

THE SPANISH SITUATION

Chief Developments in Connection with the Cuban Elections.

MILD PROTEST FROM SPAIN

Influence of an American Fleet in Cuban Waters.

A Remonstrance Against the Encouragement of Cuban Insurgents That is Calculated to Have Effect in the Courts of Europe--The Court of Inquiry Still Silent.

Washington, March 16.--The chief developments in the Spanish situation today were in connection with the defiant representations submitted by the Spanish government to the state department concerning the assembling of a large fleet of American warships at Key West, the war preparations, and the influence which these might have on the approaching elections in Cuba.

These representations were exactly in line with the semi-official utterance given in these dispatches last night and accredited to a high official conversant with the views of the Spanish cabinet. While they cannot properly be regarded as a protest against the attitude and acts of the United States government, they may unquestionably be set down as a remonstrance calculated to have an effect in European court circles.

It is stated unequivocally that the Montgomery is not withdrawn owing to any suggestion from Spanish sources that her presence is not desired. It was the announced intention of Secretary Long when the cruiser was sent to Havana to keep her there only so long as the Fern should be engaged in the work of distributing relief among the sufferers in Eastern Cuba.

The fleet at Key West will be augmented within the next day or two by the arrival of the gunboat Annapolis, the torpedo boat Foote and the naval tugs Leyden and Samoset, while the gunboat Helena is now on her way to the European station under orders to report to Key West.

The fleet now at Key West and Tortugas is as follows: Cruiser New York, battleship Massachusetts, battleship Indiana, battleship Iowa, battleship Texas, cruiser Detroit, gunboat Nashville, cruiser Marchand, dispatch boat Fern, torpedo boat Dupont, Cushing, Puerto, Winslow and Ericsson. To these will soon be added the vessels now en route there.

Department of the army in the completion of certain fortification works along the Atlantic and gulf coasts is in progress, and the other is for \$2,225,000 for the use of the ordnance department of the army in the acquisition of arms and ammunition.

TENSION GROWS SERIOUS. Havana, March 16.--With the departure of the court of inquiry, after a second visit to the scene of the wreck of the Maine, the tension grows serious. The court is nearly ready to report. Unless there are new discoveries here, which is unlikely, there is nothing to be done, but for the members to seclude themselves in the Iowa and formulate the convictions already firmly held.

DEFIANT SPANIARDS.

El Correo Threats the Yankee Government--Sagasta Administration.

Madrid, March 16.--El Correo quotes the following from the Correspondencia Militar:

"Raising its voice, the Yankee government already speaks of ultimatums and declarations of war. They judge the spirit of the Spanish people by the flabbiness of her rulers, and insult one or the other with the insolence of a bully in front of a weakling incapable of self defence.

"If our government commits the indignity of even considering the payment of the indemnity which we are threatened; if an ultimatum be sent us and is made public, then will come the explosion, and there will then be no way of avoiding war, for the gloves will not be picked up by the government, but by the people of Spain, by the army, by the live forces of the country, by all who represent anything in the nation."

SPAIN IS ORIEVED.

Presence of the United States Fleet Near Cuba is Regarded Seriously.

Washington, March 16.--The war preparations being made by the United States, the assembling of ships at Key West, the purchase of the cruisers Albatross and the emergency measures in the war and navy departments have come to the official attention of the Spanish government and the views of the Spanish cabinet thereon have been communicated to the state department here.

This has not taken the form of a protest, however, as it does not appear that the Spanish government claim or assert the right to question such internal measures as the United States may adopt, even though they be of a character to indicate preparations for war. It is rather by way of representations, conveyed in a friendly spirit and without threat, as to the serious influence which these preparations will have in encouraging the Cuban insurgents at the moment when the autonomy plan is to have its crucial trial through the Cuban elections, and in this way defeat the reforms Premier Sagasta is seeking to carry out.

