America's Greatest Defense Is

Strong men and strong women make a nation strong. Neither can be strong without good health, and neither can have good health without pure blood. This is why Hood's Sarsaparilla, America's Greatest Medicine, is America's Greatest Defense. A nation that takes millions of bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla every year is building a foundation of health and strength, the wisdom of which will surely show itself in years to come in materially raising the health and strength-standard of every community.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"We have been so much benefited by Hood's Sarsaparilla that we shall remain its life-long friends. It always reaches the spot, starts the blood going, and brings back the feelings of those happy old days. I want the best of everything, and therefore I get Hood's Sarsaparilla and only Hood's." F. P. HOLMES, 64 Bank Street.

Getting Well and Strong.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"My daughter was run down and tired while in school, and I have been giving her Hood's Sarsaparilla, which has purified her blood and built her up, and she is now getting well and strong.

The following are characteristic Hood's Sarsaparilla testimonials. They tell of things worth telling:

"An eruption came on my neck below my left ear, which caused me much annoyance, and as it continued to grow worse, I finally became alarmed. It refused to yield to ordinary treatment, and I consulted a physician, who pronounced it a severe case of eczema. He said it would take a long time to cure it. I followed his prescriptions for eight months, and not obtaining any relief, I went to another physician. He also called the trouble eczema, and said it was the worst case he ever saw. I obtained no relief from medicines and

"I feel that I must tell what Hood's Sarsaparilla did for me. I was sick for over a year and in a miserable condition. When not confined to my bed, I was extremely nervous, barely able to crawl around, with no strength or ambition. I had worked very hard and become all run down. I could not sleep, would have very bad spells with my heart, and my stomach was in a terrible condition. I had dreadful neuralgia pains in my side, and would be dizzy and have such bad feelings in my head that I could not walk across the room. I was sometimes afraid I would be insane. Sometimes my heart would beat so hard and fast! Oh, I cannot begin to tell

"I am pleased to have an opportunity to speak in praise of Hood's Sarsaparilla. I was miserable and dull all the time; had the blues, and could not enjoy the least fun; I felt sick all over. I could not sleep, eat or work with satisfaction. Such awful dyspepsia, distress and cramps in my stomach! My shop was but half a square from my house, and I was obliged to go home two or three times in a day to take some medicine or hot water to relieve the pain. Many a time I went down on my hands and knees or bent over a chair to get relief. I took everything I could hear of in the way of medicines but found no cure until I began the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

America's Greatest Medicine

The Testimonials published by Hood's Sarsaparilla are not from people anxious to advertise themselves, nor are they purchased, but they are from people who have been cured and are willing to tell the story of their cures for the benefit of others who are suffering, and who by this story may be led to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the medicine which cures when all others fail. These testimonials are unequalled in number or quality the world over. We have hundreds from this State alone. They all unite in the verdict that America's Greatest Medicine is

I have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla myself with excellent results, and whenever we have any little ailment we resort to this medicine. It keeps me in good health and good spirits, and makes me feel younger. My husband has been taking Hood's pills, and says he never found any he liked as well." MRS. JENNIE PFARZGRAF, 424 Warren Street.

Feeling First Rate.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"I have found Hood's Sarsaparilla a first-class medicine for cleansing the blood and for all ailments caused by impure blood. It has put me on my feet and I am now feeling first rate." JOSEPH B. DAVIS, 2182 Third Avenue.

became very anxious. One day I asked my druggist if he had a medicine that would do me good. He examined my neck and said if anything would cure me it was Hood's Sarsaparilla. He advised me to purchase three bottles and I did so and began taking the medicine. In a short time there was a decided improvement, and I continued the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla until a complete cure had been effected. It is now four years since I was afflicted, and no symptom of the disease has ever returned. Hood's Sarsaparilla has done me good in other respects, and I give it all the praise for the health I enjoy." C. C. BAILEY, Champaign, Ill.

you all I suffered in the past year! My doctor called it nervous prostration. At the earnest request of a neighbor I decided to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, and in a little while I was much gratified to find I could eat and sleep better. This encouraged me to continue, and in two months I improved so much that folks began to say

'How Much Better You Look.'

I have now taken five bottles, and am perfectly cured. All those bad feelings are gone, and I have gained in weight. I feel so thankful for what Hood's Sarsaparilla has done, I cannot help praising it to everyone." MRS. FRED A. TURNER, Barre, Vt.

