

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

It Has Been Designated to Negotiate.

Has Gone to Meet the Insurgent Leaders in Cuba.

Will Use Its Influence in the Name of the Autonomist Party to Induce the Insurgent Government to Consent to the Armistice—Civil Governor of Havana Sends His Family to Mexico.

HAVANA, April 17.—This morning Senors Pedro Rabell, Colonial Secretary of Posts and Communications, Dolz Giber and Leopolda Sola, a well-known lawyer designated by the autonomist government as a parliamentary committee to approach the insurgent leaders in Eastern Cuba, left by rail for Batabano, from which point they will proceed by a coast steamer to Santa Cruz, Del Sur, to ascertain whether the insurgent government in the province of Puerto Principe will accept the armistice. The committee will propose a neutral zone and place of meeting.

Senors John Ramirez and Silvestra Anclada, prominent autonomists, have been appointed by the committee with the same end in view. They left this morning for Santa Cruz Del Sur, where they will use their influence in the name of the autonomist party, but independently of the parliamentary commission.

General Blanco had a conference with the President and Secretary of the Commercial Chamber shortly after the action of the American Senate began to be reported about the city with reference to the commercial interests involved. Authorities of all classes called at the palace and General Blanco conferred with the chiefs of the political parties.

This afternoon the Spanish steamer Villaverde sailed for Mexico with 112 passengers, among them the family of Senor Bruzzone, Civil Governor of Havana.

The decision of the United States Senate has been received by the general public with coolness. People say they are prepared for a fight and are waiting for the first shot to be fired, the sooner the better.

TO LEAVE TAMPA.

Spanish Colonists There Will Sail for Havana.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—The Spanish Minister, Senor Polo, to-day closed a charter for an American steamer of the Plant line which will carry practically the entire Spanish colony of Tampa to Havana to-morrow. In making the charter, the Minister gave assurance that in case of hostilities the

steamer would be cleared from Havana, given ample protection and allowed to return to an American port. The Spanish party will number 408, most of them young men who have offered their services in the Spanish army in case of war. Some women and children are included, as they are a part of the colony making the move, and it is said, also, that hostility to the Spanish residents in that locality has become marked of late. The Consul and Vice-Consul, with two assistants, remain at Tampa. The Spanish Minister had a comparatively quiet Sunday, having time to drive with the Swedish Minister, the two having been associated in the diplomatic service twenty-five years. Senor Polo received a number of dispatches from Madrid, but they developed no new phases of the question and did not bear out the reports that Spain would seek the good offices of the United States in case the Hesperides resolution became a law. No official information has been received here as to the reported negotiations with General Gomez toward his surrender, although there is no disposition to discredit the report.

At the embassies and legations of the great Powers, the unusual activity of the last three weeks was noticeably relaxed as it has now come to be accepted in these quarters that there will be no action, certainly none of a radical character toward mediation or intervention between Spain and the United States. While the recent exchange of notes was in progress some of the embassies here were open nightly until 3 a. m., in connection with the efforts of the Powers to get together. This proved unavailing, and as one of the members of the diplomatic corps said to-night, "The Powers have too many troubles of their own to permit them to reach a concert in this affair."

The Austrian Minister gave a diplomatic dinner to-night, the British and French Ambassadors, the Russian and the Spanish Ministers being among the guests. The gathering was purely of a social character.

CLOSES THE DOOR.

Vote of the Senate Causes an Unfavorable Impression in Madrid.

LONDON, April 17.—The Madrid correspondent of the "Standard" telegraphing Sunday night says: The vote in the Senate has caused a most unfavorable impression in Madrid, as closing the door to an understanding of any kind being arrived at between the Spanish and American Governments. Should President McKinley endorse either the idea of recognition of Cuba, or of armed intervention, no Spanish Government could tolerate either of these courses without risking the gravest consequences in Spain.

The unseemly precipitation of the American parliament leads Spain to believe that such an aggressive and provoking policy simply aims at making a rush into a conflict before the results of the suspension of hostilities with the insurgent chiefs and to pave the way for their submission, even at the price of considerable concessions.

