MARCHING ORDERS TO-DAY.

TRAINS ENGAGED FOR TROOPS OF THIS DEPARTMENT.

Light Battery from Newport the Only Body Likely to Pass Through This City—Jersey City Will Be a General Mustering Point—Thirty Days' Rations to Be Issued.

By sunset to-day all troops in the Department of the East under marching orders will be on their way to Tampa or to Chickamauga. Bids for the transportation of the troops were opened at the office of Lieut.-Col. Amos S. Kimball, Chief Quartermaster of the department, in the Army building yesterday noon. Twelve railroad companies submitted bids. Each bidder was obliged to furnish transportation through. The specifications also require that sleeping cars be furnished for the officers, and that not more than thirty men be carried in each day coach. The bid was to include the transportation of all field and camp outfit, wagons, horses, mules, and baggage.

The West Shore Railroad will take 450 men of the Ninth Infantry from Sackett's Harbor to Tampa at $27.72 a man; 450 of the Twenty-first from Plattsburg to Tampa at $27.18; 230 of the Third Cavalry from Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont, to Chickamauga at $24.12. The New York, Chicago and St. Louis will take fifty men of Company E, Thirteenth Infantry, from Youngstown, N. Y., to Tampa, via Jersey City, at $26.35 a man; four companies of the Thirteenth from Fort Porter, Buffalo, to Tampa, via Jersey City, at $26.35. The Pennsylvania will carry three companies of the Thirteenth from Governor's Island to Tampa at $20.88.

The Old Colony Steamboat Company, for $146, will transport one light battery from Fort Adams, Newport, R. I., to New York, and the Pennsylvania Railroad will take them to Chickamauga at $16.04 a man. The Baltimore and Ohio, for $17.85 a man, will take one light battery from Fort Hamilton to Chickamauga.

The troops from Fort Hamilton will probably be started by noon and go to Jersey City by ferryboat. The men from Newport will probably be landed at the foot of Murray street this afternoon between 4 and 5 o'clock and will be marched to the Pennsylvania ferry, at the foot of Cortlandt street. A Pennsylvania ferryboat will call at Governor's Island for the troops there between 1 and 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The officers and men of Company D, Thirteenth Infantry, who had been ordered to remain on Governor's Island to do garrison duty, were so cut up about being separated from their regiment that Gen. Merritt has promised to send them to Tampa with the regiment. He has ordered two batteries of the new Seventh Artillery stationed at Fort Slocum, Davids Island, to Governor's Island for garrison duty. When that order was issued and followed by one to the officers and men of Company D to get ready to go South, there was a jubilation in the barracks that was worth seeing.

By noon yesterday every officer of the Thirteenth was ready to march. Instead of the army roll every man will carry a knapsack and rolled overcoat, besides his haversack, canteen, and cup. In the overcoat will be rolled one-half of a shelter tent, the sticks of which will be strapped to either side of the knapsack.

The men will carry, besides their rifles and side arms (knife bayonets), forty rounds of ammunition in canvas cartridge belts. They will wear the broad-brim, gray-brown campaign hat, leggings, and the regular fatigue uniform. The order for ten days' rations for each man has been rescinded and an order for rations for thirty days has been issued.

The families of the officers who are leaving Governor's Island will remain in their present quarters just now, but may have to give place later to the families of officers attached to the Seventh Artillery.

About an hour before the Pennsylvania ferryboat leaves the island the order will be given to "Fall in!" The three companies will be marched to the parade ground to the music of the regimental band, which will not accompany the regiment, and then they will be turned over to Lieut.-Col. Worth, the present post commander. When all is ready, the troops, headed by the band, will march to the wharf and embark, while the band plays "Marching Through Cuba" or something else.

MOVEMENTS OF THE TROOPS.

Some of the Regulars Already on the Way South—Activity All Around.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., April 18.—The Twenty-first Infantry will leave for Florida to-morrow, and the farewells are already being said. The trains are loaded, and at 3 P. M. to-morrow the regimental band will play "The Girl I Left Behind Me" as they leave Plattsburg garrison. The officers and men are anxious to go. In the whole regiment only two men asked to be of the detail of sixteen men who are to be left behind. The train will be in three sections, two passenger and one baggage train. The latter will convey the ammunition, 75,000 rounds for each company, thirty days' rations, ambulances, wagons, Gatling guns, horses, and mules. The band will accompany the regiment.

BURLINGTON, Vt., April 18.—The departure of the Fourth troop of the Third United States Cavalry from Fort Ethan Allen for the South is not likely to take place until Thursday next, the delay being caused by the difficulty in securing transportation. The necessary horse cars are reported as being ready to leave Chicago to-night or to-morrow morning, and the start cannot be made until they reach here. The men are ready to leave at a moment's notice. In view of their early departure, Gen. S. B. M. Young, Colonel in command, who only arrived here from the West on Saturday, to-night declined an invitation to a farewell reception to the officers of the regiment tendered by the Algonquin Club.

