secretary Long has ordered the battleship "Oregon," now on the Pacific station, to go south, to the Central and South American ports, and there report.

If war is not declared by the time she arrives there, she will undoubtedly be ordered to make a quick trip around the Horn, and then join Sicard. If war is then declared by the time she arrives at the first port on the Pacific side, she will be ordered across the Pacific to aid in an attack on the Philippines by the fleet now at Hong Kong.

GENERAL MERRITT TO COMMAND

The U. S. Army in the Invasion of Cuba, so He Says.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. New York, March 12.—Gen. Merritt, commanding the Department of the East, issued orders today to allow no one except officers and men having business there, to visit the fortifications at Sandy Hook.

He also changed his orders, increasing from 300 to 400 the garrison at Sandy Hook. The troops will take possession on Monday morning.

Work began today connecting all the fortifications about New York harbor by telegraph.

Gen. Merritt said today that he, being the ranking officer next to Maj. Gen. Miles, would probably be selected to lead the army in its invasion of Cuba.

"I think," he added, "that with 25,000 men I could transact satisfactorily any business entrusted to me in Cuba. If belligerent rights were accorded to the Cubans they could execute the commission themselves without help. I hardly look for war. The Spanish Ministry does not want war, and will not go to war if it can hold the Spanish people in check."

BRITISH NAVAL ACTIVITY.

Some of the Important Developments Made Public Yesterday.

By Cable to The Morning Post. London, March 12.—The important fact is pointed out that there is an unobtrusive but vast augmentation of the British naval force in the far East and at other points going on, and which is proceeding as rapidly as men can be found to equip the fleet.

But the announcement which caused the most surprise, was that the Channel squadron, now more powerful than ever, would not be limited to Channel defence. That the shores of Great Britain in war time would be entrusted to the reserve ships now kept in commission.

These reserve ships were placed in commission at the beginning of the year, and behind them are nearly a score of other ships (mostly old, but still useful battleships), partly in commission, and capable of taking to the seas in an incredibly short time.

The ability to utilize the Channel squadron, or a part of it, away from home, adds immensely to British power in Europe, and the announcement is likely to cause a great sensation in France, Russia and Germany, when responsible experts in those countries have had time to digest it.

The reinforcement of the Channel fleet by vessels from the Pacific and Australian stations, as well as additions already made or contemplated from the Mediterranean fleet, is confirmed.

A MIGHTY SURE SIGN.

Pocketbooks of Wall Street Operators Talk on Probabilities of War.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. New York, March 12.—In the stock market today the lowest quotations were recorded since the disaster to the "Maine" occurred. London operators looked upon the situation as very grave. Spanish bonds further declined $\frac{1}{2}$ of a point.

There was a flood of selling orders at the opening of the market, and prices dropped 1 to 5 points. Slight rallies followed, only to be succeeded by still greater losses than at the start. Demoralization reigned supreme for some time. The closing was near the lowest of the day.

MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post. Wilkesboro, N. C., March 12.—William Morgan was convicted in Wilkes court today of murder in second degree for killing John Waters last December. He will be sentenced Monday.

IT WAS A SUBMARINE MINE

Army and Navy Register Says That it Was

AND THE PRESIDENT SO INFORMED

By Members of the Naval Board of Enquiry—The Morning Post's Statements Contained in Its Washington Despatches, that the Administration Was in Possession of Information Pointing to Decision of the Board More Than Confirmed—Army and Navy Register Says Report Is That the Mine was a Government One and Was Purposely Exploded.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. New York, March 12.—Midnight—Today's edition of the Army and Navy Register, prints under the heading of "The Situation," the following:

"The Register is in possession of information, the correctness of which it has no reason to question in the least, that certain evidence gathered by the Court of Enquiry has come, in a semi-official form, to the President from two prominent members of the board.

"This information has been in the hands of the President since Sunday, and has served as the occasion of the unusual activity during the week just closed.

"Information is to the effect that THE 'MAINE' WAS DESTROYED BY A SPANISH GOVERNMENT SUBMARINE MINE, planted in Havana harbor, and deliberately exploded.

"More than this, it appears that the 'Maine' was purposely moored in the vicinity of the mine, and that the explosion occurred at a moment when the ship had been opportunely carried by the wind and tide directly over the mine.

"The court is understood to have completed its work, but nothing is likely to be officially promulgated in regard to its findings for a week or more.

