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SCRANTON, MAY 16, 1898.



Don't forget tonight's meeting in the board of trade rooms, called to organise relief work in behalf of the dependent families of Scranton soldiers at the

The V'ar Situation.

The failure of the Gussic to effect a landing in Cuba with arms and supplies for our insurgent allies, coming on top of a number of other repulses of American small ships operating near the Cuban shore, will tend to exasperate public sentiment in this country and provoke renewed criticism at the apparent indecision of the war depart-

Our citizens, however, should try to be patient. These minor reverses are undoubtedly vexatious, but there will be no halting when once the invasion gets under way. On the contrary, the recollection of these preliminary checks will serve as a stimulus and put the inyading troops on their mettle:

It is evidently the policy of the Spanish admiral in commend of the Cape Verde fleet now in harbor at Curação to play tag with Sampson and Schley, drawing them after him in a fruitless chase and thus postponing our occupation of Cuba until the rainy season has made aggressive land operations impossible. It remains to be seen whether the authorities at Washington will consent to accommodate him.

In the meantime, moderate delay will enable preparations to be brought to a degree of perfection which will enable the invasion, when ultimately ordered, to be very greatly expedited. That is the one consolation derivable from a situation otherwise decidedly embarrassing to American pride.

In these days the cultivation of is norance is expensive.

Drawing Nearer Together.

The recent speech of Joseph Chainin favor of an Anglo-American alligenerally regarded as, next to Lord potential of living English statesmen, have been far lower than it is. has attracted world-wide attention, It is the speech of a man who has power eline it far in the direction of a de facto alliance

For such a joining of sympathies and reinforcement of mutual purposes the more intelligent portion of the American people are already prepared. Some opposition is to be expected from the small class of adopted Americans whose chief capital has long been distrust and abuse of England. No surprise will be felt that Mr. Patrick Ford and his followers in American politics are in arms at the very mention of a better understanding between Washington and Westmin-Kler. These gentlemen are doubtless sincere in their emphatic expressions of belief that England is trying to sell us a diplomatic gold brick. Suspicion of British politics and politicians has become a fundamental of their nature. Yet their strident warnings fall on unusually deaf ears. Whatever may be true as between Irishmen and Englishmen, the prevalent belief on this side is that as between Yankees and Englishmen the former can be trusted to take care of themselves, be the competition one of war or diplomacy. So that the fear that England is trying to fool us does not take broad hold. On the contrary, the knowledge that in our present trouble the English peaple and government, on their own prompting, have stood by us nobly, showing precisely the characteristics that we durselves would have shown had the conditions been reversed, has developed a sense of gratitude not at all likely to wane.

The greatest eingle obstacle to an Anglo-American alliance in fact if not on parchment is not distrust of England nor fear that the United States might be buncoed in that kind of a combination, but the effect which such a moral union of English-speaking forces might have in interrupting our traditional friendship for Russia. This friendship on our part at least has been genuine. It has rested upon cordial and grateful recognition of the fact that Russia has invariably treated the utter hopelessness of the struggle have rushed to enlist in the ranks of the us well. So long as Russia keeps up in which their country is engaged; have rushed to enlist in the ranks of the her record in this respect the ministers. Yet we are told they believe in a most desirable material it has contained fact that Russia has invariably treated | the utter hopelessness of the struggle her record in this respect the ministers Yet we are told they believe in a neutrality touching Anglo-Russian army of 50,000 men. How he is to get to

rivalries which do not involve the cerious menacing of American prospects. In others words, we shall never be the aggressor in a movement inimical to Russia. But if without fault or invitation on our part a time shall ever liberty and international fair play shall force us to choose between St. Petersburg and London; between absolutism and political principles akin to our own; between strangers in race and creed, and kinsmen but a few generations apart, joint heirs with us to the glories of a common history, literature and speech, we cannot doubt what that choice will be,

Possibly the prophets of a general scrap are merely talking through their apprehensions.

Our Trade In War Times.

