WAITING FOR THE MESSAGE.

CONGRESS READY TO ACT ON THE CUBAN QUESTION.

THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE EXPECTED TO REPORT ITS INDEPENDENCE RESOLUTION ON WEDNESDAY—A CONSERVATIVE ELEMENT OF CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH.

Washington, April 3.—The expectation in the Senate is that the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations on the Cuban situation will be made not later than Wednesday, and if the report should be made at that time the probabilities are that it will engage the greater share of the Senate's time for the remainder of the week. The committee will make an effort to secure action on the resolutions it will report without having them debated, but with little probability of success. Undoubtedly a large majority of the members of the Senate are favorable to some declaration on the Cuban question, but there is certain to be a difference of opinion on the course to be pursued and the language to be used which will be sufficient to prevent immediate action except in one contingency. This contingency is the possibility of an agreement as to details between the President and the committee. If the committee's report should prove to be in accord with the President's Message in all essential particulars, the Senate probably would adopt the resolutions without debate.

There is a considerable element in the Senate which is opposed to war except as a last extremity, and there are several members who think there ought to be a delay of at least a week or ten days before action is taken in Congress in order to insure the safe arrival of ships and war supplies now on their way to this country from Europe.

COMMITTEE ANXIOUS TO ACT.

The Committee on Foreign Relations is not impressed by this line of reasoning, and the members urge that Spain is no better prepared for hostilities that is the United States. The members of the committee do not expect the President's Message before Tuesday, and they are prepared to wait until Wednesday. Under great pressure there might be a delay beyond that time, but a request for such delay would cause great uneasiness on the part of a majority of the committee. While desirous of giving the President all the time he may require for the preparation of his Message, they are impatient of the outside influence which is being exerted to hold them in check. This pressure is in the shape of letters and telegrams from people throughout the country who are opposed to a war policy, and with these the members of the committee are being flooded. "The writers," said a member of the committee to-day, "generally ask us to maintain an 'honorable peace.' Of course, we all want an honorable peace, but the time has gone by when that can be secured under existing conditions in Cuba. We cannot allow our conduct to be controlled by such expressions."

DISPOSITION OF THE MESSAGE.

When the President's Message is received it will, on Senator Davis's motion, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, which may bring in its report later in the day, or it may not do so until the following day. So far as it is informed as to the probable line of the President's communication, the committee is now prepared to report, but the members realize that the details of the Message will require careful consideration, and more time may be given to it.

Unless there is a change in the committee's conclusions after the President is heard from, the resolutions reported will recommend the recognition of Cuban independence, with a declaration for armed intervention to make independence practicable. They will also include the Maine explosion as one of the causes for action. The resolutions will be accompanied by a carefully drawn report written by Senator Davis.

IN THE HOUSE.

There is little in the way of a programme for the House this week. Everything awaits the President's Message and the momentous events which are to follow its presentation. To-morrow the bill for the reorganization of the Army is to be called up. Chairman Hull, of the Military Affairs Committee, believes it will be passed without opposition. It is considered a part of the emergency preparations, and as such its urgency would preclude the opposition it might encounter in ordinary times.

SUNDAY WORK ON SCHLEY'S SHIPS.

THE MINNEAPOLIS BEGINS TO TAKE ON WAR PAINT—PREPARATIONS AT FORT MONROE.

Newport News, Va., April 3 (Special).—Many women have visited the warships of the Flying Squadron to-day to see their husbands, sweethearts and friends, but no persons are allowed on board unless accompanied by an officer. The piers and the shore have been crowded all day with men, women and children who came from near and far to see Uncle Sam's crack fighters.

The Minneapolis is still at Old Point, and will probably not come up the Roads until she has been painted lead color. This work was begun this afternoon, and is now well under way. The Columbia's crew finished painting her freeboard about noon. The four large turrets on the flagship Brooklyn have not been painted the prevailing war color. They are still yellow-drab.

The Texas, the Vesuvius and the Miantonomoh are expected in these waters within the next few days. An officer from the Brooklyn stated this evening that the Flying Squadron will not sail to-night, but that important orders were expected from Washington to-morrow. The lighthouse tender Jasmine arrived from Portsmouth at 10 o'clock this morning with torpedoes for the Massachusetts, her tubes having been thoroughly overhauled.

Despite the enforcement of the Sunday Observance law in Newport News, which has had the effect of stopping Sunday work on the battleships Kearsarge and Kentucky, the divers, three in number, continued work on the bottom of the battle-ship Massachusetts to-day, and made such progress that Captain Higginson believes they will be able to finish the cleaning process by nightfall to-morrow.

The Brooklyn and the Columbia will weigh anchor early to-morrow morning, and steam down to old Point, where the Minneapolis is lying. It is believed by the officers that the Brooklyn and the Columbia will not remain at Old Point long, but will proceed to the Virginia Capes, probably to-morrow night or Tuesday morning, on the receipt of anticipated orders from Washington. The Massachusetts will remain here on waiting orders.