"There are obvious reasons for such action.

"There could be put one outcome of such a report, and preparations for the inevitable result are being industriously and indefatigably prosecuted."

IMPORTANT WORK OF DIVERS.

AUTONOMISTS TO BE CONSIDERED. "If we insist upon immediate Cuban independence, we must back the demand by force, for neither Spain nor any country with any self-respect could tolerate such interference in what we must recognize is her domestic quarrel, without resentment and resistance.

While we should doubtless succeed, it still involves terrible loss to us and still further suffering to Cuba, and would at this juncture be of questionable benefit to her. That she is unfit as a whole for self-government just yet is the opinion of many intelligent and impartial outside observers who have studied her people and prevailing conditions. There exists a very considerable party in the island, composed of the most enlightened inhabitants, who favor trying autonomy. This is evidenced by their being able to maintain in New York a newspaper of their own, which ably presents their views.

"If we are to intervene as a compulsory arbitrator, are they to be left wholly out of the account, together with Spain, and only the insurgent party considered? Fair arbitrations are not conducted on so one-sided a basis. Suppose now we say to Spain that in the interest of humanity and peace, and for the preservation of our own commercial interests, we insist upon a cessation of hostilities, and that we still take advantage of it to inform the Cubans that for the sake of the same compelling considerations they must concede something. Spain's plight is unquestionably a critical one, and she could honorably listen to such a proposal. The Cubans, on the other hand, would certainly hear respectfully any views we present to them in regard to a settlement and could not fail to follow them.

REGARD FOR SPAIN'S DIGNITY. "The precise terms can be worked out later. But it is not unreasonable to expect that should Spain offer such self-government as the whole world would recognize as fair, putting Cuba in the same condition as an English colony and withdrawing from the island as soon as quiet is restored all but a nominal military force, we might properly insist on its acceptance. This would be substantial victory for Cuba, would leave Spain to retire with self-respect, and would leave Cuba better off than though now made independent. Spain has vainly tried to put down the insurrection; the insurgents have vainly tried to drive Spain out and establish a government, and the only way to bring about speedy peace is to take into consideration the claims, rights, and feelings of both parties.

"We are in a position to insist that the terms offered Cuba be fair and generous, such as would enable her to make her own laws, collect her own taxes, and provide in every way without let or hindrance for her own prosperity and growth. It is objected that Spain

SPANISH PRESS EXPRESSIONS.

The Imparcial Urges That Present Crisis Be Allowed to Pass—Wants Another Opportunity, Though, to Put Crape on Old Glory.

By Cable to The Morning Post. Madrid, March 12.—The Imparcial urges the government to allow the present crisis to pass, and to turn the time thus gained to good use. It adds: "If our standard goes into mourning let us, at least, be able to put some pieces of crape on the ungrateful American flag."

Elsewhere the papers say: "There is still time to prepare a few warships."

SIZE OF SPANISH NAVY. El Liberal publishes a tabulated list of the Spanish fleet, showing that it consists of seventeen protected ships, twenty unprotected, eighty gunboats, fourteen torpedo-boat destroyers, fourteen torpedo boats, and twenty-five transports.

SUPPORTING WEYLERITES FOR CORTES.

Madrid, March 12.—Placards have been posted on all the dead-walls and other available places throughout this city, stating that the national candidates for the Cortes "whom all good Spaniards should support" are Generals Borrero and Sigura.

Both of these generals are Weyerlites, yet the Republican and Carlist journals declare that the members of those parties will support their candidature. The placards end with, "Long live the fatherland! long live the army!"

PLAN FOR CUBA'S FREEDOM

System of Genuine Autonomy Presented to President.

IT INVOLVES MUTUAL CONCESSIONS

Full Statement of the One Plan of the Many Proposed Which Meets the Approval of the President and Cabinet—It Provides for Securing to Cuba Such Privileges and Rights as Great Britain Now Accords to Canada—Administration Leaders Favor It's Being Offered to Spain as the One Way Now Left Open to Avoid War With the United States—What Refusal Means.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Washington, March 12.—Of all the plans evolved looking to a settlement of the Cuban question, only one has found much favor with the President or the administration leaders.

This plan has just been presented to the President and, in a general way, has received his approval, as it has also of the cabinet officials and leading administration men generally in Congress.