The first bottle did me good and I kept on until I had taken three. The severe pain in my back, headaches, distress in my stomach, in fact, all traces of dyspepsia have ceased, and I eat, sleep and work and feel so much better that I cannot thank Hood's Sarsaparilla enough. I now have none of the blues, tired feeling or sleeplessness. I earnestly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla as the best medicine for dyspepsia and distress in the stomach." JONATHAN STEELY, 1119 Windsor Street, Reading, Pa.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists, $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA

cruel, barbarous, and inhuman in its character as to make it the duty of the United States to demand, and the Government of the United States hereby does demand, that she at once withdraw her land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

"4. That the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to use, if necessary, the entire land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect.

After the resolution was read, Mr. Foraker intimated that he had intended to introduce it long ago, but he had withheld it on account of a message from the President.

"That message," he said, "gave us a promise that after a reasonable time for the trial of autonomy and of promised reforms, if autonomy should fail, and if reforms were not instituted, this Government would take such action as might be appropriate to put an end to the war, which the citizens of the United States feel almost unanimously it is their duty to put an end to. Weeks and months passed. The time came when it was demonstrated to all that autonomy had failed, and that no reforms had been instituted. Our duty remained the same, and we were about then to introduce this joint resolution so that action should be taken, but again we delayed, because, just at that moment we had the De Lome incident, and before the De Lome incident had fairly closed we had another incident—the Maine.

"And ever since we have been waiting for a report from the Court of Inquiry. The report is at last before us. It has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. I have no disposition now to discuss it. But I introduce this joint resolution because when that branch of the subject is taken up, it will be in order to take up the other branches of it, and to discuss the general question."

The fourth resolution was offered by Senator Frye of Maine, with the remark that he had not intended to do so at this time, but under the circumstances he thought it proper. It reads:

"*Whereas*, The war which has been waged in the island of Cuba for the past three years has been conducted by the Spanish Government in violation of the rules of civilized warfare; said Government has driven the unarmed and peaceable inhabitants from their homes and forced them within the armed camps, where it has permitted hundreds of thousands of men, women and children to die of starvation, and as a result of this system of inhuman warfare tens of thousands of the helpless people are now dying for want of food; and

"*Whereas*, The war has paralyzed and almost destroyed the large commercial relations which have heretofore existed between the United States and Cuba, and has rendered useless and brought to ruin the many millions of dollars of property of American citizens invested in the island; and

"*Whereas*, The existence and prolongation of the hostilities have imposed heavy financial expenditures and burdensome official labors upon the Government of the United States in the enforcement of its neutrality laws; and

"*Whereas*, The Consuls of the United States and other impartial and competent observers have reported that the Spanish Government has lost control of much of the greater portion of the territory of the island; that it is powerless to restore its authority and bring about peace, and that a continuance of the contest will have no other effect than to increase the horrors, misery and starvation which now exist, to utterly extinguish the commerce with and destroy the property of American citizens, and add to the expense and burdens of the Government of the United States; therefore,

"*Resolved*, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

"That the President of the United States be and he is hereby directed and empowered to take such effective steps as, in his discretion, may be necessary to secure a speedy termination of the hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, the withdrawal of the military and naval forces of Spain from said island, and the complete independence of said people."

Before the session was opened the appearance of Senator Mason of Illinois, who was to address the Senate on the subject of Cuba, was hailed with clapping of hands from the public galleries—a very unusual occurrence on such a scene. The House joint resolution for the temporary admission, free of duty, of naval and military supplies procured abroad, was reported by Mr. Morrill of Vermont, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, and was passed without objection.

SENATOR MASON'S SPEECH.

Mr. Mason, after the intervention resolutions had been referred, addressed the Senate on the subject of Cuba. He said:

"I do not intend, in the brief statement I make to-day, to forestall or in any way affect the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, to which has been referred the President's message, and the accompanying report and evidence. We are invited by the President, at the close of his message, to deliberately consider the situation, and it is only fair to the committee, my colleagues, and my constituents, that they should know, and as soon as possible, the general expression and intention of the members of this body. I wish it to be understood I am not apologizing for taking the floor at this time, but I intend no disrespect either to the Administration or to the committee when I say that I am tired of the delay tactics that have been employed for three years to prevent any assistance from the United States to the starving and struggling Cubans.