In addition to the active naval preparations here, Fort Monroe is being improved rapidly. The dynamos for the big electric searchlight were completed last night, and the light is now in operation. The emplacements for the rapid-fire and disappearing guns will be finished this week.

Sergeant Walter Tscherning, of Battery H, 4th Artillery, whose mysterious disappearance from Fort Monroe ten days ago caused considerable excitement, owing to the report that he absconded with important plans of fortifications, has returned under arrest from Fort Caswell, N. C., where he was taken into custody by the commandant. He came in charge of J. E. Feise, field musician, and Corporal W. A. Cross, of Battery I. Tscherning positively denies the charge against him and maintains that he left the fort on a spree, and while in an irresponsible condition went to Fort Caswell, where some of his friends had been transferred from Fort Monroe. What action will be taken in this case is not known, but the officers at the fort think that he will be leniently dealt with owing to his valuable experience as a civil engineer.

Another large consignment of ammunition arrived here late last night for Fort Monroe. It consisted of five hundred 8-inch deck-piercing projectiles.

PREPARING THE AJAX FOR DEFENCE.

Camden, N. J., April 3.—Men worked all day to-day upon the engines of the monitor Ajax, the schoolship of the Battalion of the West, Naval Reserves. The monitor has steam up, and the engines have been worked at intervals, and it is said that they need but little repairing. The rest of the old ship is in good shape. The Naval Reserves here expect they will be called upon to man the monitor in case of war, and will take her down the river to the forts, or perhaps further down, toward the capes.

Commander Dahlgren said to-day that he had 188 men under him, every one of whom has signified his willingness to respond to any call that might be made upon him. If the call comes to-morrow every man would be on the Ajax in quick time. Besides the 188 men there are a number of others who have enlisted, but have not yet passed the physical examination. Some of those waiting are old sailors, and some have had experience with machinery and engines.

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Two Great Soaps
CASHMERE BOUQUET
and VIORIS

MONITORS NEARLY READY FOR USE.

WORK ON THEM RUSHED AT THE LEAGUE ISLAND NAVY YARD—THE YACHT JOSEPHINE TO BE FITTED UP AS A GUNBOAT.

Philadelphia, April 3.—There was the usual activity at the League Island Navy Yard to-day. Work is being pushed night and day on the eight old monitors. The Catskill and the Nahant have been taken out of the drydock, and the Jason and the Montauk were put in. The Lehigh is ready to go in, and the Mahopac, the Manhattan and the Canonicus have been towed from the back channel to the docks, where they will be fitted with new boilers. Fifteen-inch shells and solid shot were put on board the Catskill and the Nahant to-day.

Officers of the New-York and the Massachusetts Naval Reserves, who have been ordered to the Navy Yard to take charge of the monitors, arrived here to-day and reported to Commandant Casey.

The double-turret monitor Miantonomoh and the coast defence ram Katahdin, which have been ready to sail for some days, have as yet received no orders, but it is said that the Miantonomoh will receive her orders to-morrow.

The fine steam yacht Josephine, which the Government has purchased from P. A. B. Widener, of this city, arrived at the Navy Yard to-day from Wilmington, Del., and will be immediately transformed into a gunboat. The Josephine is of 545 tons, 191 feet long, 28 feet beam and draws 15 feet of water. She was built in 1896.

The officers who reported to-day were Lieutenant-Commander Forshew and Lieutenants Patterson, Eyre and Townsend, of the New-York Naval Militia, and Lieutenants Dexter, Dilloway, Sears and Porter, of the Massachusets Naval Reserves. A small detail of men from the latter body also came, and they will be followed by 140 on Tuesday. Work is being pushed on the Lehigh and Catskill, which are to go to Boston, and on the Jason and Nahant, assigned to New-York, but no date has been fixed for their departure. The probability is that none will get away for at least a week.

NOT AMERICAN VESSELS.

A PORTO RICO DISPATCH GIVES THE SPANIARDS AN ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION.

Madrid, April 3.—A dispatch from Porto Rico announces that three large vessels are passing that island, going westward. It is added that they are believed to be American ships.

Washington, April 3.—Naval officials being shown the dispatch from Madrid relative to the three vessels sighted going by Porto Rico, say that the Spanish supposition that they were American vessels is erroneous, for no American vessels are in that vicinity.

THIS CRUISER WAS A BARGAIN.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER COLWELL'S LATEST PURCHASE IN ENGLAND.

London, April 3.—The cruiser which Lieutenant-Commander Colwell, United States Naval Attaché here, purchased yesterday afternoon from the Thames Iron Works, and over which he hoisted the Stars and Stripes, was built by the Thames Iron Works for Peru. It was finished during the war between Peru and Chili, and the British Government would not permit it to leave on account of the neutrality law.

