

FATAL DUEL OCCURS IN ITALY.

Poet Cavalotti and a Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Fight With Swords, the Former Receiving a Wound Resulting in Death.

The Deceased Received a Thrust in the Throat Which Severed the Jugular—The News of the Tragedy Creates a Great Sensation at Rome.

ROME, March 6.—Signor Felice Carlo Cavalotti, poet, dramatist, publicist and the well known Radical member of the Chamber of Deputies for Cortona, was killed here this afternoon in a duel with swords with Signor Macola, member of the Chamber of Deputies and editor of the "Gazzetta di Venezia."

The encounter was the outcome of a press polemic in the columns of the "Milan Secolo" and the "Gazzetta di Venezia."

It took place at an unfrequented spot outside the Spora Maggiore. Signor Macola's seconds were Deputies Guido and Fusinato, a Professor of the University of Turin, and a member for Foligno, and Signor Cavalotti's seconds were Signor Bizzoni, the publisher, and Signor E. Tuzzi, member of the Chamber of Deputies.

Shortly before the meeting Signor Cavalotti seemed in excellent spirits, and even joked with his seconds. When the word was given he attacked his opponent vigorously. The first two engagements were without result, but in the third Signor Cavalotti received a thrust in the throat that severed his jugular. At first it was thought he was only slightly injured, but the gravity of the wound was soon perceived on his putting his hand to his mouth. He withdrew it covered with blood, and did not utter a word.

The doctors and his seconds carried him to Zellino, and laid him in a bed in the residence of the Countess Zeliario. There tracheotomy was performed and artificial breathing attempted, but all efforts were useless. Signor Cavalotti expired in ten minutes, without speaking again. Signor Macola did not speak a scratch.

The news, on reaching the city, caused a great sensation. Numerous Deputies and friends hurried to the scene, and there is universal regret over the tragedy.

Signor Cavalotti made his will immediately before the duel, which was the thirty-second he had fought. The body will be embalmed, and is installed at his residence. The sword entered his mouth and pierced his tongue.

Though political opponents, Signor Cavalotti and Signor Macola were personal friends. For this reason their seconds tried to avert the duel, but the matter becoming ridiculous in the pub-

lic eyes, the principals decided that they must fight. The death of Cavalotti is a great loss to the Radical party. Italian laws regard killing in a duel as "qualified murder," but Signor Macola has gone to Venice unmolested, under the protection of his Parliamentary prerogative.

DEMANDS OF JAPAN.

China Warned That She Must Pay Indemnity.

PEKING, March 6.—On Friday last Yano Fuenio, the Japanese Minister to China, demanded an official signed assurance of the payment of the indemnity due next Mar. The Chinese Government instructed Yang Yu, the Chinese Minister at St. Petersburg, to urge Russia to evacuate Port Arthur. Russia deferred a decision, alleging that the presence of Russian warships at Port Arthur was beneficial to China and favorable to peace in the Orient.

Russia is now opposing the Anglo-German loan. M. Panloff, the Russian Charge d'Affaires, lodged a formal protest last Thursday, and demanded a quid pro quo. The details of the Russian demand are not yet made public, but Russia's attitude is regarded as inimical to the peace in the far East.

On Friday M. Gerar, the French Minister to China, made a similar complaint, with corresponding demands for compensation in the South. England and Germany are now regarded as having obtained their legitimate aspirations, and Russia and France desire to secure theirs.

The Chinese acknowledge that the British late loan negotiations were disinterested, and calculated to advance China's welfare and maintain her independence. Withdraws From the Fight. HOUSTON (Texas), March 6.—The "Post" will in the morning print a letter from Senator Mills in which he formally withdraws from the race for reelection, which leaves the field to Governor Culberson. In his letter, Senator Mills gives as the principal reason for his withdrawal the recent action of the State Executive Committee, which made a stringent test for all persons desiring to participate in Democratic primaries and conventions.

Time Will Tell the Story. LONDON, March 7.—The "Daily Mail" discusses the "Probability that the United States may goad Spain into declaring war as a last desperate move." It says: "In America's unprepared condition Spain could inflict appalling damage. Neither could conquer the other, and the utmost America could gain would be the equivocal triumph of securing Cuban independence. If Spain takes the first step America will have herself to thank."