It has been specially pointed out that the presence of a large fleet of United States warships at Key West cannot be regarded as a friendly measure, as the sending of ships was officially represented to be when the Maine went to Havana, and the Viceira returned the complimentary visit. In short, the presence of this extensive fleet near Cuba, together with the war measures taken by the United States, are regarded by Spain as seriously prejudicial to the policy of autonomy which the United States have alike approved and an indirect encouragement to the insurgents in defeating the desires of both governments for the success of that policy.

The statement has created a profound impression. Officials decline to discuss it publicly but there is a general belief among them that the publication marks the beginning of a new chapter in the troubled relations between the United States and Spain. The statement is believed to be a first step towards forming public opinion in Europe in anticipation of a failure on the part of the Spanish officials to make a success of the autonomous programme which it has outlined and that an attempt is to be made to place the responsibility upon the United States for any failure that may follow.

SAVAGE FIRE AT CHICAGO

Five to Fifteen Persons Are Killed and Many Wounded.

SIX STORY BUILDING IN ASHES

Chicago, March 16.--It required just twenty minutes this afternoon for one of the most savage fires Chicago has ever seen to take from five to fifteen lives, maim thirty people and reduce a six-story brick building at Wabash avenue and Adams street to a pile of blazing timber. The number of dead is still in doubt and probably will not be definitely known until the debris of the building is sufficiently cooled to admit of search being made for the bodies of those who undoubtedly are in the ruins. This will be two days hence at least.

Those known to be dead are: SAMUEL A. CLARK, MILES A. SMITH, EDWARD BINZ.

Of the missing nothing could be learned late tonight and most of them are without question buried in the wreck of the building. The building was six stories high, fronting on Wabash avenue. From the third story to the roof was a light shaft which gave the flames every chance and it was because of this that the fire spread with such awful rapidity.

The building was occupied by a number of concerns, some employing large numbers of people. It is estimated that 400 persons were at work in the building when the fire was discovered. The origin of the fire is in dispute. It is thought that an explosion occurred in the lower part of the building, for the flames shot up the light shaft. A panic followed and on several floors a wild stampede for the stairs and elevators began. When they reached the top both elevators took on a load of frightened women and started for the bottom.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

The elevator was in good order, but not calculated to produce much speed in such an emergency as confronted it today. Gleason made one trip to the seventh floor, carrying down a load of women and children, the smoke was rolling through the building in dense clouds, he started up again. After reaching the bottom with his load of girls, Gleason was about to start up again when the supports of the elevator machinery at the top of the shaft caught fire, and seeing that the front of the building was rapidly covered with a string of people, some on one side, some on the other, as they scrambled down in frantic haste they trod upon one another's fingers, bumped into one another and progress was slow and difficult. Many of the women could not reach the fire escape made their way to the front windows, and it was out of these that Clark, Smith and Binz hurled themselves to death.

GEN. KEARNEY MARRIED.

Takes a Wife, While His Insane Son Escapes from a Sanitarium.

Charlottesville, Va., March 16.--General John Watts Kearney and Miss Elizabeth H. Stevens, both of this city, were married this afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Green Payton, near here. They left for New York, whence they will sail on Wednesday for a bridal tour in Europe. The bride is the daughter of the late Colonel Julian Harrison, of Elm Hill, on the general's former marriage. General Kearney's age is given as 52 years. He is a son of General Philip Kearney.

Dr. William McKinley's Wife Cut the Throat of a Fierce Dog.

Winchester, Ky., March 16.--Dr. William McKinley's wife saved him from death a second time Saturday when he went to the country to visit a patient. As the weather was fine he took Mrs. McKinley along. Arriving at the patient's house the doctor got out and left his wife in the buggy to hold the horse. Just as the doctor reached the door a large bull dog rushed on him in an attempt to catch him by the throat. The doctor caught the dog's jaws with his right hand and with his left caught his forefoot.

WILL NOT SELL CUBA.

Semi-Official Declaration That the Plan is Not Feasible.