PENSACOLA, Fla., April 18.—Company G, Fifth Infantry, arrived here this morning from McPherson Barracks, Atlanta, and were immediately taken to Fort Barrancas. The troops of the First Artillery of Fort Barrancas were last night transferred to Fort Pickens to practice with the large disappearing guns. Several officers of the Engineering Department were here to-day inspecting the new fortifications.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 18.—The movement of troops from Texas posts to New Orleans is now under way. Special trains bearing the Eighteenth and Twenty-third Infantry from Fort Clark, Fort Bliss, Fort McIntosh and Fort Sam Houston are now moving and the soldiers will reach New Orleans to-morrow morning. This depletion of Texas posts leaves the Rio Grande border almost entirely unprotected, only two troops of the Fifth Cavalry and one company of Seminole scouts being left on the frontier.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 18.—Six companies of the Eighteenth Infantry left this afternoon for New Orleans. The Mayor and 5,000 citizens, headed by a brass band, marched to the station to give them an enthusiastic farewell.

CINCINNATI, O., April 18.—The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce will escort the Sixth Infantry on its departure from Fort Thomas southward. The members of the Chamber, in carriages, headed by a band, will meet the soldiers as they cross the river from Kentucky and parade with them to the Louisville and Nashville depot. Newport citizens who have been neighbors of the soldiers for several years will give them a rousing send-off. At a mass meeting to-night it was decided to close the schools for a holiday, to decorate the principal streets, and to turn out en masse to bid the soldiers adieu. The officers' club was formally disbanded this morning, and the furniture, billiard tables, and other assets turned over to a committee to be disposed of.

Sixteen men under one commissioned officer remain behind. The marching regiment will muster about 600 men. All of the prisoners at the fort were dishonorably dismissed from the army to-day.

CHICAGO, April 18.—Chief Quartermaster James G. C. Lee left to-night for Chickamauga to prepare for the mobilization of the regulars at that camp. To-morrow evening the Fourth Infantry and the light artillery and cavalry at Fort Sheridan will be on their way to their stations at Chickamauga and Tampa. Either late to-morrow night or Wednesday morning Gen. Brooke, in command of the forces at Chattanooga, will leave with his staff. By sundown to-morrow Gen. Brooke hopes to have the troops at Fort Thomas, Brady, Wayne, and Columbus Barracks in motion. The Chicago and Northwestern road will bring the Fort Sheridan troops to Chicago, and they will go South from here on the Monon.

HELENA, Mon., April 18.—Companies B and C, Second Infantry, have received orders from the department headquarters to be prepared to start for the regiment's new station at Mobile on Wednesday. The regiment is stationed at Fort Keogh, where Col. Bates has his headquarters; Fort Harrison, this city, and Fort Yates, North Dakota. The troops will arrive at St. Paul on Wednesday, about noon, and will go South without delay.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 18.—The steamer Batchelder will open the steamboat season by conveying two companies of the Second Infantry from Fort Yates to Bismarck, N. D., whence they will go east by special train to join the remainder of the regiment. The Batchelder left for Fort Yates yesterday and will return with the troops on Thursday. The removal of the troops leaves only one cavalry company at Yates, and an augmentation of that force is desired by settlers for protection against the Indians at Standing Rock.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., April 18.—At Fort Leavenworth to-day the members of the Twentieth Infantry and Sixth Cavalry began loading their baggage and rations on cars, which arrived in the night. The start for Mobile, Ala., will be made over the Missouri Pacific to-morrow morning.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.—The United States troops from the Presidio will go East by way of the Southern Pacific, that company having made an average rate of $40, the whole contract calling for $41,000. To-morrow a battalion of artillery will start about noon. It includes 150 men, 6 officers, 108 horses and mules, 8 guns, 8 caissons and miscellaneous articles. They will occupy one Pullman, six passenger cars and sixteen stock and flat cars. They will go direct to Chickamauga.

The First Infantry will leave on Wednesday in two sections. There will be 21 officers, 478 men, 157 animals, 34 vehicles, and 95,000 pounds of ammunition and miscellaneous freight. They will fill one Pullman, twenty day coaches, eleven stock, nine flat, and seven box cars.

ST. LOUIS, April 18.—Orders were received at Jefferson Barracks this morning for the immediate departure of the Third Cavalry and the Eleventh Infantry, but later in the day orders came delaying their departure and an intimation that the infantry would be sent to Tampa, Fla., instead of Mobile, Ala. It was also ordered that the transportation facilities provided for the cavalry should be turned over to the infantry. This will take the foot soldiers out of the barracks first. The cavalry had carted nearly all their baggage to the railroad tracks when the change of instructions was received, and the goods had to be returned to the barracks. The infantry are under orders not to leave camp, and they expect to depart for the coast to-morrow.