The cruiser has been entirely refitted during the last year, and modernized at an expense of £25,000. The negotiations for purchase were kept a secret, as Lieutenant-Commander Colwell wanted to secure the cruiser at a good bargain, which was accomplished. The price asked was £80,000, but it is understood that she has been secured for about half that amount, after the owner had been made to understand that there was only a forlorn hope of selling her. The price paid is considerably below the cost of building.

When Lieutenant-Commander Colwell raised the Stars and Stripes over the cruiser, which he did most informally and without his uniform, a crowd of English sailors on the docks cheered heartily.

The cruiser will coal and provision to-morrow and sail on Tuesday. Lieutenant-Commander Colwell will enlist a part of his crew to-morrow, having filed the applications of American seamen, many of whom have applied at the United States Embassy and Consulate for enlistment.

It has not been decided who will officer the ship, but possibly Lieutenant John J. Knapp will take command. He is expected here in a day or two on board the torpedo-boat recently purchased for the United States Government at the Schichau yards, where she was built for Germany. Lieutenant-Commander Colwell says American naval officers will be surprised to see how good a ship the new acquisition is. He is anxious to be transferred to active service on shipboard in the event of war.

LAUDED BY THE REV. DR. STORRS.

"WE BUILDED BETTER THAN WE KNEW WHEN WE MADE M'KINLEY PRESIDENT," SAYS HE.

The Rev. Dr. Richard S. Storrs, pastor of the Church of the Pilgrims, in Brooklyn, preached a sermon yesterday morning in which he extolled President McKinley warmly and deprecated hasty action on our part in the Cuban question. Dr. Storrs's subject was "The Prince of Peace."

His admiration for the course of President McKinley was most emphatic. He said that Mr. McKinley had already written his name on the pages of history, and whatever he may do in the future he will deserve, and should receive, the confidence and support of the American people for what he has already done. His influence upon a turbulent Congress and his unbounded approval by all the great nations of the world are proof of the highest qualities in the man, both in patriotism, loftiness of purpose, unselfish devotion to duty, mental poise, patience, breadth of mental vision and a thorough intellectual comprehension of the situation.

"We elected him because he was sound on the silver question," said Dr. Storrs. "We builded better than we knew. Let us thank God that we have such a man for our leader in such days of peril."

NAVAL RESERVES TO BE RECRUITED.

FOUR ADDITIONAL DIVISIONS TO BE FORMED—ORDERS TO MOVE TO-MORROW EXPECTED.

Cleveland, April 3.—Lieutenant-Commander George R. McKay, of the Naval Reserves, was in communication with Adjutant-General Axline to-day, and received orders to recruit the Cleveland division up to its war strength. The Ohio brigade will be organized by recruiting four additional divisions, one at Toledo, another at Sandusky, a third at Ashtabula and a fourth here. Commander McKay was ordered to hurry the work of uniforming the men, and tailors will be set to work to-morrow. Commander McKay told some of his men that he expects to receive orders to move on Tuesday. He believes the reserve will be sent either to the Atlantic seaboard or to the South.

DR. FITZHUGH OFFERS HIS SERVICES.

HE IS A COUSIN OF CONSUL-GENERAL LEE AND SERVED IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

Kansas City, Mo., April 3.—Dr. Thaddeus Fitzhugh, who is sixty-three years old, and formerly postmaster of Kansas City, Kan., a cousin of Consul-General Fitzhugh Lee, who fought with such distinction in the Confederate Army, has in a letter full of patriotism proffered his services to President McKinley, expressing a willingness, if need be, to sacrifice his life in support of "the principles of the firmly united country."

Dr. Fitzhugh was captain of Company F, of the 5th Regiment of Paine's Brigade, of which his cousin, General Fitzhugh Lee, was division commander in the Confederate Army.

ANOTHER SPANISH ARMADA.

Continued from First Page.

trip than in one block of the New-York Bowery."

The Queen Regent is taking a very active part in the negotiations, and has thoroughly identified herself with the war section of the Cabinet. Her attitude is much approved by the officials in the army, and has undoubtedly strengthened the dynasty for the time being. Her Majesty is reported to have told Señor Sagasta:

"I received from my husband a heritage for our son, and will never agree to have that heritage curtailed."

Señor Sagasta said to a friend after Thursday's council at the Palace: "We went in seven men to see one woman and emerged seven women, leaving the man inside"; meaning that they went in disposed to yield, but that the Queen's patriotism and firmness inspired them. At the same time it is reported that the Queen Regent is doing much to avoid a rupture. The activity of Count Dubsky, the Austrian Ambassador, in this direction within the last two days is said to be inspired from the Palace. He has visited the United States Minister and a prominent member of the Cabinet.