SHOOTING AFFRAY IN KENTUCKY.

CALLLOWAY (Ky.), March 6.—In Harlan County, William and Sam Gross fought against Abe Carroll, John Carroll and Abe Sewell. Knives and pistols were used. Sewell was killed and William Gross and one of the Carrolls were fatally injured. The trouble arose over the loss of a calf.

James Carpenter Dead.

READING (Pa.), March 6.—James Carpenter, inventor of the Carpenter projectile, died here to-night of pneumonia, aged 51 years. He was born in New York, entered the naval academy and served with distinction in the navy during the civil war.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT PITTSBURG.

Three Families Penned in in a Ramshackle Building.

Flames Eat Away the Stairs While the Occupants Were Asleep.

One Woman Suffocated, and Five Other People So Badly Burned That Three May Die of Their Injuries.

PITTSBURG, March 6.—In a fire at 614 Webster avenue to-day, one woman was suffocated and five other people so badly burned that three may die. Three families were penned in a ramshackle building, the stairs being eaten away by the flames while they slept. Mrs. Dominick Enriello, aged 30, wife of a fruit huckster, was separated from her husband in the smoke, and suffocated while trying to raise a window. Harry Levin, aged 16, probably fatally burned; Lillian Levin, aged 6, burned about face, condition serious; Max Verliniski, aged 22, fatally burned about head; Jessie Verliniski, aged 22, his wife, injuries serious; Ethel Verliniski, aged 8 months, will probably die. Elizabeth Levin, aged 18, ankle broken, also hurt internally; Rita Levin, aged 3 years, thrown from the second story, badly injured.

RUSSIAN DEMANDS.

China Must Surrender All Sovereign Rights Over Port Arthur. LONDON, March 6.—The Peking correspondent of the "Times" says: Russia has demanded that China surrender to her all sovereign rights over Port Arthur and Tsien Wan for the same period, and on the same conditions as in the case of Germany at Kiaochow. Besides this, Russia demands the right to construct a railway, under the same conditions as the trans-Manchurian Railway from Peking to the line near the river Sungari to Kiang Chung Tsu, Mukden and Port Arthur. Five days are given for reply, and the agreement must be made and signed within a month. In the event of non-compliance, Russia threatens to move her troops into Manchuria. China will perform, yield.

By this agreement Russia will obtain the right to send soldiers into Lao Tung, ostensibly for the protection of the railway engineers. Russian assurances that the ports will be open to the world are deceptive, inasmuch as while conforming to these assurances, Russia can convert the port either into a second and stronger Vladivostok.

The "Times" commenting editorially on the above dispatch, says: "Russia's protest is neither more nor less than a thinly veiled demand upon China to abandon the whole of Manchuria and the province of Shin King, which includes the Peking Office, nearly all of which are tucked away in the files which contain papers relating to a million cases. Some time ago a widow who had worked hard to get a pension became possessed of the idea that the Postmistress of her town was her enemy. Here is the letter she wrote to the Commissioner of Pensions: 'I want to tell you how old sojers widows are treated by our Red-headed Postmistress. She is only fourth class anyhow, and keeps a star redneck all the postal cards & letters too, which we can't get our papers to see she have the same red herself. She reports to Com. Pensions that my husband died of devilment with my wife a lie he die of the army to-morrow, and will relieve the Fern. That boat can get supplies over to Cuba in short order.' From the general tone of this official's remarks it was gathered that no special instructions regarding the fleet had been received, and no steps are being taken to meet an unexpected crisis in America's relations with Spain. There is much excitement locally over rumors of disturbances in Havana, but naval officials here exhibit no anxiety. It can be definitely stated that the Court of Inquiry will return to Key West. Probably it will hold its final sessions here."

BULLETS FLEW THICK.

A Fierce Street Fight Occurs at Texarkana, Texas.

TEXARKANA (Ark.), March 6.—A fierce street battle occurred here this afternoon, in which one man was killed outright, another mortally wounded and a third seriously injured. Vinson Gravin is dead, shot through the heart. S. Gravin is mortally wounded, shot through the breast, shoulder and leg. Pete Darrig is seriously wounded. The participants were Harry Darrig, A. S. Aringott and his son-in-law, Mike Cannella, were about to come to blows, when the Gravin brothers attempted to intercede. Aringott and Cannella turned upon the Gravins, and both sides drawing revolvers, the battle was quickly in progress. More than thirty shots were fired. Aringott and Cannella fled.

