



10 CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 18, 1898.

TWO CENTS.

THE STAGE BE NEAR

Will Refuse All Demands for Maine Indemnity.

COURT OF INQUIRY REPORT

Every Precaution Adopted to Keep the Matter Secret.

Admiral Seward is Determined That the Administration Shall Have Opportunity of Inspecting the Report Prior to Publication in Newspapers.

Washington, March 17.—The trend of today's news in the Spanish-American Imbroglia indicates that an acute stage may be reached before many more hours have passed.

It is stated that the president expects the report of the court of inquiry tomorrow or next day, and that it may even now be on its way from Key West. It is almost a foregone conclusion that the document will attribute the cause of the Maine disaster to an external agency.

In the face of this comes a semi-official declaration from Madrid that the Spanish commission will almost undoubtedly aver that the explosion was due to an internal accident and that if such be their finding, any demand for an indemnity will be indignantly repelled by Spain.

The other important developments were the determination to form a new squadron of war ships at Hampton Roads, and Senator Proctor's exposition to the senate of what he saw and heard in Cuba.

Upon the court's arrival at Key West yesterday, Admiral Seward communicated with Washington and determined that to maintain the secrecy of the court's report should not be telegraphed in cipher or otherwise.

ADmiral SICARD'S CAUTION. Every precaution the human ingenuity can suggest will be adopted to safeguard the report, the main apprehension being that there may be some publication in the newspaper.

SPAIN'S ATTITUDE. The semi-official statement of the Spaniards comes under Madrid date and reads: The report of the Spanish commission on the Maine is not yet known; but, the statement of several technical officers, who have made a close examination of the scene of the disaster show it was indisputably due to an internal accident.

DAY IN CONGRESS. Senate Passes a Bill Authorizing the Erection of a Statue to President Lincoln at Gettysburg.

Washington, March 17.—No political questions were discussed in the house today. The whole session was devoted to the postoffice appropriation bill, which was taken up for amendment under the five-minute rule.

In the senate today a bill was passed to authorize the erection of a statue of President Lincoln at Gettysburg, Pa., to cost \$50,000, the statue to be erected on the east side of the city.

Red Cross Supplies. Philadelphia, March 17.—The Red Cross society of this city today shipped its second contribution of relief supplies to the starving Cubans reconcentrados.

Steamship Arrivals. New York, March 17.—Sailed: Nomadic, Liverpool. Queretown—Sailed: Cermaic, New York. Rotterdam—Sailed: Rotterdam, New York. Bremerhaven—Arrived: Havell, New York. Genoa—Arrived: Saale, New York. Sailed: Euna, New York.

CONFERENCE WITH JUDGE JAY.

Mysterious Meeting Between the Judge and Spanish Minister.

Washington, March 17.—The Spanish minister called at the state department at 3 o'clock and remained with Judge Jay something over an hour. Both parties to the conference were extremely reserved at its conclusion. It is understood, however, that it developed no new phase, but was a general talk in which pacific assurances were exchanged and a hopeful view of the situation expressed.

The recent measures of preparation yet made by the war department to meet the contingencies of the future probably has just been completed. It is the preparation of a bill providing among other sections for the placing of the army on a war footing for the full strength of 100,000 men. The bill

CUBANS WILL NOT ACCEPT AUTONOMY.

Proclamation of the Cuban Junta, Through Its President, to the People of the United States.

New York, March 17.—The Cuban junta, through its president, T. Estrada Palma, tonight issued a proclamation to the people of the United States, declaring that the Cubans will not accept autonomy; that their motto is still independence or death, and expressing confidence that the United States will not aid Spain to subjugate the insurgents.

SEARCHING FOR SHIPS.

Administration Explains Its Purpose of Vessels.

Washington, March 17.—Both governments have been sounding each other on the activity of the other in searching for ships, but there has been little ground for objection on either side as both have been in the same markets. The administration explains its buying of ships on the ground that Spain's attitude has been so menacing as naturally to call for an augmented navy.

The Hampton Roads squadron will first consist of five ships all the best of their types. Two of them, the battleships Massachusetts and Texas, are withdrawn from the present North Atlantic fleet at Key West and Fortugas.

Resolved, That a joint committee, consisting of five members of the senate and five members of the house, be appointed by the speaker, be created to report without delay to the two houses an address to the government of Spain declaring in firm and diplomatic language that Americans and American interests in Cuba must be maintained, and that any hostilities now being perpetrated in that island must cease.

