

THE IRONY OF FATE AGAIN.

Tug Dauntless Brings in a Spanish Prize.

The Ex-Filibuster Aided the Government This Time.

Tows the Schooner Mathilde Into Key West With Her Load of Rum After the New York Had Run Her Down on the Coast of Cuba and Captured Her—Captain Sampson Receives His First Foreign Salute as Rear-Admiral.

KEY WEST (Fla.). (On board the Associated Press dispatch boat Dauntless), April 24.—The Associated Press dispatch boat arrived in this harbor yesterday before midnight, having in tow the first sailing vessel captured, the schooner Mathilde of Havana, sixty tons, loaded with rum.

When the Dauntless left the main fleet under Rear Admiral Sampson at 3:15 o'clock on Friday afternoon what seemed a thorough blockade of Havana had been successfully established. The fleet range from eight to ten miles from shore, along which they are extended to fully twenty miles, in the following order, running from west to east:

Mayflower, Iowa, Newport, Detroit, Marblehead, Indiana, New York, Wilmington, with the torpedo boat Porter attending the flagship.

Morro Castle and the city of Havana are in good view from the flagship with glasses, but the coast is as always the case, is covered with a haze. No news of what is occurring in the blockaded city has been obtained and the newspaper men are equally in doubt as to the intentions of Rear Admiral Sampson and the United States Government. Soon after 9 o'clock yesterday morning, the Amphitrite, Puritan, Cincinnati, Astine, Machias and three torpedo boats, after much interchange of signals parted company with the flagship, sailing in a northeasterly direction, presumably to blockade Matanzas, Cardenas and Sagua La Grande.

KEY WEST, April 24.—At 11 o'clock the Dauntless passed the cruiser Wilmington at the rear of the long strung out line, with its torpedo boat flankers. Until noon there were more or less excited brushes with one or the other newspaper boats.

At 12:30 p. m. the order was given to slow down, the Dauntless then being to the eastward and ahead of the flagship New York and ahead of the long line of newspaper boats and yachts. The Dauntless left Key West one hour and twenty minutes before the other boats but in four hours and a half she was at the head of the procession and Captain Floyd, who knows the coast better than any living person remarked,

"She can't beat fourteen knots at her best, but it is funny how many sixteen and seventeen-knot clippers she leaves astern."

The scene of the opening event of what may prove to be prolonged hostilities between the Government of the United States and Spain was just off the coast of Cuba at a point about ten miles east of Morro Castle. The shot was fired across the bows of the Spanish steamer Pedro of Bilbao, outward bound from Havana. She dove to immediately and in the course of an hour a prize crew from the flagship was in charge of her and she was on her way to Key West. The capture of the Pedro occurred at 5 o'clock on Friday afternoon in view of the Associated Press dispatch boat Dauntless, which was the nearest vessel to the New York at the time. An hour before, the fleet, with the Mayflower and the torpedo boats, was proceeding at a nine-knot speed from Key West to the Cuban coast. The vessels were then about twenty miles north of Havana. A haze hung over the southern horizon and the faintest outline of the shore could be seen at intervals.

Suddenly the New York quickened her speed and went alongside the Mayflower and the leading torpedo boat. She halted a moment and signalled some instructions to the remainder of the fleet and then drew away from the others and started alone in a southwesterly direction.

The Dauntless also crowded on steam and she sped after the New York at once. After twenty minutes fast run the remainder of the fleet was left far behind.

It soon became apparent that the New York was heading to the eastward, and the real object of her chase became discernible against the dark background of the low hills on the coast. The lookout in the tops of her military masts had sighted the Spanish colors flying from a Spanish harbor. Those on board the steamer must have seen the New York overhauling them but they made no pretense of stopping.

The chase continued for nearly an hour and by that time the New York had passed the steamer and stopped about half a mile off her port bow. At another moment there was a puff of smoke from the side of the New York followed by a short report of a 16-pounder. The shot passed over the bows of the steamer and threw up a great spray when it struck the water. There was no mistaking its meaning. The steamer stopped its engines immediately and swung around in the heavy sea which was running. The next move was to load a large whale boat with sailors and marines, all fully armed and in charge of an officer. The prize proved to be the Pedro, of about 2,000 tons. She was apparently in ballast or had a light cargo.

