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CUBA MUST BE FREE.

THIS IS THE DEMAND MADE UPON SPAIN.

President McKinley Signs Cuban Resolutions and sends Ultimatum to Madrid Demanding the Evacuation of Cuba—The Spanish Minister Leaves for Home.

Wednesday in Washington was a day of events in the history of the Cuban question. The signature by the President to the joint resolution recognizing intervention in Cuba; the notification of that action to the Spanish minister here; his demand for passports; the department's prompt reply to that demand; the minister's departure for Canada and the transmission of our ultimatum that Spain must evacuate Cuba and must make answer by Saturday through Minister Woodford, to the Spanish government followed in rapid succession. The ultimatum was sent to the Spanish minister by Judge Day's personal messenger Edward Savoy, one of the trusted employes of the state department, who was appointed to his place in 1869 by Hamilton Fish. The messenger was not kept waiting long at the legation, but in the course of an hour had returned to the state department with the minister's application for his passports. It was not until half past 3 o'clock in the afternoon that Savoy made his second trip, carrying with him the desired paper. This was a passport for the minister and his family and suite. It was not in the usual form, but was what is known as a special passport.

In the general terms it is similar to that presented to Lord Sackville-West, when that unfortunate minister was obliged to retire. In this case it reads as follows:

United States of America.
Department of State.

To all whom these present shall come, greeting:

Know ye, that the bearer hereof, Don Louis Polo y Bernabe, envoy extriordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Spain to the United States, accompanied by his family and his suite, is about to travel abroad.

These are, therefore, to request all officers of the United States, or of any State thereof, to permit him to pass freely without let or molestation, and to extend to him all friendly aid and protection in case of need.

In testimony whereof, I, John Sherman, secretary of state of the United States of America, have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the department of state to be affixed at Washington, this 20th day of April, A. D., 1898, and of the independence of the United States of the one hundred and twenty second.

JOHN SHERMAN,
Secretary of State.

At first there was some expectations at the state department that a response from Minister Woodford might be expected Wednesday. Later on, however, after Judge Day had calculated the length of time that would be consumed in the cabling of the ultimatum to Minister Woodford, its translation from cipher and retranslation, he became convinced that it would be practically impossible, owing to difference in time between Washington and Madrid, to receive any response Wednesday.

TEXT OF THE ULTIMATUM.

The Official Statement Issued by the State Department.

The following statement of the text of the ultimatum to Spain was issued Thursday:

On yesterday, April 20, 1898, about 11 o'clock a. m., the department of State served notice of the purpose of this government by delivering to Minister Polo a copy of the resolutions passed by the Congress of the United States on the 19th inst. After the receipt of this notice the Spanish minister forwarded to the State Department a request for his passports, which were furnished him on yesterday afternoon. Copy of the instructions to Minister Woodford is herewith appended. The United States minister at Madrid was at the same time instructed to make a like communication to the government of Spain. This morning the department received from General Woodford a telegram, a copy of which is hereunto attached showing that the Spanish government had broken off diplomatic relations with this government. This course renders unnecessary any further diplomatic action on the part of the United States.

April 20, 1898.

Woodford, Minister, Madrid: "You have been furnished with the text of a joint resolution voted by the Congress of the United States on the 19th inst., approved today, in relation to the pacification of the Island of Cuba. In obedience to that act, the President directs you to immediately communicate to the government of Spain said resolutions, with the formal demand of the government of the United States that the government of Spain at once relinquish its autority and government in the Island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters. In taking this step, the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people, under such free and independent government as they may establish.

If by the hour of noon on Saturday next, the 23d day of April, instant, there be not communicated to this government by that of Spain a full and satisfactory response to this demand and resolution, whereby the ends of peace in Cuba shall be assured, the President will proceed without further notice to use power and authority enjoined and conferred upon him by the said joint resolution to such extent as may be necessary to carry the same into effect.

(Singed) SHERMAN.

(Telegram.)

Madrid April 21, 1898

Sherman, Washington: Early this Thursday morning, immediately after the receipt of your open telegram, and before I had communicated same to Spanish government, Spanish minister for foreign affairs notified me that diplomatic relations are broken between the two countries and that all official communication between their respective representatives have ceased. I accordingly asked for safe passports. I turn legation over to British embassy and leave for Paris this afternoon. Have notified Consuls.

(Signed) WOODFORD.

SPAIN'S REPLY.

The Spanish Fleet on its Way to Meet the American Fleet.