Apparently there is a pessimistic feeling at the United States Legation to-day.

Madrid (via Bayonne, France), April 1.—Despite the efforts of the press to work up patriotic enthusiasm, the public seems indifferent to the situation. Excepting among officials and officers it is rarely discussed. Apparently the people are chiefly interested in the result of a big lottery just announced, and in the preparations for an extraordinary bullfight on Easter Sunday, at which celebrated toreadors from all parts of Spain will perform.

The people do not wish war; or, rather, they are indifferent, as they always have one in progress somewhere, and do not regard a war with the United States as different from the others. The feeling that exists here exists also through the provinces.

PATRIOTIC SENTIMENTS APPLAUDED.

REFERENCE TO THE WAR POSSIBILITY AT A SALVATION ARMY MEETING.

Cleveland, April 3.—General William Booth, Commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army, came here last night. To-day he addressed three meetings at the Euclid Avenue Opera House, which were crowded morning, noon and evening by large audiences of representative citizens. Colonel Myron T. Herrick presided at the afternoon meeting and in the course of his speech introducing General Booth he referred to the possibility of war with Spain. He said Cleveland had contributed many soldiers to the Union Army, and he had no doubt thousands would respond now if there was a call for assistance. The sentiment was loudly applauded in all parts of the house.

CONFEDERATE VETERANS TAKE ACTION.

THEY HEARTILY APPROVE THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION AND OFFER THEIR SERVICES.

Birmingham, Ala., April 3 (Special).—Camp W. J. Hardie, United Confederate Veterans, the largest and oldest camp of the order in the State, with members of every political creed, held a mass-meeting last night. Resolutions were adopted which gave President McKinley an enthusiastic indorsement for his patriotic endeavor to avert the horrors of war, and the members of the camp resolved that if Congress should finally deem it necessary they stood ready to pledge themselves and their fortunes in the calls of the United States against Spain, or any other foreign country with which this country might become engaged in war.

MRS. PHELPS WARD INVOKES PEACE.

Boston, April 3.—Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward, the well-known writer, has sent a letter to the newspapers of Boston, with the request that the Associated Press also send it to all papers receiving its service. In it she deprecates the possibility of war, and calls upon Congress to give President McKinley time to settle the trouble which threatens without a strife. The letter follows:

"What a spectacle! A Christian Nation threatening to declare war, unnecessary, indistinguishable, unrighteous war, on Holy Week, and plotting butchery on Easter Day. The retiest Furloso in Congress must hang his head before this shameful and untimely sight. We have a Christian statesman at the head of our Government. Extend to him at least the simple courtesy yielded in the commonest commercial transactions. Grant the President thirty days to meet the call of the crisis. He will settle this trouble without slaughter. Give him a chance. Let him have time to save us from a National blunder and disgrace which history would never forget to record against us.

"ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS WARD."

A CHURCH'S MESSAGE TO M'KINLEY.

Newton, Mass., April 3.—At the morning service of the First Baptist Church at Newton Centre a telegram was sent to President McKinley, as follows:

"We believe that we express the unanimous sentiment of the Christian men and women of New-England and of the country when we urge and pray that every justifiable effort consistent with our honor as a Nation may be made to avert the devastating effects of war. May God bless you and those associated with you in your effort to accomplish this beneficent end."

Copies of the telegram were also sent to the Senators and Representatives of Massachusetts in Congress.

AMERICA, CUBA AND SPAIN.

THE OBLIGATIONS OF NEUTRALITY AMPLY FULFILLED BY THIS COUNTRY.

Theodore S. Woolsey, professor of international law in Yale University, in The Independent.

There has been an insurrection in Cuba, which for three troubled years has disturbed our friendship with Spain. At considerable expense and with good success, our Government has prevented the dispatching of armed expeditions against the Spanish power in Cuba. The revenue cutters, and also the ships of the Navy, have been used in this guard duty. Many detentions and arrests, several trials and a few convictions testify to the fidelity of the United States in this respect. Military supplies for the Cuban insurgents have been seized out from our ports, but that is a lawful traffic. The burden of preventing it belongs to the Spanish authorities in Cuba. Those authorities, inefficient in the discharge of their own duties, have incessantly complained of our negligence. They appear to have completely failed to appreciate our diligence in preserving our neutrality. I use the word "neutrality" for want of a better one, though there is no neutrality, technically speaking, when there is no recognized war. Spain also has our Government to thank that no recognition of belligerency has been accorded. This would have been a lawful step, though in my opinion an impolitic one for our own interests. A recognition of Cuban independence would not have been lawful at any time during these three years except as a deliberate war measure.

It is, then, my conviction that this country has not failed in its duty to Spain, though the performance of that duty has not been easy. A State will preserve its neutrality in war at all costs and as a matter of course. But it is a fair question whether, in a case of insurgency, indefinitely prolonged, the same State is bound to the same duties.