It is believed that essentially the plan, of which a full statement is given below, will be offered to Spain as the one way yet left open to avoid a war with the United States, possibly.

If Spain refuses to accept it, then the government at Washington will more decidedly interfere to bring about peace on the island of Cuba, in the name of humanity and for the protection of American commerce.

The proposed plan gives to Cuba all of the rights, privileges and immunities enjoyed by Canada, Spain reserving to herself only such rights as England exercises over her colonies. The statement as presented to the administration is as follows:

"Constantly recurring untoward incidents in the relations of Spain and this country, and the overwhelming evidence of a shocking condition of affairs in Cuba, which of themselves justify some interference, have brought the country to a state of feeling, which, while most anxious for peace, demands such speedy action as will bring the whole matter to a close. Can we bring it to a close and avoid a clash with Spain? But one way seems to be open.

HOUSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SEATING OF WISE

By the House Republican Contestant—Janitor Wilmington Public Building.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Washington, March 12.—House Elections Committee today decided the contested election case of Richard A. Wise, Republican, against Wm. A. Young, Democrat, and the sitting member from the Second Virginia District, in favor of the Republican contestant.

It is possible that the House may reverse the decision, but not probable. All the cases have so far been decided on strict party lines.

Jan. E. Howard has been appointed janitor of Wilmington's public building at a salary of \$600 per year.

BASEBALL AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Bingham's Boys Defeated by the Chapel Hill Cracks Yesterday.

Special Despatch to The Morning Post. Chapel Hill, N. C., March 12.—The University of North Carolina defeated the William Bingham School baseball nine here today by the score of 9 to 1. Cocke's catch of Belden's fly was the feature of the game.

JAP. SHARKHUNTERS DROWNED.

How a 25-Foot Long Shark Cost Four Men Their Lives.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Monterey, Cal., March 12.—Four Japanese fishermen were drowned near Pacific Grove today, while harpooning for sharks. The Japs catch sharks for their oil.

Today two boats went out, with three in one and four in the other. The boats were lashed together with cross pieces, so that they would better withstand the wild lunges of the sharks when harpooned. A school of white sharks soon appeared, early in the afternoon, and one of them, a monster, fully 25 feet long, was harpooned.

Instead of rushing out to sea, as wounded sharks usually do, this one made for the shore and dragged the boats into the surf, where four huge rollers were encountered which capsized the boats. Three of the men in one of the boats reached shore, the other four being drowned.

Philadelphia United Labor League is opposed to war with Spain.

will never carry out such an arrangement, but if we see it inaugurated it would be impossible for the old conditions ever to return. Inasmuch as Spain would retain at least a nominal sovereignty, such an arrangement would be much less humiliating to her than to be compelled to relinquish at once all right and claims upon the island.

MAY GET THE ISLAND PEACEABLY. "The time may possibly come when, by the operation of the law of our political existence, Cuba will fall to us peaceably. If this prove correct, the method suggested paves the way for that, by giving her an opportunity to gain some experience in self-government first. If she is to be independent, as very possibly may turn out to be the case by and by, a preliminary stage of genuine autonomy would best prepare her for that. Nor is it desirable at this time for the United States to undertake the responsibility of governing her. It is unwise and unnecessary for the United States to assume political or financial responsibility in the case, either or both of which most of the plans so far advanced involve.

"If it should be shown that the Spanish government and its officials are innocent of any complicity in the disaster to the 'Maine,' and a prompt disavowal is made with an expression of regret and an offer to arbitrate the question of responsibility and the amount of indemnity, if any was found due, the United States could hardly resist the principle of arbitration in settling the question. The 'Maine' disaster, however, is a distinct incident, and should be considered by itself."

TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS THE LAW IN THAT STATE AND SAYS IT IS A WISE AND FAIR POLICE REGULATION.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Nashville, Tenn., March 12.—The Supreme Court today decided that the State law requiring the railroad companies to provide separate coaches for white and black passengers was constitutional.

The case in which the opinion was delivered was that of Smith vs. State. Smith, who was a conductor on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, was indicted for allowing a negro to ride in the coach with whites. The lower court decided against Smith, and an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, with the result stated.

The court holds that the separate coach law is valid, and not obnoxious to the Federal Constitution.

The principal argument against it was that it came in conflict with the Federal Constitution, in that it interfered with interstate commerce.

The Supreme Court said it was a wise and fair police regulation, and therefore not repugnant to the Federal Constitution.