The ultimatum of the United States was received early Thursday morning in Madrid, and the Spanish government immediately broke off diplomatic relations with the United States, notifying the United States minister to this effect before he was able to present any note. The news of the rupture was received calmly, notwithstanding Spain's action was considered a virtual declaration of war by the Spanish people. The following note was issued late Thursday afternoon by the government: "The Spanish government, having received the ultimatum of the President of the United States, considers that the document constitutes a declaration of war against Spain, and that the proper form to be adopted is not to make any further reply, but to await the expiration of time mentioned in the ultimatum before opening hostilities. In the meantime the Spanish authorities have placed their possessions in a state of defense, and their fleet is already on its way to meet that of the United States."

WOODFORD LEAVES MADRID.

He Is Accompanied to the Frontier by a Guard.

A dispatch from Madrid says Minister Woodford left that city at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon for Paris. An immense crowd gathered at the station, composed of all classes. A strong force of police and civic guards maintained order while amid the crowd moved a large number of private detectives. A detachment of the civil guards accompanied General Woodford to the frontier. The retiring minister maintained his usual calmness, but looked worn and fatigued. When the crowd was thickest about him, General Woodford forced his way through, and, approaching Colonel Morel, the chief of police, shook hands with him cordially, thanking him for his kindness and zeal in guarding the United States legation and his house for so many months. When General Woodford took his seat in the train there was a stir among the spectators and a rush toward the window of the carriage. The minister sat unconcerned and dignified. Senor Aguilera, the civil Governor of Madrid, his gigantic figure rising head and shoulders above the crowd, in a stentorian voice, raised a cheer, which was thrice responded to by the crowd. "Viva Espana!" resounded throughout the station until the train was fairly outside. This was not meant as a kindly farewell; but was an explosion of long pent-up feelings.

WOODFORD'S TRAIN ATTACKED.

Guards With Drawn Swords Had to Protect Minister's Secretary.

A dispatch from Hendoze, on the Spanish frontier, says Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, the United States minister to Spain, accompanied by his staff and others, reached the frontier at 8 o'clock Friday morning in safety, after some exciting experiences. The Spanish police attempted to capture a member of the legation and at Valladolid the train was attacked.

Mr. Moreno was the member of the United States legation singled out by the Spanish police for capture, on the ground that he is a subject of Spain, but the attempt was frustrated owing to presence of mind of the minister. At Valladolid the United States minister's train was attacked and stoned. Windows were broken and the civil guards were compelled to protect his carriage with drawn swords. Gen. Woodford, however, slept throughout the disturbance.

The Moreno incident threatened to be serious. The Spanish police made a determined effort to capture Mr. Moreno, but Gen. Woodford stood in the doorway of the carriage declaring he should only be removed by force. A detachment of police accompanied the train from Toloso to San Sebastin, where the police officials left, on seeing the general determined to maintain his rights.

At Segovia the students of the military college gathered on the platform, cheering for Spain, and there were several similar incidents at other stopping places. It was a great relief to the minister's party when the general finally reached French soil. But Gen. Woodford personally seemed unconscious of any danger.

AMERICAN EAGLE SMASHED

The Foolish Act of a Foolish Mob in Madrid.

A dispatch from Madrid Thursday night said an enthusiastic mob was parading the principal streets, the mob gathered in front of the Equitable Life Insurance company and insisted upon the removal of the American eagle, which was thrown down and smashed to bits. The fragments were then carried through the streets by a cheering, yelling mob to the military club, where the members appeared upon the balcony and enthusiastically cheered the demonstrators, shouting "Viva Espana!" and "Down with the Yankees!" The police mixed with the crowd and allowed the demonstrations to go on without restraint. The civil governor of Madrid, Senor Aguilera instead of prohibiting disorder, allowed complete liberty of action mingling among the demonstrators. He was loudly cheered, especially when the American escutcheon was thrown from the balcony of the Equitable building and fell at his very feet. Aguilera, as if trampling upon the escutcheon, addressed the populace, amid enthusiastic applause. He said: "The Spanish lion is roused from his slumber. He will shake his mane and disperse the rest of the brute creation." The demonstration then continued, a part of the mob proposing to demonstrate in front of the American legation, which is now under the British flag. It is hoped, at the time this dispatch is sent, that the crowd will disperse, exhausted, having nothing upon which to wreak its vengeance.

England Stands by Us.

A dispatch from London says England will remain neutral, but will aid the United States if any other country interferes in the interest of Spain.

WAR NOW EXISTS

BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN.

The Atlantic Squadron Ordered to Blockade Havana—The Spanish Fleet at Cape Verde Has Sailed to Meet the American Fleet.

War between the United States and Spain is now a fact. The stirring events at Washington Wednesday were succeeded Thursday by others of equal importance, culminating in the afternoon in orders for the departure of the North Atlantic Squadron for Havana. This practically is an act of war, so that the war between this country and Spain may fairly be said to date from April 21, 1898.

