#### 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 as intense public interest as today is directed toward the Maine. The case of the Virginius had in it elee' 's of tragedy that made it more pectacular and dramatic than that of e Maine, and American spirit was orked to an even higher tension than is now before diplomacy and cauon averted a war between the United tates and Spain. In the case of the firginius the facts of Spanish aggresof were in no way denied, but, on the ry, avowed for a time with pride. unt, the authorities at Madrid subdued their people, who were making a settlement more difficult by their talk The only controversy was as to whether or not Spain's action in the matter was within its rights. But the settlement, however it might have left the rights of the vessel still unsolved, was a rebuke to Spain, and for its execution of American citizens with scarcely a formality of law it has never been forgiven by those who remember it, whatever diplomacy decided as to be-

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. In 1870 she was sold in Washington to an agent of the Cuban junta at New York, her name was changed to Virginius, and she cleared for Curacoa in the West Indies. From that time till her unhappy fate the was never in United States waters. At Aspinwall and in the ports of Venezuela and the West Indies she was known for three yes as the most daring and the most successful of filibusters, making repeated landings on the Cuban coast with pplies of arms, ammunition, food and thes for the insurgents who were thting the ten-year war. In all bustering it was claimed, how-

Cuban flag was kept at the asthead whenever that practice served any good purpose. The vessel sailed on the fatal voyage from Kingston, Jamaica, Oct. 23, 1873, having cleared at the United States consulate as a United States vessel bound for Port was Captain Joseph Fry, a citizen of the United States. The cargo was made up of munitions of war for the Cuban insurgents, and the crew was part of Cuban and part of American citiens. There were also on board a number of enlisted men on their way to join the insurgent army.

MEN CAPTURED AND EXECUTED. 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 Tornado. The Tornado had been built by the same English firm that constructed the Virginius, also for blockade running, but in the race that followed the Virginius was unable to equal the speed of her eight hours, during which the men the Virginius threw overboard all the ammunition and guns they carried, to destroy evidence of their intent. Finally, at 10 o'clock at night, the Virginius was stopped and surrendered in response to the cannon shots of the Tornado, which had come in range. The captain protested that his papers wers regular and that the Virginius was "an American ship, carrying American colors and papers, with an American captain and crew." In response he was told that he was a pirate, his flag was lowered and trampled upon, and the Spanish flag was hoisted in its

When the Tornado 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 various courts-martial condemned most if not all of the prisoners to death, this summary proceeding being, as was alleged, in accordance with Spanish laws, so drms were concerned. The first executions were on the morning of Nov. when four men were shot, one of them being Brigadier Washington Ryan, who claimed British citizenship, as a Canadian, although he had served in the union army during the late war. The victims were shot in the back, and their bodies were afterward be haded, the heads displayed on spikes and the trunks trampled by horses. George W. Sherman, the correspondof the New York Herald, tried to sletch the scene and was imprisoned for four days for his attempt. A guard kept the American consul in his house.

he could not appear to protest. On the 8th of November twelve more men were executed, and on the 13th thirty-seven were executed, this last batch including the officers and crew of the Virginius and most of the American citizens. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon the condemned men were marched to the place of execution, passing and safuting the American consulate, where the flag was not flying from its staff. Captain Fry was shot first, and was the only man, though the soldiers stood but ten feet away, who fell dead at the first volley. The majority of the poor fellows, as the firing continued, were wounded, and killed as they lay on the ground by the usual Spanish fashion of firing rifles in the mouths of those who were disabled. The second engineer of

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CUTICURA REMEDIES afford instant relief, and point to a speedy cure of torturing, dis-figuring, humiliating, itching, burning, bleed-ing, grusted, scaly skin and scalp humors, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

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the Virginius was among those exe-cuted. 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 he was to be spared. He was shot 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. PROTESTS UNHEEDED.

During all this time the consuls at Santiago were not idle, but they were helpless, E. G. Schmitt, the American when engaged in this tug-of-war of vice-consul, and Theodore Brooks, the bluffing neither of them could get an British vice-consul, made all sorts of protests that were unavailing. Schmitt ter than a play to study their faces at was not permitted to see the prisoners the show-downs. Conkling was having before or after the court-martial, until the very end, when he reached Captain of the night, and it was fun to hear fry and signed his protest with him. 'Little Phil' softly utter dark and wool-He was not permitted the use of the telegraph in order to communicate with the government at Washington by way of Kingston, Jamaica. He wrote repeated notes to General Burriel, the Spanish commander at Santiago, getting no answer to them, until at last that the senator was bluffing, would an answer came that was more irritating than silence. Burriel told him that he should have known that the previous day was a day of religious festival, during which he and all his officers were engaged in "meditation of the divine mysteries," and could not consider temporal affairs. He also informed the consul that he might be expelled from the Island for trying to embroil the United States and Spain in difficulties if he were not careful.