FORT CROOK, Neb., April 18.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon the Twenty-second United States Infantry boarded the cars to go South. The band played "The Star Spangled Banner" while several hundred civilians cheered lustily. The wives and daughters of the officers and enlisted men added their cheers. Five hundred and five men and officers started for the South via the Missouri Pacific. There were two sections of the troop train, made up of two Pullman, fourteen coaches, one baggage car, five flat cars and three stock cars. The cars carried, besides the officers and men, field pieces, wagons, horses and a complete field equipment. One month's rations, all the available ammunition for the Gatling guns, one rapid-fire gun, and the mountain Hotchkiss were taken. Lieut. Campbell and Major Koeper, with eighteen men, were left as a guard and to form the nucleus of the Veterans' Reserve Association, which is expected to take charge of the post in the event of war. An extraordinary feature of the departure was the desertion last night of twenty-eight men. They left during the night. It seems that all the soldiers knew what was going on, and that the deserters tried to get many others to go with them. Some of the deserters told their comrades that they would all die of yellow fever if they went, while others asserted that the Government had not avenged the sailors of the Maine, and that they were tired of serving such a Government. A description of each deserter has been furnished the police, and an extra effort is being made to apprehend them. An example will be made of them. It is considered that the men deserted practically in the face of the enemy, and the consequences will be serious.

Several of the officers are accompanied by their wives. The trains will run through without stopping except for switching at Kansas City and St. Louis.

GETTING CHICKAMAUGA READY.

Busy Day Put in by Gen. Boynton and Helpers on the Battlefield.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 18.—Gen. Boynton was at Chickamauga Park bright and early this morning and, under his direction, a big day's work was done toward completing the arrangements for the troops that will begin to come into Chattanooga by Wednesday. Gen. Boynton received official notice that the Third Cavalry will arrive on Wednesday from St. Louis, and he has picked out a camping ground for the troopers in the Dyer Field, where there are two artesian wells and a big spring near by. Rates for transporting about 5,000 horses and 5,500 men from here to Chickamauga were submitted to the War Department to-day by the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern Railroad. Bids for over 1,000,000 pounds of oats and hay and 10,000 pounds of straw for the cavalry were sent this morning to Quartermaster Lee at Chicago.

When the cavalry arrives the troops will begin manœuvring in cross-country rides, sham battles, and skirmishes. The Twenty-fifth Infantry this morning practiced in skirmishing, and the work Col. Burt has cut out for his men shows that they are getting ready for business.

TO MOVE TROOPS AND STORES.

Pennsylvania Railroad Making Ready to Provide Quick Transportation.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The Pennsylvania Railroad passenger department has been asked to bid on Government contracts for the shipment of troops from New York State and New England, reaching their line at Jersey City, to Alexandria and Norfolk, and to the South by the Atlantic Coast Line and Southern Railway. The Pennsylvania Company, controlling the Pennsylvania system west of Pittsburg, is preparing bids for the War Department for the transportation of troops from the West, reaching its lines at Chicago and St. Louis, to the South by the way of Louisville.

The transportation department has received no notice to bid on army equipments and quartermasters' stores. As fast as these articles, such as tents, clothing, and camp accessories, are ordered from Washington to be sent to the Gulf the army Quartermaster ships them as freight over the nearest line of railway. The Pennsylvania Railroad has every facility in readiness at New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore for shipping Quartermasters' stores, as well as heavy ordnance, the moment they are sent to the station. Army goods for Key West go direct over the Atlantic Coast Line from Norfolk.

TROOPS ARRIVE AHEAD OF TIME.

A Company of Regulars Reaches New Orleans Unexpectedly.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 18.—The first of the United States troops to concentrate here arrived at 6 o'clock this morning, twelve hours ahead of time. They consisted of Company D, Twenty-third Infantry, and have been in camp at old Fort Duncan, at Eagle Pass, Tex. They seemed to have been overlooked, for the military authorities here had no notice of their arrival and were not prepared to receive them. Later in the day they were removed to the fair grounds. The fair grounds will probably be used for all the troops as there are ample buildings and a good water supply. They cover 168 acres of ground on Esplanade avenue and are well drained.

Connecticut Soldiers Expect to Go to Chickamauga.

NEW HAVEN, April 18.—Col. Lucien F. Burpee of the Second Regiment said this afternoon that if the State militia are called out they will be mustered at the State encampment at Niantic for the present, but that orders are expected to go to Chickamauga within a fortnight. Col. Burpee said that the Federal Government, instead of the State, would equip the troops with new rifles. The equipment now consists of Springfield guns. These will be replaced by rifles of the Winchester type, 30-calibre. The six cannon to be planted at the entrance of New Haven harbor were removed from the freight cars to-day to schooners and taken out upon the breakwater, where they will be located.

NATIONAL GUARD'S STATUS.