Two minutes after the opening of the State Department Thursday morning word came from Minister Woodford that the Spanish government having anticipated and prevented his intention to present the President's ultimatum, he had asked for his passports. The administration, in a public statement, announced that it regarded the action of the Spanish government as rendering unnecessary further diplomatic action on the part of the United States, and further stated that it regarded the course adopted by Spain as one placing upon the country the responsibility for a breech of friendly relations.

Mr. Woodford's telegram resulted in the calling of a special Cabinet meeting, to arrange and outline a plan of campaign, or rather to determine how to begin the execution of the plan of campaign already prepared by the strategic board of the army and navy departments. The immediate result was the order for the North Atlantic squadron to begin the blockade of Havana. How much further than this the Cabinet progressed in its deliberations it is not possible to say, for the obvious reason that the time has now come when the interests of the government require that the movements of ships and troops should be guarded with the greatest care from undue publicity, in order to prevent the enemy from taking advantage of the information.

Minister Woodford's action during the day, as reported to the State Department in a late telegram, indicated that he was following a carefully prepared program. A significant feature of his message was the statement that the Spanish government notified him that it regarded the withdrawal of Minister Polo yesterday as terminating the diplomatic negotiations, showing that it was not disposed to accept the expressed intention of our government to continue Minister Woodford as a medium of communication until Saturday noon. Mr. Woodford also announced that he had instructed Consul General Bowen at Barcelona to cause all American consuls in Spain to immediately withdraw from the country. He further stated that he had informed the Spanish government, after asking for his passports, that he had placed the American legation in Madrid and American interests in Spain generally, in the hands of the British embassy.

The Navy Department aside from giving the orders to the squadron, continued the work of adding to the navy purchasing another ship at Norfolk as an auxiliary craft and some small yachts. The news of the actual beginning of war was received with gravity at the department, and there were many speculations as to the destination of the Spanish squadron. One suggestion was that they would try to cut off the fine battleship Oregon now on its way from the Pacific coast around to join Capt. Sampson's command. There is also some fear that the Oregon may be taken at an unfair advantage, without knowledge of the existence of war, by the Spanish torpedo destroyer Temmerire, which is now lying at Beunos Ayres. Possibly with a view to avoiding a conflict in the Straits of Magellan, where she would be at a disadvantage, the Oregon has been ordered to go around Cape Horn.

HELD UP BY ROBBERS.

The Engineer of the Train and One Robber Killed.

The Santa Fe overland No. 1 westbound, was held up at the Mojave bridge, two miles west of Oro Grande, in San Barnadino county, Col., at 2 20 a. m. Engineer Gifford was killed by one of the robbers, who was mortally wounded by Gifford in an exchange of shots. The robbers flagged the train at the approach to the bridge and boarding the engine, took the engineer and firemen back to the express car and endeavored to detach it from the passenger coach, but could not uncouple it. They succeeded in cutting off the mail car and compelled the engineer to pull it up to the siding. Here they rifled the mail car and secured the registered mail. Then they backed down to the train, and were proceeding to the express car when Engineer Gifford opened fire on them with a revolver. He fatally wounded one of the robbers. Paul Jones, of Oro Grande, but the other escaped, after shooting Gifford with a charge of buckshot. Gifford died at once. The train with the body of the engineer proceeded. The sheriff arrived at the scene at 6 a. m., and tracked the other robber to Cummings Ranch and into the hills. He had a horse. His identity is unknown. The robber got nothing but the registered mail.

Will be Neutral.

Great Britain has already taken steps not only to maintain a passive neutrality, but to enforce it with arms if necessary. Two regiments of British soldiers are now in the British West Indies, and these are about to be augmented by another regiment enroute from Halifax. They are concentrated in the belief that the West Indies will be a center of conflict, and that the stress of war may lead one or the other belligerents to occupy neutral British territory. So far as is known, the French government will observe the same neutrality. Its West Indian possessions are considerable and it has several ships in those waters. Germany and the other powers are expected to take the same neutral attitude.

Death of Hector D. Lane.

A special to the Times from Nashville, says: Hector D. Lane, formerly commissioner of agriculture of Alabama and president of the American Cotton Growers Association, died at his home in Athens, Ala., Tuesday, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis.

A REPORTED ENGAGEMENT.

Between a United States Monitor and a Spanish Gunboat.

According to private dispatches received by the Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union and Citizen Friday night the first naval battle of the war took place opposite Boynton, about 25 miles south of Palm Beach at 10 o'clock Friday morning.

George Lyman, a reliable man, and others, who were fishing in Lake Worth, which is separated from the ocean by a narrow strip of land, heard heavy firing and ran to the beach. They reported to the railroad agent and postmaster at Lantana, that a United States monitor was furiously chasing and firing upon a Spanish man of war or gunboat conveying a coal or transport ship. The Spaniard replied shot for shot. All the ships were traveling with a bone in their teeth. The men say they watched the battle for an hour, or until only the smoke from the funnels was visible on the southern horizon in which direction they were traveling.