Then came the only bright spot in the whole affair. News of what was so it was left between Sheridan and going on reached Jamaica, and the Conkling, who stayed. Conkling took going on reached Jamaica, and the British gunboat Niobe, Captain Sir Lambton Lorraine, left for the scene of massacre, sailing in such a hurry that he left some of the crew ashore. The captain landed at Santiago before his ship was anchored, and demanded that the slaughter be stopped instantthat the Virginius never lost ly. He declared that he represented pter as an American ship, the United States as well as England, and that he would bombard the city if there was another American citizen executed. Ninety-three men were under sentence of death, many of whom were Americans, but the sentences were immediately suspended and the lives Simon, Costa Rica, The commander ere saved. The Spanish afterward stopped because of orders received from Madrid. The next time Sir Lambton Lorraine was in New York he was offered a reception, which he declined. He was presented, however, with a silver brick, on which were engraved the words: "Blood is thicker than water." A resolution of thanks to him was laid on the table in the house of representatives and never

DEMANDS FOR VENGEANCE. 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 epecial messages to congress, and the state department began diplomatic negotiations. Hamilton Fish, secretary of state, declared that the Virginius, having been registered as an American vessel carrying official documents regular upon their face and bearing the United States flag, was entirely beyond the jurisdiction of any other power on the high seas in the time of peace; that if she had secured fraudulent entry or committed any other fraud against the laws of the Inited States it was for her to be turned over to the United States courts for punishment, and not for her to be captured and punished by some other power. The Spanish minister of foreign affairs at that time was Admiral Polo de Bernabe, father of the new Spanish minister who succeeds Dupuy de Lome. He wanted to submit the matter to arbitration, and Secretary Fish replied to him that the "United States was ready to refer to arbitration all questions properly subjects for reference, but that the question of an indignity to the fleg of the nation far at least as the character of the and the capture in time of peace on purt and the nature of the judicial the high seas of a vessel bearing that flag and having also the register and papers of an American ship, is not deemed to be one referable to other powers to determine. A nation must be the judge and custodian of its own

> Most of the men were executed after rotests to Madrid began to be made. Madrid mobs made a demonstration against the American minister, General Sickles. Nov. 4 Secretary Fish cabled Sickles: "In case of refusal of satisfactory reparation within twelve days from this date close your lega-tion and leave Madrid." Ten days later, when the executions were over, he telegraphed: "If Spain cannot redress these outrages, the United States will." Ten days after that he wired: If no settlement is reached by the lose of tomorrow leave." Next day Spain became tractable and war was averted. By his conduct in Madrid at that time General Sickles made many friends of those Americans who wanted to see energetic action and many enemies among those who wanted peace at any price. It was alleged afterward that the latter influence became dominant, and that his recall from that post was the result of their work to punish him for his energy that was not always diplomatic in its forms.

> > SETTLEMENT.

The terms of settlement of the

trouble 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 saluted by the Tornado. The surrender was made in the obscure harbor of Bahia Honda Dec. 16, the Spanish having taken the Virginius there to avoid the humiliation of a surrender in Santiago or Havana, where it should have been made. Captain W. D. Whitthe chief of staff of the north Atlantic squadron, was appointed to receive the surrender of the Virginius, and the gunhoat Dispatch was sent to Bahia Honda with him for that purpose. Lieutenant Adolph Marix was the flag lieutenant of the Dispatch, the same who is now the judge-advocate of the court of inquiry on the Maine dis-The Virginius was delivered with the flag flying, but she was unseaworthy, and, struck by a storm off Cape Hatterss, was sunk on her way

to New York. The salute to the flag

that had been arranged was waived by

can flag when she was captured. No indemnity was paid for the lives of the American citizens who had been exe-cuted, and the incident was declared

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. The way Conkling and Sheridan bluffed each other that night was a caution. Both men seemed to strike out luck altogether as an element in their good-natured play against each other, and as both of them caught fine hands occasionally, exact line on the other, and it was betall the success during the latter part ly things under his breath when, time after time, Conkling would show a hand consisting of nothing at all after having scared Sheridan out, or produce a gorgeous set of fours or a full hand at such times as Sheridan, deciding

call him. "'Bite him, 'Sheridan,' Chamberlin would say, amusedly, on these occasions, and Sheridan would tell Chamberlin to go to the dickens, and call for another deck of cards.

"We started the last round of jackpots with a new deck. Sheridan dealt the first mess himself, and after it had gone around and none of the three of us could open it, Sheridan opened it himself. Neither Chamberlin nor I had any right to stay on our hands, and three cards, and turned his little pair into threes. Sheridan dished himself out three cards, and bit his cigar hard when he saw his hand. He made a \$5 bet to draw Conkling out, and the senator raised him \$25. It passed between them with these \$25 bets until there was nearly \$300 in the pot, both men scrutinizing each other pretty carefully at each bet.

