TWO CENTS.

E STAGE" Y BE NEAR

Will Refuse All Demands for Maine Indemnity.

COURT OF INQUIRY REPORT

Every Precaution Adopted to Keep the Matter Secret.

Admiral Sicard Is Determined That the Administration Shall Have Opportunity of Inspecting the Report The Search for Good Ships Confinues on Part of Both Spain and the United States.

Washington, March 17.-The trend of today's news in the Spanish-American imbroglio 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.

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 re-

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.

yesterday, Admiral Sicard communiermined that to maintain the secrecy the court's verdict, the report should not be telegraphed in cipher or otherwise, Admiral Sicard was therefore instructed to place the documents in the custody of a naval officer, who should carry them to the capitol. Whether or not he has vet started is not known. any more than his identity. Lieutenant Commander Marix, judge advocate of the court, will probably be the man to undertake this grave mission.

ADMIRAL SICARD'S CAUTION. Every precaution the human ingenuity can suggest will be adopted to safeguard the report, the main appreon being that there may be somea publication in the newspaper that may interfere seriously with of the administration. The documents will be sealed at Key West under the personal observation of Admiral Sicard and the naval officer will be expected to deliver the envelope with seal unbroken into the hands of the secretary of the navy.

nation of caution in the discharge of official matters and as he is technically responsible for the safe delivery of the court's report to the secretary of the navy it may be safely set down as a fact that any publication that attempts to set out either in full or in substance the court's report will be absolutely conjectural in its basis.

SPAIN'S ATTITUDE. The semi-official statement of the Spaniards comes under Madrid date and reads:

sion 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 tions to the contrary are therefore de plored in official quarters as tending to mislead public opinion and render the situation more difficult from the standpoint of maintaining friendly relations between the two countries. It may be regarded as certain that should the American technical disaster to be due to an external explosion, the public here will refuse to accept such a finding and any demand for an indemnity based thereon will

This statement has attracted much interest in official circles. There has been little doubt for some time that Spain was preparing for the contingen-

it by making clear the government polley of standing by the report of the latter body was due in Madrid yesterday and while its conclusions are not clusion that it will find that the Maine disaster was due to accident resulting in internal explosion. This was forceshadowed in the advance utterances of days ago that the theory of external

ment from Madrid that a demand for indemnity will be indignantly repelled. is the further statement from reliable sources that Spain has made it clear to the authorities here that intervention may lead to war. The prospects of such intervention appear to be seriously entertained by Spain, and strong efforts have been made to avert it by showing that the condition of the reconcentradoes did not warrant the step and also that it would threaten to end all prospects of further pacific negotia-

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

Torpedo Boat Destroyer Bought In

England.

WILL SAIL UNDER SEALED ORDERS

London, March 17 .- According to pecial dispatch from Sunderland, the United States government has pur-

meet the contingencies of the future by the United States, will be formally probably has just been completed. It transferred to the United States govis the preparation of a bill providing ernment tomorrow at Gravesend. Lieuamong other sections for the placing tenant Commander Colwell, the United of the army on a war footing for the States naval attache here, will take Prior to Publication in Newspapers. full strength of 104,000 men. The bill possession of the vessel on behalf of

se marched on board and the Brazilian

flag will be hauled down and the Bra-

officer of the San Francisco will prob-

ably take command of the Amazonas,

as speedily as possible, under sealed

orders. It is supposed she is going to

The Amazonas has just been provis

oned and coaled for her trip to Brazil.

Commander Willard H. Brownson

the amene of the United States navy

department, who arrived here yester-

ed by ship-men and reporters. He says

Apparently Commander Brownson is

acting as advisor to Lieutenant Col

Brin, has informed the Spanish am-

bassador to Halv. Count de Bonomar.

that his request that Italy should sell

three warships to Spain will be dis-

Another special despatch from Rome

says the Italian government has sold

Gravesend, England, March 17.-Part

of the officers and crew of the Ama-

zonas, the vessel built for Brazil but

sold to the United States, left here this

afternoon. Her American crew will

take charge of her tomorrow morning

SEARCHING FOR SHIPS,

cussed at the next cabinet meeting.

the armored cruiser Varese to Spain.