Gen. Roe Thinks It Could Be Sent to Cuba as It Is, Under Existing Laws.

Officers of the National Guard in this city are curious to know the details of the bill to be introduced in Congress to-day authorizing the President to call for 400,000 volunteers. That this bill was drawn up in order to pave the way for the calling out of the National Guard of the country is understood, but officers here regard it as unnecessary, being of the opinion that the President has the right under existing laws to call out the National Guard. Speaking on this subject yesterday Gen. Roe said:

"I believe that the President has the right to order any regiment in the country to any part of the country he likes, without any fresh legislation. I believe, furthermore, that the President has a perfect right under the Constitution to order the National Guard into Cuba, if he sees fit. What does the Constitution say? It declares that the President of the United States may call out the National Guard to 'repel invasion.' Well, if the Spaniards are stowing supplies in Cuba preparatory to invading the United States, the President has a perfect right to send the National Guard into Cuba to do what it can to offset the danger of an invasion. It is one of the finest principles of warfare to get at the enemy's supplies, and the National Guard could be sent into Cuba for that purpose by the President, without a doubt, according to my way of thinking. Nobody waits to be hit before fighting.

"As to all this talk about the National Guard of each State not being subject to the President's orders, I have only to say that if these statements are correct it is time we struck out the 'National' and called our State troops 'State militia' or 'Home Guards.'

"I have heard that a bill might be introduced in Congress providing for the individual enlistments of National Guardsmen. I do not believe this would be a wise move. There are many objections to it, but it is enough to mention one. The integrity of the regiments should, and I believe will, be maintained. By refusing to allow the men of the regiments to preserve their organizations the Government would deprive itself of the services of thousands of trained men.

"As to National Guardsmen who do not care to volunteer when the call comes, because they have people dependent on them, provision will be made for them whereby they will not forfeit their standing in the Guard by remaining at home. Men will be needed at home to drill recruits and to help man the forts, and these men can be utilized for that purpose. By making themselves useful in this way they would do all that was legally required of them as National Guardsmen. I do not believe they would be called cowards, or thought any the less of for remaining at home to care for those dependent on them.

"As far as passing the necessary physical examinations are concerned, most of our New York boys would have no difficulty. I believe they will show up in fine shape, and that as soldiers and fighters they will prove the equal of the Federal troops. They lack only one thing that the regulars have, and that is the experience of army life."

In speaking of the possible changes of commissioned officers in the regiments, which it will be in the power of the President to make, Gen. Roe said any attempt by the President to appoint all the officers below and including the rank of Colonel would be impossible with any discretion, and would result in making a farce of the whole affair. His own understanding of the matter was, he said, that the Governors, in turning over certain regiments to the President, will have already appointed all officers from Colonels to Lieutenants. In that view he said, the National Guard volunteers will be able to go out and fight for their country under their own officers and in the organizations in which they have spent years.

Gen. Roe said that he didn't expect any orders for the National Guard until there had been a declaration of war.

MOBILE PREPARING FOR TROOPS.

Advance Officials of the Army Arrive to Care for the Regulars.

MOBILE, Ala., April 18.—Major George E. Pond, Chief Quartermaster of the Department of the Missouri, with Chief Clerk Charles H. Townsend and Clerks James H. Johnson and John D. Howe, arrived in this city this morning, having come here from Omaha. Major Pond is the first army officer to report for duty under the order directing the mobilization of the troops here. He has established temporary headquarters at the Battle House, which has been thronged all day with business men and many others, who have been in consultation with the Major. He has spent most of the day looking at the various sites offered for the camp, but up to 7 P. M. had selected none. It is probable that he will make no selection until the arrival of Gen. Coppinger and his staff to-morrow morning. He has had his clerks busy all day preparing specifications for grain, fuel and the like, immense quantities of which will be purchased in the next two or three days.

M. J. Dempsey, agent of the Plant steamship line in this city, has been in consultation with him during the day, and it is believed that the purport of his visit is for the purpose of arranging for the quick transportation of the troops from this city to Key West or Havana in case orders to that effect are issued.

Gen. Coppinger and staff will arrive to-morrow morning in a special car of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which will be hauled to this city free of charge by the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Superintendent Charles Clarke of the Mobile and Ohio left in his private car this afternoon to meet Gen. Coppinger and staff.

Major Pond has asked for bids for the furnishing daily of 25 cords of hard wood, 10,000 pounds of oats, 9,800 pounds of hay, 2,400 pounds of hay or straw for bedding, and for 10,000 pounds good clear straw in one delivery. Efforts are being made to lease the camp at Allin's pasture, which was used several years ago for the brigade encampment of the Alabama National Guard, and it is more than likely that the efforts will be successful. This place has fine water, and can be electrically lighted at very small cost. It stretches for half a mile along the shores of Mobile Bay, and will furnish excellent bathing facilities for the troops. The ground is high and dry.