Resolved, That the executive be requested to deliver the address to the address to the government of Spain by such methods as he may deem most advisable, together with a letter to the president approving of this action and the part of congress.

INFLUENCES AT WORK.

For the past two months influences have been at work in the navy department to bring about this change and as a policy board headed by Captain Crowinshield has been in frequent session of late at the department, it is believed that it has endorsed the plan at last. Although the other ships to be added to the squadron have not yet been definitely selected it is surmised that they will include some of the other battleships of the fleet.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged. Anderson was made to climb a cottonwood tree with a rope about his neck. He was then pushed off a limb and strangled to death.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today, killing E. H. Brier and fatally injuring John Rice. Several others were slightly injured. All were workmen engaged in clearing up the ruins.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer by John H. Weiss, a leading member of the local bar.

PURCHASE OF MORE WAR IMPLEMENTS

A Torpedo Boat Destroyer Bought in England.

WILL SAIL UNDER SEALED ORDERS

Reported New Acquisition of This Government—Italy Said to Have Sold Spain the Cruiser Varese.—The Formal Transfer of the Amazonas to This Government to Be Made Today.

London, March 17.—According to a special dispatch from Sunderland, the United States government has purchased a torpedo boat destroyer from a ship builder of that place, named Dorofer.

The warship Amazonas, purchased by the United States, will be formally transferred to the United States government tomorrow at Gravesend, Lieutenant Commander Colwell, the United States naval attaché here, will take possession of the vessel on behalf of the United States.

SPAIN PLANS DELAY.

Seeking Pretext for Putting off Intervention—That Is Supposed to Be Sagasta's Policy.

Washington, March 17.—The Montgomery has been ordered from Havana to Key West, but the move is not in response to the Spanish representations with regard to the massing of the fleet in southern waters. It is simply in pursuance of the established policy of the department to keep the vessels of the fleet in motion.

Commander Willard H. Brownson, the agent of the United States navy department, who arrived here yesterday from New York, has been besieged by ship-men and reporters. He says the reports of the objects of his mission are incorrect, and that his errand is one which he cannot speak about.

A special dispatch from Rome says the Italian minister of marine, Admiral Brin, has informed the Spanish ambassador, General de Bonomati, that his request that the United States should permit Spain to go before the world as a victim of American aggression.

LUMBER YARD FIRE.

Establishment of Ezra Canfield, of Williamsport Destroyed—Several Millions of Lumber Ruined.

Williamsport, Pa., March 17.—The extensive lumber yard of Ezra Canfield, in flames, and several millions of feet of lumber will be destroyed.

SAYS SHE IS HAWLEY'S WIDOW.

Former Housekeeper Has Witness to Substantiate Her Claim.

Aurora, Ill., March 17.—The former housekeeper of late Senator Hawley of Kendall county, now claims to be his widow and seeks to have the present administrator of the estate removed.

FIRST NEGRO SALES SINCE '65.

Glasgow, Ky., March 17.—After repeated convictions of vagrancy, two negroes will be sold into bondage at the court house next Monday, the first in this section since 1865.

Fire at Lebanon.

Lebanon, Pa., March 17.—The house, barn and grist mill of Mayer & Bright, at Ferry Church, were totally destroyed by fire late last night.

Tom Cooper, of Medina, is Endorsed for Governor With a Rush.

Medina, Pa., March 17.—The Republican county convention here today was marked by perfect harmony. It lasted only two hours. Ex-Congressman John B. Robinson was chairman and ex-Senator Thomas W. Cooper was endorsed for governor with a rush.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

TERRIBLE STATE OF RECONCENTRADOS

Mr. Proctor's Remarkable Statement to the Senate.

AN AWFUL TALE OF WANT

Death in the Streets Not Uncommon. Victims Die of Starvation in the Market Place with Plenty of Food All About—Scores the Barbarity Inaugurated by Weyler.

Washington, March 17.—From many view points the statement of Senator Proctor to the senate was remarkable. Every element of sensationalism had been studiously eliminated from it, and except so far as the facts recited were sensational, it bore the stamp of the evidence of an effort to arouse the public mind, already keenly alive to the condition of affairs on the island. The utterances of the senator aroused a breathless interest. He said, in part: "Outside Havana, it is not peace, nor is it war. It is desolation and distress, misery and starvation."

He read sections of the order issued by Weyler to the reconcentrados. They forbid the transportation of provisions from one town to another without permission of the military authority, direct the owners of cattle to bring them into the town, prescribe that eight days shall be counted from the publication of the proclamation to the head town of the municipal district, and state that if news is furnished of the enemy which can be made use of it will serve as a "recommendation."