A special dispatch from Rome says

The United States government has

the necrest American station where

her crew will be reinforced.

purchased all her supplies.

unorganized the reports of the objects of his mis

CUBANS WILL NOT ACCEPT AUTONOMY.

Proclamation of the Cuban Junta, Through Its Presi-

dent, to the People of the United States.

has been carefully gone over by the the government, and will receive the

war department and will be introduced | ship from her Brazilian commander. A

in the house by Representative Hull, crew from the San Francisco will then

will urge it vigorously inasmuch as it zilians will be landed. The executive

three battalion organization. That is and she will sail for the United States

(unorganized) is 10,501,339. Of these, to day from New York, has been besieg-

list with \$78,394. She has 8,521 organ- | sion are incorrect, and that his errand

ized. New York has 800,000 and 13.894 is one which he cannot speak about.

well.

at 11 o'clock.

New York, March 17.-The Cuban junta, through its pres-

mored cruiser New York, in which case cruiser may turn up with hostile in-

The gunboat Helena reported to the department that she had sailed today from Funchal Madeira for Key West to join the squadron. It is now said that it has been definitely determined to bring the battleship Oregon around

The new torpedo boat Rodgers will also join the flotilla at Key West. The Columbia and Minneapolis are still each 60 men short of their full quota, but It is expected that enough men will be secured in the course of a few days to enable the ships to be sent to Hampton Roads to execute the orders issued today. The naval recruits officers in the south are meeting with success at New Orleans. Yesterday they secured forty men who were professionally fitted for

Seeking Pretexts for Putting off Intervention .- That Is Supposed to

he United States rethe Italian minister of marine, Admiral of aggression.

he has selected his agent with great skill. Senor Polo y Bernabe is the most plausible diplomat who has represented Spain in Washington since the present controversy arose. He has an admirable air of frankness.

Administration Explains Its Purchase of Vessels.

Washington, March 17.-Both govern ments 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 pavy while Spain takes the same view that the activity in the United States requires suitable preparations by the Spanish navy.

The report that Spain had protested against a filibustering expedition to Puerto Rico cannot be verified as officials here say this expedition has not yet

got away. 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 Tortugas. it would be a grave mistake to suppose that in ordering this movement, the navy department is animated by any purpose of yielding to representations or imitations that may have come from the Spanish minister, as to the mischief caused by the gathering of so large a naval force as Admiral Steard's fleet in the vicinity of Cuba. On the contrary the formation of the new squadron was brought about by purely strategic considerations, although it appears from the nature of the force so far under orders to rendezvous at Hampton Roads that this strategy is of the defensive nature. The new squadron cannot be called a "flying squadron" because the association of heavy battleships with fleet cruisers like the Brooklyn, Columbia and Minneapolis reduces the available speed of the whole to the speed slowest vessel and the squadron could not do much "flying" in the naval sense. The indications rather are that when reinforced by smaller cruisers. the squadron will constitute an ideal

naval defense. 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 Crowninshield 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

Be Sagnsta's Policy.

which may arise later from that source and to enable Spain to go before th posing one excuse after another induce policy it is supposed the Spanish govthat in the event of an acknowledg-United States in recognizing independence will be regarded as guilty of an

Establishment of Ezra Canfield, of

Williamsport Destroyed .- Several Millions of Lumber Ruined.

Williamsport, Pa., March 17 .- The exensive lumber yard of Ezra Canfield. three miles east of this city, is in flames, and several millions of feet of lumber will be destroyed. A fire company from this city was

wind it is not probable that any of the lumber can be saved. An estimate of the loss cannot be given at this bour.