Major Pond's clerk said this afternoon that it is likely the Government will rent a building in the city where the officers in charge of the regiments ordered to this city will make their headquarters. It will also probably rent a large storehouse for the storing of Government property. When asked how long he thought the troops would remain here he said that was something that no one could tell. It was learned that the Government intends to build at once a telegraph line down the western shore of Mobile Bay to connect with Forts Morgan and Gaines at the mouth of Mobile Bay.

TAMPA READY FOR TROOPS.

The Seven Regiments of Regulars Will All Be There by Saturday.

TAMPA, Fla., April 18.—Arrangements are all completed for the reception of the United States troops who will begin to arrive to-morrow and will continue to arrive until seven regiments are encamped here. The camp grounds have been selected, but the people of Tampa are still ignorant of their exact location. It is positive, however, that they will be quartered within or near the city limits, as they are ordered to Tampa and not to Port Tampa. The Plant System, which has large interests at the latter place, is making an effort to have them located there, but the citizens of Tampa proper learned of this fact this afternoon and made a vigorous protest to the department at Washington through Congressman Sparkman, who represents this district.

The first troops to arrive will be the Fifth Regiment of Infantry from Fort McPherson, Ga., who are scheduled to arrive at 8 P. M. to-morrow. The Fifth will be followed a few hours later by the Sixth, from the Columbus Barracks, Ohio, and by Saturday it is expected that the entire seven regiments, including the Twenty-first, from Plattsburg, N. Y., will have arrived and camped.

Yale Boys Getting Ready for War Work.

NEW HAVEN, April 18.—It has been decided at Yale to make a permanent organization of the military company which has been drilled all the winter by Capt. Murray, United States Army. When war is declared a Yale battalion will be formed, with this company as a nucleus.

To Concentrate Pennsylvania's Guard.

HARRISBURG, April 18.—Major-Gen. Snowden and Gens. Gobin and Schall were at Mount Gretna to-day looking over the camping ground of the National Guard. Just what they are doing has not been revealed at National Guard headquarters, but it is believed that the guard will be concentrated there to await orders from Washington. The policy of the National Guard officers has always been to keep the troops in camp away from populous centres for the sake of discipline. That is one reason why the concentration will not take place at Fairmount Park or Harrisburg.

Philadelphia's City Troop Drilling.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, one of the four cavalry organizations of the Pennsylvania division of the National Guard, began to-day a series of field drills at Fort Side, near Fort Washington. The entire troop responded to the order and put in a good day at skirmish practice and sabre drills.

SICARD RESTORED TO DUTY.

THE ADMIRAL WILL BE SECRETARY LONG'S CHIEF OF STAFF.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt Is Determined to Go to the Front, and Much of the Work with Which He Was Intrusted Will Be Given in Charge of Admiral Sicard.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—An important step in the preparation for war was the assignment to-day of Rear Admiral Montgomery Sicard to duty in the office of the Secretary of the Navy. Admiral Sicard will be Secretary Long's chief of staff. His functions will be largely advisory, but he will have much executive work to do. His place will correspond to that of the Major-General commanding and the Adjutant-General of the army to the Secretary of War. Admiral Sicard was until recently the commander-in-chief of the North Atlantic naval station. He was obliged to relinquish that office on account of ill health and six months' sick leave was granted him. Since then he has been rapidly convalescing. Smelling the battle from afar, the fighting instincts of the Admiral, now within a few months of the retiring age, braced up wonderfully, and he applied to Secretary Long for restoration to active duty. In granting this request Secretary Long paid a high compliment to Admiral Sicard in assigning him to duty as his chief of staff. The remainder of the Admiral's sick leave has been revoked.

The conduct of the naval campaign in the coming war will be in the hands of Admiral Sicard and other competent officers, who will act as advisers to President McKinley and Secretary Long. A board on strategy has been in existence for more than a month, and it will be reorganized on the probable retirement of its chairman, Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, whose assignment to a military staff position will follow the first resort to hostilities, unless Mr. Roosevelt can be persuaded to change his mind. Rear Admiral John G. Walker, retired, will remain a member of the Strategy Board. The new Assistant Secretary of the Navy will be a civilian specially selected for his fitness to carry out the plans which Mr. Roosevelt has been perfecting since the emergency appropriation of $50,000,000 was made by Congress and even before that time. Much of the work with which Mr. Roosevelt was intrusted will be given in charge of Rear Admiral Sicard, leaving the new Assistant Secretary to perform duties of a character less technical. This division will be necessary on account of the great increase in the work of the Assistant Secretary's office.

