

INVESTIGATORS' REPORT

May Be Presented to the Government This Week.

TWO NEW WARSHIPS PURCHASED

They Were Built For the Brazilian Government, But Are Now the Property of Uncle Sam—Warlike Preparations Continue in All Sections.

Washington, March 16.—The general expectation of the members of the cabinet, "is that some report will be received during the present week from the court of inquiry examining into the cause of the Maine explosion. Yet," he added, "it would not be surprising to us if the report should be delayed for a longer time. We have nothing on which to base this hope that I know of, only the feeling seems general that what I have said will be the case. There is nothing at hand as yet to indicate what will be the nature of the findings of the court. Today our time was occupied in a general discussion of the measures under way for the national defense, notably in regard to the acquisition of new vessels for war. We are keeping an eye on the two ships under construction for Chile and the Argentine Republic, but it is not probable we can get them. If we cannot obtain the ships it is a source of satisfaction to know that Spain will not be able to purchase them, either."

It was another busy day in the war and navy departments. Secretary Alger was enabled to make an allotment of funds from the appropriation of \$50,000,000, which will greatly facilitate the work of the bureaus. These bureaus had not been able to conclude any contracts for the procurement of war sup-



CAPTAIN SAMPSON.

plies, because no allotment had been made, but yesterday afternoon the ordnance bureau was given \$2,500,000, and business went forward with a rush. It is true that this sum is already mortgaged under provisional arrangement made during the past week, but with the assurance of more funds to come the work of the bureau is now moving rapidly.

The construction of five modern dry docks was agreed on yesterday by the house committee on naval affairs. They are to be located at Portsmouth, N. H., Boston, League Island, near Philadelphia, Algiers, near New Orleans, and Mare Island, near San Francisco. These docks, all of which are to be entirely new structures, are to be of wood except those at Algiers and Portsmouth. The indications now are that the dock at Portsmouth will be built of stone and that at Algiers of steel. There is a strong disposition in the committee to increase the navy, in addition to the three batteries recently authorized, by the construction of some of the smaller vessels of war. It was stated today that the committee may authorize the building of about ten torpedo boats and torpedo boat destroyers, costing in the neighborhood of \$1,500,000 for all.

In all sections of the country the manufacture of ammunition and arms is being rapidly pushed, and several establishments are working day and night. In addition to this a bill has been introduced in congress, at the request of the administration, admitting naval stores free of duty for a period. At a conference between the war and navy officials on Sunday arrangements were perfected for the speedy transfer of troops to points along the southern coast.

The Army and Navy Register, of New York, publishes an article asserting that the president and his advisers have information from the Maine court of inquiry that the disaster was caused by a submarine mine, and the warlike preparations being made are the result of that information. Negotiations closed Monday by the triumphant purchase by the navy department, in London, of the two fine cruisers built and building at Elswick in closing up the business in this manner because of the knowledge that the Spanish agents have been striving to secure these very ships, to whom it is said they would be of much greater value in case of trouble than to the United States. The United States flag will be hoisted over the new ships within a week, probably, and just as soon as the crew can be put aboard the Amazonas she will start for the United States. The other vessel will follow at the earliest possible moment. The terms of sale are secret.

The two Brazilian vessels will be extremely useful additions to the United States navy in either war or peace, in the opinion of Secretary Long. They are steel, sheathed and coppered, with twin screws, and will be the first cruisers in our navy to embody that most important useful feature of naval construction, sheathing, for which Constructor Hichborn has worked earnestly for many years past. He finally succeeded in having some of the smaller gunboats constructed on this principle. The Amazonas is rated at 3,600 tons displacement, with an indicated horse power under natural draught of 7,500, which is calculated to develop 20 knots speed. Thus, while

the ship is about the size of the Charleston, she is much faster. Her armament is also much more formidable.

The new cruiser Amazonas, according to present plans, will be manned entirely from the San Francisco. The latter vessel sailed yesterday morning from Lisbon, and will arrive in the Tyne about Friday. It is expected that she will divide her officers and crew with the Amazonas, placing Lieutenant Commander Arthur P. Nazro, executive officer of the San Francisco, in charge of the latter vessel. Without doubt the Amazonas will be gotten across the ocean as soon as possible, and it is expected that the San Francisco will convoy her.

ACTIVITY AT SANDY HOOK.