SAYS SHE IS HAWLEY'S WIDOW. Former Housekeeper Has Witness to

his widow and seeks to have the present administrator of the estate remov-

She shows a marriage license and has vitnesses who testify that they were married at Kenozha, Wis., July 21, 1897. The administrator claims that Hawley pent the day of July 21, 1897, at the Aurora races,

Negro Lynched.

Greneda, Miss., March 17 .- Alexander Anderson, a young negro, attempted to criminally assault a school girl 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 cotton-wood 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 stroyed by fire not long ago ,collapsed without warning teday, killing E. R. Baker and fatally injuring John Rice. Several others were slightly injured. All were workmen engaged in clearing up the

Harrisburg, March 17 .- The Judges o John H. Weiss, a leading member of the

TERRIBLE STATE OF RECONCENTRADOES

Mr. Proctor's Remarkable Statement to the Senate.

AWFUL TALE OF

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 not the slightest 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 reconcentradoes. 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 districts 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 guerillas to drive in all that had not obeyed and I was satis-fied that in many cases a torch was applied to their homes with no notice and the inmates fled with such clothing as they might have on, their stock and other belongings being appropriated by the guerillas. When they reached the town they were allowed to build huts of palm leaves in the suburbs and vacant places within the trochas and left to live if they could. Their huts are about ten by fifteen feet in size and for want of space are usually crowded together very closely. They have no floor but the ground and no furniture and after a year's wear but little clotring except such stray substitutes as they can extemporize. With large families or with more than one in this little space, the commonest sanitary provisions are impossible. Conditions are unmentionable in this respect. Tern from their homes, with foul earth, foul air, foul water and foul food or none, what wonder that one-half have died and that onequarter of the living are so diseased that they cannot be saved.

DEATHS IN THE STREETS.

Deaths in the streets have not been suls that they have been found dead about the markets in the morning, where they had crawled hoping to get some stray bits of food from the early hucksters and that there had cases where they had dropped dead inside the market surrounded by

I went to Cuba with a strong conviction that the picture had been over-drawn; but a few cases of starvation and suffering had inspired and stimulated the press correspondents and they had given free play to a strong. natural and highly cultivated imagination. 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 1,600,-000, two hundred thousand had died within these Spanish forts, practically prison walls, within a few months past from actual starvation and disease caused by insufficient and im-proper food. My inquiries were entire-ly outside of sensational sources. They were made of our medical offi-cers, of our consuls, of city alcades (mayors), of relief committees, of leaging bankers, physicians and lawyers, Several of my informants were Spaninsh born, but every time the answer was that the case had not been overstated. What I saw, I cannot tell so that others can see it. It must be seen with one's own eyes to be re-

alized After an enthusiastic tribute to the relief work of Clara Barton, Senator Proctor said he did not learn that the 210,000 Spaniards resident in the is land had contributed largely in blood or treasure to suppress the insurrection. He compared the Spaniard with the Cuban to the latter's advantage and next discussed the military situation there, asserting that the Spanish army in men, system and equipment is of a very inferior character. On the political situation in Cuba, Senator Proctor said:

"I inquired in regard of autonomy of men of wealth and men as prominent in business as in any of the cities of Havana, Matanzas and Sagua. With-out exception they replied that it was "too late" for that. Some favored a United States protectorate, some an-nexation, some free Cuba, not one has been counted favoring the insurrection at first. To me the strong-est 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 . million and a half people, the entire native population of Cuba, struggling for freedom and deliverance from 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 stops as may be required may safely left to an American president and the American people.

