

COMPLETE TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE 5. RESPONSIBILITY WITH CONGRESS

President McKinley, in His Message, Washes His Hands of the Cuban Affair—Is Prepared to Execute Every Obligation Imposed by the Constitution and the Law and Awaits the Action of Senate and House—Effect of the Message at the National Capital—The Spanish Minister Visibly Affected—War Is Not Regarded So Imminent in Army and Navy Circles.

Washington, April 11.—The future of the relations of the United States with Spain and Cuba now rests with congress, the representative body of the American people. What course the elected men will pursue cannot be foretold tonight. The foreign committees of both houses now have the subject in their control and after due deliberation will report to their respective branches what they consider should be the attitude of the United States on the grave question presented. Early action by the committees is expected, but exactly when it may be looked for is not now determinable. The full responsibility of the subject was placed upon congress when President McKinley today transmitted to it a carefully prepared and anxiously-awaited message relating our negotiations with Spain with regard to warfare in Cuba and drawing therefrom his personal conclusions and recommendations. He placed the trust with the words: "The issue is now with the congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the constitution and the law, I await your action."

No message in recent years, not even that of President Cleveland on Venezuela, nor President Harrison's Chili, caused such widespread and intense interest. No message was ever listened to with more close attention by both galleries and members at both ends of the capitol. That it did not create profound enthusiasm may have been due to the fact that its main features had been accurately forecasted in the Associated Press dispatches, or to an appointment among those who wanted Cuban independence and immediate reprisal upon Spain for the destruction of the Maine. For a long time, a large majority in both houses have favored recognition of the independence of Cuba; for more than two years, as voiced in resolutions passed by congress, the recognition of belligerency has been sought. Both of these propositions were antagonized in the message and consequently in this regard the message did not accord with the majority sentiment.

CONGRESS MUCH AT SEA. The message left congress very much at sea because of the discrepancy in views between it and the executive, an obstacle to any further action, as now seems possible, congress will endeavor to be in accord with the president's recommendation. It is generally believed that the president would have been authorized to intervene with the army and navy had it not been for the concluding paragraphs of the document which announced the latest phase of diplomatic negotiations.

The senate committee on foreign relations immediately went into session but reached no definite conclusion. From the fact that the Republican members held a consultation at the meeting adjourned and what was its regarding it, the inference to draw that some strong measure was necessary in order to carry any action by the committee through the senate. A declaration of war was talked of, and a declaration that the people of Cuba should be free coupled with authorization of the president to bring this about by armed intervention was suggested. It is well known that any proposition advanced will be met in the senate with an amendment declaring the independence of the present Cuban government and to so frame a resolution to carry a majority of the senate and at the same time to meet the recommendations of the president is the result which the foreign relations committee is trying to secure.

The conservative senators also met in the afternoon and determining to oppose any radical measure if it should be reported by the senate committee on foreign relations. They will oppose by debate any recognition of independence of the present government and a declaration of war and will consent to action only along the lines of the recommendations of the president as to intervention at his discretion.

TEMPER OF THE HOUSE. The temper of the house could not be accurately determined, but there, as in the senate, the proposition for Cuban independence has to be met. Any report from the committee on foreign affairs that does not carry with it this feature will be antagonized by an amendment and the prospects are that nearly all the Democrats and many Republicans would favor it. Efforts have been directed all day toward action which would secure the solid support of the Republican organization and Republican majority in the house.

To this end the Republican members of the house committee to whom the message was referred were in conference during the day and night. Outside the capitol the same intense interest was everywhere manifested in the president's message. The embassies and legations were practically empty by 11 o'clock, the foreign representatives and their staffs going to the capitol to hear the message. Cuban

General Lee and the members of his party were completely tired out by their long trip. Orders were given here by the transportation department of the Plant system for operators north of this city to withhold all information as to the whereabouts of the train in order to prevent the party being disturbed. The party returned immediately after leaving Scranton.

HANNA LEAVES PORTO RICO. The British Flag Is Raised Over the United States Consulate. Island of St. Thomas, West Indies, April 11.—P. C. Hanna, the United States consul at San Juan, Porto Rico, on Thursday last, as previously announced, received instructions from Washington to proceed immediately to St. Thomas and leave the care of American interests in the hands of the British consul there. Mr. Hanna was further notified to await orders here. The British consul accepted the charge, upon receipt of instructions from London. Prior to leaving, Mr. Hanna advised all the United States consuls and vice consuls to move, adding, however, that the American citizens who remained in Porto Rico would enjoy the protection of the British consul.