A decisive turn in the relations between Spain and the United States is expected to be reached toward the end of the week, when resolutions have been finally adopted by the Senate and Representatives. President McKinley will lay the American pretensions before the Spanish Government, demanding a reply on the principal points for settlement in the Cuban question and a cessation of all naval and military reinforcements, which

WHALING FLEET HEARD FROM.

Mate Walker of the Orca Now at Seattle.

Says It Has Provisions That Will Last Till July.

Gives the Position and Condition of the Various Ships and Says Those East of Point Barrow Have Plenty of Food—Great Demonstration for Cuba at Santa Rosa Addressed by Irving M. Scott.

SEATTLE, April 17.—Charles H. Walker, third mate of the steam whaler Orca, arrived here to-day after one of the most remarkable trips on record. He left Point Barrow, Alaska, on the first of last November, with two Indians and a dog team and followed the shore line of the Arctic Ocean to the mouth of the Mackenzie River, where he crossed, coming into civilization at Edmonton. Mr. Walker brings advices from the ice imprisoned whaling fleet one month later than C. F. Tilton, who came out by way of St. Michael, arriving here several days ago. Mr. Walker brings an appeal from the Captains of the whalers at Point Barrow to the Pacific Coast Steam Whaling Company to use every effort to get supplies to them by the first of July. They knew nothing of the Government relief expedition now on its way. There are, Mr. Walker says, 180 people at Point Barrow, who, by living on short rations, will have enough supplies to last them until the first of July. The whalers east of Point Barrow are in better circumstances. Besides having plenty of provisions, they have a large stock of Hesperides Island to draw on. Mr. Walker confirms the report of the loss of the Orca and the burning of the Freeman.

All the vessels east of Point Barrow are safely anchored. The Fearless and the Newport are situated ninety-five miles east of Point Barrow, off Tonlet Point. The tender Genie is still further east of Pitt Point. The Belvidere is at Sea Horse Rapids. The Narwhal, Bluyes, Grampus, Bealema are at Bailey Island. From the mouth of the Mackenzie River to Edmonton, Mr. Walker's trip was without special incident. The boats were crowded with Point Barrow to the mouth of the river. Owing to the scarcity of provisions at Point Barrow, he started out with but a small amount, trusting to the chance of killing sufficient meat on the way. For three days previous to reaching Hesperides Island he was practically without food.

IS THIS SO?

Rumor That the Pope is Trying to Persuade Spain to Free Cuba.

LONDON, April 17.—The Rome correspondent of the "Times" says: In Vatican circles the opinion is still held that an outbreak of war may yet be prevented, and a rumor is afloat to the effect that the Pope is endeavoring to persuade Spain to recognize the independence of Cuba. Among continental diplomats a certain distrustful opinion is observable at what is alleged to be the attitude of England. Some of the Powers, which have special reasons to fear the consequences of Spanish defeat, are evidently of the opinion that Europe has lost a good opportunity of affirming her interests against a compact political organization in opposition to the interests of America. At some future time it is thought England may rue her failure to co-operate with the other Powers in creating a precedent for united European opposition to American high-handedness.

SPAIN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

Bulletin Issued by Secretary Wilson Showing Its Increase.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural Department has authorized a publication of a bulletin on the subject of Spain's foreign trade from 1881 to 1895, inclusive, prepared by Frank H. Hitchcock, chief of the Section of Foreign Markets. The yearly average tonnage for the five years was 24,734,939, while that for the preceding five years was only 22,490,590. This increase was due to the growth in the tonnage of the Spanish merchantmen.

COAST BASEBALL.

Oakland Beats Fresno and Beach Combers Beat San Jose.

FRESNO, April 17.—Twelve hundred people saw Fresno lose their third straight game this afternoon, the Oakland boys winning by a score of 10 to 0. Compared with the statistics of 1896, the figures of 1895 show a slight increase in the size of the feet and a rather marked one in increased tonnage. The steam vessels increased from 431 in 1886 to 532 in 1895.

ROOSEVELT TO RESIGN.