The sun was just sinking below the horizon when the prize crew from the New York climbed over the side of the Pedro and a few minutes later the Spanish ensign was hauled down. While this was transpiring, the outline of another steamer were seen several miles to the westward and the New York put out for her as soon as she had cast loose the whaleboat containing the prize crew for the Pedro. Upon investigation, it was learned that she was a German steamer that had just left Havana and she was allowed to proceed.

The Pedro was taken to Key West, the New York returned to the remainder of the fleet and all the vessels lay to and steamed all night outside of Havana harbor. Torpedo boats and one of the

cruisers did patrol duty in the vicinity of the flotilla, but no vessel of any kind approached the men-of-war.

This was the second seizure of the day, the first being the seizure of the Spanish steamer Buena Ventura, which the fleet of warships met early in the morning, soon after they had left their anchorage at Key West. The steamer was some distance outside of Havana harbor at the time she was stopped and Admiral Sampson signalled to the Nashville, which brought her to, to escort her to port, which was done. A third seizure occurred this morning, a few miles west of the entrance to Havana Harbor. It was a small schooner, apparently a fishing craft, and she was captured by the Cincinnati. The cruiser towed her to the flagship and her Captain made arrangements to deliver her to Admiral Sampson, who released the vessel.

Shortly before noon the torpedo boat Porter captured a Spanish coasting schooner, the Mathilde, which the Dauntless was towing. The Mathilde, the New York, with the torpedo-boat Porter in close attendance, was lying about eight or ten miles off Havana, when the smoke of a steamer was seen a few miles to the eastward. The flagship and the Porter started for her immediately, but when they drew near they found that she was the Italian man-of-war Giovanni Basan, bound for Havana. The Italian ran up the American colors to his masthead and fired a Rear Admiral salute of fifteen guns, it being the Porter's salute. Rear Admiral Sampson had received from a foreign warship since his appointment to his present rank.

The New York returned the salute, and as the firing occurred only a few miles off shore, the incident probably created consternation in Havana. Just as this ceremony was completed two schooners were sighted inshore from where the New York and the Italian lay, and the flagship signalled the Porter to go after them. The torpedo-boat slid over the water with great rapidity, and passed almost under the bows of the Basan on her capture of the Mathilde. As she ran the Porter fired shots from her six-pounders across the bows of both schooners. One of them proved to be a fishing boat, and was released. But the Mathilde was more obstinate, and probably did not appreciate being stopped by what looked like a toy boat, or else she failed to understand what the Porter wanted of her. But when two or more shots were fired from the torpedo-boat, the Mathilde came about and the Porter ran alongside, informed her that she was seized by the United States, and peremptorily took her prize in tow and started off to the flagship with her. The Mathilde was loaded with a cargo of rum, was loaded almost to her galls, and the Porter had much difficulty in dragging the heavy schooner through the water, but finally brought her prize alongside the flagship, and by this time she had hoisted the Stars and Stripes above the Spanish flag at the Mathilde's masthead.

The Dauntless was about ready to leave for Key West, and Admiral Sampson asked the dispatch-boat to tow the prize to that port for him, which was done. A prize crew from the New York being placed on board the Mathilde.

THE NEW YORK ARRIVES.

Nearly All Her Crew and That of the St. Louis Enlisted. NEW YORK, April 24.—The American line steamer New York arrived to-day, but she brought neither passengers, mail nor news. The New York experienced heavy weather, but otherwise had an uneventful voyage. Her officers and crew at no time feared being intercepted by any Spanish war vessel. She carried a crew of about 400 all told, including Captain Paslow and Chief Officer Bradshaw. As soon as the ocean liner was moored alongside her pier all the hands were paid off. Captain Paslow, his officers and such of the other members of the crew as desired to serve on the ship under the new conditions were signed immediately by Deputy United States Shipping Commissioner Baer. Each of them signed articles with the American line company and not with "Uncle Sam." The articles were for a twelve-months' term to anywhere or everywhere. The wages agreed upon were the merchant marine rate paid by the International Navigation Company, but the latter orally agree to pay each officer, engineer, fireman, seaman, etc., a bonus of fifty per cent. "for good conduct at the termination of the period signed for." All but ten members of the crew signed and these ten wanted higher wages.