Many doubtless did not learn of this order. Others failed to grasp its terrible meaning. Its execution was left largely to the greedy and avaricious officials that had not obeyed and I was satisfied that in many cases a torch was applied to their homes with no notion and the inmates fled with such clothing as they might have on, their stock and other belongings being appropriated by the guerrillas. When they reached the town they were allowed to build huts of palm leaves in the suburbs and vacant places within the trenches and left to live if they could. Their huts were crowded with five or fifteen families of different sizes and were usually crowded together very closely. They have no floor but the ground and with large families or with more than one child, the most uncomfortable sanitary provisions are impossible.

DEATHS IN THE STREETS. Deaths in the streets had not been uncommon. I was told by one of our consuls that they have been found dead about the markets in the morning. They had been crawling about to get some stray bits of food from the early hucksters and that there had been cases where they had dropped dead inside the market surrounded by food.

I went to Cuba with a strong conviction that the picture had been overestimated. I saw plenty as bad and worse; many that should not be photographed and shown. I could not believe that out of a population of 1,000,000, two hundred thousand had died within those Spanish forts, practically prison walls, within a few months past.

After an enthusiastic tribute to the relief work of Clara Barton, Senator Proctor said he did not learn that the 2,000 Spaniards residing in the island had contributed largely in blood or treasure to suppress the insurrection.

"I inquired in regard to autonomy of men of wealth and men as prominent in business as in any of the cities of Havana, Matanzas and Sagua. Without exception they replied that it was 'too late' for that. Some favored a United States protectorate, some an annexation, some free Cuba, but no one had been counted favoring the insurrection at first. To me the strongest appeal is not the barbarity practiced by Weyler, nor the loss of the Maine, if our worse fears should prove true, terrible as are both of these incidents, but the spectacle of a million and a half people, the entire native population of Cuba, struggling for freedom and deliverance from the worst misgovernment of which I ever had knowledge. I merely speak of the symptoms as I saw them, but do not undertake to prescribe. Such remedial steps as may be required may safely be left to an American president and the American people.

THE CHICAGO FIRE.

Three Burned and Mangled Bodies Taken from the Ruins—Fourteen Persons Missing.

Chicago, March 17.—Three burned and mangled bodies were today taken from the ruins of the building, 235-221 Wabash avenue, which was destroyed by fire yesterday. This brings the number of persons reported as missing to 14. It has not been accounted for at a late hour to night. Firemen today unearthed the bodies of Charles A. Price, cashier; Henry R. Nelson, chemist, and Mrs. M. E. Harris, bookkeeper, all employed by the W. A. Olmstead Scientific company.

HARMONIOUS CONVENTION.

Tom Cooper, of Medina, is Endorsed for Governor With a Rush.

Medina, Pa., March 17.—The Republican county convention here today was marked by perfect harmony. It lasted only two hours. Ex-Congressman John B. Robinson was chairman and ex-Senator Thomas W. Cooper was endorsed for governor with a rush.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: Fair and Colder. 1 General—Crisis in the Spanish-American Imbroglia is Near. Senator Proctor's View of Conditions in Cuba. Uncle Sam Buys Another Warship. Captain General Blanco's Prophecy. The Tribune's Popular Want Columns. Financial and Commercial. 2 Local—New Home for the Friendless Is Now Occupied. State Guard Subject to the Orders of Uncle Sam. 3 Editorial. Comment of the Press. 4 Story—"A Regular Amazon." 5 Local—Melindh Did Not Prove His Case. Offer for the Klondike. 6 Local—Marvellous Exhibition in the Connell Building. Observance of St. Patrick's Day. 7 Local—West Scranton and Suburban. 8 Lackawanna County News. 9 General—Patriotism Displayed at the Philadelphia Philanthropist Conference. Electric Postoffice Facilities for Alaska.

EARLY MORNING FIRE

It Caused a Loss of Over Seven Thousand Dollars.

A large two-story barn, owned by Mrs. Patrick Donnelly, of 620 Beech street, was totally destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock this morning. The origin of the fire is a mystery, but it is thought to be from an incendiary cause. Two empty wagons, two carriages, 125 barrels of flour, about 5 tons of hay, three valuable horses, and several other things were destroyed. Mrs. Donnelly estimated her loss at about \$7,000 with only about a quarter of that amount covered by insurance. The fire was discovered by Miss Beasie Langan who lives in one of the Donnelly dwelling houses in the rear and about fifty feet from the barn. An alarm was sent in from box 48, corner of Beech street and Prospect avenue. The Century, Neptunes and William Connell companies responded. The stream of water, even with the steamer in use, was meager.