There is another factor in determining our position toward Spain which is important. Our very considerable trade with Cuba has been reduced to a fraction of its former volume. Many millions of the property of our citizens, in sugar and tobacco, have been destroyed by both Spanish and Cuban soldiers. For all of this loss, in default of a recognition of Cuban belligerency, Spain is legally responsible. Yet who imagines that such losses can be collected? We see our property burned, our trade cut off, our commercial intercourse hampered in a variety of vexatious ways, yet with no end in sight. In President Grant's time we bore with a similar state of things for eight years. Are we called upon to suffer such losses, to make such sacrifices for unappreciative Spain indefinitely?

And, thirdly, there is the argument based upon the claims of humanity. So long as the rules of civilized warfare were observed, so long, that is, as the non-combatant population was not interfered with, there was little choice between the two parties. Occasional atrocities might be committed by either side, but neither side was so conspicuous a sinner as to warrant outside interference. The Cubans at least held their own. But there came a change of policy. The non-combatant country population was forced to settle within range of the guns of the Spanish, intrenched in the towns, and there, destitute of food or of the means of growing or getting food, it starved.

A report of our consuls upon the condition of these people is soon to be made public, which very possibly may strengthen this argument. As a Nation we have no special racial or religious sympathy with the native Cuban population. But it would be inconsistent with the spirit of our age and with the character of our civilization if we showed no horror at such a measure of coercion, no desire in some way to relieve such suffering. Can any relief be effective which does not remove the cause?

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A DEMONSTRATION IN MADRID.

SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE MARCH TO THE PRESIDENCY WITH DEMANDS, BUT MAKE NO TROUBLE.

Madrid, April 3.—There was some anxiety felt to-day over a demonstration organized for this evening, but the result showed that all fears were groundless. The announced objects of the demonstration were to demand a revision of the sentences imposed upon political and other offenders; to protest against the torturing of Anarchists in the prison of the fortress of Montjuich, Barcelona; to demand the free importation of wheat, and to demand universal conscription without the redemption of the rich conscripts.

Contrary to expectation, it turned out to be a quiet affair. There were no banners displayed, and only about three thousand people marched to the Presidency from the railroad station, and remained in the street while a deputation was conducted to the office of Señor Sagasta, where its members were politely received by some of the officials in the absence of the Premier.

Señors Vacundo and Dorado, former Municipal Councillors of Madrid, spoke for some five minutes, referring to the objects of the demonstration, namely, a revision of sentences, the free importation of wheat and universal conscription without the redemption of the rich conscripts. No mention was made of the alleged torturing of Anarchist prisoners in the prisons of Montjuich, although it was at first understood that this was to be the main representation to be made to the Premier.

The demands of the people who took part in the demonstration were embodied in a manifesto, which was handed to the Minister of the Interior, Señor Capdepon, who replied, saying he regretted that the indisposition of Señor Sagasta made it necessary for him to receive the deputation in the Premier's place. The Spanish people, Señor Capdepon added, were worthy of the liberty they enjoyed, and the Government would always keep abreast of public opinion. But the manifesto was too serious to be immediately replied to. It would command serious attention and would be referred to the Cortes. The Minister then thanked the deputation for the orderly behavior of those who took part in the movement.

Señor Dorado answered that the deputation placed confidence in the goodwill of the Government, after which the deputation withdrew.

The crowd outside the Presidency was inclined to linger and discuss the matters which brought the people there, but the Civil Governor mingled among the people, urging them to disperse. He said:

"Go home, my children. Everything will be attended to."

The crowds then good-naturedly scattered.

ORDER TO THE LOUISIANA RESERVES.

New-Orleans, April 3.—The commander of the Louisiana Naval Battalion, in this city, received orders by telegraph yesterday to hold his command in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

ANNUAL SERMON TO THE SEVENTH.

DR. GREER, IN ADDRESSING THE SOLDIERS, MAKES AN APPEAL FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE NATIONAL SELF CONTROL AND DIGNITY.

The 7th Regiment, N. G. N. Y., attended vespers yesterday afternoon at St. Bartholomew's Church, Madison-ave. and Forty-fourth-st., to hear the annual sermon preached by its chaplain, the Rev. Dr. David H. Greer. The regiment marched from its armory, at Park-ave. and Sixty-eighth-st., through Sixty-sixth-st. to Fifth-ave., and through Forty-fourth-st. to the church. Throngs of spectators lined the route of march, and the crowd at the Plaza was especially large. Colonel Appleton and his staff were at the head of the regiment, and the colors were loudly cheered several times in the course of the march.

At the church a large crowd assembled long before the doors were opened, and quickly filled all the seats not reserved for the regiment. Several policemen were detailed to keep order, but in spite of them there was a vigorous rush to secure the seats. Many of those who could not gain admittance waited outside to see the regiment come out.