Madrid, March 16.--A semi-official agency today publishes the following announcement: "It is useless to talk of the sale of Cuba. It is not arranged except by parliament, and it is impossible that any Spanish chamber would agree to sell the island at any price."

Youthful Elopers Caught.

Morganstown, W. Va., March 16.--The 23-year-old daughter of Albert Dawson, who eloped with E. C. Jennewine last night, was captured at Fairhance by her father today and brought home. Jennewine is but 17, and they were headed for Maryland to get married.

Shot by Her Husband. Niagara Falls, N. Y., March 16.--Mrs. Addie Lathwell, who was shot by her husband yesterday, died today. Her body will be sent to Saint Ste Marie, Mich.

MILLIONAIRE PHILANTHROPIST DEAD.

Jacob Tome, of Port Deposit, Md., Succumbs to Pneumonia.

Port Deposit, Md., March 16.--Jacob Tome, the millionaire philanthropist and founder of the "Jacob Tome Institute" at this place, died here today after a brief illness. He contracted pneumonia on Monday last and began to sink Tuesday morning and never rallied.

Mr. Tome was born in Mannheim township, York county, Pa., Aug. 13, 1819. His parents were in humble circumstances and after a somewhat varied life, he settled in Port Deposit as a clerk to a lumber firm at the age of 24. Soon thereafter he formed a partnership with a wealthy resident of Marietta, Pa., named Reihart, the firm doing a large business in lumber and shingles for seventeen years. Upon the dissolution of the partnership Mr. Tome continued in the lumber business, but added to it that of banking, in which he was very successful.

NAVY FOR FRANCE.

Reported Preparations to Join Russia in a Demonstration--Affirmed by the Aurore.

Paris, March 16.--The Aurore today affirms that the French fleet is being prepared for mobilization, adding that feverish activity prevails at all the arsenals and shipyards, which are working until 10 o'clock at night. Continuing, the Aurore says the French northern squadron at Cherbourg are ready for immediate departure. The ships, it appears, are being swung during the night at Cherbourg for the adjustment of their compasses.

Finally, it is asserted that, in order to complete the necessary number of officers, second-year students are to be appointed midshipmen, and all the admirals have been instructed to arrange to reach Paris within twenty-four hours after being summoned. The Aurore explains that the mobilization of the fleet is a demonstration to support Russia by a naval demonstration in the far east.

SPANISH FOURS HIGHER.

Slight Recovery in London and Paris, but Weakness in Madrid.

London, March 16.--On the stock exchange today Spanish fours were quoted at 53 1/2, against 53 1/4, the closing price of yesterday.

Spanish fours closed at 54 1/2, a net gain of 1/4 over yesterday's closing prices. Paris, March 16.--Spanish fours on the Bourse today were quoted at 53 1/2. Yesterday the closing price was 52.

The final quotation of Spanish fours today was 54 1/2, against 53 1/2 yesterday. The market was more cheerful and advanced on large speculative purchases, owing to the strengthening reports concerning the relations between Spain and the United States.

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JOINT SERVICE TO ORIENT.

Three Steamships for a Japanese Company Ready in England.

San Francisco, March 16.--Mr. Shirashi of Japan is here on his way to England to inspect three large steamships being completed for the steamship company known as the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. The steamships are to be run in connection with vessels of the Pacific Mail and Occidental and Oriental companies, which are arranged for a joint service across the Pacific. The Japanese vessels are to be ready for service in September.

Mr. Shirashi, who will superintend the sailing of the new steamships, said in an interview: "The two steamship companies of this city will each place one of their best vessels in the joint service with our three. That will make nine steamships and they will have a schedule of alternating sailing dates from this city and Hong Kong. The steamships are to be accorded equal rights and rates by the Southern Pacific company and its connections on all shipments through this port, whether bound east or west. Dockage and other expenses are to be borne equally by the three steamship companies."

GERMANY'S NEW NAVY.

The Budget Committee of Reichstag Amends the Naval Bill.