A special dispatch to The Times-Union and Citizen from Lantana, says: "An eye witness has just arrived from Boynton and reports a supposed transport vessel southward bound guarded by a man-of-war, pursued by a monitor, keeping up a heavy running fire." This dispatch was dated at 10 a. m., Friday morning.

A special to The Times-Union and Citizen from West Palm Beach, Fla., says. Much interest was manifested here by the manoeuvering of strange looking vessels. Two torpedo boats passed south, one early Friday morning, the other in the afternoon. Three vessels, supposedly belonging to the mosquito fleet, after some manouvering off Palm Beach pier, proceeded slowly southward. A tug towing a very large and peculiarly shaped vessel, also passed south.

DISPENSERS SALARIES.

Some Material Changes Made by the State Board of Control.

The State Board of Control has made established salaries for the dispensers for the ensuing year.

The following dispensaries were fixed at $75 each per month: Abbeville, Aiken, Beaufort Camden, Charleston, Steinmeyer, Mott, Heyers, Mahlstedt, Tienken, Sale, Stoppelbien, Bailey, Columbia, Price; Darlington, Edgefield, Florence, Georgetown, Greenville, Laurens, Orangeburg, Sumter, and J. F. Troy, at Columbia. Chester.

The following was fixed at $55: Marion.

The following were fixed at $60 per month: Jacksonboro, Summerville, and Winnsboro.

The following were placed at $50 per month; Bishopville, Dillon. Gaffney, Port Royal, Bantowles.

The following were placed at $40 per month: Adam's Run.

The following at $45 Ridgeway, St. George's, Salkehatchie and Pendleton, Seneca and Tooddville were placed at $35 per month. Walterboro's dispenser will get $83.33.

The clerks' salaries were fixed as follows: Abbeville, Aiken, Balley, of Columbia, Laurens, Sumter and Troy of Columbia, at $40 each; Chester, Steinmeyer, Mott, Meyer, Mahlstedt Tienken, Sale, Stoppelbien of Charleston, Florence, Georgetown, Greenville, Marion, Orangeburg, were placed at $35 each per month; Price, of Columbia, $50; Camden, Dillon, at $25 each; Edgefield, assistant, $13.50)

NO PRIVATEERING.

So Far as the United States are Concerned.

An outline of the policy to be followed by this government in the treatment of neutrals and the matter privateering is contained in the following statement.

"In the event of hostilities between the United States and Spain, it will be the policy of this government not to resort to privateering. The government will adhere to the following rules:

"First, neutral flag covers enemies goods with the exception of contraband of war; second, neutral goods not contraband of war are not liable to confiscation under enemies' flag; third, blockade in order to be binding must be effective."

This doctrine is undoubtedly laid down to meet the various inquiries received by the diplomatic representatives of the United States from foreign governments as to the attitude assumed by the United States. It is substantially in line with the rules practiced in the recent Chinese-Japanese war and places the United States in a most advanced position, so far as the protection of individual property and neutral goods at sea is concerned. By it Spanish goods are made free from saizure on the seas in the bottoms of a neutral power. This decision on the part of our government will be welcomed in Europe.

AN ARRAY OF FINE VESSELS

Compose the North Atlantic Squadron Under Sampson.

The North Atlantic squadron, under Captain Sampson, which is now blockading Havana and other Cuban ports, makes a splendid array of fine vessels, comprising battleships such as the Iowa and Indiana; monitors, like the Puritan, Terror and Amphitrite; armored cruisers, like the New York, flagship; protected cruisers, such as the Cincinnati, Marblehead and Montgomery; gunboats, like the Vicksburg Wilmington and Annapolis; regular torpedo boats, as the Ericsson, Cushing, Winslow and the like; not to speak of the large number of fast yachts and other vessels that have been added to the fleet by purchase. This force is quite competent to blockade all the ports in Cuba, or at least all of the ports connecting by rail with Havana and so likely to be used to supply that place, in the event of seige with food and munitions of war. Besides the above there are other vessels, including one battleship, on their way to join the squadron. This statement is to be taken with the understanding that it does not contemplate the coming to Cuban waters of the Spanish fleet. In such case, the probable policy would be to abandon the blockade and endeavor to force the Spanish fleet to battle.

A War Measure.

Resolutions authorizing the president to prohibit the export of coal as he sees fit have passed the senate.

HOW IT LOOKS IN SPAIN.

THE QUEEN REGENT SPEAKS FOR THE BOY KING.

Magnificent Spectacle and Much Enthusiasm at Meeting of Cortes—The Fighting Blood of a Proud People Aroused—The Opening of the Cortes.