A PENSION SWINDLER.

Taken to Topeka, Kansas, to Await Trial.

TOPEKA (Kan.), March 6.—George Cralle, a notorious and clever pension swindler, has been brought here for trial, after being arrested at Holton by a Government Inspector. Cralle is wanted, it is said, in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and other States. He has sailed under numerous aliases. The Pension Commissioner at Washington has wired the authorities here

that Cralle is wanted at several places for swindling, and asking them, if they did not have a clear case against him, to hold him until the authorities from some other district could arrive and get him.

Cralle, so the authorities say, served two years in the Penitentiary for playing the pension fraud game in Illinois.

CONSUL BARKER.

One of America's Representatives in Cuba Resigns His Office.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The "World" Havana correspondent sends word that Walter B. Barker, Consul at Sagua La Grande for the United States, has resigned. It is alleged in Spanish circles that Consul Barker's resignation is on account of friction with Consul-General Lee over the improper distribution of American charity, but that the World's correspondent thinks that Mr. Barker is a warm friend of General Lee. According to the correspondent, Consul Barker feels that the American Government in its inactivity regarding Cuban affairs has ignored all the Consular reports, says Frank C. Lacey and Jos. Short are useless as channels of information.

The Monitor Terror.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Many who went to Tompkinsville Sunday were allowed on board the monitor Terror, which arrived from Hampton Roads last week. The shores and wharves were crowded with those who had come to see one of Uncle Sam's most formidable fighting machines. Captain Ludlow, commanding the vessel, issued orders early in the day to allow visitors on the ship. The boatmen at St. George and Tompkinsville reaped a harvest from the visitors.

Drank Wood Alcohol.

SAIT LAKE, March 6.—A special to the "Tribune" from Anaconda, Mont., says: Frank C. Lacey and Jos. Short are dead and two companions are in a critical condition at Moose Lake from the effects of drinking wood alcohol on Saturday.

The Essex Arrives at New York.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The United States frigate Essex, Captain String, from Fortress Monroe, was sighted south of Sandy Hook at 8:35 p. m. The Essex arrived in the lower bay at 9:25 a. m.

Double Tragedy in Florida.

CEDAR RAIDS (Fla.), March 6.—Alfred Healy, 25 years of age, to-night shot and killed Miss Libbie Brauchan, 15 years of age, and sent a bullet through his head. He will probably die. No cause is known.

Came to California in '49.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Charles H. Pergendast, formerly a member of the shipping firm of Pergendast Bros. & Co., is dead, aged 70 years. He went to California among the gold-seekers in 1849.

Hugh J. Jewett Passes Away.

NEW YORK, March 6.—Hugh J. Jewett, the famous railroad financier, and for many years receiver and President of the Erie, died to-day at Augusta, Ga., aged 81 years.

Distinguished Statesman Dead.

BELGRADE, March 6.—M. Milutin Garcharin, the distinguished statesman and former Prime Minister, is dead, aged 55 years.

American Warships for Hongkong.

LONDON, March 6.—A dispatch to the "Mail" from Hongkong says that six additional American war vessels are expected there shortly.

The Tug Underwriter.

CHARLESTON, March 6.—The Merritt tug Underwriter arrived here to-day with the derick Chief, after a rough voyage.

Lynching in Mississippi.

LAKE CORMORANT (Miss), March 6.—Will Jones, a negro, was lynched to-night by a mob for outraging a colored woman.

Queer Letters From Pensioners.

A good many queer letters are received at the Pension Office, nearly all of which are tucked away in the files which contain papers relating to a million cases. Some time ago a widow who had worked hard to get a pension became possessed of the idea that the Postmistress of her town was her enemy. Here is the letter she wrote to the Commissioner of Pensions: 'I want to tell you how old sojers widows are treated by our Red-headed Postmistress. She is only fourth class anyhow, and keeps a star redneck all the postal cards & letters too, which we can't get our papers to see she have the same red herself. She reports to Com. Pensions that my husband died of devilment with my wife a lie he die of the army to-morrow, and will relieve the Fern. That boat can get supplies over to Cuba in short order.' From the general tone of this official's remarks it was gathered that no special instructions regarding the fleet had been received, and no steps are being taken to meet an unexpected crisis in America's relations with Spain. There is much excitement locally over rumors of disturbances in Havana, but naval officials here exhibit no anxiety. It can be definitely stated that the Court of Inquiry will return to Key West. Probably it will hold its final sessions here."