And the Navy Board Busy Inspecting Proposed Auxiliary Cruisers. New York, March 15.—The 300 artillerymen ordered from Fort Hamilton and Fort Wadsworth to Sandy Hook were transferred to the latter point yesterday. Under the direction of army engineers hundreds of soldiers and workmen are busy mounting guns, building ramps and laying other defenses at the Hook. Not since the civil war has such activity been seen there. All women and all children under 15 years old have been ordered from the Hook. The wives of many of the workmen left Sunday. Hundreds of masons, carpenters and other mechanics are working on the additional quarters needed for the artillerymen. They are nearly completed.

The special board on auxiliary cruisers is kept busy. The list of vessels available, including steamships, yachts, tugs and other craft, which is now in the hands of the navy department, includes nearly 1,000. The great majority of the vessels are at New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, where they will be inspected and the list sifted down to those worth considering. As fast as the facts in regard to the vessels are filed consideration will be given to the work of arming them in the best and most speedy manner for effective use. The members of the board remaining in the city are giving especial attention to steam yachts and sea going tugs today. Only those with hulls of iron or steel will be considered, as wooden hulls are not deemed desirable. The board decided not to detain the St. Louis, and she sailed for Europe this morning.

INQUIRY BOARD QUILTS HAVANA.

Captain Sampson Wants to Continue the Sessions at Key West.

Havana, March 16.—The Mangrove, with the court of inquiry on board, sailed last night for Key West. Captain Sampson, president of the board, assured the correspondents that the decision to leave Havana was not reached until yesterday afternoon, after a consultation of the members. It was decided that, while further testimony might be obtained here, this was not sufficiently likely to justify a longer stay. The court can return if the divers or wreckers make discoveries that add to the stock of knowledge now gathered.

Captain Sampson hopes the court will be allowed to resume its sittings on the battleship Iowa, now near Key West with the flagship New York. All the officers of the court except Judge Advocate Marix are stationed on the Iowa or New York, and on the former the court could be absolutely free from interruption. The greater part of the investigation that remains will consist, unless the court returns here, of a careful study of the plans.

GENERAL MILES IN NEW YORK.

Activity in Military and Naval Circles Continues Unabated.

New York, March 16.—Major General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the army of the United States, visited the headquarters of the department of the east today. While his visit is ostensibly to attend the military tournament in Madison Square Garden, he will doubtless take occasion to look into the condition of the fortifications about this harbor, over which he was formerly in command.

At the navy yard here there is the same activity that has been apparent for the last fortnight. A shipment of 200,000 pounds of powder was dispatched yesterday to Key West. This is the first shipment of the 400 tons of powder which the navy department directed to be forwarded from this yard. A six inch breech-loading rifle intended for the cruiser Philadelphia was shipped to San Francisco by an arrangement that will get it to Mare Island almost as soon as if it had been sent by means of an express train.

A Female Cavalry Troop.

Denver, Colo., March 16.—A troop of cavalry, composed entirely of women, is a Colorado possibility in the event of war with Spain. Mrs. Martha A. Shute will organize the troop. She notified Acting Governor Brush of her intentions, and he advised her to consult with Adjutant General Moss. Mrs. Shute is secretary of the State Horticultural society. She is a fearless equestrienne and handles a gun very dexterously.

A Monster Steel Combine.

Cleveland, O., March 16.—One of the biggest pools the country has ever known was formed in Cleveland yesterday. All Bessemer pig iron producers in the Cleveland, Mahoning valley and Shenango iron districts are bound together by the combine. The only firm in these districts, it is officially stated, not included in the pool is the Cleveland Rolling Mill company, of this city. The pool will control the Bessemer market of the United States. A number of furnaces will be closed, and at the end of the year profits will be divided. Prices will be advanced 50 cents per ton immediately.

Spanish Police Kill Strikers.

Bilbao, Spain, March 16.—The strike that has broken out in the great iron mine at Somorostro, 15 miles northwest of this city, has led to serious disturbances. The rioters stoned the police, who fired upon the crowd, killing three outright. Troops have been summoned to the scene of the outbreak.

Life Sentence For Koerner.

New York, March 15.—William J. Koerner, the newspaper artist, was sentenced yesterday to imprisonment for life for the murder of Rosie Redgate, his sweetheart, on Sept. 23, 1896. Koerner's attorney will appeal from his conviction.

GEN. ROSECRANS DEAD.

The Veteran Warrior's Death Was Peaceful in the Extreme.

TO BE GIVEN A PUBLIC FUNERAL.