Of the five members of the Strategy Board, three will soon leave Washington to take up duties at the front. These three are Mr. Roosevelt, Capt. A. L. Barker, who will probably be assigned to the command of the auxiliary cruiser Harvard, formerly the American liner New York, and Commander Richardson Clover, assigned to the command of the cruiser Bancroft. The members who will remain in Washington are Admiral Walker and Capt. A. S. Crowninshield, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation. There is some doubt about Capt. Barker's detail to sea duty. He has been a valuable assistant to Secretary Long in the present crisis. In addition to his membership on the Strategy Board, he is the navy's representative on the joint military and naval board on defence.

Friends of Assistant Secretary Roosevelt are trying to persuade him not to go to the front, but Mr. Roosevelt has made up his mind to go. To the argument that he would be of greater value to his country as Assistant Secretary of the Navy than as a staff officer of the army, Mr. Roosevelt answered that his work in Washington has been practically completed. Most of it concerned the preparations for war, and there is little more to be done in that regard. Mr. Roosevelt has worked night and day in his enthusiastic endeavor to place the navy on a war footing. How well he had done his duty was appreciated by the President and the Cabinet when they came to the conclusion recently that war was inevitable. Secretary Long expressed to his Assistant Secretary the feeling of the President when he said that Mr. Roosevelt had been a pillar of strength to the Government. Where Mr. Roosevelt will go when hostilities begin, whether on the staff of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee or some other high ranking officer, has not been determined. It is certain, however, that his assignment will be where there is the most fighting to be done.

BOSTON'S NAVAL ACTIVITY.

Orders Received for the Despatch of Marines to Savannah—Other Work.

BOSTON, April 18.—Major Pope, commanding the marines at the Charlestown Navy Yard, received an order to-day to send all his available men at once to Savannah, Ga., where marine battalions are to be organized to coöperate with the army. Twenty-eight of Major Pope's men left to-night for New York in response to orders received Saturday, and the rest, about eighty men, will probably go to-morrow. Aside from the prison guard there will be but ten men left to protect the yard.

Naval Constructor Feaster received notice this morning that the monitor Wyandotte, which is now at New Haven, Conn., would arrive here shortly to be fitted out for harbor and coast defence. Orders have been received at the Ordnance Department to at once ship 300 5-inch projectiles to Newport News, Va., for use in the Lancaster's guns, which are to be placed on board the auxiliary cruiser Yosemite. These projectiles weigh 117 pounds each, the aggregate weight being over 17½ tons.

Capt. Weeks of the naval brigade received secret instructions this morning to have in readiness for instant movement a large number of men, who are to be told off into separate details for special work, the nature of which the Captain could not divulge.

Capt. Weeks has received intimation that the monitor Lehigh will be ready for sea by Wednesday noon or Thursday morning at the latest, and he has notified Lieut. Fuller and his command of seventy men that they must be prepared to leave Boston to-morrow.

Coal dealers are predicting a coal famine, for they say that even now it is impossible to secure vessels to bring coal here which has been ordered.

SIGSBEE LIKES THE ST. PAUL.

Nothing Decided Yet as to the Vessel's Armament or Alterations.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—Capt. Sigsbee expressed himself to-day as pleased with the steamship St. Paul beyond expectations. Nothing has been decided about the number of guns she is to carry as a cruiser. A conference was held this afternoon by Capt. Sigsbee, Lieutenant-Commander Winslow and Naval Constructor Linnard on the changes necessary to be made. Capt. Sigsbee favored the removal of the deckhouse, but the other two officers thought it should stay, and nothing will be done until the Secretary of the Navy decides the point. The changes, it is thought, can be made in ten days and the vessel placed in commission by the expiration of that time.

Capt. Sigsbee to-day declined to express an opinion on the Spanish report of the Maine disaster. He said the Maine was at the bottom of Havana harbor and the American Government had received an official report. What the Spanish said of it, Capt. Sigsbee said, did not affect him or his opinion on the matter.

Cramps' yard has been closed to visitors and no persons are permitted to go aboard the St. Paul. She is lying 150 feet from where her hull first entered the water. There is little doubt, apparently, that many of the St. Paul's crew will enlist in the Government service.

Naval Board Looks at Boston Steam Yachts.

These steam yachts have been inspected at Boston by members of the Board on Auxiliary Cruisers: Ituna, 138 feet, owned by Allison V. Armour, of Chicago; Peregrine, 131 feet, owned by Ralph H. White, of Boston; Inlawarra, 106 feet, owned by Eugene Tompkins of Boston; Chetola, 90 feet, owned by the estate of Charles Lunt of Boston; Mindora (wooden), 131 feet, owned by Charles H. Merrill of Exeter, N. H., and Viola, 73 feet, owned by Dana Estes of Boston. The Warren liner Cambroman, 2,000 tons, was inspected and favorably considered for a transport.

Jersey Naval Reserves on the Monitor Montauk.

Three more members of the crew of ninety-five men selected from the Battalion of the East, Naval Reserves of New Jersey, to man the monitor Montauk left the training ship Portsmouth at Hoboken yesterday morning and went to the League Island Navy Yard, where the Montauk is awaiting orders. The men were Chief Petty Officer William M. Rouse and Able Seamen Burke and Nellinger. The remainder of the crew will depart for League Island either to-day or to-morrow.

