

War With Spain Once Previously Averted.

The Episode of the Virginius and the Part Played in It by Our Government.

Washington Letter, Chicago Record.

It is less than twenty-five years since another vessel whose crew met its fate in a Spanish port in Cuba was the subject of an intense public interest as today is directed toward the Maine.

The case of the Virginius had in it elements of tragedy that made it more spectacular and dramatic than that of the Maine, and American spirit was worked to an even higher tension than it is now before diplomacy and caution averted a war between the United States and Spain.

The Virginius was originally an English-built sidewheel steamer called the Virgin, and during the war between the States was one of the most famous of blockade runners until captured by a vessel of the United States.

It was not until Oct. 31 that the Virginius approached the coast of Cuba to make her landing, and was intercepted by the Spanish gunboat Tornada.

When the Tornada and the Virginius reached Santiago de Cuba the next day the 155 men captured were placed in close confinement and a court-martial was convened at once.

the Virginius was among those executed. He had made a declaration to the Spanish that he had tampered with the engines and cut down the speed of the vessel so that she could be captured, and was marched with the rest to prevent his comrades from knowing that what he had done was for their benefit by mistake while making frantic protests and explanations, but, as he was a traitor in one way or the other, his death was the only one of all that was never regretted.

During all this time the consul at Santiago was not idle, but they were helpless. F. G. Schmitt, the American vice-consul and Theodore Brooks, the British vice-consul, had all sorts of protests that were unavailing. Schmitt was not permitted to see the prisoners before or after the court-martial, until the very end, when he reached Captain Fry and signed his protest with him.

Then came the only bright spot in the whole affair. News of what was going on reached Jamaica, and the Weir Indians who were known for their successful filibuster, making repeated landings on the Cuban coast with supplies of arms, ammunition, food and clothes for the insurgents who were making the ten-year war in Cuba.

When the news of all this reached the United States public indignation rose rapidly. Mass meetings were held demanding vengeance on Spain. President Grant sent special messages to congress, and the state department began diplomatic negotiations.

Most of the men were executed after protests to Madrid began to be made. Madrid mobs made a demonstration against the American minister, General Sickles. Nov. 4 Secretary Fish called Sickles: "In case of refusal of satisfactory reparation within twelve days from this date close your legation and leave Madrid."

The terms of settlement of the troubles were that the Virginius should be surrendered to an American warship, with the survivors of those who had been captured with her, and that on Dec. 25 the United States flag should be hoisted on the vessel.

ginius had no right to fly the American flag when she was captured. No indemnity was paid for the lives of the American citizens who had been executed, and the incident was declared closed.

SHERIDAN'S POKER GAME.

Senator Conkling and the Hero of Winchester Furnished the Fun. From the Washington Star.

"I was in the game one night during the winter of '79 when both Conkling and Sheridan were players. It was a four-handed game, and John Chamberlin was the other player. This game at Chamberlin's was always for a \$5 limit at first, with the understanding that along toward morning, after a couple of hours of warming up, anybody could suggest the removal of the limit if he wanted to.

"We started the last round of jacks-pots with a new deck. Sheridan dealt the first mess for himself, and after it had gone around and none of the other four could open it, Sheridan opened it himself. Neither Chamberlin nor I had any right to stay on our hands, and so it was left between Sheridan and Conkling, who stayed. Chamberlin took three cards, and turned his ace of hearts into three. Sheridan dished himself over three cards, and bit his cigar hard when he saw his hand.

"I don't know so much about you this time," said Conkling finally, "and I think I'll just call you for safety." "Both laid their hands down at the same time. Conkling had three nines, and he looked at Sheridan strangely when he saw the color of Sheridan's hand.

"Well, it does it for me. My face belongs to me—and again he reached over to me in the pot." "Conkling ran his hand through his hair and again stopped Sheridan with a gesture." "I don't remember ever having seen that sort of thing before," he said. "Did you, Phil?"

"See what sort of thing before?" said Sheridan. "What in blazes are you talking about?" "For reply, Conkling put one finger upon one of Sheridan's aces, and then pointed to another one of the aces." "I never saw a jackpot won with three aces, two of which happened to be aces of diamonds," said Conkling smiling.

"Sheridan looked at his hand, lying face up on the table before him, and his face became fiery red. The consternation on his countenance was really funny." "Why," said he, after a minute, "blamed if I don't believe I'm nothing better than an involuntary swindler. That other ace, you see, is a club. I opened the pot on a pair of red aces, and they were of course, these aces of diamonds. Chamberlin, turning to the amused boniface, 'turn me out of doors as a fraud and a short-card player, will you?"

THE LADY AND THE BIRD.