"More than two years ago the plan of the Spanish Government to starve the women and children and non-combatants was begun. Every intelligent man, woman and child was informed of it through the ordinary channels of information, the newspapers, and by the statements of disinterested witnesses day after day; week after week, month after month and year after year, at our very door, and received practically no attention from this Government until some of the members of this body visited the scene of death and distress and brought back to us their words of honor that no picture had been drawn by the press that fully stated the horrors of the situation. Then the gentlemen and newspapers, who had pretended, at least, to discredit those statements in this body, began to talk about it as though it was a new discovery, when within ninety miles of our shore for two years they had continued to murder women and children. When nearly a year ago I called attention to the situation, as given at that time, and since corroborated by four of our colleagues upon this floor, from personal observations, the statement was received with sneers by many of my colleagues and I had the pleasure of being insulted over the wire by stock brokers and scalpers in the markets. For two years the process of imprisonment of the reconcentrados and their starvation has proceeded, yet any one who dared to call attention to the fact has had to withstand the assaults of those controlling the press, who denied in their editorial columns the news they printed in their news columns. Thousands had been starved, millions of dollars of our legitimate commerce has been swept from the high seas and the man who worships the eagle on the dollar and does not see the one on his flag, says: 'Be silent; think of the horrors of war and the dangers to business.'

"When the order of concentration came they cooped up at least 200 American citizens with the reconcentrados and refused to allow them to go out at their own expense a legitimate and honest living. It amounted to imprisonment. We claimed so at the time, yet many professed not to believe it until the honorable Senator from Vermont described the dead line and the gun of the Spanish soldier that kept the concentrados together. Any other self-respecting nation in the world would have ordered their release and better treatment or they would have opened the gates of hell on Morro Castle. This Government, however, upon the suggestion of the President, took $50,000 of the people's money out of the Treasury of the United States and begged permission of Spain the poor privilege of feeding our citizens American bread on Spanish soil.

"I am not complaining, I am not criticising; there is no other such record in all the history of the world; I only repeat this humiliating statement to call attention to the fact that every effort that has been made by the President has been construed by Spain to be an act of cowardice and absolute and conclusive evidence that we are afraid of that mighty power, and every such act of careful consideration on our part has made Spain more cruel to her own people and more insulting to us. Washington advised us not to make this mistake."

Mr. Mason then read from Washington's fifth annual address his views on the subject. He continued:

"The battleship Maine, our gallant ship, went down, and 268 of our gallant citizen sailors with her. At the time every citizen of the United States familiar with the Spanish character felt confident it was Spanish treachery. Our ship was there by right of custom, of tendered hospitality, and also by treaty contract she had an absolute right to be there. The day closed and she rode the harbor a messenger of peace. No message had been sent by our Executive inconsistent with the national honor of Spain. Our only offer was to try and restore peace, alike honorable to all. Our Treasury had been opened to feed the people. Definite plans were not even suggested by the President, fearing to injure our relations with Spain. Spain could not conquer her own insurgents. Had we been a grasping nation we could any time within two years have made aggressive and forcible annexation, taking advantage of the crimes of Spain and the misfortune of Cuba.

"The night came on, a dark, a gloomy night, a natural and proper time for Spanish bravery. The remarkable part of Spanish history has been made in the night. Our men were asleep in a friendly harbor; they were never challenged to try their courage. They were not whipped in honorable battle, but choked, burned, strangled and drowned without a chance to die fighting for life, without a moment to say a prayer. In the twinkling of an eye they stood in the presence of their Maker.

"Suppose ninety of them had been United States Senators, suppose the balance had been members of Congress, or made up of Judges and leading professional and business men, would forty days have elapsed before war began? Or suppose each Senator had a son or brother there? Do we tell our children the truth when we say that the life of every American citizen is of equal value before the law? They were not Senators, they were sailors. Their widows and orphans cry aloud to us; the silent appeal of 268 seamen comes to us again and again, saying, 'We are flesh of your flesh, bone of your bone, and blood of your blood. We loved and died for the flag that shields you.' What is to be our answer? Shall we answer with money? Mr. President, I speak only for myself, and I am for war. We can hide no longer under the Executive wing. Congress alone can declare war; and I, for one, am ready to vote for it now. You may continue to cry 'Peace,' but there can be no peace while Spain owns and butchers slaves on the same continent where our flag floats."

Mr. Mason declared that the torpedo, the dynamite, or the gun cotton by which the Maine was blown up was owned and exploded by Spain, and that Spain must answer for it. Never, by any vote of his, he declared, would the Cubans be required to pay the back pay of the soldiers who had ravished their wives and daughters.

"But gentlemen may say," Mr. Mason continued, "'Don't say you are for war; say you are for armed intervention, which means war.' I believe in calling things by their right names. If we believe that murdering our men, sinking our ship, and lowering our flag is not cause for war, say so, and refer it, as they did the Virginius affair, and allow our brothers to be sold like stock for gold. If it is a cause for war, let's assume the responsibility put upon us by the Constitution, and say so, not only to Spain, but to the whole world. Let us not say one thing and mean another. For God's sake, let us not Spanionize our diplomacies, but rather speak the truth, and prove ourselves true disciples of James G. Blaine.