NAVAL MILITIA FOR THE YANKEE.

Uncle Sam Proposes to Keep New York's Citizen Tars Busy.

The latest orders from Albany to Commander Jacob W. Miller of the naval militia indicate that the men of that organization are going to be kept right at work unless the danger of a war with Spain passes away. Adjt.-Gen. Tillinghast sent a preliminary order to Capt. Miller on Sunday night to hold men in readiness to man the auxiliary cruiser Yankee, formerly the Morgan liner El Norte, and at present undergoing repairs at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and also to retain a crew for the monitor Nahant and men to do service at signal stations to be established along the Long Island coast.

The men for the Yankee, of which Commander C. J. Train, U. S. N., will have charge, will be chosen from the First Battalion, and there will be about 195 of them needed, exclusive of officers. There are scarcely enough men in the Engineers' Corps of the First Battalion to handle the machinery of the Yankee. The limit under the law is forty men, and the limit was reached long ago. It will take at least fifty-five men to attend to the boilers and engines of the Yankee, and the fifteen extra men will probably be brought on from the Rochester naval reserve.

"So far," said Capt. Miller yesterday, "we only have orders to prepare our lists. Nothing in the nature of an order is to be given to the men, excepting the one they already have, which is to hold themselves available for service at a moment's notice. The work of our men on the Nahant shows that they can do all that has been said. I am more than satisfied with the way they handled the monitor on the trip from Philadelphia.

"Men from our signal corps will be detailed for service on the Long Island coast. These men are competent signal men and will do their work well. A large number of them will be required, but I think we have plenty. You can see by this that the naval militia is to be utilized at sea and on land. I can assure you that they will show in their work that the public made no mistake when it put its confidence in them."

The Nahant did not go to the navy yard yesterday. She will probably go up to-day. Lieut. Richman, her commander, reported to Commodore Bunce yesterday afternoon and had a talk about the repairs necessary for the monitor. It was decided to put a new wooden deck on the Nahant, to put two rapid-fire guns in her superstructure, and to give her another coat of paint.

A great many people visited the Nahant yesterday. Most of the men were away on leave during the day.

Capt. William H. Stayton of the Second (Brooklyn) Battalion of the naval reserve has received word that the old war monitor Jason, which is being repaired at the League Island Navy Yard, Philadelphia, will be ready for a trial trip on Friday, and ready for her ocean trip on Saturday, providing the trial trip develops no serious infirmities. The Brooklyn men are to man the Jason, and they will probably go to Philadelphia on Thursday night, in order to participate in the trial trip. The Jason may not start for this city before Monday, as the men will want a day or so in order to familiarize themselves with the old monitor's guns and machinery.

LIVELY WORK AT NORFOLK.

The Torpedo Boat Rodgers Sails for Key West—Movements of Other Vessels.

NORFOLK, Va., April 18.—It is now known that a considerable force of men worked all day yesterday at the Norfolk Navy Yard. The chief work was done in the steam engineering department. The torpedo boat Rodgers left the yard to-day for Key West. The Rodgers was built by the Columbia Iron Works of Baltimore, and is the boat of which so many tests have been made. Everything is now reported to work satisfactorily and the boat to be able to sustain a speed of 24½ knots an hour.

The newly armed tugs Uncas and Wompatuck arrived from New York to-day. They will go at once to Key West to join the squadron there. In docking the big Hogan liner Merrimack this morning she came in collision with the receiving ship Franklin, carrying away part of the back porch of Capt. Terry's quarters on the latter. The Franklin is the old frigate which has been transformed into a gigantic houseboat. A draft of fifty six marines will leave this yard for New York to-morrow.

The gunboat Vicksburg, her repairs completed, left the yard this afternoon for Hampton Roads. The newly armed and armored revenue cutter Hamilton, Capt. Roth, will sail for Key West to-morrow. She is the first of the fleet of cutters to go to the rendezvous. The revenue cutter Dexter has arrived, and is anchored off the Southern railway dock. The Dexter is a beautiful yacht-like craft, and looks now a very formidable one. From her pierced sides long guns protrude, and on her decks, forward and aft, are mounted guns which appear to be of 4-inch calibre.

The rumor is current that the Government is trying to buy the big Pinner's Point and Lambert's Point freighters of the North Atlantic transport line, which ply between Norfolk and Liverpool. The former is lying out in the stream apparently waiting orders, and this gives color to the truth of the story. At the office of the company nothing will be divulged.

HOLDING THE APPOMATTOX.