The church choir sang an elaborate musical service, under the direction of Richard Henry Warren. Dr. Greer took his text from the ninth verse of the thirteenth chapter of the Gospel of St. Mark, in the words, "Take heed to yourselves." The sermon was an appeal for the preservation of the National self-control and dignity. Dr. Greer said among other things:

To us a great trust has been committed. At this time, when the waves of popular excitement are running high and strong, and men are apt to lose their heads and to be carried away, it is likely to be imperilled. That trust is to preserve this country as a sanctuary where the oppressed of all the world may find refuge. This trust is imperilled not so much by any foreign foe as by foes within—by those foes whose inflammatory and hysterical appeals, and whose shrieking headlines are doing so much to excite the malignant passions of war, and thus to kindle a conflagration that, once it is started, may spread and fiercely burn. No man to-day is wise enough and farseeing enough to tell where it will stop if once it gains a headway. The shouters are not those who, as a rule, would do the fighting if war should come. The shouters, as a rule, are not the fighters, and the fighters are never shouters.

One thing this American Nation can afford to do. It can afford to be conciliatory, to see and consider things from the enemy's point of view, to put itself in his place. If as a result of such considerations it should see in any matter that its enemy is right, it can afford to be magnanimous, as all brave people are, and say that he is right. One thing it cannot afford to do. It cannot afford for any cause, for any foolish desire for consistency, to do whatever is wrong, to engage in any war that is not holy and just. If, however, animated by the noblest human motives, stirred and moved by the purest human impulses—not by the lusts and the hatred and malignities of war, but by humanity of the highest and purest type—it should seem to be our duty, not for the sake of ourselves, but for the sake of others struggling, suffering and starving on a neighboring island, to intervene and fight, then so be it.

And yet I must confess, if that is to be the case, we may become so deeply involved and embroiled in foreign complications that the humanity which we are serving now we may not serve so well. Yet if, as I say, animated by the noblest human interests for the sake of humanity, it is our duty to do it, our duty we will do. Your duty, men of the Seventh, you will do!

After the address the regiment marched from the church, the organist playing "The Star Spangled Banner."

FOR THE WELLMAN POLAR EXPEDITION.

THE STEAM WHALER FRIDTJOF SECURED—INDORSED BY THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

Washington, April 3.—A cable dispatch from Christiania, Norway, reports that the steam whaler Fridtjof has been secured for the Wellman polar expedition to Franz Josef Land, instead of the Laura, previously engaged. The Fridtjof is said by the agent of the Norwegian Lloyds to be the fastest and strongest ice steamer in Norwegian waters. She is now being fitted out, and will be ready to sail from Tromsoe for the Arctic on June 20.

The National Geographic Society, Professor A. Graham Bell, president, has formally indorsed the Wellman expedition, on the recommendation of a committee composed of General Greely, Commodore Melville and Professors Simon Newcomb, Hart Merriam and G. K. Gilbert. The society, as well as the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the United States Weather Bureau, is cooperating in the scientific preparations for the expedition.

Professor James H. Gore, of Columbian University, representing the Philosophical Society of Washington, will accompany the Wellman expedition to Franz Josef Land, to make important determinations of gravity by pendulum observations.

WAR IN THE SIXTY-NINTH.

HEALEY AND M'CRYSTAL NEARLY COME TO BLOWS.

STRIFE IN A MEETING OF OFFICERS CALLED TO CAUCUS ON THE COLONELCY—AN EXTREMELY SPIRITED GATHERING—M'CRYSTAL AND STRONG IN A LIVELY DEBATE.

When Colonel George Moore Smith, of the 69th Regiment, National Guard of New-York, was chosen as commander of the newly formed Fifth Brigade, it was said that dark days were again ahead of the 69th, which has had a most stormy career. The prediction was partly verified yesterday when a number of the line officers of the regiment met in the armory to hold a caucus with the idea of selecting a candidate on whom all could unite to fill the vacant colonelcy. The meeting was in response to a letter written by Father Daly, the chaplain of the regiment, and before it was adjourned there was everything but a pitched battle on the floor of the armory. Epithets were hurled about in a reckless manner, the lie was passed and two of the captains were on the point of exchanging blows. As a result of the dispute, it is said, somebody will be court-martialed.

In the last two weeks there have been four men mentioned in connection with the colonelcy. These are Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Duffy, Major Thomas F. Lynch, Major Michael J. Spellman and Commissary John A. Davidson. Each of these officers has been conducting an active campaign, and the election, which will be held to-night, promises to be an especially lively incident in the history of the "Fighting 69th." In order to prevent any bad feeling at the election, Father Daly suggested that a caucus be held, and in compliance with his request, twenty of the officers met yesterday afternoon in the armory. Those present were:

Company A—Captain Michael Lynch; Second Lieutenant William F. Gulifoyle.