"The crew will wear the American line uniform," said Manager Gudeman, "and neither the New York nor St. Louis is to be altered so far as I know. I believe that neither the New York, St. Louis or Paris is to be armored for protection, nor so far as I can learn are they to be armed, but this is mere conjecture on my part." Out of the 420 officers and men comprising the crew of the American liner St. Louis which arrived here last night, only seven refused to sign articles when required to do so when they were paid off.

WILL BE REINSTATED.

Employees in the Interior Department May Enlist. WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Bliss has issued the following circular to the heads of bureaus and officers of the Interior Department: "In answer to inquiries for information, you are hereby notified that in case any officer, clerk or employe, in or around the department of the Interior, desires to leave the service temporarily to engage in the military or naval service, in the event of war, he may be reinstated at any time within two months from the time of separation from the service.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN MADRID.

News From Manila That the Inhabitants Favor Spain. MADRID, April 24, 7:45 p. m.—There were slight demonstrations early this morning and again this evening, but they were dispersed by Government soldiers. The one subject of conversation throughout the day has been the capture of the Buena Ventura prior to a formal declaration of hostilities or the lapse of the time limit in the American ultimatum. The papers describe it as an act of piracy. The attitude of the citizens of Madrid to-day is irreproachable. Several American correspondents left by the Sunday express.

MONITORS CATSKILL AND LEHIGH WILL PROTECT THAT CITY.

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.—The monitor Catskill, manned by the Massachusetts naval reserves, left League Island navy yard for Boston late last night in tow of the tug Argus. She passed over the capes this morning and will reach the city by noon. The monitor Lehigh, also manned by the Massachusetts reserves, which will likewise go to Boston, is expected to leave League Island early this week.

NO WORD OF THE PARIS.

Spanish Satisfied Because Spain Sticks to Privatizing. LONDON, April 24.—A point of vital interest for all Londoners is whether the Paris escaped the Spanish ship. The attitude of the citizens of Madrid to-day is irreproachable. Several American correspondents left by the Sunday express.

STANDS BY US.

One German Paper That Supports the United States. VIENNA, April 24.—The Deutsche Zeitung, the Pan-Germanic organ, contrary to most papers, supports the United States on the grounds that "after Berlin and Vienna, New York ranks as the largest German town in the world," and also because "the United States represent liberty as opposed to absolutism."

A STATE OF WAR.

Spain Acknowledges That It Has Begun. MADRID, April 24.—1 p. m.—The following decree was gazetted to-day: "Diplomatic relations are broken off between Spain and the United States, and a state of war has begun between the two countries. Numerous questions of international law arise which must be precisely defined, chiefly because of the injustice and provocation came from our adversaries, and it is they who, by their detestable conduct, have caused this grave conflict."

GOING TO BOSTON.

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AT THEIR OLD GAME.

KINGSTON (Jamaica), April 24.—Fugitives from Guantanamo, in the Province of Santiago de Cuba, say Spanish troops are concentrating in the principal seacoast cities and laying waste by fire interior towns and plantations. It is feared the devastation will be complete before Americans can occupy the territory.

A GARDER EXPLAINED.

PALM BEACH (Fla.), April 24.—It is believed here by every one that the account of the battle of Boynton Friday is without foundation. Responsible citizens of the section were here to-day, and say they saw the ships going south, but did not hear the report of a single gun.

THE WINONA CAPTURED.

ATLANTA (Ga.), April 24.—A special from Biloxi, Miss., says the revenue cutter Winona, from Mobile, captured the Spanish steamer Saturnina at Ship Island, Miss., at 1 o'clock to-day, but likely will have to remain in quarantine with the prize until to-morrow or next day.

POPE BLESSES SPANISH ARMS.

LONDON, April 25.—The Rome correspondent of the "Standard" says: The Queen asked the blessings of the Pope on Spanish arms. His holiness replied that he sent it from his heart, and hoped to see a vindication of Spain's rights, which had been trampled upon.