The Veteran Was Stricken With No Particular Disease and the End Came Through a General Weakening of the System—Two Children at Deathbed.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 12.—General W. S. Rosecrans died yesterday at his home near Redondo. The old warrior's death was peaceful in the extreme. For several days he had been between life and death, at times unconscious and again in a comatose state. His splendid vitality kept him alive for days. At the bedside when the end came were a son and daughter of the general, Carl and Anna Rosecrans, and a number of immediate friends of the family, besides the attending physician, Dr. Hakes. His third child, a daughter, Mrs. O'Toole, lives at Helena, Ont.

General Rosecrans was stricken with no particular disease, and the end came through a general weakening of the system. When he was first stricken,



THE LATE GENERAL ROSECRANS.

more than two weeks ago, it was not supposed the ailment was more than an attack of the grip. He rallied several times, but the physician never held out much hope for recovery, and for the last three days the family and friends had known that the end was very near.

The place where he died is called Rosecrans, in honor of him, and is near a station on the Redondo, about 12 miles from the city. The general had made his home there on a large ranch devoted to fruit raising for several years. General Rosecrans was possessed of a fine property, and his last days were spent in peace and plenty.

Arrangements are being made to have a public funeral for General Rosecrans, in which all the military bodies of this city and section will participate. A request will be made to have the body lie in state in the city hall until the funeral.

General Rosecrans was born in Kingsport, O., Sept. 5, 1818, and was graduated from West Point in 1842. He served 12 years in the regular army, and then entered into business life. At the outbreak of the civil war he re-entered the service and was made colonel of the Twenty-third Ohio volunteers. Three days later he was made brigadier general, and served with distinction throughout the war, rising to the grade of major general. After the war he was twice elected to congress from California, and in 1888 was appointed register of the treasury by President Cleveland.

ELEVEN LODGERS DEAD

As the Result of a Fire in a New York Lodging House.

New York, March 14.—Eleven men perished by fire in the Bowers Mission, at 105 Bowers, early yesterday morning. The bodies were recovered, but so disfigured as to make identification in most cases impossible. The register of the lodging house does not aid in the investigation, for Bowers lodgers as often do not register under assumed names. Again, such lodgers are often friendly, and leave none to miss them and search for them.

No. 105 Bowers is one of the best kept lodging houses of that thoroughfare. It is called the Bowers Mission lodging house, and is conducted by the Christian Herald. In the basement of the building there is a cheap restaurant, while the ground floor is used exclusively for mission purposes. Gospel services have been held there daily for several years. The four upper floors are fitted up as a cheap lodging house, with accommodations for 150 men, who pay 15, 20 and 25 cents, according to the location of the rooms.

When the alarm was given and the inmates aroused a wild scene of excitement ensued. Many of the lodgers became panic stricken. They rushed into the hallways, and fell over each other in their efforts to reach the street. The majority of them saved only portions of their clothing, and several were naked.

Premier Salisbury to Go to France.

London, March 15.—It is officially announced that the Marquis of Salisbury, the premier and minister of foreign affairs, was greatly fatigued by Friday's cabinet council, and a return of the weakness from which he has suffered, following the attacks of influenza, supervened, with the result that Sir William Broadbent, his physician, advised the premier to take a complete rest in the south of France. Mr. A. J. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury, and government leader in the house of commons, will deal with foreign business during the premier's absence. The premier has no intention of resigning.

Threatened Strike of Miners.

Cleveland, March 15.—Concerning the possibility of another great strike of coal miners, Thomas Young, manager of the M. A. Hanna Coal company, extensive operators in Pennsylvania, is quoted as saying: "A strike involving about 20,000 miners will probably soon be in full swing in central Pennsylvania. The operators declare they will not pay the Chicago scale, and the miners announce their intention to strike. It is probable that the Hooking Valley operators will sign the scale rather than lose their share of the spring business."

JOHN WANAMAKER ACCEPTS

The Business Men's Nomination For Governor of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia, March 10.—John Wanamaker will be the candidate of the Business Men's Republican League for governor. He gave out a letter last night addressed to the notification committee appointed at the meeting of representatives from nearly all the counties in the state held in this city on Feb. 7, in which he states that he does not want to be a candidate for the office, but realizes that somebody must make the fight, and he therefore sinks his personal desires and accepts the public duty tendered to him.