"But there are those who say that the court does not fix the responsibility. It is not necessary. The 'Peace at any price' man cannot escape so. The law fixes the responsibility. We were in Spanish waters and over Spanish soil. The harbor is owned, controlled, and patrolled by Spain. The explosives in that harbor were owned and controlled by Spain. If it was a torpedo, it was a Spanish torpedo. If it was a mine, it was a Spanish mine. No explosives have been on sale in Havana for over a year to private citizens. If it was gun cotton, it was Spanish gun cotton, and if it was dynamite, it was Spanish dynamite. The power to explode it was controlled by Spain, as much as they controlled the discharge of their cannon. A Government acts only through its agents and officers. It was owned, located, and exploded by Spain, and Spain must answer.

"I have not made this statement without due deliberation. We have had more than forty days to deliberate. If it had been the boat of any live business man, its owner would have had a report within ten days. I am not complaining. I cannot hope to escape criticism, but I shall not criticise. If ever there was a time when we should be open, frank, and considerate of each other, the time is now. I claim no monopoly on patriotism. I bring here no pretence of infallible judgment. This is the only war making body of our nation. I am only one of many, and it is fair to you and my constituents that I make my views known now.

"I shall oppose any proposition looking to indemnity. We must provide for the widows and orphans of our seamen, and their hands should never be soiled with Spanish coin. As I refuse to make a cash settlement for the lives of our men, I shall, with all the strength God gives me, bitterly and to the end oppose making a mere diplomatic incident out of the murder of our citizens. I shall oppose any plan to assist Spain to place any kind of autonomy on Cuba. Spain cannot be trusted to keep her promise, and we cannot undertake to compel her to. Aside from that, poor Cuba has paid a larger price for liberty than we did, and she must be free.

"I shall oppose any plan that looks to forcing Cuba in the future to pay Spain in cash for her liberty. Her land is full of graves and her future generations must not be mortgaged. It is claimed by some that Cuba ought to be willing to pay Spain's Cuba war debt. Cuba to pay for the powder and lead that killed her people! To pay for the torches that burned her homes, to pay the back wages of the Spanish soldiers who ravished their wives and daughters! Never by any vote of mine.

"Some tell us we must wait for Spanish elections. If her elections are as rotten as her diplomacies we cannot wait. It is claimed that if we will wait until the Spanish elections Sagasta will give all concessions. Are we to be fooled twice with the same trick? Is De Lome so soon forgotten? Some tell us we are not prepared. When shall we be better prepared? Will it be when the Spanish torpedo flotilla has crossed the water and rests complacently on her base of supplies within five or six hours' distance of our fleet? We know now officially what we have believed for forty days. Shall we make it until she can destroy more of our ships and men? God forbid that such a crime should be charged to us.

"Let us awake. Shake off the Chinese narcotic that locks us in drowsy indolence, murmuring 'Peace at any price.' Awake, as our fathers did at Concord and Bunker Hill. Awake to glorious war against a nation that burns homes and murders women and children. Awake to glorious war that seeks no gain for us in treasury or territory, but a war to drive the oppressor from the continent, to set the Cuban star in the sky forever, and a war that will help us for generations to come, by giving notice that the honor of our flag and the lives of our citizens must be respected among the nations of the world." [Applause in the galleries.]

Mr. Morgan (Dem., Ala.) offered a resolution, which was agreed to, calling on the President for information as to the distribution of the $50,000 fund in Cuba and as to the number of natural-born or naturalized American citizens who were relieved by it.

The Senate bill appropriating $50,000 for a national exposition of American products and manufactures at Philadelphia for the encouragement of the export trade was taken from the calendar and passed.

The private pension calendar was taken up and seventy-four bills were passed, an hour and five minutes having been occupied. Three of them allowed $50 a month and one gave a pension of $30 to the blind and invalid son of Major-Gen. Rawlins. Then eulogies were delivered on the late Senator Earle of South Carolina, and at their conclusion the Senate adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Representative Lewis Wants to Know What McKinley Has Said to Spain.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—Representative Lewis of Washington introduced the following joint resolution in the House this morning:

"*Whereas*, the message of the President of the United States transmitting the report of the Court of Inquiry upon the explosion of the Maine states and recites: 'I have directed that the findings of the Court of Inquiry, and the views of this Government thereon, be communicated to the Government of her Majesty, the Queen Regent,'

"*Resolved*, That the President, if not incompatible with the public service, communicate at once to the House of Representatives what views were so communicated by the President of the United States to the Spanish Government as 'the views of this Government,' and what were the views communicated by the President as the views of the United States, that the same be stated in full exactly as communicated; this, to the end that a more complete confidence and harmony of course may exist between the Executive and the House of Representatives upon the important question at issue."