"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 Sherldan strangely when he saw the color of Sheridan's three aces. Both Chamberlin and myself also saw what was wrong at the same instant, but we only smiled and let the two men have it out. Sheridan had a broad grin on his face and was just about to rake in the pot. Conkling was gazing at the little man of iron with a puzzled look in his eyes. "'Oh, I say, there, Phil, just wait a

minute,' said he. 'Do you really think that pot belongs to you?"
"Belongs to me?" said Sheridan.
"Well, it does if the nose on my face belongs to me—' and again he reached over to hoe in the pot. "Conkling ran his hand through his

hair and again stopped Sheridan with 'I don't remember ever having seen that sort of thing before.'

you, Phil? 'See what sort of thing before?

said Sheridan. 'What in blazes are you talking about, Conkling?' "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

"Sheridan looked at his hand, lying face up on the table before him, and is one of the new countles of the Blue his face became flery 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,

"'And have the army fire a volley over the ruins of my house?" replied Chamberlin, 'Hardly, Anyhow, I'd rather see you and Conkling engage in a rough and tumble fight over the thing, Go ahead, the pair of you. We'll see fair play,' turning to me.

"Of course, the extra ace of diamonds had slipped into the deck accidentally before it left the manufacturer's hands, but Sheridan, when he had in a measure recovered from the surprise of the revelation, made a humorous pretension that he had known the whole thing all along, and convulsed the three of us by feelingly appealing to Conkling to refrain from exposing him to the world, for the sake of his family, and all that sort of thing. The hand being foul the pot was, of course, di-

THE LADY AND THE BIRD. How Latter Has to Suffer 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!

These are no guess-work figures, but the official report of the Audubon soclety of Massachusetts. And what does it mean? It means five million voices stilled in Nature's avian choir. Five million flashes of cheeriness and gladness taken from human life; and millions of other young lives doomed to plumaged corpse of the murdered mother bird may be rent by a milliner and jammed into hideous shapelessness in

milady's hat! Ah, milady, is there no efficacy in these desolating figures? Is there no mercy in your heart, no sentiment in your soul? Can you enjoy the finest opera when you think that the killing of the birds with which you and your sisters are crowning your beauty is gradually silencing the grand oratorio

of the forest and the fields. A birdless country! A voiceless forest! What a desolation it would be! And yet that is just what this country is coming to if the song birds of our land are to be killed off at the rate of five millions a year in order to gratify feminine vanity and keep women "in

what a grewsome, hideous, scienceless "style" it is that murders the United States because the attorney melody and silences; general gave an opinion that the Vir- from Heaven's gatemelody and silences the lark that sings

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#### BRYAN COUNTY.

Kentucky Proposition Has a Precedent, but No Prospect of Success.

Carlisle county, Kentucky, is one of be aces of diamonds,' said Conkling the smallest counties of the state. It is on the Mississippi river, just across from Illinois, and south of Cairo and Crass 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 199 square miles only. It isn't as large as Rockland county New York, and a majority of its voting population are silverite Democrats, who gave a majority for Bryan in 1896. It is by reason of such partiality perhaps that in the Frankfort legislature other day Representative Mount introduced a bill to change the name Carlisle county to William Jennings Bryon county. The name of Carlisle, it noust be added, is not an agreeable

one to the Kentucky silverites. There are 119 counties in Kentucky, but there isn't a Bryan county in any other state of the Union with the solitary exception of Georgia, which has, and has had for a number of years, a Bryan county, a small affair just to the south of Savannah and fronting on the Atlantic coast. In the Northern states it is not a custom to give full names to counties. That is to say, it is customary to give such titles as "Abraham Lincoln county," "Thomas Jeffersen county," or "Alexander Hamilton Lincoln county, Jefferson county or Hamilton county is thought to suffice. But in the South and such states in the West as Southern ideas prevail in, longer designations for countles are not unusual. There is in Texas a Jeff Davis county, though Davis county would probably serve as well the requirements of those who desired to perpetuate the memory of the president of the former confeder-There is also in Texas, very far up in the forsaken region of the Pan-