Berlin, March 16.--The Budget committee of the Reichstag has inserted in the Naval bill a clause, which has been approved by the Federated governments, to the effect that in the event of the permanent expenditure exceeding in any year 117,525,494 marks, the excess should not be met by an increase in the existing indirect imperial taxation, or by the creation of fresh imposts upon articles of large popular consumption.

THREATENED BY WHITECAPS.

Negro Who Married a White Woman Ordered to Depart.

Charleston, W. Va., March 16.--Byron Barrett, colored, lives on a farm seven miles below here, having for his wife a white woman, whom he married in Ohio. Last night whitecaps notified Barrett to leave the country immediately, or his house would be burned and his wife and children hanged.

Barrett appealed to Governor Atkinson today for protection. The sheriff sent deputies to the scene of threatened trouble.

Pennsylvania Postmasters. Washington, Pa., March 16.--William H. Tuttle and Mrs. Belle Fisher, both of West Washington, have been remanded to jail for the May term of court to answer to a charge of bribery preferred by Constable Joseph Swihart. Both are married, and without divorces were, it is alleged, married last September in Wheeling.

UNCLE SAMUEL OUTBIDS SPAIN

Contract of Sale of Brazil's Warships Signed.

SPAIN HAD NOT THE WHEREWITHAL

The issue of the rivalry for them between this government and Spain doubtful up to the last. Brazil's gratitude to us and sympathy with the Cubans a factor. Spain's reported inquiries as to the object of purchases for the navy.

London, March 16.--The final contract providing for the sale of the warships Amazonas and Almirante Bruz to the United States has been signed. The price is something over \$500,000 (\$2,500,000) for both ships. An American crew is expected here from Lisbon tonight to take possession of the Amazon on Friday. Her Brazilian crew will go to Newcastle to man the Aquidaban, which the Brazilian government, according to despatches received today, will not sell. It is added that Brazil will not sell any more warships for the present. She ordered the two coast defense ships, the Marshal Dodo and the Marshal Floriano, which are being built in France. The Bruz cannot be completed for six weeks.

It is learned that there has been spirited bidding between the United States and Spain for the Amazonas and the Almirante Bruz. The outcome was actually doubtful until the contracts were signed.

The action of Brazil in this matter is said to have been influenced by a desire to repay the good offices of the United States government during the Mello revolution. Moreover, he said that Brazil strongly sympathizes with the Cubans.

Washington, March 16.--Although the secretary of the navy is still pursuing with vigor his quest for suitable warships that may be purchased in Europe beyond the already secured at the Armstrong works, no further acquisitions have been made.

Berlin, March 16.--Senor Sardoval, the Spanish agent, is negotiating for the purchase of a number of old and slow steamships of the North German Lloyd Steamship company.

GERMANS AT CRETE.

Greece Having Paid Up, They Have No More Interest in the Island. Fing Hauled Down.

Canea, island of Crete, March 16.--The German flag was hauled down today and the German marines who have been doing duty ashore embarked on board the German flag in Crete, says the international troops composing the garrison rendered military honors to the departing German forces.

Berlin, March 16.--The Cologne Gazette, commenting upon the hauling down of the German flag in Crete, says the departure of the German battleship Oldenburg does not signify a cessation of the concert of the Powers, but merely means that now the affairs of the German creditors of Greece have been settled. Greece has little interest in the destinies of Crete, which concern France, Russia and England.

BRIDE IS MISSING.

Mrs. Henry Marberger, of Butler County, Disappears.

New Castle, Pa., March 16.--Mrs. Henry Marberger, a bride of but a few days, is missing from the home of her sister, Mrs. Leon Hart, of Slippery Rock township. Her home is in Butler county. Friday she visited her sister, and on Saturday left for a walk, since which time she cannot be found. Her husband found footprints leading to the Slippery Rock creek, and it is feared that she has succumbed. When married she had considerable money due her, but failure to collect it had made her despondent.