The opening of the Spanish Cortes at Madrid Wednesday was a magnificent sight. All the wealth and beauty of Madrid gathered in the senate, where every available foot of space was occupied. Large bodies of troops were drawn up outside of the building, including the handsomely uniformed Blue Dragoons and the magnificently attired palace guards. All the members of the diplomatic corps were present in full dress.

A wild cheer at 2:30 p. m., announced the arrival of the queen regent who was driven to the cortes palace in a state coach and escorted by a detachment of Life Guards. The cheering was taken up within the building as the queen regent entered, the cheers being accompanied by enthusiastic cries of "Viva Alfonso Trece," "Vive Espana," a really tumultuously patriotic demonstration.

The queen regent read the speech from the throne while seated with the young king, Alfonso, on her right, and the premier, Senor Sagasta, standing near the king. Her majesty's words were inaudible to all but those in her immediate vicinity. The reading was greeted throughout with cries of "Viva Espana." A wonderful picture was presented by the queen's entourage, consisting of most of the highest personages in Spain in brilliant court, military, naval or palace uniforms.

At the close of her majesty's speech there was renewed cheering, after which premier Sagasta declared the cortes opened, and the queen regent and the boy king left the building amid another wild outburst of enthusiasm. The queen regent's speech began:

"The grave anxieties which saddened my mind the last time I addressed you have increased and are heightened by public uneasiness conveying the presentment of fresh and greater complications as a result of the turn which events in Cuba have taken. These complications were brought about by a section of the people of the United States which, seeing that the autonomy previously offered in my message was about to be put in force, foresaw that the free manifestation of the Cuban people, through its chambers, would frustrate forever the schemes against Spanish sovereignty which have been plotted by those who, with resources and homes sent from the neighboring coast, have fettered the suppression of the insurrection in that unhappy island. Should the government of the United States yield to his blind current, menaces and insults which we have hitherto been able to regard with indifference, for they were not an expression of the sentiments of the true American nation, would become intolerable provocations, which would compel my government, in defence of the national dignity, to sever relations with the government of the United States.

"In this supreme crisis, the sacred voice of him who represents human justice on earth was raised in counsels of peace and prudence, to which my government had no difficulty in harkening, strong in the consciousness of its right, and calm in the strict performance of its duties." Her majesty added: "Spain's attitude is due to the pope, and also to the great powers, whose action strengthens my conviction that Spain's cause deserves universal sympathy and that her conduct merits unanimous approval.

"Possibly, however, the peace efforts may fail to control the evil passions excited against Spain. Lest this result, I have summoned the cortes to defend our rights, whatever sacrifice they may entail. Thus identifying myself with the nation, I not only fulfill the oath I swore in accepting the regency, but I follow the dictates of a mother's heart, trusting to the Spanish people to gather benind my son's throne, and to defend it until he is old enough to defend it himself, as well as trusting to the Spanish people to defend the honor and the territory of the nation."

The queen regent then referred to the trouble in the Philippine Islands, and, continuing, said: "Although a dark and gloomy future is before us, the difficulties are not beyond our powers. With our glorious army, navy and the united nation before foreign aggression, we trust in God that we shall overcome without stain on our honor, the baseless and unjust attacks made upon us."

Paralysis in Havana.

Advices from Havana says business is almost paralyzed, no contracts are being entered into and the papers are urging Spain to declare war immediately. According to statements made by Spaniards the insurgents recently captured in Havana province a sergeant of volunteers, whom they killed and most terribly mutilated, cutting out his tongue, eyes and other parts of his body. Exchange is still falling. Provisions are rising in price, although still abundant. Local committees have placed 38 districts of Havana in an offensive and defensive position, without the aid of the troops or the volunteers.

Key West Rejoices.

A special dispatch from Key West, Fla., to the Atlanta Journal says an outburst of patriotic fervor greeted the announcement here of the agreement of both houses on the Cuban resolutions. Intense excitement reigned and the war spirit took complete possession of the town. Cuban flags were displayed from every pole and a telegram was sent to President McKinley offering the services of a thousand Cubans here who are anxious to take the field at once. A holiday was declared and the public schools turned out to take part in the celebration.

To Attack Manilla.

The American squadron at Hong Kong, according to a special dispatch from Shanghai has sailed for Manilla, which it will attack. The dispatch says: "Three steamers recently purchased by the United States government will follow the fleet with coal. The approach to Manilla are mined. It is reported here that the priests and the commercial classes in the Philippines are in favor of a peaceful surrender rather than to suffer a bombardment, but that the military are determined to resist."

SPANISH MINISTER LEAVES.

He Spoke Feelingly of His Departure From the Country.