A Kansas man writes the Pension Office the following:

"I see by the newspapers that you say you are going to try to get Congress to put a stop to the present opportunities which the law offers to women to secure pensions for life from the United States by marrying an old soldier. What the devil do you mean, sir? Do you want to lose your scalp? Of course, you will be opposed. We were assured last fall that in case of my election that his administration would be friendly to the old vets., and now you propose to deprive many of us of our only chance of 'helping to perpetuate a race of heroes,' and the pleasure of eventually being patted to death by a nice young woman. Do you think the people will tolerate such an outrage?"

"But, my dear sir, if you must recommend such a law, can't you make an exception of old bachelors—that's a good boy. Two of my near neighbors and myself settled here in the wilderness at the close of the war, and when the country became settled ten years later we had 'lost our grip.' I am 55 years old, and the other fellows are past 50. And now, oh! comrade! do not, I pray do not, attempt to deprive of my only hope of ever securing the consolation so necessary to gladden our declining years. For, of course, you know there is nothing about old fellows like ourselves to induce young women to marry us if they cannot get a pension."

—Washington Star.

Explanation.

The next morning dawned; that, you will recall, is customary. "George," she faltered, forcing back a sob with a griddle cake, "you came home last night with a griddle cake." "Forgive me," he begged humbly. "And when the servant led you in, you gave her a dollar to say nothing about it!" "Servant! Upon my sacred honor, dearest, I thought it was you!" For a large heart is not always accompanied by intellectual force. —Detroit Journal.

ADVICES FROM AUSTRALASIA.

Doings of the Federation Convention at Melbourne.

New South Wales Delegates Claim That the Colony is Being Robbed.

Victoria Suffers Great Loss From Bush Fires—Besides Much Damage to Property, Scores of Families Are Rendered Homeless—The Queensland Separation Movement Not Yet Dead.

VANCOUVER (B. C.), March 6.—The Australian mail to be sent by the steamer Aurangi contains very full reports of the meetings at Melbourne of the federation convention. The convention opened yesterday, and when the delegates left Melbourne on Saturday, no great progress had been made. When the convention got down to business it took up the federation enabling bill. A long discussion took place over the bill. It was decided ultimately that as regards the High Court, the bench should consist of at least a Chief Justice and two other Justices. The right of appeal to the Imperial Privy Council is abolished, except in cases involving public interest. A proposal giving over all railways without consent of the States, instead of railways that might be agreed to by any State, was rejected. Another proposal to include a power to deal with conciliation and arbitration for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes, extending beyond the limits of any one State was agreed to.

A question which had almost resulted in a deadlock when the mail left was a proposal to place the Murray, Darling and Murrumbidgee Rivers under Federal control. The New South Wales delegates raised the cry that the colony was being robbed of its rivers. At last the convention unanimously decided as a preliminary, to remove from the bill the sub-clause, giving the federation the control, and regulation of the navigation of the Murray and the use of its waters from where the stream forms the boundary between Victoria and New South Wales to the sea. Various compromises regarding other rivers were being discussed when the mail left.

The Queensland and South Australian Governments have forwarded replies to the recent dispatch from Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the question of an Imperial two-penny postage rate, stating that they are not favorable to the reduction of the postage to 2 pence as it would entail a loss of revenues. The colony of Victoria, like Tasmania, has suffered fearfully from bush fires. Fires are reported from all parts of the colony and much damage has been done, scores of families are homeless.

In Tasmania Chief Justice Sir Lambert Dohson is obtaining a report of the damage done by fires to guide the relief committee in its distributions. Nothing has ever been known before in any southern colony like the ruin wrought, and the work will long be woefully memorable, both in Victoria and Tasmania.

From Adelaide and Wellington, N. Z., come further reports of bush fires. The report from New Zealand says the fires did serious damage. The township of Kaituna, near Fielding, was all burned but one house.