NEW WHISKEY TRUST.

Probability That Greenhut's Efforts Will Be Efectual.

Cincinnati, March 16.--J. B. Greenhut, of Peoria, Ill., the head of the old whiskey trust, has been here for two days conferring with the distillers of this state and of Kentucky relative to the formation of a stronger and larger whiskey combine than has yet been organized.

As Mr. Greenhut has already secured the co-operation of leading distillers who are not in the American Spirits Manufacturing company and who were not in the old trust, it is thought the new combine will go through.

THE HERALD'S WEATHER FORECAST.

New York, March 17.--In the middle states and New England, today, cloudy to partly cloudy with rain, fresh to brisk southerly winds off the coast and nearly stationary, followed by slightly lower temperature and by clearing in this section.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: Showers Probable; Warmer.

- 1 General--War Preparations Continue Unabated.
2 Defiant Attitude of the Spanish Press, United States Outbid Spain.
3 John Wanamaker Opens His Campaign.
4 Fatal Fire at Chicago.
5 The Tribune's Popular Want Columns, Financial and Commercial.
6 Local--Juror Put On a Substitute.
7 Editorial.
8 Comment of the Press.
9 Story--"The Skipper of the Phantom Tug."
10 Local--Proposed Bond Issue of Over \$700,000.
11 Local--School Board of Six Engage a Teacher.
12 Local--West Side and Suburban.
13 Lackawanna County News.
14 General--Plans for Annexation of Cuba.
15 Riot in a Denver Industrial School.

WOMEN TO ENLIST.

A Female Cavalry Troop Suggested in Colorado--Eastward Movement of Artillery.

Denver, 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 a former equestrienne, and handles a gun very dexterously.

Chicago, March 16.--Colonel J. C. G. Lee, quartermaster of the Department of the Missouri, this afternoon made the awards for the transportation of the three batteries from Fort Riley, Kan., tomorrow. The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad will transport one to Fort Monroe, the Kansas, Fort Scott and Missouri will transport the battery destined for Fort Jackson, New Orleans. The same road will transport the third battery to Savannah.

New York, March 16.--Representatives of the government visited Fort Wadsworth and secured valuable land adjoining the new fortifications. Extra gangs of mechanics and laborers have been put to work with orders to rush the completion of the three heavy batteries which will mount the heaviest disappearing guns in New York harbor. At the navy yard today a shipment of 300,000 pounds of powder was dispatched to Key West. 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 express train. Fourteen mounts for five-inch guns were hoisted on board the cruiser Chicago and a large force of machinists was set at work fixing them in place.

The board for the inspection of auxiliary cruisers met today. Clement A. Griscom, general manager, and James A. Wright, second vice president of the International Navigation company, were present, and the terms on which the government may secure the St. Paul and possibly the St. Louis, were discussed.

LEXOW COMMITTEE IN HARD STRAITS.

Unable to Secure the Attendance of the Principal Witnesses.

Philadelphia, March 16.--The committee investigating the charges of bribery growing out of the legislation relating to the Schuylkill Valley Water company's bill was resumed today. The sergeant-at-arms, said he, had been unable to serve a subpoena on Peter E. Smith, who is alleged to have offered Congressman Stevenson \$5,000 if he would vote for the water bill. Smith was said to be at Atlantic City with a sick child.

Charles F. Kindred, general agent of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, was the only other witness. Councilman Stevenson yesterday said that Smith had told him Kindred would supply the \$5,000. Mr. Kindred, when sworn denied any connection with Smith or any one to secure votes for the bill, and never discussed the matter. On the other hand he said he was opposed to the measure. An effort will be made to secure Smith's attendance before the committee.

CORRUPTION AT WORST.

The balance of Mr. Wanamaker's address was devoted to a discussion of that issue. He declared that corruption at its worst and the commercialism of politics are the chief characteristics of Pennsylvania, and that profligacy, extravagance and boss rule oppress the people.