Representatives Bell of Colorado and Ridgely of Kansas introduced joint resolutions recognizing the independence of Cuba.

Representative Bennett of New York introduced a bill making it a felony, punishable by imprisonment not exceeding ten years and a fine not exceeding $25,000, for any person or persons, corporations or associations to print, publish photographs, or reproduce by any process whatsoever, so as to make public in any wise any information giving the power of the guns or the strength of any fortification of the United States.

A resolution offered by Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio was agreed to directing the printing of 6,000 copies of the President's message upon and of the report and testimony of the Board of Inquiry on the Maine disaster.

Mr. Sherman of New York, Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, offered a joint resolution extending for six months from April 1, 1898, the date of the opening of the Uncompahgre reservation in Utah for entry, under the land laws, and it was agreed to.

The desired arrangement to set aside the order fixing to-day for the consideration of bills on the private calendar was not made, and the execution of the order last week was entered on. The Committee of the Whole, at its last previous session for consideration of these bills, had overruled the Committee on Invalid Pensions by fixing the rate of pension to be granted to Mrs. Hanna Letcher Stevenson, widow of Brig.-Gen. John D. Stevenson, at $50 a month instead of $30, as recommended by the Committee on Pensions. Mr. Ray of New York moved in the House to substitute $30 for $50, and made a long speech in support of it. The amendment proposed by Mr. Ray was agreed to, 99 to 45, and the bill passed.

The rest of the day was occupied with the omnibus bill to pay about $1,500,000 of claims established by the Court of Claims under the Bowman act. An item of $217,000 for the benefit of the heirs of the widow of Gen. R. E. Lee, which got into the bill inadvertently, was stricken out and consideration of the bill was concluded, but adjournment came before it was passed.

Representative Marsh of Illinois introduced a joint resolution declaring a war between the Government of Spain and the dependencies thereof and the United States of America and her Territories, and giving the President of the United States the authority to use the whole land and naval force of the United States, including the militia and naval militia thereof, to carry the same into effect.

Representative Chickering of New York, after correspondence with a number of Union veterans in his district, introduced to-day the following bill:

"To encourage enlistments by veterans of the late war during the coming war with Spain. That from and after the passage of this act (in the event of war) no person now on the pension rolls of this Government, or who may hereafter be placed thereon for service rendered prior to the passage of this act, who may enlist in either the army or navy of the United States, shall by such enlistment be deprived of said pension, but the same shall continue during his term of enlistment and thereafter. This act shall take effect immediately."

At 5 o'clock a recess was taken until 8, the evening session to be devoted to private pension bills.

Fifty-four pension bills were passed at the night session and the House at 10:30 o'clock adjourned.

After More Foreign Warships.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The recent visit to Kiel of Lieut. Niblack, Naval Attaché of the United States at Berlin, was to inspect some Chinese torpedo boat destroyers under construction there. Overtures for their purchase by the United States have been made, but are yet without result. The reported conditional purchase of a cruiser from a South American country by Lieut. Niblack and the statement that the United States are negotiating for the Canadian cruiser Acadia, are not confirmed by the Navy Department.

A TALK WITH COL. DAVALOS

HE IS NOW IN COMMAND OF THE LATE GEN. ARANGUREN'S FORCES.

The Colonel Doesn't Understand Why We Feed the Reconcentrados and Do Not Avenge the Death of the Maine Heroes Who, He Thinks, Were Murdered by the Spaniards.

HAVANA, March 26.—Half a mile from Aguacate, and less than twenty miles from Havana city, THE SUN'S correspondent met on Thursday, the 24th inst., the insurgent Col. Manuel Davalos and his force, composed of 300 cavalry.

Col. Davalos is now the most intrepid and popular Cuban leader in Havana province. After the death of Gen. Nestor Aranguren he took his place, and has proved to be a worthy successor of that dashing commander. Davalos is a great fighter and a notable strategist. The Spanish columns in Havana province fear him as much as they did Aranguren, and the Spanish guerrilleros, who when Aranguren was killed again dared to leave the main body, have now returned to their columns for safety, in view of Davalos's terrible war on them.

Gen. Alejandro Rodrigues, Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban army in Havana province, said recently about Davalos in a communication addressed to Gen. Gomez:

"He is an illustration of the fact that whenever a Cuban falls in this struggle against Spanish oppression there is another ready to replace him. When Arango was wounded and Aranguren killed it seemed as though we had been deprived of two great pillars of the revolution in Havana. But here is Davalos doing what they both did. The 300 horses he has at present were all taken from the enemy. His detachment is splendidly provided with rifles and ammunition, all taken from the Spaniards. He harasses them constantly around Havana city, and has carried out with the greatest success my orders for stopping, derailing, and blowing up the military trains from Havana. I have the honor of commending him to your attention."