GERMANY WILL STAND ALOOF.

LONDON, April 25.—The Berlin correspondent of the "Standard" says: Germany will take no steps prejudicial to the United States, nor probably will she join in any intervention on Spain's behalf.

AFTER THE CITY OF PARIS.

QUEENSTOWN, April 25.—The thirty-knot Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer Audaz passed Roach's Point at 5:45 to-day (Monday), going seaward, after three weeks in the Queenstown drydock.

GREKS WANT TO ENLIST.

ATHENS, April 24.—Many Greeks are presenting themselves at the United States Consulate here, seeking enlistment for the war against Spain.

ted States will find it necessary to retaliate despite the adhesion of the Government to the declaration of Paris. In any case Spain's attitude will enhance the importance of the negotiations of the Powers, which it is understood have been initiated by Italy with a view to protect neutral vessels on the sea. It is reported from Vienna that England holds aloof from the negotiations, though this is discredited.

A general rise in the price of wheat has occurred already throughout Europe. The cash silver on hand at the Bank of Spain has drained over 38,000,000 pesetas, owing to the war run on the bank and its branches.

HE ESCAPED.

The American Consul at Baracoa Was Overlooked. KINGSTON, April 24.—The United States Consul at Baracoa, Cuba, Alfredo Triay, his wife and two children and two Spanish merchants and two Cuban and Spanish-Americans, mostly women and children from Guantanamo, departed from the city here to-day after a twenty-four hour quarantine.

GATHERING AT CHICKAMAUGA.

Fifty Thousand People Come to Look at the Soldiers There. CHATTANOOGA (Tenn.), April 24.—All roads led to Chickamauga to-day. The national park, where were encamped nearly 8,000 of the United States regular troops, drew thousands of people from all the surrounding country and for the day nearly depopulated Chattanooga.

Even before sunrise the stream of humanity had started toward the park and by afternoon fully 50,000 people were scattered through the vast grounds watching the soldiers in their different camping places and noting with interest the different phases of a soldier's life on the field. Kodak fiends by the score were there and took snap shots at every opportunity. The long Government road leading from Chattanooga out through Rossville and Chattahoochee to the park was fairly choked with vehicles all day. Excursion trains brought in thousands from Nashville, Memphis, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Huntsville, Alabama, and all the intermediate towns and villages.

CUBANS TO BE ARMED.

Militia and Regulars Not to Go to Cuba at Present. WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Sherman said to-day that it was his expectation that for the present and the immediate future no regular army would do the greater part of the fighting in Cuba. He added the statement that there was no intention of taking the militiamen and new recruits into Cuba until thoroughly inured to the hardships of actual military life, and that the regulars would be held in this country until later in the season. The Secretary expressed the opinion that Admiral Sampson's fleet would take the first opportunity to form a junction with Gomez's army, and that therefore there would be perfect cooperation between the two organizations in conducting the war against the common enemy. The insurgents are the best men for this service at present, said the Secretary, and they can be trusted to do serious work when well armed and properly equipped. He said it was his understanding that this Government would furnish the arms and munitions of war to outfit several regiments of the insurgents in good shape, and to put the entire Cuban army in good fighting trim.

AGITATION INCREASING.

Reports From Porto Rico Indicate a Critical Situation. ST. THOMAS (West Indies), April 24.—According to the latest advices from Porto Rico, the agitation there is increasing and food prices are rising fast. The authorities have taken steps to prevent the departure of refugees. At Mayaguez, seventy miles southwest of San Juan, there is talk of a revolution.

Refugees from Porto Rico who reached here by a schooner this evening report that the condition of the island is critical. Martial law has been proclaimed and Americans there are in danger, as they are without protection.

TWO SCHOONERS.

They Were Captured by the Wilmington and Porter. NEW YORK, April 25.—A dispatch to the "Standard" from Key West says: The gunboat Wilmington to-day captured the Spanish schooner Candida, with a deckload of charcoal intended for Havana, where it is extremely valuable for fuel.