"I am told," he said, "that political promises have been made this week in your county which will cost the taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars, solely for the purpose of perpetuating the power of the bosses, to elect a Quay legislature and a Quay delegation to the state convention."

The speaker next took up the Pennsylvania legislature of last year, referring to the passage of promises broken and party pledges ignored; its abuse of public trust and insatiable desire for public plunder; of legislation born of injustice, iniquity and crime, driven through under the whip and spur of the boss; of trusts fostered and protected and legitimate commercial interests assaulted; of placing the brewery paramount to the school house and the interests of beer pre-eminence over the crying demands of charity and popular education.

Mr. Wanamaker asserted that at the convening of this legislature the "machine" finding itself bankrupt, "conspired to create a host of new and useless but high-salaried officers, aggregating over \$750,000, by instituting railway, prison, civil service and other "commissions," but, he added: "The anti-Quay men, divining the purpose and dangerous character of these bills, quietly formed a combination with all the interests assailed. The temperance people were aroused; hundreds of state papers declared against the scheme intended to break down the restrictive license barriers; the prison authorities became alarmed, lest for political purposes our penal system should be impaired, and gave valiant assistance; the railroads joined hands to defeat a scheme intended for blackmailing purposes; electric interests responded, as did others, and the entire outfit of Quay's commission bills was linked together and strangled."

PROMISES OF REFORM.

The speaker next considered the promises of reform legislation made by Senator Quay and his alleged failure to fulfill them. Continuing, he said: "For fifteen years the control of the office of state treasurer has been the citadel of Senator Quay's power; it is believed to have yielded annually a

WANAMAKER CAMPAIGN

The Ex-Postmaster General's Boom at Lancaster.

BUSINESS MEN'S LEAGUE

And Many Vice-Presidents Back the Movement.

Lancaster Court House was Filled to Overflowing by an Enthusiastic Audience--Mr. Wanamaker's Address--The Situation Thoroughly Ventilated from the Standpoint of a Reformer--A Fierce Attack on Senator Quay--Plan to Unleash Mr. Gow.

Lancaster, Pa., March 16.--Ex-Postmaster General Wanamaker addressed a mass meeting in the court house here tonight. It was held under the auspices of the local branch of the Business Men's Republican league, and the list of seventy vice-presidents and secretaries included many men prominent in the commercial and industrial life of this city and county. S. S. Spencer, superintendent of the cotton mills, presided. Every seat in the court house was occupied and standing room in the aisles was at a premium when the distinguished visitor was escorted to the building in a fast falling rain. General W. H. Kowitz of Somerset, made the opening speech, in which his mention of the name of Mr. Wanamaker as a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor evoked applause.

State Senator C. C. Kauffman, who is a candidate for re-nomination at Saturday's primaries; Rudolph Blankenberg, of Philadelphia, and William N. Appel, anti-Quay candidate for the legislature from this city, also spoke.

The first gun of real war booms over your historic county tonight in opening the battle of our insular and outraged commonwealth against the invasion of its rights.

Slowly the old frigate Pennsylvania has drifted to anchor in quiet waters and her engines are springing mines upon her to tear her into shreds, to use reckless forces are on the alert to sweep her on to destruction. The beautiful white battleship that steamed out of New York harbor a month ago became a white coffin buried in the dark sea in the dead of the night. Without passing hasty judgment on our sister state, we are waiting for all information, the air is full of the fear of treachery and dastardly brutality. We do seek war, but we are not afraid of it. To the contrary, that voted fifty millions into the president's hands for immediate use if necessary, we send loyal greetings and say make it a General election, this city, also spoke.

More tomorrow. We are not clamoring for bloodshed, but we are swearing fidelity to the flag and insisting on justice to the honored dead and living. And while old Pennsylvania of the original thirteen stands up perpendicular with every sister state in the Union to meet the Cuban question, there has come to us suffering Pennsylvanians an issue of our own.

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