It was hard to believe, before the death of Aranguren, that Davalos was going to replace him so successfully. He was Aranguren's second in command, and, though extremely courageous, his great modesty and taciturnity always kept him in the background. Aranguren left him in command of his forces the day he went to the hut at Campo Florido, in which, accompanied only by his sweetheart, two aged persons and two children, he was butchered by a force of 1,500 Spanish infantry and 400 cavalry. Davalos heard the news next morning, went to the hut with his soldiers, and saw evidences of the dire truth. He reported the case to Gen. Rodriguez in this simple message:

"I have to communicate the sad news that Gen. Nestor Aranguren was assassinated by the Spaniards yesterday morning while absent from his forces. I await your orders and meanwhile I keep on fighting."

Davalos is about 38 years old, of middle size, strong, erect, and of a modest as well as a military appearance. He has lived in the rural districts of Havana province. THE SUN'S correspondent, knowing of the concentration of Cuban forces in Havana province, went to see Davalos to learn, if he could, if that movement was a preparation for an attack upon Havana city in case of war between Spain and the United States, which the revolutionists are expecting.

Col. Davalos refused at first to talk, giving the excuse that he was merely a soldier and that he could not speak. After the correspondent had convinced him that the publication of his views could be beneficial to the cause of Cuba he consented to be interviewed. Leaving his horse to the care of his *asistente*, and after dividing his troops into four bodies, to cover the principal points from which a surprise might come, he politely invited the correspondent to take a seat on a stone, and seating himself on the ground he said:

"Well, you tell me first what is going on down there, and I will tell you then what I think. Tell me first of all about the Maine. I was very near Havana when the battleship was blown up on the night of Feb. 15, and I saw the illumination of the skies by the two explosions. I wonder how it is, that more than a month has already passed after that cowardly crime was committed and the United States has not done anything yet against Spain."

The correspondent then explained as best he could all the different aspects of the Cuban situation in America, and Davalos answered calmly:

"About the Maine I have only to say that if the United States Government is disposed to swallow that pill, I believe the American people will not do so. I know very little about the United States. I only know that they fought gallantly for their independence and that their brave and good General, George Washington, led them to victory and wisely advised them in peace. If that country is this same country I do not believe it will brook the murder of its marines by the Spaniards.

"But I do not understand the policy of feeding the reconcentrados and at the same time keeping peace with Spain, which murders the Americans. Why, instead of feeding the reconcentrados, don't the Americans say to the Spaniards: 'You ought not to starve this people any more, you, assassins of babies and women. Leave Cuba forever and let its people live in peace.' I could understand that sort of talk or could understand it if the United States would keep her hands off and let things take their course. But so much red tape for nothing is ridiculous. Still, perhaps, I don't understand it because I am merely a soldier and not a diplomatist. Is it not mixing up things to say, as you tell me, that the Americans are feeding the Cubans? Not the Cuban Army, sir. The food we want is this!" And the brave veteran took in his hand one of the cartridges from his rifle.

"I love the American people, because I know their hearts are with Cuba libre. If they love us, why don't they give us a little of this [showing the cartridge again]? Then they would see how we would float our flag over Morro Castle in a very short time."

Col. Davalos has the greatest contempt for the Spaniards. He said that they never fight without being at least five times as numerous as their foes. He told the correspondent that on March 2, near Jaruco, 500 Spanish regulars were marching to that town, and when he attacked them with 200 cavalry, they fled in a most cowardly way, seeking refuge in the forts. Believing that they were being lured into a trap to be exterminated by thousands of Cubans, they shot their guide, José Diaz, who was perfectly innocent.

Two miles from Jaruco the Spaniards kept a store (*bodega*), guarded by a strong detachment, to provide with liquor the Spanish columns passing there. Every day they hanged Aranguren and Davalos in effigy at the door. One morning Davalos and twenty-five patriots went to the place, and the 150 Spaniards around the *bodega* surrendered without firing a shot. "The only punishment I inflicted on them," said Davalos, laughing, "was to send them naked to Jaruco. We needed the clothes, you know." And he pointed to his own trousers of the blue color with thin white stripes worn by the Spanish Army. The interview ended with these words:

"I should like to see the Americans come to aid us, but if they don't come we shall continue fighting just the same."

Col. Davalos said he was disappointed when Senator Proctor came to Cuba, because the agent of the Junta in Havana told him that he was going to escort the Senator to Gen. Gomez's camp.

NEGRO REGIMENT TRANSFER.