The torpedo-boat Porter to-day captured the Spanish schooner Antonio, laden with sugar for Havana. The Antonio was sent to Key West with a prize crew of four men, under Naval Cadet Dubois.

ENGLISH PROTEST.

LONDON, April 24.—There was a mass-meeting on Trafalgar Square this afternoon to protest against the Spanish barbarities in Cuba and the Philippine Islands. About 500 socialists and laboring men were present. Tom Mann, Louise Michel and Lathrop Thibington, an American, who was greeted with cries of "Good old Yankee!" made speeches. Resolutions favoring free Cuba were adopted amid cheers.

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DELEGATES ARE ARRIVING. Grand Parlor of Native Sons at Nevada City, Welcomed at All the Towns Through Which They Passed.

The Mayor Will Give Them a Deed of the Town To-night—There Will be a Contest Over the Next Place of Meeting—A Family Goes Crazy Over Its First Ride on the Cars. NEVADA CITY, April 24.—Nearly all of the delegates to the Grand Parlor of the Native Sons arrived here to-day. They were welcomed by bands at Auburn, Colfax, Grass Valley, and on reaching this place. The town to-night is ablaze with electric lights, and there was a sacred concert during the evening.

The session of the Grand Parlor begins to-morrow morning, when reports of various committees will be received. In the evening the Mayor will deliver to President Clark a deed to the city and everything in it. The principal contest will be over the selection of the next place for holding the Grand Parlor. Past Grand President Albert Jones is urging the claims of Oroville. Past Grand President Fred H. Greeley wants the session to be held in Marysville, while District Attorney Zebalala and Sheriff Matthew of Monterey County are leaving no stone unturned to secure the prize for Salinas. Grand Trustees McNoble, Byington, Hawkins, Cutler, S. A. Bich and Coffey are candidates for re-election. Others are C. O. Dunbar, C. R. Heverin, Henry Lichtenstein, George Hadeliffe and Adolph Ramisch. The west will be one of the liveliest in the order's history. There will be a rapid succession of social gatherings, beginning with to-morrow night's reception, and these features will be interspersed with trips to hydraulic, drift and quartz mines.

COAST BASEBALL.

San Francisco Wins From Oakland Twice, but Loses to San Jose. SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—After a ten-ninning game to-day the San Francisco defeated the Oakland of the Pacific States League at Central Park. The contest was won by the clever pitching of Johnson and a fine catch by the outfielders. Score: San Francisco 8, hits 11, errors 8; Oakland 7, hits 10, errors 8. Batteries—Johnson and Eager; Eagan and Hammond. Umpire—Cremer and Gagus.

SAN JOSE, April 24.—The San Francisco Athletics were an easy game for the San Jose team at Cycles Park to-day. The locals took the lead in the third inning and played with their opponents until the end, winning by a score of 11 to 4.

STOCKTON, April 24.—The San Jose team got up against it to-day when they tackled the Stockton baseballers. At no stage of the argument did they even have a fighting chance. The good right arm of Whalen, who twirled the sphere for the home team, was too cunning for them and they only got five scattered hits off him. Tyson for the visitors, was wild and was heavily batted. Score: Stockton 10, San Jose 3.

NEVADA CITY, April 24.—This afternoon the Athletics of Sacramento defeated the Nevada City by a score of 10 to 7. Batteries—Shields and Johnson; Eckenfield and Hanson.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—The Oakland and San Francisco of the California League played an exciting game of ball to-day at Recreation Park. Score: San Francisco 9, hits 6, errors 5; Oakland 5, hits 7, errors 5. Batteries—Wheeler and Strecker; Russell and Peters. Umpire—H. Smith.

IRVING WINS.

Judge Belcher Decides Against the Harbor Commission. SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—Superior Judge Belcher decided the Harbor Commission cases to-day. His honor found that Samuel C. Irving is entitled, as a citizen and taxpayer, to an injunction restraining the Board of Harbor Commissioners from awarding a contract for the creosoting of piles for the repair of Green-street wharf to any person other than the Paraffin Paint Company; also, that the Paraffin Paint Company is entitled to a writ of mandamus compelling the Board of Harbor Commissioners to award the aforesaid contract to the Paraffin Paint Company.