The volume of our trade and commerce has remained practically unaffected by the war. Investors and business men generally regard the present and future with equanimity. There has been neither inflation nor depression in the money or industrial markets. The functions of our banks and financial exchanges have not been disturbed by our conflict with a foreign power, nor by anticipated complications arising but of it. No war in modern times has been entered upon with less commercial excitement. Our exports and imports have retained their equilibrium; the pulse of the home markets has remained normal and steady. The wonderful victories at Manila bay and at San Juan have given buoyancy and elation to the markets. Railroad stocks have been active and advancing, and it is probable that the full effect of these victories have not yet been felt. Speculative buying and selling on the Stock exchange will momentarily rise or fall n response to the operations of the bulls and the bears, who are more willing to see a reaction to get hold of the securities they have just sold at a profit than to see a further steady advance which would restrain them in this speculative buying or selling. These are the ordinary phenomena of Wall street in its dealing with stocks and bonds and are fairly indicative of the onfidence of brokers in the unimpaired alue of American securities. Every day brings forth fresh proof

of the extraordinary foreign demand for our breadstuffs. The European supply of cereals has been shorter than was thought at all possible before we entered or had any notion of entering in a war with Spain. One man in the United States foresaw this clearly Young Leiter has pocketed enormous profits in his great wheat deal, but it is only fair to say that he took erormous risks and that not his calculations proved correct, the financial credit of his father would have been no more than sufficient to meet the unparalleled emergency in which he would have seen placed. There is no possibility that this demand will decrease until the new wheat crop is in the market. The price of flour will probably continue on the increase for some time to some. It is the only article of domestic consumption which has taken a serlous rise; and as it is the most necessary, its rise is of course the most burdensome to the workingmen of the country. The rise in the price of flour has been practically independent of the war. We should have had a rise in the price of flour possibly equal to what it s, even if the war had not been waged. Exports of wheat are carried every day berlain, the British colonial secretary, from our ports in neutral bottoms. The Spaniards cannot and dare not touch ance, notable because its author is them, so that if the foreign demand were not what it is, the price of flour Salisbury, the most influential and even with the war in progress would

The New England cotton industry has been seriously embarrassed for to make his words in large degree ef- some time. A strike has been in profective. While neither Mr. Chamber- gress; mills have been shut down, and lain nor any other Englishman can general disorganization of the trade expect an immediate coalition between has ensued. Many causes concentrated the United Kingdom and the United to produce this result. Excessive pro-States it is obvious that he, as the duction has played the most serious substantial and determinative factor part, as it is always the most importin the Salisbury cabinet, can so shape ant factor in the depression of a partic-British official conduct toward the ular industry. Foreign demand hav-American republic as to put the latter ing seriously fallen off, still further under a sense of obligation and in- hampered the trade in cotton stuffs. The late war in China and the plague in India have also been contributory causes tending in a parallel direction. The growth of the cotton manufacturing industry in the south places the New England manufacturers at the mercy of a competitor who is unaffected by protective tariffs, who may grow his own fibre within sight of his own mills, who has the advantage of the latest and most improved machinery, whose faculties for export are at least equal to those of Massachusetts, and who has the unmeasurably competitive advantage of cheap labor, unrestricted by conditions of time or conditions of employment.

As might be naturally expected in the iron and steel industries the utmost activity prevails, while the tone of the market is strong. Great activity exists in fron and steel building construction works, while there is an enormous demand for agricultural implements, rails, building frames and railroad locomotives. All in all, the war has scarcely affected business, save to quicken it in certain direc-

God help the reconcentrados. It is evident that the war board at Washington is too slow to.

The Unhappy Reconcentrados.

We published on Saturday morning letter from the Havana correspondent of the New York Sun, which gives a graphic but despairing picture of the state of affairs in that city. Famine threatens the rich and has already reached the poor. It must be confessed that the condition of affairs in that doomed city is such that it is incapable of exciting either sympathy or pity in the heart of an American citizen for the beseiged inhabitants. Like the old Burbon kings the Spaniards never learn and never forget. They must have heard by this time of the annihilation of their fleet in Manila bay, and the fall of Puerto Rico, and of the czar can count upon American descent of General Weyler with an

Havana does not seem to cost them a thought. They continue to call upon him and expect in some mysterious way that he with his fifty thousand warriors will drop from the clouds. The life of every private citizen of ome when the cause of constitutional Havana of foreign nationality is not worth an hour's purchase. The Brit-

If this is the condition of affairs in Hayana, what must it be where the reconcentrados are herded together? Their condition must be appaling. Without food, without sympathy, without hope, those of the miserables who have not died of starvation or been butchered in cold blood are lingering on in the most hapless and helpless state to which it is possible to reduce a human being-that of starvation by inches. Of course the insatiable Spanish soldiery have siezed upon the supplies which were sent by this country to feed the starving reconcentrados. The amount was not much, it is true, as the time was short in which to send it; but, little or much, the Spanlards have made a meal of it. The women and children appeal most to our humane and human sympathy. How fares it with them? Heaven only knows; we may only conjecture. If it were possible to bring anything

like systematic relief to the reconcentrades, the continuance of the blockade would be regarded without much perturbation. We owe the Havana raggarts neither good will nor sympathy. They are a crowd of murderous ruffians to whose political machinations and military turbulence Spain owes the greater part of her misfortures. When we get to Havana the o-called volunteers will receive our most pressing and immediate consideration. Revenge is foreign to our object in Havana or anywhere else, but the military organization of which tive offered the members of leaving the ountry or returning to civil employments. In the meantime, let us hope the clusive Cape Verde fleet will not long scare our government into postconing the 'forward, march" which vill liberate Cuba ere famine and Spanish brutality shall have made it an unteranted desert.