FIRST NEGRO SALES SINCE '65 agrants to Go Into Bondage Instead

of Prison Cel's. Clasgow, Ky., March 17.-After peated convictions of vagrancy, two negroes will be sold into bondage at the court house next Monday, the first in this section since 1865. This is Kentucky's new form of imprisonment at labor, and the negroes

purchasers must agree to properly

lothes and house them. Fire at Lebanon.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today:

Fair and Colder. 1 General-Crisis in the Spanish-Ameri-

can Imbroglio Is Near. Senator Proctor's View of Conditions

- Uncle Sam Buys Another Warship, Captain General Blanco's Prophecy, The Tribune's Popular Want Columns,
- Financial and Commercial Local-New Home for the Friendless
- Is Now Occupied. State Guard Subject to the Orders of Uncle Sam.
- Editorial.
- Comment of the Press. 5 Story-"A Regular Amazon."
- 6 Local-McHugh Did Not Prove His Case, Off for the Klondike,
- Local-Marvellous Exhibition in the Connell Building. Observance of St. Patrick's Day.
- Local-West Scranton and Suburban. Lackawanna County News.
- General-Patriotism Displayed at the Philadelphia Methodist Conferen Emelent 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 candy 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 Bessie 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 Car 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 more 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 bence, 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 resource s and mechanical and engineering facilities. An Anglo-American alliance would be the most powerful factor in the world for peace and the develop-

ment of commerce," Speaking of the possibilities of the United States going to war, Lord Beresford remarked: "If she ever does, no matter what happens at the beginning, she must win eventually, because of the enthusiasm and intense patriotism of her people."

THE CHICAGO FIRE.

Three Burned and Managled 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, 215-221 Wabash avenue, which was destroyed by fire yesterday. This brings the number of known dead to six, while fourteen persons reported as missing had not been accounted for at a late hour tonight. 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.

The three victims who lost their lives by leaping from the building to the pavement below were Edward Binz, cashier, for Sweet, Wallach & Co.; Miles A. Smith and Sam A. Clark, employes of the Olmstead company. The missing were all connected with these

HARMONIOUS CONVENTION.

Tom Cooper, of Media, Is Endorsed for Governor With a Rush.

Media, 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 V. Cooper was endorsed for governor with a rush Wanamaker; two for Thomas J. Clay-

He got 232 delegates to six for Henry Meyer, of Radnor; one for John ton and two for W. A. Stone. ticket included Assemblymen Thomas H. Garvin, of Sharon Hill; Ward R. Bliss, of Chester, and Richard J. Baldwin, of Birmingham. The state delegates are Jared Darlington, W. S. Ellis, John B. Hannum, Theodore F. Kreeger, William J. McClure, W. S. Mc-Dowell and John S. Rogers.

Lavigne-Daily Fight a Draw. Cleveland, O., March 17 .- The Lavigne-

BLANCO'S **PROPHECY**

Says Spain Will Rule the Gulf During Present Generation.

STATEMENTS AT A BANQUET

Blanco's Bluff Is Received with Shouts of Approval.

Spanish Papers Claim That Cuba Will Be Detended 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.

Havana, March 17 .- General Blanco, at the banquet last night to the offieers 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 at 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." These sentiments were received with

shouts of approval and cheers. Admiral Manterola, responding on behalf of the navy, said: "In union the army and navy will always be inde-

structible." La Union Constitucional publishes today numerous interviews with leading politicians and other authorites on tha situation. The trend of all is to the effect that there is no reason for war, but that Spain would defend her possession of Cuba to the last drop of blood. Some of the prominent Cubans interviewed are represented as saying that Spain can count on the support of

all peaceable creoles. La Lucha, in today's issue, says editorially that Juan Cemballos, of New York city, who recently visited President McKinley for an interview on the Cuban question, has no authority from or standing in Cuba or Spain, and asks: "Whom does Senor Cemballos represent in Cuba?"

The American yacht Buccaneer, which mainder of the congressional party north, is more than forty hours overdue at the time this dispatch is filed and there are fears that some accident has befallen her. Messrs, Money, Smith and Cummings decided not to wait longer, and left for Key West today on the Aransas.

VALUABLE WRECKAGE RAISED. It is hoped the wreckers will find tampions 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 very valuable, were raised, and the swords of First Lieutenant of

Marines Catlin and Lieutenant F. W. Jenkins, The two battalions of Havana volunteers are drilling in heavy artillery exercises at the Cuban fortress.