The West Australia Utlanders are greatly excited about the new mining regulations which prohibit alluvial mines from sinking below ten feet. The object is to prevent the common pick and shovel swingers' from getting down to bedrock and entering upon reefing branch mining industry.

Victoria's output of gold for the past year is 772,720 ounces. Bendigo tops the list with 209,320 ounces, an increase of 8,228 ounces compared with 1896. Then comes Ballarat with 78,910 ounces.

There is a mining revival in Queensland. Returns from various gold fields throughout Queensland give gross to date for January of 49,789 ounces, which compared with those of January, 1897, is an increase of 5,286 ounces. The Queensland separation movement is not dead yet. A delegation is to be sent to England to urge the Imperial Government to divide the north part of the colony from the south, and give each part a responsible Government.

New Zealand's gold export for the year was worth 2982,040, against £1,041,428 for the previous year. At Brisbane, Queensland, the proposed reform has been formed with the following platform: One—One adult, one vote. Two—Australia for the white man. Three—Queensland markets for Queensland producers. Four—Adjustment of taxation according to ability to pay. Five—Land for those who will cultivate it. Six—Industrial peace. Seven—Free High School education and technical instruction.

SCHOONER BESSIE K.

Not Believed That the Vessel Has Been Wrecked.

SEATTLE, March 6.—There seems to be no reasonable ground for thinking that the schooner Bessie K. from San Francisco to Skagway, is a wreck off Vancouver Island, as was reported Saturday. Although she is long overdue, it is attributed to her gasoline engine, which has caused delay before.

Captain Anderson of the Lakme, which arrived to-day, said that the Captain of the National City told him that he had seen the Bessie K. in Seymour Narrows some thirteen days ago and had not arrived at Skagway. It is believed here that she will get through all right in time.

VICTORIA (B. C.), March 6.—The reported loss of the steamer Bessie K. could not be confirmed here late last night.

STEAMER CORONA.

The Ship Floated Off the Rocks in a Badly Damaged Condition.

SEATTLE, March 6.—The steam schooner, Lakme, which arrived here this afternoon from Alaska, brings the

news that the steamer Corona, which went on a rock off Lewis Island, January 23d, was floated last Thursday evening. The Corona is considerably injured, the worst place being under the forward hatch, where the first strike struck the rock. At this point the keel is turned over for twenty feet. This can be temporarily fixed from the inside.

After entering and clearing at Victoria, the Corona will be brought to Port Townsend, where two men were to be unloaded. Captain Goodall then expects to take her to San Francisco without going into a dry dock.

Schooner Anna Catharine.

PORT TOWNSEND, March 6.—The schooner Anna Catharine put into this place last night, en route from San Francisco to Alaska. When the schooner left the Golden Gate, nearly three months ago, she carried five persons, four men and one woman. On the way up the coast the little craft came near being wrecked, and was forced to put into Tallahassee, where two men were deserted and returned to San Francisco. Fresh supplies were taken on her to-day, and the schooner headed for the north.

CAPTURING TURTLES.

Enormous Numbers Taken on the Island of Ascension.

One of the most favored spots frequented by turtles is, or used to be, the desolate Island of Ascension, in the South Atlantic, a barren volcanic patch belonging to Britain. The turtles used exclusively as a naval depot, entered upon the books of the Admiralty as one of Her Majesty's ships. An enormous number of turtles were annually "turned" there, and preserved in a small lagoon from shipment to England. It was discovered recently that as regards one of these turnings, and I bear a very vivid recollection of the game. Crouched low behind an immense boulder one evening about 8 o'clock, we could hear a hollow, reverberating murmur of the mighty surf outside, suggesting sleepily irresistible force. A dazzling wreath of snowy foam, gleaming like burnished silver, fringed the quiet stretch of glittering sand, which, gently sloping upward and landward, was bounded by gloomy bastions of black lava. Beyond the shining semicircle of glowing white lay the somber blue-black bosom of the quiet little bay now heaving gently as that of a sleeping child. Hither and thither, threading its inscrutable depths, glided spectrally broad tracks of greenish light, vivid, yet ever brightening and fading, as if of living flame. Presently there emerged from the retreating smother of sputum a creeping something of no very definite shape, under the glamor of the molten moonlight, but making an odd shuffling progress inland, and becoming more recognizable as it rose. Another, and yet another, and still more arrived as the shining tracks converged shoreward. At last the dark shapes came near enough for a novice to know them for turtles. Soon the first comes "scooped" their limit, and began the work for which they had come. Each massive reptile, by an independent motion of its fore flippers, deived into the yielding grit, throwing the soil behind it, and upward until it was enveloped in a misty halo of shining sand. Then the whole beach was alive with the toiling Chelones was alive with the tentacles, who shuffled about, emitting curious noises, but whether of encouragement or affection this I cannot say.