If the starving in Cuba can keep alive until the Spanish fleet is chased into a corner and annihilated then we may do something for them. But until then the peregrinations of that one measly flect are apparently sufficient to hold president, cabinet, naval strategy beard, war strategy board and all the departmental cooks and bottle washers transfixed in fear. Our warships outnumber Spain's two to one and outshoot them three or four to one, yet the whole programme of invasion and rescue is halted because four Spanish cruisers are somewhere circling around the rim of the Caribbean sea. Do we need a Dewey at Washington?

A written alliance with England would not be expedient at this time, if it would ever be, but John Bull ought at least to be assured in a satisfactory manner that his good behavior will not be forgotten. Uncle Sam is not an in-

If we had a sufficient navy it would not be necessary to hold up the entire war while Sampson, Schley and the Spanish admiral play hide and seek among the West Indies,

receiver.

The Oregon may yet come in handy.

Martial Spirit of

From the New York Sun.

THE eagerness with which young men whose lives seemed to be given up to the pursuit of pleas-ure have enlisted in the ranks of the volunteers, more particularly regiment of Theodore Roosevelt, afords evidence that ease and luxury have not degenerated their manhood. Most of these young fellows go in as enlisted men simply, without having undertaken to make use of any influence, possibly within their reach, to obtain commissions or to soften for themselves the rigors of ervice as private soldiers. They ask discrimination in their favor, attempt o impose no conditions, and they will get none. They have put themselves vol-untarily under the severe military law and will take their chances along with the rest of the enlisted men.

Their spirit in thus responding to the call for volunteers is not peculiar to them, but extends to the great body of American young men; yet that they should have it draw to them sympathy and admiration previously denied them, on the supposition that they were butter-flies of fashion, coxcombs, and children of wealth and luxury, removed from the impulses swaying the hearts of the great body of youth. They are showing that are not made of sugar or salt, and that virile energy and generous manly sentiment are not limited in this repub-lle by any social conditions. They will find in association with their comrades of the ranks that such differences are su-perficial rather than radical, and that the qualities of American character most de-serving of respect are independent of

This exhibition of martial and patrispirit extends to young men gener-It is even more striking new than was at the outbreak of our civil war, he president's call for volunteers was for 125,000 only, but six times that num ber responded. A million men might have been obtained easily. The places of members of National Guard regiments made vacant by the wise severity of the medical examination are quickly filled, while in all parts of the Union there is rrievous disappointment that the remain ing opportunities to enter the services are so few. If the Hull bill for the reorganization of the army had passed in its original form, as the exigency of the war equired so imperatively, the whole of the proposed regular force of 104,000 men would have been filled rapidly and with quality of recruits fully as high as that which the call for volunteers brought out The best blood of this republic would since its establishment.

The most remarkable thing about this

demonstration is its general unselfish-ness, except so far as there is in it a menifestation of a youthful craving for ac venture. Naturally enough, there is much eagerness on the part of individ-uals to obtain the distinction of com-missions as officers and escape from the harsh subordination of colletment, eve at the expense of greater liability to dan-ger; but relatively the amount of such worth an hour's purchase. The Brit-ish consul is tolerated, but seemingly disregarded and disrespected as an official agent of his government. The insurgents are pressing in upon the city and the Vento water works have been attacked, though unsuccessfully. Without light or food and the supply of fresh water endangered Havana is a pandemonium. Comparament of the highest attantion efficiency. No purely political general have yet appeared. No distinctions it favor of any class of the volunteers have been made. The great mass of the young men enlisting have neither made nor thought of making any efforts to obtain discrimination in their behalf or any mitigation of the hardships of service because of any artificial social distinction arrogated to themselves. They are rest as comrades in arms, and ask and expect no special consideration. They know that only by surrendering their in-dividuality for the good of the whole can they be useful to the republic in war, and that only on the condition that they ren der themselves absolutely amenable to military discipline will they be entitled to the name of soldiers. They must be at command for whatever duty is committed to them by their officers. The military law can recognize no distinctions between them, and the more intelligen they are the more complete is their un-derstanding that by the oath of their enlistment they are compelled to an obed-ience which is binding on all and is enforced equally on all under the most painful penalties. But such knowledge has not restrained in any degree the

> The American military spirit is now nore ardent, more aggressive, and more general than ever before in the history of this republic, and its manifestation in every condition of our society, uniting the whole by a common enthusiasm, is proof of increasing vigor in the race and affords assurance that America is well fitted to go forward in the larger career o which its destiny is leading it.