Mr. Hanna left his post on Friday, in company with Mr. Van Syckle and the latter's wife; Mr. del Valle, the United States vice consul, with wife and children and Mr. and Mrs. Wyman, Mr. Van Syckle is the representative of the Standard Oil company at Porto Rico.

The British flag was raised over the United States consulate at San Juan, Porto Rico, after Mr. Hanna left, to officially announce that Great Britain was caring for the interests of American citizens. Up to the time of Mr. Hanna's departure the Porto Rico government had received no news of importance from Madrid, or if such news was received, it was not allowed to leak out. In any case, it is reported here, work upon the fortifications at San Juan was commenced the very night Mr. Hanna left that place.

The inhabitants of the coast towns of Porto Rico are seeking safety in the interior. Mr. Hanna's departure was facilitated in every way and there was no friction between him and the Spanish authorities. Their personal relations were pleasant and when Mr. Hanna left San Juan he was hailed in Porto Rico were in as good shape as it is possible for them to be.

A few native born Americans remain on the island of Porto Rico, but they are expected to leave soon. Mr. Hanna arrived here on board a schooner which he had chartered for the purpose. She was under way at the way here by the British steamer Virginia. Mr. Hanna's party was composed of about fifteen Americans.

The Spanish cruisers Viscaya and Almirante Oquendo were at San Juan when Mr. Hanna left that port.

BLANCO'S PROCLAMATION. His Official Order for Cessation Is Received at Washington. Washington, April 11.—The state department today received General Blanco's order for the cessation of hostilities in Cuba. It was called to the Spanish minister here and by him delivered to the department. The proclamation is as follows: "His majesty's government yielding to his holiness the Pope has been pleased to decree a suspension of hostilities with the object of preparing and facilitating the restoration of peace on this island, in virtue whereof I believe it convenient to order: "Article 1.—From the day following the receipt in each locality of the present proclamation hostilities are ordered to be suspended in all the territory of the island of Cuba.

"2.—The details for the execution of the above article will be the object of special instructions that will be communicated to the several commanders in chief of the army corps for the island, and proper execution according to the situation and circumstances of the case. (Signed) Blanco."

OPINION OF GUITERAS. The Armistice but a Spanish Trick to Gain Time. Philadelphia, April 11.—Dr. John Guiteras, representative of the Cuban Junta in Pennsylvania, today sent telegrams to the senate foreign relations committee and the house committee on foreign affairs regarding recognition of an armistice. In his telegrams he said in substance:

I think the whole principle of the armistice is a subterfuge to enable the Spaniards to withdraw their troops from the interior and concentrate them in the fortified towns, there to present a formidable front to American intervention.

RUBENS WILL NOT TALK. Has Agreed Not to Say Anything About the President's Message. New York, April 11.—When Horatio S. Rubens was asked what the feeling was at the Cuban junta's headquarters regarding President McKinley's message, he said that he had agreed before the message was delivered not to say anything about it.

He said that President Palma had gone to Washington to get a hearing before congress, regarding the situation. Mr. Rubens would not say what, if any, request President Palma would make of congress.

Naval Officers Informed. Key West, Fla., April 11.—The bulletin of the Associated Press giving a summary of President McKinley's message to congress was promptly sent to Captain Sampson, in command of the fleet, by Commander Forsyth. It was also posted in the hotel here and copies were sent to the Amphitrite, Puritan, Terror, Nashville and Helena. The interest here in the message is most intense.

The Herald's Weather Forecast. New York, April 12.—In the middle states and New England, today, fair to clear weather and light to fresh northerly and southeasterly winds will prevail, preceded by easterly on the coast with nearly stationary followed in this section by rising temperature.

ELOQUENCE OF MR. QUAY

He Precipitates the Cuban Question in the Senate.

WANTS IMPETUOUS ACTION Too Late for Pope, Prelate or Presbytery.

The Reading of the President's Message in the Senate Is Received with Breathless Silence—In the House the Document Evokes Applause and Groans from the Democrats—The Message Referred to Committee on Foreign Relations.