How Latter Has Suffered to Gratify Pride of Former. From the Mail and Express.

A million bobolinks killed last year! Four million other birds slaughtered in the same year—and for what? That their torn and distorted bodies might be flaunted in the headgear of American woman-kind!

What a desolation it would be! And yet that is just what is being done to the birds of our land and they are to be killed off at the rate of five millions a year in order to gratify feminine vanity and keep women "in style."

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VALUES—NOT PRETENSE. 100 pieces of No. 40 Fancy Taffetas Ribbons, in checks and plaids, pure silk and never sold under 25c yard, at 19c

100 pieces of Pure Silk Satin Sash Ribbons, sold regularly at 30c, today 23c

LACKAWANNA AVENUE.

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VALUES—NOT PRETENSE. Children's First Quality Hats, handsomely trimmed with ribbon and velvet, worth 95c, at 37c

To close—one lot of Fancy Wool Felt Shapes, values up to 75c, at 13c

SECOND FLOOR.

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VALUES—NOT PRETENSE. Best Quality Rubber Combs, 7 inches long, never sold under 10c, today at 5c

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Fine Muslin Drawers with cambric ruffles, edged with Torchon lace or embroidery, today 21c

Fine Muslin Gowns, trimmed with insertion, at 39c

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BED SPREADS—Heavy White, extra double bed size, in handsome Marseilles designs, all hemmed, ready for use. One to a customer. Today at 59c

TOWELS—250 dozen bleached and unbleached heavy double thread Turkish Towels, the exact quality you'll pay 15c. for elsewhere. Today 3 for 25c

OUTING FLANNELS—One case of good quality, fancy colored Outing Flannels, today at 33c

Two cases of our regular 100 quality Outing Flannels, 50 designs and colorings, today at 53c

PRINTS—2,000 yards of best quality Indigo Prints, also light colors, such as you'll pay 5c and 6c yard for; today at 3c

PILLOW CASES—150 dozen plain hem, full regular size, at 43c

200 dozen fine quality, full regular size, hem-stitched, extra heavy Muslin, at 9c

EMBROIDERED FLANNELS—20 pieces, full yard wide, best grade of White Flannels, handsomely embroidered in pink or light blue; also plain white; worth 50c to 70c yard, at 39c

TOWELING—50 pieces of bleached, unbleached, plaid and check Toweling—every yard pure linen. For today at 43c

TABLE DAMASK—All pure linen, silver bleached, full 63 inches wide, worth 45c yard, today at 29c

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42 dozen Fine Quality White Aprons that have sold regularly at 39c, today 20c

A job lot of Manufacturers' Samples—207 in the lot. By our estimation of values, they're worth 75c each. Elsewhere they'd tell you \$1.00. Today at 39c

WYOMING AVENUE.

Embroideries.

VALUES—NOT PRETENSE.

One lot of fine Embroideries, worth 10c yard, at 4c

One lot of fine Embroideries, worth 14c yard, at 9c

One lot of Valenciennes Laces, such as you'd pay 25c yard for, at 8c

One lot of Valenciennes and copies of Fine Torchon Laces, values up to 15c yard; for today at 4c

WYOMING AVENUE.

Men's Wear.

VALUES—NOT PRETENSE.

Japanese Satin String Ties, today at 8c

Silk String Ties at 10c

Silk Scarfs at 21c

White Shirts, colored bosoms, cuffs to match, at 35c

Laundered Cambric Shirts, with detachable collar, at 42c

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It Will Pay You to Come Today to the Grand Spring Opening of Dress Goods and Silks. GROCERIES. Armour's Famous Key Soap, all you want of it today, 12 cakes for 25c. California Picnic Hams, that cost to buy by the hundred, 7c lb., 6c today at BASKET.

BRYAN COUNTY. Kentucky Proposition Has a Precedent, but No Prospect of Success. From the Sun. Carlisle county, Kentucky, is one of the smallest counties of the state. It is on the Mississippi river, just across from Illinois, and south of Cairo and is one of the new counties of the Blue Grass state, having been established in 1888 as a cut from Ballard county, one of the large counties of the state. The area of Carlisle is 189 square miles only.

Answers Received from a Large Number of Public School Pupils. Dr. George E. Dawson of the Bible Normal college has classified answers received from 1,397 pupils of the public schools of this city, given in response to the question, "If you had \$5 all your own, what would you do with it?"

under the Kentucky constitution, the assent of the state legislature, and the Kentucky state legislature is not likely to assent to any such proposition. To abolish Carlisle county as such might perhaps be easy; to call it Blackburn or Blue Grass county, for instance, might be easier than to establish a William Jennings Bryan county.

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