Divers of them came from far—so far that none who have not witnessed the swift cleaving of their true element by the ungainly monsters could not believe how the wide sweep of those eager flippers devours the fleeting leagues. In a short time many of the diving turtles had sunk below the level of the surrounding sand, while some had ceased their digging and commenced to deposit their eggs. Suddenly we rush upon them, and for some minutes the swarming beach was apparently a scene of wild confusion. Really, the plan of attack was well ordered, and when the first scurry was over nearly all the visitors were to be seen working side up, waving their flippers deprecatingly. In less than half an hour the beach was again regular, all the victims having been towed off through a gap in the rocks to spacious spoliarium in the lagoon behind, there to await their transit to the goal of most good things, London town.

Another way practised most successfully by the amphibious Kanakas of Polynesia is to slip noiselessly into the water, and, diving beneath the turtle, grasp the hind flippers with crossed hands. One swift and dextrous twist places the prize on his back, in which helpless position he is kept with ease upon the surface until the canoe arrives and he is transferred to it. Among the coral reefs of the Friendly Islands, turtle fishing is a highly favored sport, and when the reptiles are surprised among the tortuous and willow channels of the reefs or in the almost land-locked lagoons, they rarely escape. Here it is usual for the fisherman to spring upon the turtle's back, and, clutching the fore edge of the shell with both hands, to hang on until the prize is exhausted and speedily brought to the surface.

But of all the fashions of securing this much-hunted creature, that followed by the ingenious fisher folk of the Chinese littoral bears the palm. Most voyagers in tropical seas are acquainted with a peculiar fish, Eremora, known generally by the trivial name of the "sucker." The distinguishing characteristic of this fish is laziness. Unwilling to exert itself overmuch in the pursuit of food, it has developed an arrangement on the back of its head exactly like the corrugated sole of a tennis shoe, and as artificial in appearance as if made and fitted by the hand of man. When the sucker finds itself in the vicinity of any large floating body, such as a ship, a shark, or a piece of fotsapp, whose neighborhood seems to promise an abundance of food, it attaches itself firmly thereto by means of this curious contrivance, which permits it to eat, breathe and perform all necessary functions while being carried about without any exertion on its part. It can attach itself instantaneously, and holds so firmly that a direct backward pull cannot dislodge it without injury to the fish. The Chinese who have successfully trained the cormorant and the other fish for them, have taken the remora in hand with the happiest results. Several good-sized specimens having been caught, small iron rings are fitted to their tails, to which are attached long, slender, but very strong, lines. Thus equipped, the fishermen set out, and when a basking turtle is seen, two or three of the suckers are slipped overboard. Should they turn and stick to the bottom of the sampan, they are carefully detached by being pushed forward by the inevitable bamboo, and started on the search again. At last they attach themselves to the supine turtle. Then the fisherman haul in the lines, against which gentle suction the hapless Chelone struggles in vain. Once on board the larger the useful remora is released, and is at once ready for use again. —Chambers' Journal.

INQUIRY INTO THE MAINE DISASTER.

Investigation by Naval Court Will Soon be Concluded.

Captain Sampson and His Assistants Have Little More to Do at Havana.

Divers Said to Have Found That the Destruction of the Battleship Was Due to an Explosion From the Outside—Spanish Sympathizers at the Cuban Capital Rejoice Over the Arrival of the Almirante Oquendo.

NEW YORK, March 7.—A dispatch to the "Tribune" from Havana says: The arrival of the Spanish warship Almirante Oquendo while the Spanish population was still rejoicing over the coming of the Yacaya has given the Spaniards an exaggerated notion of Spain's naval prowess. The tendency is to cause a feeling that war with the United States would not be so serious for Spain. The idea may seem ridiculous in the States, yet the existence of the Almirante Oquendo, a large element of the population of Havana should not be ignored. These Spanish warships encourage the notion that the result of the Maine explosion is a subject of indifference to the Spanish Government.