Washington, April 11.—The senate today every available seat both on the floor and in the galleries was occupied when Vice-president Hobart's gavel called the session to order. In the galleries the people had been waiting for hours but the arrangements for handling the crowds were so admirable that not the slightest confusion existed. The attendance of senators was unusually large, indeed every member of the body in the city was in his seat. Among the visitors on the floor was General Nelson Miles, commander of the army. In the diplomatic gallery were representatives of many of the foreign countries. Scarcely had the senate been called to order when Mr. Quay (Pa.) precipitated the Cuban question by presenting the resolutions of the Trades League of Philadelphia, composed of two thousand business firms urging that a peaceful solution of the pending difficulty be secured if possible. The communication from the Trades League read that the members "appreciating the wise, conservative and dignified policy of the president in his handling of the Cuban question, and recognizing that if this policy is persisted in by the president and aided by congressional support, it will tend to maintain an honorable peace in congress are therefore urged to co-operate with the president and accord him full opportunity to exhaust all negotiations tending towards peace."

Commenting upon the resolutions, Mr. Quay said: "I desire to say to these gentlemen that I have little hesitancy in according to their very reasonable suggestion, I have an affectionate personal regard for the president and absolute confidence in his patriotic statesmanship. I have confidence that he will always be in accord with the best thought and interest of his country. The people of the United States, in my judgment, are pretty near all unanimous that the time for negotiation upon the Cuban question is past. The present is a case for neither pope, prelate nor presbytery. They believe that further acquiescence means further time for the concentration of the Spanish naval forces and for general Spanish preparations for war. They know that a Spanish torpedo flotilla is en route for our shores whose mission is hostile, whose only interest can be to destroy our vessels as the Maine was slain. They know that on yesterday two Spanish war vessels sailed westward and will be with us in ten days. They believe that bloodshed will be averted or diminished by prompt action of the government, not by declaring war, but by making war in self defense before Spain can secure further naval or military advantage; and they believe, perhaps without reason, that delay is largely sought, or urged, by those interested in the Spanish success or by those who would market the national honor, and make merchandise of the blood and bones of the dead of the Maine; that intervention should be armed, immediate and impetuous and that not merely a stable but a republican form of government should be given the Cubans; that the Spaniards should get out of Cuba. They should stand not upon the order of their going, but go at once. For these purposes they believe the army and the navy of the United States should be utilized until Cuba is free and the Maine is avenged. Believing that the president is with the ultimate purpose of the people, I will pleasure in assuring the Trades League of Philadelphia that I will comply with their request."

THE MESSAGE PRESENTED. While Mr. Quay was speaking, Mr. Fruden, the executive secretary to the president, entered the chamber bearing the long-expected message. He was recognized as soon as Mr. Quay had concluded, and when he had presented the message the vice-president immediately laid it before the senate. In a stillness that was almost breathless the message was read, the reading occupying just forty-two minutes. At the conclusion of the reading there was a hum of whispered conversation in the galleries, but no demonstration. Mr. Davis, Minnesota, chairman of the foreign relations committee, at once moved that it be referred to his committee, and Mr. Stewart, taking advantage of the opportunity, briefly addressed the senate in favor of recognizing the independence of the Cuban

insurgents. Without further debate the message was referred as requested.

GROANS IN THE HOUSE. The president's message was read to the house today in the presence of a vast assemblage, and referred to the committee on foreign affairs without debate: There was absolutely no demonstration, either of approval or disapproval from the crowded galleries throughout or at the conclusion of the reading, but there was a sharp burst of applause from the Republican side when, toward the end of the message, it said that the war in Cuba must cease. At the conclusion of the reading about half the Republicans applauded and several of the Democrats groaned.

After the message had been referred the house transacted some District of Columbia business and then transacted upon the Patchell-Ward contested election case from the Tenth New York district by confirming Mr. Ward's right to the seat. Little or no interest was taken in the proceedings. All the afternoon the members stood about in groups discussing the message and the possible action of congress upon it.

Message Considered. Washington, April 11.—The senate foreign relations committee considered the president's message, but adjourned without reaching a conclusion. General Lee will be heard tomorrow soon after his arrival.

AN HONEST STATEMENT. Mr. Connell's Opinion of President McKinley's Message. Special to the Scranton Tribune.

The president's message on the Spanish-Cuban question was well received by the Pennsylvania delegation in congress. In discussing it tonight Mr. Connell said: "I think the message was a plain, honest statement of facts; that the president has given congress full information on the difficulties existing between Spain and this country, and that after exhausting all the resources at his command to bring about peace, he now asks it to take the necessary action to enable him to compel the restoration of peace on the island."