BERESFORD ADVOCATES ALLIANCE.

The British Admiral Says We Can Never Lose in War.

London, March 17.—Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, member of parliament for York, in an interview today, advocated an Anglo-American alliance as "a move in the direction of peace and calculated to immensely develop trade." He added: "Such an alliance is natural, and I believe the mere fact of its conclusion would deter others from attacking any inadequately defended interests of either country. Now is the time to accomplish it, when the advantages are apparent to both countries. A decade hence, when, if she desires, the United States can have become a first class naval power, and will, perhaps, have adopted the policy of free trade, it might not be worth her while to undertake the responsibilities of an alliance with Great Britain. When America has built her navy she will be in a position to enforce her demands, which will not take her long now with her enormous latent resources and mechanical and engineering facilities. The Anglo-American alliance would be the most powerful factor in the world for peace and the development of commerce."

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Five of the Old War Boats Will Be Fitted Up for Harbor Defense.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service. These three were today returned to their old moorings in the back basin. The other five, the Nahant, Jason, Catskill, Montauk and Manhattan can be fitted out for harbor defense. The principal work required on them is to lay new decks and make a few minor repairs to the machinery. Commandant Casey said today that the monitors could be made effective as defenders of torpedo fields, or where they could be anchored in shallow water and their big guns used to advantage. The battering capacity of these guns, out of date as they are, is formidable, and appearances indicate that they will be retained in their old turrets. Ammunition for these fifteen-inch muzzle-loader, smooth-bore has been ordered from the government magazines at Fort Mifflin.

FLOTILLA SHUNS HAVANA.

Madrid, March 17.—Admiral Bermejo, the minister of marine, has wired the commander of the torpedo flotilla at the Canaries not to proceed to Havana.

THE HERALD'S WEATHER FORECAST.

New York, March 18.—In the middle states and New England today clear and fair, colder breeze with some clouds and westerly wind; with some cloudiness and possibly rain in the southern parts of this section.

BLANCO'S PROPHECY

Says Spain Will Rule the Gulf During Present Generation.

Havana, March 17.—General Blanco, at the banquet last night to the officers of the Viscaya, and the Almirante Oquendo, toasted "The King, the Queen Regent, the Army and the Navy of Spain." He said: "The present generation will never see another banner than that of Spain as the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico. That banner, representing civilization, progress, liberty, humanity and religion, will be eternal, like that of the first American nation."

STATEMENTS AT A BANQUET

Blanco's Bluff Is Received with Shouts of Approval.

Spanish Papers Claim That Cuba Will Be Defended to the End of the Chapter—General Lee Denies the Rumor That He Has Applied for a Position Elsewhere, and States That He Will Look After American Interests in Cuba Until Recalled.

VALUABLE WRECKAGE RAISED.

It is hoped the wreckers will find treasures in the big guns, and if this proves the case the guns can be saved. If otherwise, and the marine growth has ruined the steel of the cores, the breech mechanism can be used in other guns. Today another one-pounder and two of the three anchors, with their chains, all three of which were raised, and the swords of First Lieutenant Marjines Catlin and Lieutenant P. W. Jenkins.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

STATEMENTS AT A BANQUET

Blanco's Bluff Is Received with Shouts of Approval.

Spanish Papers Claim That Cuba Will Be Defended to the End of the Chapter—General Lee Denies the Rumor That He Has Applied for a Position Elsewhere, and States That He Will Look After American Interests in Cuba Until Recalled.

VALUABLE WRECKAGE RAISED.

It is hoped the wreckers will find treasures in the big guns, and if this proves the case the guns can be saved.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided that three of them, the Admiral, Monaghan and Lehigh are useless and cannot be put in condition for service.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

NEGRO EVICTION.

Grenada, Miss., March 17.—Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to commit suicide last night at 3 o'clock. Three hours later he was captured by a mob, confessed and was hanged.

COLUMNS COLLAPSE.

Chicago, March 17.—The two big columns forming the main support to the entrance of the Columbus building, destroyed by fire not long ago, collapsed without warning today.

FIREFIGHTERS AT A DRAV.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—The Lavigne fire last night was a draw in twenty rounds.

SUPERIOR JUDGE DINE.

Harrisburg, March 17.—The judges of the Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a dinner this evening at the Hotel Rensselaer.

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

Philadelphia, March 17.—At League Island navy yesterday it was learned that the board of experts who examined the eight old monitors have decided