Both sides were tried together, and occupied two months. The principal point sought to be made by the plaintiff in the actions was that the Harbor Commissioners had displayed great favoritism in the award of their contracts, and that the San Francisco Timber Preserving Company and other concerns were the constant recipients of favors from the defendant public body.

DRIVEN MAD.

A Family Becomes Crazy Over Its First Ride on the Cars. PORTLAND (Or.), April 24.—The passengers on the Oregon Railroad and Navigation pier, just as it was approaching Ontario, Or., yesterday, were excited by the actions of an Arkansas family, the members of which the unusual train life had evidently driven mad. The family consisted of a mother and five children, and all seemed to share in a sort of nervous terror, moaning and crying and sobbing on one another's shoulders.

When within twenty miles of Ontario, and while the train was moving at express speed, the twenty-year-old son raised a window and leaped headforemost to the ground. Luckily the momentum of the train caused him to turn a complete somersault and he fell on his feet. The instant he alighted he raced on like a wild man and disappeared into the woods.

Before she could be restrained the twelve-year-old sister of the youth rushed to the rear platform and jumped from the train.

The train was stopped and a vaquero mounted on a speedy horse overtook the fugitives and brought them back and lassoed the boy, who was then handcuffed. When the boy and his sis-

ter, who was unhurt, were taken to the train, the whole family raised such a terrible commotion that the passengers all left the car, leaving the unfortunate to be guarded by the train men.

It was learned afterwards that the name of the family was Janny. They came from Arkansas, where they had lived far away from a railroad line, and the excitement and fatigue of their first railroad journey proved too much of a strain for their minds to bear.

PRINCE ALBERT OF FLANDERS. He Arrives at San Francisco and Will Start Thence for Home.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—Prince Albert of Flanders, nephew of King Leopold of Belgium and heir presumptive to the Belgian throne, is in the city. He reached town at noon to-day after a trip of several weeks through the East and South, and registered at the Palace Hotel simply as "De Retty."

The Prince is accompanied by Colonel H. Jungbluth of the Belgian army, his Aide-de-Camp; M. Joostens, Secretary of the Belgian Legation at Washington, and his physician, Dr. L. Willems. He will doubtless read in the morning papers the Associated Press dispatch stating that he has been ordered to at once return to Belgium.

Coursing at Union Park. SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—In the all-age stake at the Union Coursing Park to-day Mountain Beauty beat Firm Frown in the last round and Lalla Rookh defeated Royal Flush in the final of the sapping stake.

An English trial of the all-age stake was taken by Connemara over Koo Lawn and the sapping stake was won by Lottie M., who defeated Kerry Gow in the last round.

Scalded to Death. SAN DIEGO, April 24.—Roderick McNeill, a coal miner on the steamer Promona, died to-day from burns received last evening. As the vessel was coming into the harbor a flue blew out and McNeill was scalded by the steam. He leaves a widow and several children in San Francisco.

Plenty of Recruits. SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—At the naval recruiting office in this city there is an average of forty applicants a day, of which about 25 per cent. are chosen. There is an urgent demand for machinists, seamen and ordinary seamen.

Fifty Tons of Powder. SANTA CRUZ, April 24.—The powder works here shipped East to-night 100,000 pounds of brown powder. The consignment will be rushed through, the run to Chicago being made in ninety-three hours.

A PEACEFUL BLOCKADE. It Is Not at All to the Tastes of the United States Navy.

ON THE FLAGSHIP NEW YORK, off Havana, April 23.—10 p. m.—The second day of the war has come to a close and the fighting squadron has no casualties to report.

After the excitement this morning over the Italian man-of-war and the capture of a schooner by the torpedo boat Porter, the insurgents are by the peaceful routine. Opinions as to the length of time the blockade will continue places it variously at from one to six weeks. Admiral Sampson has so far evinced no disposition to take the offensive against the Spanish batteries. It is certain that the insurgents are by no means inactive at this critical period. Naval engagements between the formidable fleets would be much to the liking of the officers of the fleet, as they are anxious to put to rest thousands of theories to which they have been devoting their time since entering the Naval Academy, apart from the fact that their fighting blood is up.