Company B—Captain Edward T. McCrystal, First Lieutenant Anthony J. Griffin, Second Lieutenant Daniel C. Devlin.

Company C—Captain John O'Connel, Second Lieutenant Patrick McKenna.

Company D—Captain Putnam Bradlee Strong, First Lieutenant J. Plunket and Second Lieutenant John J. Tuite.

Company E—Captain John E. O'Brien, Second Lieutenant John F. Bolger.

Company G—Captain John E. Duffy, Second Lieutenant Bernard F. Cummings.

Company I—Captain Charles Healey, First Lieutenant Patrick J. Molohan.

Company K—Captain Daniel McCarthy, First Lieutenant Francis J. Kenney and Second Lieutenant Howard P. Gilgar.

Captain Healy presided. Three of the candidates were present—Lieutenant-Colonel Duffy and Majors Lynch and Spellman. Captain Healy said that the meeting had been called at the suggestion of the chaplain, who had written a letter to the officers of the regiment in regard to the coming election for colonel.

Several of those present called for the reading of the letter, but Captain McCrystal protested against mixing the chaplain up in an affair that was strictly military. He was backed up in this protest by Lieutenants Griffin and Devlin. Captain Strong took the floor and made a speech for the admission of the letter.

"This meeting is called through the influence of the reverend father. I, for one, am not afraid to have his letter read. I hope there are none who are afraid. It would be a sorry thing, indeed, if we feared to hear from our spiritual adviser."

THE CHAPLAIN'S LETTER.

Captain McCrystal insisted upon a vote being taken on his protest, and the meeting sustained Captain Strong, whose motion to admit the letter was carried.

The letter was as follows:

Officers of the 69th.

In these days, when the public are looking with the deepest concern upon those who may be called upon to defend the flag, it behooves all those interested in the name and fame of the historic regiment with which you are connected to avoid any semblance of unseemly wrangling. In the contest for colonel which is soon to be decided it would be for the good of the organization if the choice of the officers could be made unanimous. Such an evidence of unanimity would do much for the name of the regiment and for the loyalty of those to whose care the progress of the organization has been committed.

When the letter had been read, Captain Healey said that the meeting would like speeches from the candidates present. Each of the three said a little about his desire to see a harmonious election. They then withdrew from the room, and the storm broke. Several men declared that the chaplain's letter meant that the caucus vote would be binding on the final vote on Monday night. Captain Strong protested against any such interpretation of the letter.

"I shall not sit quietly here and see words put into the chaplain's mouth which he never uttered and never intended to utter," said Captain Strong. For a few minutes Captain Healey could hardly keep order, so fast did speakers hurl motions at him. Finally, on motion of Captain Strong, it was agreed that the vote to be taken would have no binding influence upon the ballot to-night.

STRONG AND M'CRYSTAL.

Captain McCrystal and Captain Strong had been eyeing each other fiercely during the course of the meeting. It was the first gathering they had attended since Captain McCrystal had tried to defeat Captain Strong for captain of Company D. At the time circulars were sent out attacking Captain Strong, and it was charged and never denied that McCrystal had sent them out. At a convenient time in the proceedings, Captain Strong accused Captain McCrystal of issuing the circulars against him. He went over the circumstances of the case and did not mince words in denouncing the captain of Company B for interfering in his company.

Captain McCrystal declared that the occasion called for it. "This is an Irish regiment," he cried. "And I only stood for the principles which have made it famous. I am not ashamed of anything I did in that case. I would do it all over again."

Captain Healey managed to stop the debate, and there was a great deal of discussion following on the question of the colonelcy. At last a vote was called for. Before it was taken Captain Healey arose impressively, and, begging for the indulgence of the meeting for a few moments, began to speak. Before he had said two words it was seen that he was speaking under great excitement.

"I can go down this room and shake hands with every officer in it," he said, "with the exception of that man there (pointing to Captain McCrystal). He has gone out canvassing for the colonelcy with the idea of getting himself made lieutenant-colonel, hoping that if the colonel steps out he will go up to his place. In canvassing in the interest of the lieutenant-colonelcy he has gone back on all he used to hold as true. I remember the day when the five captains of the 69th went down to General Fitzgerald in the dark days of 1894. Captain McCrystal was then called upon to tell what he thought of our commanding officer. Major Duffy was then in command. He told General Fitzgerald, this man McCrystal here did, that Duffy was entirely incompetent to command; that he often appeared at the armory in a condition unfit to give commands. And now this same man McCrystal goes about lauding the merits of Lieutenant-Colonel Duffy. If what he said was true then, why does he take his stand to-day?"

M'CRYSTAL'S DENIAL.