The Spanish minister, accompanied by six members of his staff, left Washington at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday night, and the Spanish government thus terminated its diplomatic representations in the United States. The minister and his party left by the Pennsylvania road going northward to Buffalo and Suspension Bridge, and thence to Toronto. By 10:40 o'clock Thursday morning the Spanish officials were on British soil. At 6 o'clock Wednesday evening Senor Polo made a hurried call at the French embassy and the Austrian legation, where Spanish interests are left in charge, and then joined his staff at the legation and started for the train. Just before the departure from the legation, the Austrian minister, Mr. Hengel Muller, and Barones Hengel Muller dropped in for a last word, and several other members of the diplomatic corps called to make their final adieus. This done the legation was vacated and the party assembled at the depot. As the minister entered the station he was recognized by the crowd, which closed in about him until gently cautioned by the officers.

No words of indignity were spoken, and the salutations of those in the crowd were rather agreeable than otherwise. He smiled in acknowledgement of the attention given him, and several times touched his hat. Following him came Senor Pabler Soler, first secretary of the legation, Senor Acquaroni, second secretary, Senores Pla and Almeida, attaches, Captain de la Casa, military attache, and Lieutenant de Carantho, naval attache. The party boarded the Pullman sleeper Japan, which had been taken entire.

The minister spoke feelingly of his departure, saying the circumstances were most painful to him. One of his inmates ventured the suggestion that he would be back soon again, under much more favorable circumstances, but he shook his head and said he feared this could not be the case. He said his request for his passports had been made only after the enactment of a law which attacked Spain's sovereignty, impunged her honor and insulted her.

ROWDY NEGRO SOLDIERS.

Armed With Rifles They Force Sheriff to Release a Comrade.

An affray occurred Wednesday night which shows that considerable feeling exists against the colored troops or rather their presence at Key West, Fla. Sergt. Williams of company G, twenty-fifth infantry, was with a brother soldier examining a revolver at a street corner when a policeman asked him to put the weapon away. According to the story of the police, Sergt. Williams refused and challenged the policeman to compel him. The policeman drew his revolver, but the weapon missed fire. Meanwhile the soldier blazed away. He was overpowered before any one was hurt. During the struggle to overpower the negro several white men struck him in the face. Williams was locked up at the city hall. The police say Col. Daggett had issued an order forbidding the troops to carry side arms. The escapade has raised feeling to a high pitch and race trouble is feared. Twenty minutes after the arrest 25 soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry, armed with rifles and fixed bayonets, surrounded the house of Sheriff Knight and demanded that he release his prisoner. The sheriff was alone and ill. The negro troops gave him five minutes to comply with their demand and he dicided that discretion was the better part of valor and gave up his man. Col. Daggett, when the latter feature of the affair was brought to his attention, said he would investigate it thoroughly, and if the report were true, would discipline every man severely. After investigating the matter Col. Daggett had Williams and Private Coles, of the same company, who is said to have been the leader of the attacking party, arrested and put under guard. Col. Daggett says that Williams, Coles and their companions, when the latter are discovered, will be turned over to the civil powers and punished to the full extent of the law, after which a court-martial will follow. Williams had a hearing before a justice of the peace and was held in $1,000 bail for trial at the May term of the court. There was no demonstration at the hearing.

BLUE COATS CHEERED.

U. S. Soldiers Enthusiastically Received in Columbia.

Never in the history of the town was a larger crowd at the Charlotte depot than gathered there today to see the United States troops pass through the city on their way from the North to Tampa to be in readiness for the coming conflict between the United States and Spain. The troops were coming through in sections of seven and eight cars each, within about half an hour of each other. Each section stopped over here a half hour.

When the first section arrived early this morning already a considerable crowd of Columbians was there to greet them, and at 10 o'clock when the fifth section arrived nearly a thousand people were at the depot. As the train rolled in the crowd sent up a lusty, patriotic cheer mixed with Rebel yells and this was heartily responded to by the soldiers, who cheered and waved banners and national flags.

The soldiers talked freely with the citizens and many souvenirs were exchange. They, the soldiers, were a gay and cheerful set, and if one did not know that war was about to begin he would think the blue coats were on a picnic. Many young ladies were among the spectators, and were enthusiastic in their cheers of Uncle Sam's regulars. Some thirty years ago these same soldiers would have been hissed by just such a crowd.

The officers said they had not met such an inspiring demonstration since they left Washington. This was the largest and most enthusiastic crowd of spectators they had seen since they pulled out of the national capital yesterday.

Some of the trains bore ammunition, accoutrements, cannon and ambulances, while others transported troops alone. The troops came through in eight sections from Sackett's Harbor, New York and Pittsburg. From here they went over the Florida Central and Peninsular road, through Savannah into Florida, their final destination being Tampa.—Columbia Record.

BLOCKADE OF CUBAN PORTS.

Officially Proclaimed by the President of the United States.

The following proclamation announcing the blockade of Cuban ports was issued Friday:

By the President of the United States:

A Proclamation.