A British Vessel Ordered Mysteriously to Cease Loading at Newport News.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., April 18.—The Chesapeake and Ohio steamship Appomattox, Capt. Foall, which arrived yesterday for cargo for London, was stopped from loading here at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and it is said on good authority that the vessel has been purchased by the United States Government for use in case of hostilities between this country and Spain. The Appomattox began loading her cargo to-day, and was when the order came to stop had on nearly one-third her load. The order further instructed that the merchandise which had been placed aboard the vessel should come off and the vessel should be held to await orders.

Mr. Blackiston, agent for the Furness Withy Company, Limited, the charterers of the vessel, denies that the Government has purchased the ship, and says the order came so that the Appomattox might be transferred to the Liverpool line. He does not explain, however, why the vessel should be held under waiting orders for an indefinite time, or why it was necessary to unload the cargo which had been put aboard. If the Appomattox goes into Uncle Sam's service it will probably be as a collier, as her lack of speed would militate against her use as an auxiliary cruiser. The tonnage of the vessel is 1,821. She was built in West Hartlepool, England.

TWO MORE MONITORS READY.

Lehigh and Montauk Placed in Commission at League Island.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The monitors Lehigh and Montauk were placed in commission at League Island to-day. The ceremonies began on the decks of both monitors at 10 o'clock. Shortly after the tall outline of the American liner St. Paul loomed up in the river below, and as she approached the men of the Massachusetts and New Jersey naval battalions and the crew of the Miantonomoh prepared to give her a rousing welcome. The steamer passed the navy yard piers at 10:23, and the flags on the Miantonomoh and the old war fighters were dipped in salutation. The wharves were crowded with bluejackets from the civilian navy, as well as the Government sailors, and rousing cheers were sent out over the stream. The St. Paul lowered her colors in response, blew two triple blasts of her siren whistle, and passed on up the river.

Another detail of twenty-six men of the Massachusetts reserve from Springfield arrived at the yard to-day. So far as known, the Lehigh will start for Boston to-morrow. The Montauk may start for Portland, Me., on Wednesday.

Life-Saving Crews to Be Drilled in Coast Signaling.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., April 18.—To-morrow morning Capt. S. H. Harding, superintendent of the first life-saving district, which embraces the coast of Maine and New Hampshire, will leave on a tour of inspection of all the stations. He will be accompanied by Mr. R. E. Davis, a Government officer detailed from New York. The crews of the several stations will be examined and drilled in signalling, for in the event of a conflict with Spain the life-saving crews are expected to play an important part in the navy as signal men and pilots.

Alabama to Be Launched on May 18.

PHILADELPHIA, April 18.—The battleship Alabama will be launched on May 18 at Cramps' shipyard. Miss Morgan, daughter of United States Senator Morgan, from whose Commonwealth the ship takes her name, will do the christening. The Alabama will be the first in the water of the three battleships contracted for in October, 1896. The Wisconsin and Illinois are being built respectively at San Francisco and Newport News. All are alike.

To Protect the Mississippi Jetties.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 18.—The Defence Committee received notice to-day that the Potomac has been detailed to do patrol and protective service at the jetties. She can make twenty-two miles an hour. Word was received also that the moment war is declared Gen. Graham will send a force of men to the jetties to prevent any injury being done to the works there by a Spanish force.

NAVAL ORDERS.

Officers Assigned to Auxiliary Cruisers—Capt. Sigsbee Ordered to the St. Paul.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—These naval orders have been issued:

Mate C. Larson, ordered to the Hercules; Mate J. M. Mahoney, to the tug Enterprise; Mate C. T. Chase, to the Powhatan; Lieut. D. H. Mahan, to the Yumuri, as executive officer; Lieut. H. H. Barroll, to the Helena, as executive officer; Ensign O. L. P. Stone, from the Marblehead to the Puritan; Lieut. W. C. Hulme, from the Puritan to command the Choctaw; Ensign F. B. Sullivan, from the Bache to the Marblehead; Ensign F. M. Russell, from the Bache to command the Powhatan; Ensign O. P. Jackson, from the Yosemite to the Niagara; Lieut. J. B. Bilsh, from the Yosemite to the Niagara, as executive officer; Ensign A. T. Chester, from the Yosemite to the Sterling; Mate J. H. Doyle, to the Vermont.

Commander F. Courtis, detached as Inspector of Twelfth Lighthouse district, and given two months' sick leave.

Capt. C. D. Sigsbee, from duty in the office of the Secretary of the Navy, and ordered immediately to League Island with the St. Paul.

Rear Admiral M. Sicard, ordered to the office of the Secretary; unexpired leave revoked.

Lieutenant-Commander H. Winslow, from the Constitution to the League Island Navy Yard with the St. Louis.

Lieut. J. M. Poyer, order of April 9, detaching him from Navy Yard, Washington, revoked.

Commander O. C. Badger, from the navy yard, Norfolk, and ordered to command the Venezuela.

Lieut. H. C. Cearing, from the Naval Academy to the Yumuri.

Commander A. S. Snow, from the navy