A pacific blockade is poor work for a professional man of war, despite the excitement of occasional chases.

PLAN OF CAMPAIGN. To Take Some Seaport and Hold It as a Base of Operations.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The "Herald" to-morrow will say: Major Lovell H. Jerome, who is a personal friend of President McKinley, brought back an interesting suggestion from Washington yesterday in relation to the plan of the campaign in Cuba. Major Jerome spent several days in Washington last week, and saw the President and his advisers.

"The plan which was being discussed," said Major Jerome, "was not an invasion of Cuba by a large military force, but the capture of some port in which a garrison might be placed sufficiently large to hold it against the Spaniards. The sending of a large force to Cuba is regarded as a difficult problem. In the first place, it would not be easy to transport them, and in the second place, it would not be easy to land them under the enemy's fire.

"If a port like Matanzas, for instance, should be taken, arms and ammunition could be furnished to the insurgents and food in unlimited quantities could be landed and distributed to them under cover of our guns. By this means, according to the talk in Washington, the sufferings of the reconcentrados could be relieved, while the Spanish, owing to the blockade, would soon be compelled to surrender.

"It is believed that the reconcentration can be fed only in some such way as this, as of course, all supplies falling into the hands of the Spanish would be appropriated by them for their use in war, and they would have a perfect right to take them."

CITY OF WASHINGTON. The Last Vessel to Leave Havana Brings Refugees.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The steamer City of Washington from Havana arrived to-day, bringing ninety-five Cuban passengers, two-thirds of them women and children. She was the last vessel to leave Havana before the United States fleet established the blockade, having departed last Wednesday. She brought 1,050,000 francs of French gold and a general cargo.

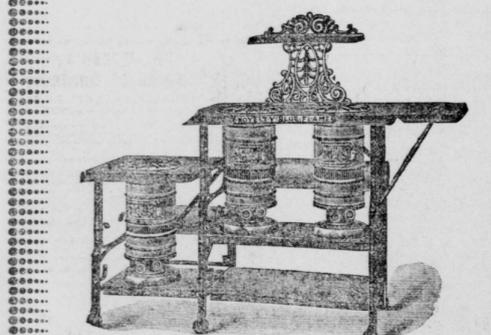
Neutrality Proclaimed. WASHINGTON, April 24.—The State Department to-day received information that the Government of Hongkong had issued a neutrality proclamation to the United States and Spain. It is similar to that published by Japan and Newfoundland.

Quite Different. In yesterday morning's paper the announcement was made that at a meeting of the Round Table on Friday evening, Rev. C. P. Massey read an interesting paper on "The Decline of the Influence of the Christian Ministry." The title of the paper read, "The Present Status and Influence of the Christian Ministry."

Card to the Public

L. L. LEWIS & CO., Gentlemen: On the 21st of last month I purchased of you the New 1898 Blue Flame Oil Stove, and I have had it in use just one month, and in that time I have cooked on it for myself and three children on an average of three meals per day, and all the coal oil I have used in this time is one can and about half of another one. So I calculate my fuel for the entire month has only cost me \$1 20, and when I compare this to my wood bill of the previous month, which cost me \$6 50, I think I have made a big saving. I cannot say too much for my Blue Flame Stove, it is so simple to light and turn out. My little daughter only 9 years old can handle it as well as myself. It does not smell a bit nor does it black the bottom of my cooking vessels, and the best of it all, it does not heat my kitchen at all. My neighbors have Blue Flame Stoves, but they all say I have the best they ever saw. You can use this letter if you choose.

MRS. AMELIA A. MORRIS.



The above is the New 1898 Blue Flame Oil Stove Mrs. Morris has reference to. It is the most perfect Blue Flame on earth and warranted as safe as a cook stove. We have two-burner stoves of this pattern as low as \$6 90, and other Blue Flame Stoves as low as \$5 50, but the New 1898 is killing them all. We are sole agents.

We sell on installments.

L. L. LEWIS & CO.

602 AND 604 J STREET AND 1009 FIFTH.