He is Anxious to Take a Hand in the War With Spain.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Hon. Theodore Roosevelt probably will resign his office as Assistant Secretary of the Navy in case of hostilities with Spain, to accept a commission for active service in the army. Nothing definite has yet been decided upon as to what assignment he will accept, but he would prefer to serve with the New York State troops.

DEPLORES THE OUTRAGE.

The "Imparcial" Warns the Malaguenos Against Provoking War.

MADRID, April 17.—The "Imparcial," referring to the attack upon the American Consulate at Malaga, deplores the outrage as necessarily calling for apologies, and warns the Malaguenos against provoking a war which Spain would avoid if possible. The "Imparcial" adds:

"Nothing is no proof of courage. The Greeks made demonstrations many days in Athens, but this did not prevent them from quickly forsaking the heights of Thessaly.

YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE.

CINCINNATI, April 17.—The "Enquirer" says Judge H. W. Reeves, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Young Men's Catholic Institute of the United States, has directed every council to designate a member to whom to telegraph in case of war, and to enroll at once all willing to go to the front at the moment the President calls for volunteers. How J. J. McDonald, San Francisco, is the Supreme President of the order, which numbers 50,000.

WOULD FAVOR ABANDONING CUBA.

LONDON, April 18.—The Rome correspondent of the "Daily News" says: I am assured that the Queen Regent herself, as well as the Pope and Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, would favor abandoning Cuba as the only means to avert war. Archbishop Ireland cables that renouncing the island is the only possibility of avoiding war.

DEFENDS OUR ACTION.

ROME, April 17.—Senor Bovio, chief of the Republican group in the Chamber of Deputies, was invited to unveil a bust to-day at the Roman Antonio Maceo Club. He was unable to attend, but he wrote a letter in favor of Cuban independence and defending the action of the United States.

WHAT THE COURTS SAY.

POWER TO RECOGNIZE VESTED ONLY IN THE PRESIDENT.

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"As to the question whether the recognition of a new Government in Cuba is an executive or legislative function has become a practical one, it may be of interest to know what some of the courts have said about the matter.

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"It is very clear that it belongs exclusively to the executive department of our Government to recognize, from time to time, any new Governments which may arise in the political revolutions of the world; and until such new Governments are so recognized they cannot be admitted by our courts as having rights to have or to exercise common justice and prerogatives of sovereignty."

"To this proposition Justice Story cites Causton vs. Hoyt (3d Wheaton, 346), and a number of English cases. The same case in which this opinion was delivered by Justice Story, having been brought before the Supreme Court, Justice Emilian (13th Pet, 415), speaking for the court, said: 'Can there be any doubt that when the executive branch of the Government, which is charged with foreign relations, in its correspondence with a foreign nation, assume a fact in relation to the sovereignty of any island or country, it is conclusive, on the judicial department, and in this view, it is not material to inquire, nor is it the province of the court to determine, whether the executive has acted right or wrong. It is enough to know that in the exercise of his constitutional functions he has decided the questions. Having done this, under the responsibilities which belong to him, it is obligatory on the people and the Government of the Union to acquiesce in it.

"In the case of Luther vs. Borden (7th Howard, 1) the question for decision was which of the two alleged Governments was the true State Government of Rhode Island. It was there held that, under the constitutional requirements of the sovereign States to each State a republican Government; it was for Congress to decide what Government is established in the State before it can determine whether it is republican or not, and that therefore the Act of Congress which had been passed was in that case controlling. But Chief Justice Taney, speaking for the court in that case, said: 'In the case of foreign nations the Government acknowledged by the President is always recognized in the courts of justice, and this principle has been applied by the Act of Congress of partition over the Cuba matter. At 7 o'clock a band led Company E of the California National Guard, to the headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic. From there they marched to the Grand Hotel, where Irving M. Scott of San Francisco, orator of the evening, was welcomed and escorted by a committee of prominent citizens to the Athenium.

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KILLED IN A SMELTER.

JEROME (Ariz.), April 17.—John Sprig, alias Ott, was killed at the smelter this morning, being struck in the chest while pinioned between the switching implement and an immense steel ladle. He was very reckless in exposing himself to dangers about his work, and had been warned that serious accident would occur to him. He has relatives in New Mexico, and had been here for some time.