HARRITY'S CASE.

Letter Sent by Democratic National Chairman Jones to Members of the National Committee.

Philadelphia, April 11.—The text of the letter which Democratic National Chairman Jones sent to the members of the national committee, in submitting to them the question whether William F. Harry shall be deposed, as the Pennsylvania member of that body, was given out here today for publication. It is as follows:

Democratic national committee, Washington, April 7, 1898. My dear Sir: Under date of Feb. 11, 1898, Hon. John M. Garman, chairman of the Democratic state central committee of Pennsylvania, wrote me calling my attention to certain steps taken in his state relating to the substitution of J. M. Harry for Hon. W. F. Harry, as member of the national committee of Pennsylvania. It being practically impossible to convene the committee, and having no authority to act myself, I have concluded to submit the question to the members of the committee by mail. I enclose herewith copies of correspondence and papers in relation to the matter. On the day of mailing these to you, I mail to Mr. Garman and to Mr. Harry each a copy of all papers forwarded to you, including this letter.

It is clear that when the national committee is not in session there is no power competent to make any change in the national committee except the committee itself, or a sub-committee acting by its authority. What do you understand the wish of the Pennsylvania convention to be, and what regard by the national committee in the event of a change of Harry? I hope you will take this matter up promptly and send me your decision. Very truly yours, James K. Harry, chairman.

A friend of Mr. Harry in an interview stated that Chairman Jones sustains the contention made by Mr. Harry and his friends that neither the Democratic state convention or the Democratic state central committee had any authority to remove Mr. Harry from the Democratic national committee. The only question, therefore, which remains for the members of the latter body to determine is whether the action of the Democratic state convention amounts to such a request or recommendation that ought to lead the Democratic national committee to make such a change in the Pennsylvania membership of that body.

Mr. Gladstone's Condition. London, April 11.—There is not much change in the condition of Mr. Gladstone today. He is not suffering so much from pain today, but is unable to converse cheerfully with his friends.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: Fair; Light Northerly Winds.

- 1 Telegraph—President McKinley Places the Cuban Matter in the Hands of Congress.
2 Correspondence in Relation to Cuba.
3 Senator Quay's Pointed Remarks in the Senate.
4 The Tribune's Popular Want Column, N.Y. County News.
5 Local—New Trial Granted in Jennings Case.
6 Editorial—Comment of the Press.
7 Telegraph—The President's Complete Message.
8 Local—Opening of Teachers' Institute. School Controllers in an Angry Mood.
9 Local—Social Events of a Night. Estimates Committee Finishes Its Labors.
10 Local—West Side and Suburban.
11 Lackawanna County News.
12 Telegraph—Congress at Sea Over the Message.
Evidences of General Lee's Popularity.

OFFICIAL EVIDENCE OF SPAIN'S INFAMY

Synopsis of the Long-Delayed American Consular Reports Concerning the Conditions of Spanish Misrule in Cuba. A Chapter of Horrors That Makes the Blood Boil. Record Which Damns Beyond Redemption the Flag of Spain in the Eye of Christian Civilization—Gomez's Pathetic Letter to McKinley.

Washington, April 11.—The consular correspondence with regard to the situation in Cuba which was transmitted today was prepared in response to a resolution of inquiry adopted by both the house and senate. The correspondence was prepared for transmission to congress just before the blowing up of the Maine and having been held up since now includes communications up to April 1. It covers the communications of Consul General Lee at Havana, Consul McGarr at Cienfuegos, Consul Ely at Matanzas, Consul Ely at Santiago de Cuba and Consul Barker at Sagua la Grande. The communications make about sixty thousand words. They deal largely with the distress and suffering which exists in all the districts. But General Lee reports quite fully upon the excess of the government with regard to autonomy and other political phases of the situation. In preparing the correspondence for transmission to congress, considerable portions of the important communications and especially those marked confidential, are omitted. The resolutions to which they are the response in each instance asked only for such correspondence as it was not deemed incompatible with the public interest to make public.

SCOPE OF REPORTS. General Lee's correspondence runs over the period from November 17, 1897, to April 1, 1898. Much of the correspondence is of a confidential nature and of some of the important communications extracts only are given. The period of the correspondence after the blowing up of the Maine contains no reference to that event, such communications probably being deemed irrelevant to the purpose of the resolutions calling for the consular correspondence in the possession of the government as to the situation of affairs in Cuba.