The Viscaya is still coaling and it s now announced that she will probably not go to Mexico. The Montgomery left this port for Key West. General Paulo is expected

to arrive tonight. Consul General Lee, interviewed today as to the report that he had applied for H. Maitland Kersey's former position as New York agent of the

White Star line, said there was no truth in it whatever. "I have not made and do not contemplate making application," said General Lee, "for any place of any kind. I purpose staying here to look after the American interests until my own or the Spanish government de-

REPAIRING OF THE MONITORS.

mands my recall."

Five of the Old War Boats will Be Fitted Up for Harbor Detense.

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 Canonicus, Manopac 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 defence. 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 advant. age. 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 fifteenmch muzzle-loader, smooth-bores has been ordered and is now being prepared at the government magazines at Fort Mifflin.

Flotilla Shuns flavana.

Madrid, March 17 .- Admiral Bermejo he minister of marine, has wired the commander of the torpedo flotilia at the Canaries not to proceed to Hayana.

The Herald's Weather Forecast.

New York, March 18 .- In the middle states and New England today ele-fair, colder, brisk to fresh northw fresh northwesterty and westerly wil th some cloudiness

ident, 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.

In the face of this comes a semi-

pelled by Spain.

Upon the court's arrival at Key West

As Admiral Sicard is the very incar-

The report of the Spanish commisshow it was indisputably due to an internal accident. American assermission present a report declaring the

he indignantly repelled by Spain.

of an adverse report by the Americourt of inquiry and to that end vas preparing to anticipate and offset Spanish commission. The report of the officially known, it is a foregone con-Captain Peral, head of the Spanish commission who stated publicly several

explosion was untenable. Along with the semi-official state-

CONFERENCE WITH JUDE BOAY. Mysterious Meeting Between the Judge and Spanish Minister. Washington, March 17.-The Spanish

minister called at the state department at 2 o'clock and remained with Judge Day 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 sit-uation expressed. At that time, the naval orders taking the battleships Texas and Massachusetts from Key West and assigning them to the fleet at Hampton Roads was not known at the state department, so that the minister was not officially informed of the fact. He heard it later, however, and was naturally much gratified as the gradual strengthening of the American fleet at Key West and has been the

cource of grave apprehension by the Spanish government. The largest measures of preparation yet made by the war department to

chairman of the house committee on

military affairs, who, it is expected,

basis of the bill will be the well known

the ideal peace status of the army, but

provision is made for the exercise by

the president of full power to increase

each one of the existing companies

from seventy-five men, the present

According to the latest report to con-

the total organized strength of the mil-

itia of the country is 1:4,162 men, while

the total of men available for duty

mention the chief states of the union,

respectively; Illinois, 750,000 and 6,260;

The house committee on naval affairs

had disposed of the question of in-

creases in the vessels of the navy, un-

less there is some change of disposition

among the numbers. The committee

by unanimous vote adopted the motion

of Representative Foss, of Illinois, to

authorize the construction of six new

torpedo boats and six new torpedo boat

destroyers and the provision for this

has been incorporated in the naval bill.

It has not been decided what appro-

priation will be made for this purpose.

Representative Wheeler, of Alabama,

Resolved, That a joint committee,

consisting of five members of the sen-ate to be appointed by the vice presi-

dent, and five members of the house,

to be appointed by the speaker, be created to report without delay to the

two houses an address to the govern-

ment of Spain declaring in firm and diplomatic language that Americans

and American interests in Cuba must

now being perpetrated in that island

Resolved. That the executive be re-

quested to immediately transmit this

address to the government of Spain by such methods as he may deem

most advisable, together with a letter

of endorsement and approval of this action and the part of congress.

DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate Passes a Bill Authorizing the

Erection of a Statue to Presi-

dent Lincoln at Gettysburg.