handle, what is known as Deaf Smith county; but there is a good chronological reason for believing that Deaf Smith was not made so by the oratory William Jennings Bryan, for the signation was bestowed before Bryan had been heard of in Nebraska. There is a Charles Mix county in South Dakota, a Roger Mills county in Oklahoma, a Jo Davis county in Illinois, and Kit Carson county in Colora-The proposition, therefore, to establish in Kentucky, not a Bryan county, but a William Jennings Bryan county, is not altogether a novelty in nomenclature. Nevertheless, by reason of the form of the proposition, if for no other reason, it is not likely to gain serious consideration. Bryan did not carry Kentucky when a candidate the presidency in the election of 1896. McKinley did, and McKinley was the only Republican who did carry it, for prior to the beginning of the civil war Kentucky was what was then called Constitutional Union party" and it went for the Constitutional Union party candidate, John Bell, in 1860, against both the Democratic and the Republican candidates, and after the beginning of the civil war it was uniformly, until 1896, Democratic While the voters of Carlisle might be willing enough in their allegiance to the cause of free silver and campaign oratory to substitute for the present desig-

this formality, to be official, requires

under the Kentucky constitution, the assent of the state legislature, and the Kentucky state legislature is not like-

lish a William Jennings Bryan coun-HOW THEY WOULD USE MONEY.

Answers Received from a Large Number of Public School Pupils. Dr. George E. Dawson of the Bible Normal college has classified answers received from 1,307 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

Of those who passed in answers 669 were boys and 638 were girls, their ages ranging from 5 to 16. The answers are grouped under nine general heads: 44 per cent, would deposit the money in a bank, 13.8 per cent. would buy clothing 2.2 per cent, would buy something to eat, 15.3 per cent, would buy toys and other means of amusement, 2.1 per cent, would buy jewelry and finery, 9-10ths of 1 per cent, would buy firearms, 1.7 per cent. would spend for travel, 14 per cent, would spend for others and 6 per cent, would buy books, etc. It is interesting to note the large per cent. who express a disposition to save. Dr. Dawson attributes this largely to the suggestability of the children; the results in this respect re-semble those obtained in other fields of experiment. While the children do not realize the full significance of saving, the idea has been engrafted upon their minds and is bound to have its influence. The fact that this idea of saving has been thus forcibly impressed on the minds of so many is very significant and gives us a hint of the im-In noting the per cent, of those who would buy clothing it should be remembered that many of the children were in urgent need of something bet-

nense influence of public instruction. ter to wear. Those who voted for something to eat were mostly under 7 years of age. In the class who would prefer amusements, the girls usually expressed a wish for dolls and doll carriages, while the boys mostly desired pigeons rabbits or other pets. In regard to travel, the figures show that, as children grow older, the desire to go out into the world increases rapidly, reaching its height at about the beginning of adolescence. The desire shown by the boys for firearms is an expression of the hunting instinct that awakens when they are 10 or 12. At that age boys like to get hold of books of hunting and adventure. The tendency to buy books acreases steadily as the children grow older. This class numbers about twice as many girls as boys. The class who manifest a feeling of altruism also numbers more girls than boys, showing that the greater generosity of women is strikingly manifest even at an Electric early age.

NO BIBLICAL DIRECTIONS.

'rom the Youth's Companion. From the Youth's Companion.

An account of the successful and very forcible resistance by the late Bishop of Sodor and Man of two highwaymen on a lonely Manx road has recalled a somewhat similar stery of Selwyn, the good and famous first Bishop of New Zealand. Selwyn, who was gentle and sweet in his life, as well as most carnest and ennation that of William Jennings Bryan,

terprising in the propagation of the Gospel among the barbarians of the South Pacific, was a firm friend of the Maori natives of New Zealand, and took their ly to assent to any such proposition. part publicly in a dispute which they had To abolish Carlisle county as such with the English settlers. This naturally incensed the lower order of settlers, who might perhaps be easy; to call it Blackwere trying to get the Maoris' lands. One evening, when Bishop Selwyn was walking in the streets of Aukland, he was burn or Blue Grass county, for instance, might be easier than to estabaccosted by a drunken Englishman who,

after abusing him for the part he had taken in behalf of the natives, gave him a blow across the right check. The Bishop stood in astonishment, and then, turn-ing to his assailant his left cheek, said: Now, sir, the Bible tells me that when my enemy strikes me on one cheek I must turn to him the other; so I will obey

its commands."

Upon this the ruffian, seeking the admiration of the group of his sympathizers who had assembled, struck the Bishop a severe blow on the left cheek, saying: "Oh, Mr. Bishop, that's what the Bible tells you, is it?"

The Bishop turned pale. His example of patient forbearance had been quite lost on the ruffian and the crowd. The time had come for the assertion of the physits commands.'

had come for the assertion of the physical force which, in his college days, had won for him the title of "the great George

Selwyn." The Bishop said: "Yes, that's what my Bible tells me ! do to the coward that has struck in once. But, sir, after that it gives me I directions as to what I am to do, and I am consequently at liberty to act on my

own judgment. Thereupon he took off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, and "pitched into" the rufflan in athletic style. The mob was bound to see fair play, and besides, its sympa-thies had now gone over to the side of

the Bishop. And "his lordship" thrashed the ruffian so thoroughly that he cried mercy.

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