ENGLISH POSTAL ODDITIES. Puzzles Found in the Mails and Turned Over to Experts.

From the Youth's Companion Some of the anecdotes of the English postoffice recently related by Mr. Fram-ley Steelcroft are very amusing. The these brigands formed a part must be British public, one must infer, is no less instantly disbanded, and the alternative apt to perpetrate epistles than is our own; but the Lendon mail clerks seem to be quite as clever in the interpretation of such puzzles as are the ingenious ser-vants of Uncle Sam in the dead letter ofice at Washington

Here is one little anecdote which ought to prove encouraging to such of our realers as are beginning the study of Frence, inasmuch as it proves that very slight smattering indeed of that elegant tongue may occasionally be of use. Any high school student will perceive why the letter of a certain auxious servant, left if charge of the house while her mistress was visiting at Aix-les-Bains, France was returned with the postoffice stamp

'not known' across its face.

The mistress had written home certain instructions, using the letter paper of the hotel where she stayed; the maid had replied, having, as she supposed, care-fully copied the address from the printed etterhead. But unfortunately the hotel employed that conveniently conspicuous corner to mention a few of its advan-tages, with the result that she mailed an envelope boddy inscribed: "Miss Blank, Hotel Britannique, Onvert

oute l'annee, Ascenseur Hydraulique." The number of hotels kept open all th year round and supplied with elevators proved sufficiently large to discourage the French officials, and the letter found its way back to London. It was returned to the sender, who was much perturbed, until a friend of the lady of the mansion chanced to call, to whom the showed it, when an explanation ensued and she ob

Perhaps this incident is fairly offset by another in which it was the postoffice official whose knowledge of foreign tongues was deficient. A French lady liv-ing in England had lost many newspapers in the mail, and went to the village postoffice to complain. The sub-post-master, after her departure, received instructions from his chief to ask her the next time she came for the titles of the papers which had gone astray. He did so, and soon complacently reported that she subscribed to three-the II me mangu What Spain needs is a guardian and and Plusicurs and Journaux! ("I fail receive" and "many" and "newspopers.")
Pasted in one of the curious address
books kept at the Pestal Museum in London is a letter which was never delivered, though plainly enough addressed to Job David Llandough. The reason is made bylous by a straggling indorsement in America Aroused and berid." Near it is one of the most curious of recorded addresses: "Mrs. B. Wearing a Large Bear Boa. Violet Flowers in Bonnet, Promenade (mornings). Aberystwith." This letter was from a lady's son, who

had mislaid his mother's seaside address. The letter was duly and promptly delivered.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope D:awn by Aj acchus The Tribune Astrologer. Astrolabe Cast: 1.3! a. m., for Monday, May 18, 1898.

A child born on this day will notice that persons who crave faked war news were given the real thing by some of the undiced local sheets yesterday. At the hour of going to press Admiral Sampson's ships were all affoat, but there's no telling what the afternoon papers may do to them.

op a good many people seem to prefer o stay down with the crowd. It might be an improvement if some of Scranton papers would consolidate with the Christian Advocate or the War

Although there's always room at the

The "Gussie" by any other name might iave landed.

Ajacchus' Advice. Let us hope that the war rumor editor will not again escape from his keeper for another month at least.



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Lot 3 8 dozen Cambric Waists; best goods, and our \$1.1214 quality, at .. 85c

Lot 4 5 dozen Parcale Waists, excellent quality and good patterns: our \$1.25 quality at 95

6 dozen Percale Waists, hest goods made; our regular \$1.45 quality, at\$1.12%

Lot 6 7 dozen Gingham Waists, very best styles and quality; reduced from \$1.65, at.....\$1.25 Lot 7

5 dozen Cheviot Waists, handsome patterns and excellent assortment; our regular \$1.85 quality, at \$1.50 As our assortment of sizes will soon se broken we advise you to make your selections early and save disap-

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