Captain Healey's angry words set the meeting in a tumult. Half a dozen men rose to speak, and finally McCrystal made his voice heard. "I deny that I made any such statements as Captain Healy has charged," he said.

"What!" shouted Healey, his face white with anger. "You dare say that you did not say that Duffy was incompetent and unfit? Why, man, there are four officers here who will make affidavit that you said it. Will you deny that now?"

McCrystal again declared that he was being misquoted. "Things were entirely different then from what they are now, and what might have been true then would not be true now," he shouted.

"If you mean to say that you did not say what I charge you with having said at the conference with General Fitzgerald, I can only say that you lie!" was Captain Healey's response.

"No such epithets can change the fact that I am being misquoted here deliberately," said McCrystal, in a loud tone.

"Misquote you?" Captain Healey echoed. "How dare you sit there and try to squirm out of what you once said? I'll stake my commission as captain against your commission and leave the proof to the judgment of any honest men. You dare not submit it to such a test."

While talking Captain Healey had walked down toward Captain McCrystal with his hand clenched, and it seemed as if he would aim a blow at his opponent, but several other officers got between them and induced Healey to go back to his chair. McCrystal declared that he would not be beaten and that his time for explanation would come later.

"When that time comes, either here or elsewhere," said Captain Healy, "I am ready for you."

Colonel Duffy's fitness and record were thus brought into the controversy, and Lieutenant Gilgar took the floor to call the attention of the meeting to the fact that when Major Duffy was in command of the battalion of the 69th during the Brooklyn strike, he was relieved by order of General Fitzgerald, and Lieutenant-Colonel George Moore Smith was put in command.

After further discussion, a vote was taken for colonel, with this result: Duffy, 11; Lynch, 5, and Spellman, 4. On the second ballot Duffy gained two votes, Lieutenants Plunket and Tuite, of Company D, who had voted for Spellman, went over to Duffy, and a Lynch man cast his ballot for Davidson. When the meeting adjourned one-half of the officers were not on speaking terms with the other half. All the officers who were seen last night declined to discuss the proceedings of the meeting, saying that it might involve them in a court-martial.

REMEMBRANCE FOR JOHN H. STARIN.

HIS EMPLOYES PRESENT TO HIM A BRONZE STATUE ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIS LINES.

John H. Starin, the well-known steamboat owner, was yesterday the recipient of a bronze statue presented to him by his employes in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of his establishment of the Starin transportation lines. The presentation took place at Glen Island, and was made the occasion of much rejoicing by his employes, of whom there were some two thousand present. A steamboat, chartered by the committee having the affair in charge, left Port Richmond, Staten Island, at 9:30. At the Cortlandt-st. pier it was boarded by a large delegation from the many piers and stations controlled by Mr. Starin in this city and its vicinity. On arriving at Glen Island the party was further increased by a contingent from New-Haven and by the staff on the island.

Headed by Bayne's 69th Regiment Band, the employes marched around the island and formed in open order in front of the statue, to which point Mr. Starin was escorted, the band meanwhile playing "Hail to the Chief." George Moser, auditor of the Starin lines, in a few felicitous remarks, made the presentation. Mr. Starin, in response, said he was deeply gratified at receiving so handsome a gift, especially as he felt it represented much self-sacrifice on the part of the donors. Naturally, he felt proud of the success which had rewarded his efforts in business life, and that success he attributed in a great measure to the ability and loyalty of the men he had been fortunate in having in his service. He expressed his pleasure at seeing present many who had been long in his employ, and touchingly referred to those who had been called away. In conclusion he quoted the following lines, which, he stated, had been a source of inspiration to him at many a troublous time, and which might with advantage be taken to heart by all, both young and old.

It never pays to fret and growl
When fortune seems our foe.
The better-hred will push ahead
And strike the braver blow.
For luck is work,
And those who shirk
Should not lament their doom.
But yield the play
And clear the way,
That better men have room.

Speeches were then delivered by William Rennie and John Gleason. At the close of the proceedings the whole group was photographed. The party then formed in line and marched to the boat, where a luncheon was served on the return journey.

The statue, which was modelled by the sculptor Mathurin Moreau and cast in the Val D'Osne foundry, Paris, is a female figure, representing Justice, with the traditional sword and scales. With the base, which is a solid block of Quincy granite weighing twelve tons, it stands thirty feet from the ground, and, being placed in a commanding position, can be seen for miles on the Sound.

GOLD IN RETURN FOR EXPORTS.

BALANCE OF TRADE BRINGS $18,000,000 FROM AUSTRALIA.

San Francisco, April 3.—The steamship Alameda, from Sydney, by way of Auckland and Honolulu, which is due here on Wednesday, carries $2,000,000 in English sovereigns in her strongbox. This is the eighth shipment of gold received from the same source since last fall, bringing the total amount received up to the enormous sum of $18,000,000. This money is in payment