The Twenty-fifth Infantry to Be Sent to Tortugas and St. Augustine.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The Twenty-fifth Infantry, one of the negro regiments, was ordered to-day to Dry Tortugas and St. Augustine. The regiment is scattered at forts in Montana. Of the eight companies composing it, six will be stationed at Dry Tortugas, which will be regimental headquarters. This is the first movement of infantry to the coast.

The selection of this regiment for duty at Tortugas was made in the belief that these men are better fitted than white soldiers to endure the warm climate of a semi-tropical station. When the Dry Tortugas was abandoned as a military post in 1874, leaving Fort Jefferson, with its unusually formidable armament, to go to ruin, the War Department acted under the representation that the natural insanitary conditions of the place made it impracticable to support a garrison on the island.

Major Sanger, the Inspector-General of the army, who visited Tortugas in 1892 and again last year in his official capacity, reported on both occasions that with proper precautions as to quarantine there was no reason why a garrison of troops should not be maintained there. Within a few days his views have been brought to the attention of the Secretary of War, and under pressure from the Navy Department officials, who have entered upon a project for establishing a large coaling station on the Tortugas, the Administration decided to reestablish the old military post.

It was thought best, however, on account of the prejudice against the place existing in the army, to assign a colored regiment to the post. The Twenty-fifth Infantry is composed of eight companies. The commanding officer of the regiment is Col. Andrew S. Burt. The headquarters of Companies B, F, G, and H are at Fort Missoula, Montana; of C and E at Fort Assiniboine, Montana, and of Companies A and D at Fort Harrison, Montana.

The Chief of Engineers and the officers in charge of the Ordnance Bureau procured from the Inspector-General of the army to-day detailed information in regard to the condition of the fortifications and armament at Dry Tortugas. The information will be used in the development of detailed plans for fortifications on the island in accordance with the wish of the naval administration.

No new projects were begun by the War Department to-day, but there was an unabated activity in carrying out the plans already entered upon for the national defences. Gen. Greely, chief signal officer of the army, has completed plans for the erection of Fort Warren and other coast defence places in Massachusetts with shore stations by telegraph and telephone. He is now in the North on this business. Plans have also been completed for the connection of Fort Meyer, Sheridan's Point, Fort Washington, and Indian Head, all on the Potomac. This plan includes a cable across the river at Indian Head. Plans for the complete connection of fortifications in the Department of the Gulf are under way. These include the connections at Dry Tortugas, which will be begun as soon as possible.

Naval Board Inspects Freighters.

Lieut. Sargent of the naval board on auxiliary boats went South yesterday to join Chief Engineer Dixon and Naval Constructor Tawresey in inspecting vessels at Baltimore and Wilmington. All three are likely to be back in town today. Lieut. Kelley and Passed Assistant Engineer Danforth inspected, yesterday, the H. F. Dimock and the Herman Winter of the Metropolitan Steamship Company's freight line between New York and Boston. The boats might be used as colliers or as repair ships.

DELAY OF THE NAVAL BILL.

FEARS THAT CUBAN RESOLUTIONS WOULD BE SPRUNG.

Combine Said to Have Been Formed to Demand Recognition of Cuba and Intervention When the Bill Comes Up for Passage—Mr. Hopkins Refused to Lead in the Matter.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The determination of managers of the House, reached last night, to go ahead to-day with the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill, was reconsidered to-day after they had reached the Capitol and had more fully acquainted themselves with the temper of members of the House. An agreement, by unanimous consent, had been made to set apart to-day for the consideration of bills on the private calendar, but those Representatives particularly interested in carrying out this agreement expressed a readiness to waive their rights under it and let the Naval bill have the right of way. But the expressed determination heard from more than one member to offer as an amendment to that bill either a declaration of war with Spain outright or a resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba and authorizing intervention by the President, induced the leaders to permit the House to go on with the private calendar. This was done in the hope that a day's reflection would enable the Representatives to reach a calmer frame of mind.

But the indications at the time of adjournment this afternoon were that the day had tended only to intensify the indignation aroused yesterday by the publication of the report of the Maine Board of Inquiry. This was aggravated if anything by the study of the evidence adduced before the board, which had been printed over night and published with the photographs and cuts of the wreck accompanying the report of the board, which was in the hands of nearly every Representative.

What will be the developments to-morrow, should the House go on with the Naval bill, it is impossible to say. There was talk in the course of the day that a combination had been formed to support an amendment to the bill of the effect described. But the head of this combination could not be fixed definitely, so that whether the purpose of the combination will be accomplished cannot be said. If the amendment be proposed, there can be no doubt that a great majority of the House will give it their enthusiastic support, even to the point of overruling a decision of the Chair that such an amendment is not germane to the bill. That is the only way in which such a proposition can be brought to the attention of the House for consideration.