Washington, March 17 .- No political

questions were discussed in the house

day. The whole session was devoted

strictly to the postoffice appropriation

oill which was taken up for amend-

ment under the five-minute rules. The

questions which consumed the major

portion of the time related to the al-

lowance for clerk hire at postoffice and

to rural free delivery. The house in

creased the allowance for rural free de-

livery from \$150,000 to \$300,000 and de-

feated the proposition for increased

In the senate today a bill was passed

to authorize the erection of a statue of

Fresident Lincoln at Gettysburg, aP.

to cost \$50,000, the statue to be erected

by a commission composed of the sec-

retary of war, the commander of the

army, the governor of Pennsylvania

and the commander of the Grand Army

Red . ross Supplies.

Philadelphia, March 17.-The Red Cros

ociety of this city today shipped its accord contribution of relief supplies to the

shipment weighed 13,226 pounds and was sent on the steamer Kennett. The des-

tination is Matanzas. The cargo consisted of clothing, commeal, beans, con-

ed of clothing, cornmeal, beans, con-densed milk, canned goods, flour, bread

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, March 17 .- Sailed; Nomadie,

lverpool. Queenstown—Salled: Cermanic

New York. Sailed: Ems, New York.

Another shipment will be

Rotterdam-Sailed; Rotter-fork. Bremerhaven-Arrivel;

New York, Genoa-Arrived: Saale,

starving Cubans reconcentradoes.

protected and that the atro

introduced the following joint resolu-

Ohio, 650,000 and 6,004, and Indiana,

based on the returns for 1897,

strength to 250 men.

500,000 and 2,875.

tion today:

must cease

clerk hire.

of the Republic.

and medicine.

made on April 2.

is an administration measure,

PURCHASE OF MORE WAR IMPLEMENTS

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

hased a torpedo boat destroyer from ship builder of that place, named Dexford. The warship Amazonas, purchased

Admiral Sicard, it is believed, will command the new force. In place of the cruiser New York the people of Key West will look upon the grim outlines of the big monitor Puritan, supposedly the most powerful ship in smooth water in the whole world. She will have to assist her on guard the double-turretted monitor Miantonomoh and the monitor Amphitrite, The Purltan is now at Norfolk almost ready for sea, the Mianonomoh is at League Island quite ready and so is the Amphitrite at Port Royal, S. C. So the order will in the end result in the gathering of the pick of the North Atlantic squadron at Hampton Roads. The point is said to e the best strategically on the Atlantic coasts. It is almost centrally located and the ships from that point an reach any portion of the coast in short order, which is regarded as desirable since no one can tell just where a flotilla of torpedo destroyers or a fast

tent to attack a town.

South America to Key West,

SPAIN PLANS DELAY.

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 fleets in motion. The Montgomery was ardered to Havana originally to take the place of the Fern, and that vessel is back again with wrecking apparatus. It may be partly a sanitary measure, for it has been found invariably that sickness has appeared in the crews of American warships stationed at Havana soon after their arrival. It is not safe to keep the crew of any vessel there for a long period. At the same time a good deal of feeling has been roused by the attitude assumed by the Madrid government. Of course it is open to the construction that the Sagasta ministry is putting itself in a position to shift upon the shoulders of fature of autonomy and for troubles world as a victim of American aggression. Spain's object now, it is thought, will be to delay conclusions. The purpose is to make other attempts in the direction of autonomy, and by interthe United States to defer indefinitely a recognition of independence. In this ernment will have the secret sympathy of one or more European powers, so nent of the failure of autonomy the

If such a policy is Sagasta's purpose,

LUMBER YARD FIRE.

sent to the scene, but owing to the

Substantinte Her Claim. Aurora, Ill., March 17 .- The former ousekeeper of the late Paul Hawley. of Kendall county, now claims to be

Superior Judges Dine. he Superior court and the judges of the Dauphin county court were tendered a linner this evening at the Hotel Russ by

Lebanon, Pa., March 17.—The house, barn and grist mill of Mayer & Bright-bill, at Derry Church, were totally destroyed by fire late last night. The mill was a five-story brick and one of the inest in this section. The loss is about 125,000; partly covered by insurance ought to have been the work of