Not many days will be needed for Captain Sampson and his associates to conclude the investigation. The wrecking companies are making progress in clearing a way through the superstructure. During the absence of the board of the Naval Department divers have been able to extend their examination of the plates of the hull. They found these plates twisted from an outside explosion. Everything previously learned regarding the forward magazine being intact, and the existence of large quantities of unexploded ammunition has been confirmed and strengthened.

Without going into minutiae, it may be said the Navy Department divers have secured more technical evidence from the condition of the hull and keel and the interior of the wreck that the Maine explosion was due to foul play. As to whether by a torpedo or a submarine mine, doubts may be left. Not much proof can be gathered by the naval board concerning the persons who were in the conspiracy. The Spanish authorities are in a better position to determine the matter. The Spanish divers have been working very slowly. They have been giving more attention to the coal bunkers, apparently, than to any other portions of the wreck. They have made nothing more than a superficial examination of the hull. It seems to be understood that the Spanish Admiralty Board in its official investigation is finding little evidence to give plausible support to the theory of accident. This distinction from positive proof of an external explosion it may not be able to ignore.

There is clearly less confidence in official circles than during the period when the declarations of accident were made by General Blanco. The Spanish inquiry proceeds in leisurely fashion. It may be a long time before a conclusion is reached. This will be no reason for a long delay by the Naval Board.

Under other conditions, the internal policies of Cuba will be exciting for recent developments have been significant. The radical autonomists having failed in their plan of coaxing the insurgents, a reaction has come. The intriguants now dominate the Government's policy. The divided autonomist Cabinet is not a factor in the situation. Senator Govin's resignation from the Cabinet has been demanded by some of the violent intriguants, because of his radical utterances in favor of more concessions to the insurgents. The Cabinet is now powerless to withstand pressure. The Weylerites and Ultra-Spanish classes and volunteers are supreme.

An official assurance by General Blanco and Premier Sagasta that the Government has no intention of disarming them tells only half the story. Hereafter there will be more aggressiveness in interfering in the affairs of the Government. They may hurry along into action before the Madrid Cabinet is ready. The volunteers, as a class, are filled with ignorant hostility toward the United States. Their movements hereafter will bear watching.

Senator Proctor, who has been visiting places near Havana, is going to Sagua and possibly to other parts of Santa Clara province. He is in no hurry to return to Washington. Apparently Senator Proctor has formed a favorable impression of Spanish rule in Cuba. He is inquiring especially into the economic conditions.

American relief, after much mismanagement, is finally reaching the starving people in the country for whom it was meant.

Baseball at San Jose.

SAN JOSE, March 6.—A double bill was offered at Cyclers' Park this afternoon. The first game between the Olympic Cyclers of San Francisco and Garden City Wheelmen was won by the former—score 8 to 5. Then the Olympic Wheelmen and the Turn-Vein Cyclers crossed bats, the game ending in a tie, 11 to 11.

A Steamer Steward Killed.

SEATTLE, March 6.—John Russell, a steamer steward of the steamer "Albatross," was killed to-day. While standing on the dock he fell between the steamer and dock in the water, striking a log. His larynx was broken, and he was smothered to death. Russell's remains will be sent to San Francisco, where he leaves a family.

Peter Casey Asphyxiated.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Peter Casey was fatally asphyxiated by gas, at his home on Twenty-fourth street this morning. His death is attributed to accident.

Found Dead in Bed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Phillip Gomp was found dead in his bed, at 114 Fourth street this morning. It is believed that death was caused by poison.

"What is the difference between a bachelor and a benedict, pa?" "About \$50 a week, my son." —Town Topics.

PRICES TALK! Hanging Lamps, \$1 60. Lawn Mowers, \$3 50. Lamp Chimneys, 4c. Coffee Pots, 10c. Carpet Sweepers, \$1 00. Agate Tea Pots, 35c. Wash Boards, 10c. Decorated Dinner Sets, \$3 95. Glass Lamps, 20c. Asbestos Irons, Per set, \$1 50. Our Store is Full of Bargains Like the Above. L. L. Lewis & Co. 502 and 504 J and 1009 Fifth Street.