In consultation with Republican Representatives to-day, Mr. Bailey, the Democratic leader, said that his associates were willing to wait until Thursday before taking action to declare their sentiments.

"We are willing," he said, "to co-operate with you, supporting the proposition that may come from your side. We shall not undertake nor desire to make any political capital. We will act on it, if you like, without debate."

The members of the combine referred to asked Mr. Hopkins of Illinois to offer the amendment to the Naval bill, but that gentleman would not do so. Instead he counselled non-action, and this evening expressed the opinion that there would be harmony of action among Republicans. He said he would vote for recognizing the independence of Cuba and intervention, and expressed the hope that the President would act speedily so as to relieve the tension in Congress.

CALL FOR RECRUITS FOR A YEAR.

A Significant Order at the League Island Navy Yard—Monitors Assigned.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—Orders came today to League Island from Washington to enlist men for one year. Naval officers regard this order as evidence that a crisis is near at hand. A clause in the order reads:

"Men enlisting for one year can be discharged at their own request before the expiration of that period, providing an emergency does not arise in the meantime."

The Minneapolis will leave League Island tomorrow morning for Hampton Roads. Her crew was busily engaged to-day in taking on ammunition. Early in the day a barge loaded with projectiles of all kinds was towed from the magazine, adjoining Fort Mifflin, to the navy yard and placed alongside of the Minneapolis. The sailors and marines hastily began the work of transferring the deadly cargo to the cruiser.

Among the arrivals at League Island to-day was William Creelman, the sailor who distinguished himself about a year ago, when he was a member of the Maine's crew, by jumping overboard and attempting to rescue four seamen who had been washed from the deck of the Maine in a terrific storm off Cape Hatteras. For his bravery Creelman received a gold medal from Congress. He arrived from Port Royal last night with eleven other sailors. Creelman and three other men were assigned for duty on the Columbia. They arrived after the cruiser had sailed and will go on board the Minneapolis and join their ship at Hampton Roads.

The work of painting the Miantonomoh a dull drab, known as the war color, was completed to-day. Her ammunition is on board, and she is ready to go into service. She will leave for Key West on Thursday.

The ram Katahdin will probably be the last of the new navy to leave the yard, it having yesterday been found necessary to make some repairs to her boiler tubes.

The shells which have lain in picturesque pyramids at the navy yard are being reloaded for use on the old single-turreted monitors. The monitors themselves are being rapidly prepared for service.

The monitor Montauk has been assigned to service at Portland, Me., whither she will be taken by a crew of the New Jersey Naval Militia. The Camden men asked for this assignment, and as they are familiar with the work required, and as Maine has no naval militia, the coveted order giving them the ship was promptly secured. The monitors Nahant and Jason have been designated for service in New York harbor, and the Catskill and Lehigh will go to Boston, manned by sons of the Bay State.

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CRUISING CADETS TO COME HOME.

To Be Examined at Once and Assigned to Places in the Naval Service.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—This year's final graduating class of naval cadets, numbering twenty-five line men and twelve engineers, will be examined at the Naval Academy soon, and immediately on receiving certificates of having successfully met the requirements after the two years' cruise will be again sent to sea as acting ensigns without the usual leave granted to youngsters after such long service afloat. Orders have been sent all ships on which the cadets are now serving to detach them, with instructions to report at Annapolis, where the examinations begin. As soon as the full class arrives they will be started off on a three years' cruise attached to any ships where vacancies are found for them.

Not until the last of May, and sometimes in June, are the final graduates examined for commissioned rank, but the pressure for junior officers renders it necessary that their services afloat be secured with the least possible delay. The passage of the personnel bill would make the entire class ensigns at once, but under the ordinary procedure they will have to wait until July for commissions.

In the line of the navy twenty-two vacancies now exist, and in the Marine Corps three, while the engineers have twenty-three vacancies for the twelve men who will be graduated. In all there are more vacancies than cadets, and at least five more places will be made between now and June by retirements, exclusive of those which may occur through casualties and other causes. The Engineer Corps finds it still impossible to maintain the quota allowed by law, and for the past five years there have been more places than men to fill them.

Salute Alarms Newport News.

NEWPORT NEWS, March 29.—The firing of a salute to Commodore Schley by the battleship Massachusetts early this morning caused intense excitement, many people thinking that the Spanish torpedo flotilla had arrived and was making an attack on the United States warships in the harbor. The Massachusetts has been painted lead color.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—These movements of vessels were reported to the Navy Department this morning: The Nashville arrived at Dry Tortugas; the Blake arrived at Key West; the Wilmington sailed from Key West for Jacksonville.

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