Whereas by a joint resolution passed by the Congress and approved April 20, 1898, and communicated to the government of Spain, it was demanded that said government at once relinquish its authority and government in the Island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and the President of the United States was directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into actual service of the United States the militia of the several States to such extent as might be necessary to carry said resolutions into effect; and that

Whereas in carrying into effect said resolution, the President of the United States deems it necessary to set on foot and maintain a blockade of the North coast of Cuba, including all ports on said coast between Cardenas and Bahia Honda and the port of Cienfuegos on the South side of Cuba;

Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States, in order to enforce the said resolution, do hereby declare and proclain that the United States of America have instituted and will maintain a blockade of the North coast of Cuba, including the ports on said coast between Cardenas and Bahia Honda and the port of Cienfuegos on the South coast of Cuba, aforesaid, in pursuance of the laws of the United States and the law of nations applicable to such cases. An efficient force be posted so as to prevent the entrance and exit of vessels from the ports aforesaid. Any neutral vessels approaching any of said ports or attempting to leave the same without notice or knowledge of the establishment of such blockade will be duly warned by the commander of the blockading forces, who will endorse on her register the fact, and the date of such warning, where such endorsement was made; and if the same vessel shall again attempt to enter any blockaded ports, she will be captured and sent to the nearest convenient port for such proceedings against her and her cargo as prize, as may be deemed advisable.

Neutral vessels lying in any of said ports at the time of the establishment of such blockade will be allowed thirty days to issue therefrom.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and cuased the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this twenty-second day of April, A. D., 1898, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-second.

(Signed) William McKinley.

A PITIABLE CASE.

A Young Mother and Her Babe Found Starving.

The Atlanta Journal says Ethel Murry, a young woman from Greenville, S. C., was found in a starving condition in a room at the Hotel Washington in that city Tuesday afternoon by Patrolman Osborne. She is the mother of an infant two weeks old, and aside from natural physical suffering, the woman and her child were almost dead from hunger.

For two days and nights she has nursed the infant, rocked it to sleep and watched over it without a morsel of food. Three weeks ago Ethel Murry, weak and suffering in mind and body, was taken to the hotel, which is on Loyd street, near the east end of the union depot. She was without means, and two days after her arrival her condition became such that she could not leave the house.

Three days after she became a mother. The woman who keeps the house allowed her to remain simply because she could not be moved. Sunday, it is said, this woman told the young mother that she must leave the house or pay her board. At the same time, it is said, she declined to furnish her with food for herself or child.

For two days the unhappy mother remained in her room with her child—a pretty girl—unable to leave and without food. The people in the house who were able to give her help would not do so, and those who were willing had no means. Tuesday afternoon a woman who has been employed in the hotel reported the matter to Patrolman Osborne. At least such is the statement of the girl, and it is borne out by others in the house.

The officer went to the place and found the woman half dead from starvation and suffering. The infant was lying on the bed covered with an old cape. It was crying for the want of proper nourishment, which the mother was unable to give it. She was too weak to stand and was in a terrible physical condition.

The officer telephoned to the authorities of the Florence Crittenton home and this afternoon, if she is able to stand the fatigue the unfortunate woman will be moved. She says that her parents live in Greenville, but that her father is an invalid and is supported by her mother, who makes only a scant living. Her condition is now very precarious.

Ready to Enlist.

The Charleston correspondent of the Columbia State says Commander Pinckney of the South Carolina battalion of naval reserves has forwarded to Washington upon demand the names of 20 men of his batalion who stand ready to enlist immediately in the signal corps. Commander Pinckney received his orders several days ago. He found no trouble in securing the 20 men from the Lafayette Artillery and the Chicora Rifles. He will in the next few days forward to Washington the names of members of the Beaufort company who may also desire to enlist in the signal corps.

Wants to Help.

At the New York office of the Cuban junta general satisfaction was expressed over the action of congress in passing the Cuban resolution. A statement was given out, which contained the following: "Should force be necessary on the part of the United States, there will be the most complete co-operation by the Cuban government and its army. Coast pilots and practiced guides will be placed immediately at the service of the United States and in every practicable way will the Cubans aid in expelling the common enemy."

FIRST HOSTILE SHOT

FIRED BY A UNITED STATES MAN-OF-WAR.

A Spanish Steamship Lumber Laden; from Texas for Rotterdam, Captured by the Cruiser Nashville and Taken to Key West.

The United States cruiser Nashville has captured the Spanish steamer Buena Ventura, for Rotterdam, having on board a cargo of lumber. She was on her way from the coast of Texas. The Nashville towed her prize into the harbor at 11 o'clock Friday morning. The news of the capture of the Spaniard set the people of Key West frantic with enthusiasm. All work was suspended and the docks were soon crowded.