The court further held that persons coming from other States must, upon entering this State, observe the law existing in this State.

NORFOLK DISTRICT CONTEST.

House Committee Recommends Seating of Wise the Republican Contestant—Janitor Wilmington Public Building.

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OUR CONGRESSMEN IN HAVANA.

In reference to the Congressional junket, consisting of several Senators and Representatives, including Congressman Amos Cummings, of the New York Sun, the same cablegram states:

"The gentlemen who arrived here on the 'Anita,' Senators Gallinger, Thurston and Money, and Representatives Cummings and William Alden Smith, accompanied by their wives, were presented at the Palace at 10 o'clock this morning by Consul General Lee, and were cordially received by Capt. Gen. Blanco. This afternoon the Congressional party paid a visit to a camp of reconcentrados at Regla. Tonight they desired to go by sea to Matanzas.

"During the conference at the Palace today the libeling of the party's vessel, the 'Anita,' was discussed. Dr. Congrosto assured Senator Gallinger that the port authorities had erred and that the fine would not be imposed when the yacht attempted to clear. However the authorities refused her papers and the party did not leave for Matanzas tonight. The captain of the 'Anita' says that he is ready to run out of the harbor if not so ordered by the commission. An attempt is being made tonight to arrange the matter, and if no other course remains the yacht will request to be towed out by the 'Montgomery.'

"Great delight is manifested here over the reported sailing of the torpedo fleet from Madrid. Decided concern is felt over New York despatches announcing a cordial conference between Secretary Sherman and Ministers Hoshi and Pauncefote."

REWARD FOR WEST VA. LYNCHERS.

By Telegraph to The Morning Post. Charleston, W. Va., March 12.—Governor Atkinson today offered a reward of \$250 for the arrest and conviction of the lynchers who hanged a negro named Bailey at Bramwell, in this State, about one month ago.

ADMINISTRATION'S NEWSBAD

No Doubt of Its Possession of Startling Developments.

SPANISH SITUATION STILL SERIOUS

Belief in Washington General That Naval Board of Enquiry's Report Will Definitely State That the Maine Was Blown Up By Design—Some Speculations Which May Account for Some of the Fresh Information of the Administration Which Has Led to the Determination to Concentrate Practically the Entire Army on the South Atlantic Seaboard—Congressional Junketing Party, Etc.

Special despatch to The Morning Post. Washington, March 12.—Despite alleged "denials" sent out from this city by the agents of the Associated Press that the President has no "reliable" information bearing on the probable findings of the Naval Board of Enquiry, which has been investigating into the cause or causes of the "Maine" explosion, it is unquestionably the fact, as heretofore stated in these despatches, and as the Washington Post this morning announces in its leading "war news" story, that "unofficial information showing that the explosion of the 'Maine' was not accidental, continues to multiply, and it is now positively asserted that the keel of the 'Maine' was uplifted," to quote the exact words of The Post.

It is also the fact, as was telegraphed The Morning Post last night that the President and Secretary of the Navy Long have information which undoubtedly puts them in possession to pretty correctly anticipate the nature of the report of the Naval Court of Enquiry. That they and Gen. Miles, the Major General in command of the United States Army, feel sure that the report will state that the conclusions of the board are to the effect that the "Maine" was blown up by some external agency, there is no longer any doubt among the war and naval officers here who have weighed the significant developments of these departments during the last forty-eight hours.

General Miles, at this time of life, would not be likely to go off on a tangent or begin the definite preparations he is making to leave his comfortable office in this city and take the field in person unless he had mighty good reason to know that hostilities are actually imminent. This much a child can understand.

THE AUSTRIAN SHIP AT HAVANA. The following special cablegram from Havana has been received by The Post concerning the Austrian warship which arrived at Havana last night:

"The Austrian ship 'Donau,' one of the five promised to Spain in case of war, has arrived here. She was received with every demonstration of joy by the people, and with the customary salutes from the forts and the other men-of-war in the harbor. She is anchored just ahead of the 'Montgomery' and a little to the south of the two Spanish battleships, part of the merchant anchorage having been cleared for her benefit. She has a displacement of 2,334 tons and carries fifteen guns."

OUR CONGRESSMEN IN HAVANA. In reference to the Congressional junket, consisting of several Senators and Representatives, including Congressman Amos Cummings, of the New York Sun, the same cablegram states:

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