In his letter of acceptance Mr. Wanamaker says in part:

"I am neither deceived nor influenced by false hopes and know full well what my prospects of success are, with the delegate electing machinery in the hands of the enemy; with the primaries and conventions so manipulated as to defeat instead of register the will of the voter; with the same high-handed methods that were employed to send an almost solid delegation to the last national convention instructed for Senator Quay, when an overwhelming majority of the voters of the State were for McKinley; with manufactured contests and bogus claims to be sustained by the state committee that can be relied upon to seat enough contesting delegates to give the machine candidate a majority, as was done at last year's state convention, and with a chairman who gives a timely warning that the state organization will be against me if nominated.

"I accept your invitation as a call of duty, and making the issue one of principle, not spoils, I am ready to go forward with you in your battle for political emancipation, convinced that the right will ultimately triumph and that the people desire to settle the question themselves, and settle it this very year.

"If this action of yours in bringing me into the field creates discord within party ranks, I take no blame therefor, as I have not solicited the nomination. Neither is it essential that I be elected governor. It will cost me nothing to step aside at any time for such a man as you and your associates agree to, who represents something more than a slave or the will of a perpetuating boss.

"Let there be no misunderstanding as to where the responsibility rests, and let the Republican voter demand strict accounting. With school funds long past due and personal property taxes withheld from counties to allow the state treasurer to farm out millions of dollars to favorite banks, with a capitol commission breaking down the restrictive barriers erected by popular sentiment, and planning a building that will cost millions when completed; with the knowledge that indemnity bonds, padded pay rolls, Lexow bills, legislative junketings and mileage grabbers will be paid out of the state treasury, if the machine elects its governor, I am convinced from proofs in my hands from all parts of the state that the people are ready to unite with you in driving back the bosses and re-entering upon their rightful inheritance."

Philadelphia, March 16.—After a conference yesterday afternoon between John Wanamaker, Elias Deemer, of Williamsport, and General W. H. Koontz, the following executive committee was appointed to conduct Mr. Wanamaker's gubernatorial campaign: Major George W. Merrick of Tioga, Charles Heber Clark of Montgomery, Judge Nathaniel Fawcett of Fayette, General Charles Leibert of Philadelphia, Elias Deemer of Lycoming, Thomas A. H. Hay of Northampton, Colonel E. A. Irvin of Clearfield, Dr. James A. Dale of York, Andrew J. Kaufman of Lancaster and General W. H. Koontz, a member ex-officio. Mr. Wanamaker will open his campaign tonight in Lancaster.

ITEMS OF STATE NEWS.

Clearfield, Pa., March 15.—A miner named Jacobson and his 12-year-old were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their house at O'Shanter, near here. Mrs. Jacobson and three other children saved their lives by jumping from the second story windows.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 10.—The jury in the case of Sheriff Martin and his deputies, who were charged with the killing of the strikers at Lattimer on Sept. 10 last, yesterday returned a verdict of not guilty. There was an attempt at applause, but it was quickly suppressed by the judge.

Hazleton, Pa., March 15.—Alfred Washburn, one of the jurors who served in the case of Sheriff Martin and his deputies, stated yesterday that he has been discharged by Hantz Brothers, Freeland carriage makers, because the firm was threatened with a boycott in case of his retention as an employe.

Mahanoy City, Pa., March 16.—An engine and 12 loaded coal cars on the Pennsylvania railroad fell through a trestle bridge at Bostwing Run colliery yesterday. The following were injured internally, but none of their wounds is serious: W. G. Siegfried, engineer; George Clevenstein, fireman; Harry Walker, Allen Geise, Daniel Sullivan and William Reilly, brakemen. The train was run with two engines. The engineer of the first fell the timbers cracking beneath his locomotive, but managed to get across before the break came.

Pittsburg, March 14.—Because he said she had been too free with other men, Zenas Anderson, a negro convict, deliberately killed his wife, Pauline, yesterday. The murder came after repeated threats from the venereal husband to bring retribution to his wife. After firing five shots into her prostrate body, with his 3-year-old daughter as the only witness of the tragedy, Anderson walked nearly eight miles in his attempt to escape. After a sensational chase the murderer was captured, when he made two attempts to drink laudanum, which he had purchased two days before with suicidal intent.

Chambersburg, Pa., March 12.—Dr. J. S. Kennedy, Republican, was last night elected president of the borough council, after a deadlock during which 800 ballots were taken. The council now stands five Republicans and three Democrats. The Republicans could not elect Kennedy, and he was finally taken up by the Democrats, headed by A. R. Hoeffditz, a Republican, who has all along voted with the Democrats. Horace Bender, Republican, was elected clerk, and Christian Frederick, Democrat, elected fire marshal.

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