The United States fleet was about 12 miles off Sandy Key light Friday morning at 7, when the Spanish merchantman was sighted, bound North. The gunboat Nashville ran her down and put a shot across her bows from the four-inch gun on the port side aft, manned by Lieut. Dillingham. The Spaniard ignored the shot; but another, closer to her bows, brought her to. A prize crew, under Ensign T. P. Magruder, was put aboard.

Captain Lucarraga, in command of her, was astounded. He said he did not know that war had been declared; but when he was informed of the state of affairs, he shrugged his shoulders and accepted the situation philosophically. The Nashville has taken on stores and will return to the fleet, carrying Ensign Magruder, who will be relieved by Ensign Carlton, of the Snow. A body of marines is pacing the deck of the Spaniard, and her crew of 28 are lounging about the decks in nonchalant fashion. Not a man is in irons. According to prize laws Captain Maynard will turn the prisoners of war over to the United States district attorney, who will decide the question of their disposition.

The Spanish steamer Buena Ventura, captured by the United States gunboat Nashville, is a tramp steamer, hailing from Bilboa, Spain. She belonged to the Sarrinaga Line. On March 29 she arrived at Pascagula, Miss., from Havana, and was on the way to Pensacola, Fla., to load for Holand when captured.

THE KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

The Grand Lodge of the State Meets in Columbia.

The State Grand Lodge of the Knights of Honor, which met last week in Columbia, completed its work Thursday and adjourned sine die. The sessions were all most harmonious and pleasant and no time was wasted in disposing of the work on hand.

The annual election of grand officers was held, resulting as follows:

Past Grand Dictator, J. E. Holmes; grand dictator, W. A. Templeton; grand vice dictator, J. W. Tood; grand assistant dictator, M. F. Kennedy; grand reporter, L. N. Zealy; grand treasurer, J. T. Robertson; grand chaplain, A. Buist; grand guide, J. A. Vernon; grand guardian, J. B. Lewis; grand sentinel, J. B. Bonner. grand trustees, J. G. Tompkins, H. C. Moses, D. A. Smith.

Representative to supreme lodge for two years, W. A. Templeton; alternate for two years, M. A. Carlisle; alternate for one year, J. W. Tood.

Orangeburg Lodge, No. 1,463, carried off both prizes offered. The first, offered by Grand Dictator Holmes, $25, was for the largest increase in membership from April 1, 1897, to April 1, 1898. The second, offered by Grand Reporter Zealy, $10, was for the largest number of iniations from September 1, 1897, to April 1, 1898. The first was presented by ex-Governor Sheppard of the advisory board of the supreme lodge, and the second by Mr. Shannon. Both were presented with remarks highly complimentary to the Orangeburg lodge. They were accepted in behalf of the lodge by Mr. A. Lathrop, who said he expected to see his lodge ahead again at the next annual meeting.

The newly-elected grand officers were then installed by Messrs. Sheppard, Shannon and L. W. Perrin.

The next meeting of the grand lodge will be held in Columbia on the third Wednesday in April, 1899.

The following standing committees were appointed:

On Laws and Supervision—L. W. Perrin, M. A. Carlisle, L. Sherfesse.

On Finance—W. P. Anderson, A. F. Calvert, H. Ryttenberg.

This was the 22d annual session of the grand lodge of this popular order, and it was harmonious and pleasant throughout.

Ten Yars After Lover Died.

Attired in a wedding dress she had never before worn, and with a bouquet of spring flowers in her hand, Miss Lillian Higgins died yesterday at her home, 10201 Lowe Avenue, from laudanum taken with suicidal intent, because she could not forget her lover, who passed away ten years ago. Five letters were found upon the table. They were to relatives and friends of Miss Higgins. They reviewed in simple language preparations which had been made for the wedding, and told of the sudden death of Miss Higgins's fiance when she was nineteen years old. For ten years she had lived with a saddened love in her heart, then decided to join her lover in death. Miss Higgins lived with her father, Alexander Higgins, who is eighty years old. Sunday afternoon her father went to her room and found her writing letters to her friends. The old man sat beside his daughter until she had finished her letters. Then she went to a closet in the room and brought out a number of trinkets. She told her father she was going to give them away, but he did not suspect her reason.—Chicago Tribune.

Killed at a Saw Mill.

A fatal accident occurred three miles above Williamston Wednesday afternoon at the saw mill of Bub Simpson. John Richards, colored engineer, had tied the safety valve of the engine down when suddenly the boiler exploded, fracturing Richard's skull, breaking his arms and legs and horribly mangling his body, causing his death instantly. The boiler was blown a distance of 200 yards.

To Attack the Oregon.

A dispatch from Buneos Ayres, dated Friday, says the Spanish torpedo boat Temerario left there that day. It is believed she has gone to attack the United States battleship Oregon and the United States gunboat Marietta, which left Valparaiso on Monday last for Montevideo.