The first dispatch of General Lee contains General Lee's order, dated November 13, repeating or rather modifying General Weyler's order of concentration which has heretofore been published by the press. This order was made shortly after General Lee returned to Havana from the United States last fall. General Lee in his communication also enclosed the proclamation of J. M. Rodriguez, major general in charge of the western department of the Cuban military operations, addressed to the Cuban people and in which he urged the "firm resolution" of the insurgent army to continue fighting until the attainment of absolute independence. It was on November 23 that Consul General Lee made his first report to the department of state on the condition of affairs in Cuba. It is as follows:

LEE'S FIRST REPORT. I have the honor to briefly submit a statement of what appears to be the present condition of affairs in this island. First—The insurgents will not accept autonomy. Second—A large majority of the Spanish subjects, who have commercial and business interests and own property in the island, are in favor of the Spanish government and are desirous of being annexed to the United States, rather than an independent republic or genuine autonomy, under the Spanish flag. Third—The Spanish authorities are sincere in doing all in their power to encourage, protect and promote the grinding of sugar. The grinding season commences in December. Fourth—The insurgent leaders have given instructions to prevent grinding, wherever it can be done, because by diminishing the export of sugar the Spanish government revenue are decreased. It will be very difficult for the Spanish authorities to prevent cane burning, because one man can start a fire at night which will burn hundreds of acres. Fifth—I am confident that Generals Blanco and Pando, his chief of staff, as well as Dr. Canales, the secretary general, with all of whom I have had conversations, are perfectly conscientious in their desire to believe the distress of the people suffering from the effects of Weyler's reconcentration order, but unfortunately they have not the means to carry out such benevolent purposes. In this city matters are assuming better shape under charitable committees, etc. Large numbers are now cared for and fed by private subscriptions. I witnessed many terrible scenes and saw some die while the wind suspending the disposal of the dead and the many of those left will die, and most of those are women and children. I am informed an order has been issued in some parts of the island suspending the disposal of these people in a simple manner. I hear of much suffering in the Spanish hospitals for want of food. I hear also that the Spanish merchants in some parts of the island are placing their establishments in the name of foreigners to avoid having their provisions purchased on credit by the Spanish administration. In some parts of the island I am told there is scarcely any food for soldiers or citizens and that even rats are used for food purposes.

WANTED WARSHIPS NEAR. In consequence of the assurance that American life and property would be protected, General Lee said that he had declined to make application for the presence of one or more warships in Havana harbor. He said that Americans who had wives and children did not to send them away, at least for the present. "I still think," continued General Lee, "that two warships, at least, should be at Key West prepared to receive the short notice, and that more of them should be in the range of a coaling station should be established there. Such proceedings would seem to be in line with that prudence and foresight necessary to afford safety to Americans residing on the island and to their property."

Under the same date General Lee sends another communication containing the statements of Senor Canales, the editor of the Madrid El Heraldo, who had just returned from Pinar del Rio province after the conflict between the Spanish forces under General Velasco and the Cuban forces under Diaz, in which Canales was quoted as saying that the Spanish forces had displayed their usual valor, but that the province was not pacified; that out of 14,000 Spanish troops only between three and four thousand were able to operate, the balance being sick at hospitals, or in garrisons and towns; that he believed autonomy premature and was inclined to the adoption of energetic military action for the purpose of pacifying the province; that the truth should be known in Spain, where public opinion and the press had been deceived regarding the annihilation of the war and the so-called pacification of the western provinces.

RELIEF INADEQUATE. Under date of December 7 General Lee sent a communication to the department regarding the measures for the relief of the reconcentrados, much of which is not made public. In the portion given out General Lee says:

I see no effect of the governmental distribution to the reconcentrados. I am informed that only \$12,000 in Spanish silver has been dedicated to the Havana province out of the \$100,000 said to have been set aside for the purpose of relieving them on the island and that reports from all parts of the province show that 20 per cent. have already died and that many of those left will die, and most of those are women and children. I am informed an order has been issued in some parts of the island suspending the disposal of these people in a simple manner. I hear of much suffering in the Spanish hospitals for want of food. I hear also that the Spanish merchants in some parts of the island are placing their establishments in the name of foreigners to avoid having their provisions purchased on credit by the Spanish administration. In some parts of the island I am told there is scarcely any food for soldiers or citizens and that even rats are used for food purposes. (Continued on Page 5.)